APPROVED MEETING MINUTES
Utah Data Research Center
Advisory Board
Friday December 19, 2025
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Agenda

Attendees:

Board
Chris Williams (Casey Cameron)
Sam Lee (Tracy Gruber)
Charlie Vandel (Carolyn Dennis)
Carrie Mayne (Geoffrey Landward)

Support Staff
Natalie Reidhead

UDRC Attendees
Jeremias Solari
Wei Li
Jay Chandra
Alicia McIntire
Connor Hill
Britnee Nguyen
Karen Tao

I. Welcome — Jeremias Solari

Meeting Convened at 9:03 AM
Previous meeting was June 30th, 2025
Next meeting will be at the end of Q2

II. Review Minutes from Last Meeting — Jeremias Solari

Meeting Minutes were sent to Board members and meeting attendees.

Recommendations:

No questions or comments; minutes are considered approved.

III. Administrative Update — Jeremias Solari

Note: Reasonable arrangements for persons with disabilities will be made if requested. Please contact Natalie Reidhead (Natalie.Reidhead@ushe.edu)

Update on the SLDS 2023 Grant. The UDRC Bridge project timeline, being funded by the grant, continues to be October 2023 to September 2027. In 2025, the third year of the grant, USBE was able to receive funds from the government, via Project GAN, prior to the government shutdown. Project GAN was expected to grant $800k but USBE only received a portion of that amount. UDRC coordinated with USBE to manage the grant budget shortfall by shifting some of the funds that had not been expended over to UDRC. Prioritization with current FTE's and working with the third-party vendor to scale back the development this year was also instrumental. The technological infrastructure is 65% complete and Jay will provide more details. Burwood was scaled down from 8 individuals to 2 and the remainder 35% will be completed within the timeline.

UDRC received guidance from the USHE internal privacy and legal teams that led to significant changes in the legal framework. On the 13th of November an email was sent to our data partners with details of these changes. In the email it was proposed that UDRC will attempt to update codes to allow the remittance of PII bearing data for the BRIDGE system operations. It was also communicated that there will be no change to the current research program, and there is no obligation for any partners to participate in BRIDGE. Conversation continues with UDRC and the USHE legislative liaison to propose language for the upcoming legislative session.

Chris asked if Burwood is still being used. Jeremias confirmed that the change was from an 8-person team to a 2-person team and that Burwood is still being used.

IV. Technology Update — Jay Chandra

UDRC Legacy system is in maintenance mode and the team is adding updates and working with the research team to make changes to workbenches and engineering workstations if upgrades are needed. If there are any major changes they will be communicated.

UDRC Bridge updates:

GCP Environment, which is the foundation for all BRIDGE operations. The core cloud architecture has been completed and the baseline Terraform modules are aligned to allow development tests and preproduction environments. This will allow smoother deployments and security controls.

Data Services is the backbone of all data ingestion, storage, and partner interactions. Most of the design and landing zone are complete. Schema matching is in place. Standardization of the validation rules has started along with metadata capture and pipeline monitoring. Partner-specific endpoints are being aligned with the new Authority Management System to ensure data access is consistently governed throughout the application.

MPI Services remains a major area of development. The alias resolution logic is being actively developed. Over the last couple of weeks, there has been good progress in MPI development across various partner datasets.

API Services is the operational interface for all BRIDGE Use-Cases. The Core API definitions are completed. The middleware is being integrated across all layers. Several of these API endpoints have already completed functional testing, and development will continue for those that remain. The goal is for all layers to communicate with one another to move information throughout the application.

AMS (Authority Management System) is the governance and access control layer. Any role structure, API key management, volume, or time-bound permissions are managed through this System. Most are currently being designed and integrated into the admin dashboards. As other services mature, we will integrate AMS to achieve the next milestones.

UI/UX component of BRIDGE consists of three dashboards. Admin, Data Partner, and End User designs have all been completed. We are moving forward with the building of any UI components that have issues or were not completed properly. The UI components account for a large portion of the BRIDGE application, and development is ongoing across many areas of the UI/UX site. As Jeremias stated, 65% of the technical infrastructure is now in place. The major remaining work involves completing the MPI logic and validation, integrating API and AMS services, connecting all layers through Middleware, and finalizing the UI/UX dashboards for UAT.

In the following few slides (see PowerPoint presentation), Jay explains the administrative dashboard for the BRIDGE application. The activity log will show any incoming datasets being fed into the application. Under “Use Case Access Request”, you can see the requests that are currently active along with related details. On the right side of the screen, there is an eye icon. When pressed, it displays a preview of data specific to the selected use dates.

The screenshot on the bottom-right shows the AMS portion, which will help link and govern data flow across the application. The admin will be able to link any MOUs with data partners, add addenda, check status, and increase expiration dates.

The next slide shows a screenshot of the Active Services on the data partner side. This dashboard shows all use cases for a specific Data Partner, their current status, and allows users to view associated objects. If they would like to stop a Use Case they will press the “Request Stoppage” button. A confirmation window will appear, and once confirmed, the data flow for that specific Use Case and its services will be paused. An email will be sent to the UDRC admin notifying them of the pause for the specific case. If the stoppage was not intentional, an email to UDRC admin requesting that it be reversed is all that is necessary. To reactivate the Use Case you will press the “Request Restart” button.

The Glossary and Support Workspace are shown on the next slide. Users can search for frequently asked questions. If you can not find an answer to your question, you can submit a support request and upload a message to communicate with admin.

Chris asked about pausing the service. If the data owner pauses the service, does it happen immediately, and once a restart is requested does that happen immediately? Jay confirmed that it will pause at the exact moment it is initiated. A notice will immediately be sent to the UDRC admin. Once a restart request has been sent to reactivate, the admin will request the restart.

V. Research Update

V.1 – Charter Schools -RA19 Karen Tao

Postsecondary and workforce outcomes for charter school students.
Current Status: Published
Next Steps: None

Review of STEM Students – RA24

Explore, define and disaggregate the education and workforce pipeline leakage for initial STEM-declaring students.
Current Status: Peer review and manager review completed
Next Steps: Data partners' review. Comms review. Finalize the report. Develop data narrative

Licensed Employment – RA26

Higher Education to licensure and ultimately workforce outcomes for occupations requiring state licensure.
Current Status: Research proposal. SQL queries. Data collection
Next Steps: Preliminary data partner meetings. Peer review of SQL.

Adult Learners - A3

Examine the outcomes of returning adult learners who left their postsecondary education for a period of time, and later returned.
Current Status: Peer review is completed. Pending Manager review.
Next Steps: Other internal and external review.

V.2 – Changing Employers – RA23 Connor Hill

Compares wages among USHE graduates when changing employers.
Current Status: Implementing comments from internal review.

Next steps: Continue internal review. External review. Data narrative.

Ages and Stages – RA25
Developmental Screening questionnaires have been shown to have an "adequate predictive value" in identifying later educational difficulties. This research will analyze ASQ's educational predictive value and educational interventions.
Current Status: Initial data query and analysis
Next steps: Initial write-up and review

Out-of-state Labor Att. – A4
Analysis investigates state aid's impact on retaining out-of-state (OOS) USHE graduates in Utah's workforce after graduating.
Current Status: Undergoing internal review
Next steps: Implement comments from internal review. External review.

V.3 – Engineering Pathways - RA22 Alicia McIntire
This study seeks to understand the college readiness and educational workforce outcomes from students that receive an engineering related credential.
Current Status: Peer review complete
Next steps: Manager review

High School Math Course Taking Patterns – RA27
Examines the educational and workforce outcomes of students who take different math course pathways in secondary school.
Current Status: Data Collection
Next Steps: Initial partner meetings

Program Outcomes – A2
Examines enrollments, completions, reenrollments, workforce placements, and median wages by program by institution.
Current Status: Awaiting results of supervisor review
Next steps: Peer review

VI. User Experience Update Britnee

Four data narratives were released in 2025. 1-Nursing Pathways in Education and Workforce, 2-Prior Learning Assessments, 3-Cost of Living, and 4-Postsecondary and Workforce Outcomes. Our new Data Narrative format was used for the last two. Along with each of these new data

narratives we did a public webinar. There was significant engagement with these webinars.

UX Products for Charter Outcomes:
- Data narrative
- Audio summary
- Fact sheet
- Public webinar

Next slides show screenshots of each of these. New this year, Microsoft Copilot and ClipChamp are being used to accelerate AI-driven audio summarization. This will be used for each data narrative moving forward. A one-page fact sheet is an option if someone would like to download a PDF.
Each product is new and adds to the data narrative, creating distinct products for users to access information.

2025 Web Analytics
- 7300 active users
- 12,000 overall pageviews (2k+ than 2024)
- 1440 total views of 2025 data narratives (2x from 2024)
- Top Traffic Sources
  - Direct, google.com, chatgpt, schools.gov, bing.com, ushe.edu

UX Projects in Development
- P20 Metrics Data Narrative
- Part-time UX Intern
- UDRC Website Refresh

VII. Data Request Update — Jeremias Solari

Complete Requests:
- 300055 Education Outcomes

Ongoing Requests:
- 300056: Education disparities – Data has been quality checked and transmitted.
- 300057: Economic impacts of UofU and UTU – Data has been quality checked and transmitted.

VIII. Public Comment

No public comment or questions

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:46 AM