

Data Domains vs. Data Constituencies

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KU owns a tremendous amount of data. To effectively govern it, in accordance with KU’s Guiding Principles of Data Governance, it is critical that responsibility for data be clear and transparent. However, it must be acknowledged at outset that KU’s data enterprise is inherently complex and interconnected. At present, it is not possible to identify all the data assets KU owns or exactly who is responsible for each.

Data Domains

To solve this problem, KU must identify **Data Domains** to transform KU data into discrete, governable components. A Data Domain is a subdivision of the entire data enterprise, defined by the Enterprise Systems Leadership Group, guided by the following aims:

1. Unified decision-making about its use as a resource. For example, if a subsection of the data enterprise is largely guided by one executive’s strategic decision-making, that subsection is likely a Data Domain.
2. Independent administration. A Data Domain has clear administrative procedures that relate to only a subset of the data enterprise. For example, if a subsection of the data enterprise has its own set of access procedures that are independent of other data, that subsection is likely a Data Domain.
3. Mutual exclusivity with other Data Domains. The point of Data Domains is to create governable categories of KU’s data enterprise. Lines between domains are not blurry – responsibility must be clear in accordance with Guiding Principles of Data Governance.

While Data Domains are ultimately defined and ratified in the Enterprise Systems Leadership Group, starting examples have been identified as follows:

- AIRE Data Warehouse
- Human Resources
- Finance
- Student Records
- Financial Aid
- Facilities
- Libraries
- Research

Data Constituencies

While pursuing the goal of identifying all KU-owned data and then dividing it into domains, it is also important to recognize that the data enterprise is divisible in other ways critical to following KU's principles of data ethics. The KU data enterprise is also made up of **Data Constituencies**. Data Constituencies are a human group of data subjects, linked to the data enterprise through their free provision of data to the University of Kansas. When KU acts in accordance with the Integrity and Respect components of IRISE, it must protect the interests of these constituencies. Data Constituencies will be officially defined by the Enterprise Systems Leadership Group, but starting examples would be:

- Undergraduate Students
- Graduate Students
- Employees
- Faculty