# EMPOWERING CONTACT CENTER EXCELLENCE



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# EXPO

### Session 401:

# Ho hum No More: Re-imagining Customer Surveys to Drive Results

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# Hi, I'm Andrew Gilliam.

- ITS Service Desk Consultant
  - Western Kentucky University
- Amazing Customer Service and Technical Support™





















### About Us

- Western Kentucky University
  - 20,000 students
  - 3,000 employees
- Information Technology Services
  - 41,000 tickets
    - 22,000 calls
    - 4,000 chats
    - 8,000 online requests
  - 12,000 unique customers



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Survey **Demo**Download **Slides**More **Resources** 



# Key Challenges

- Survey was an afterthought
- Low response rates (< 2%)
- Responses didn't represent reality
- Bad questions didn't segment customers
- Operational data not linked to responses
- Problems weren't acted on quickly

# **Keys to Success**

1 Know Your Audience

4 Asking Good Questions

2 Invitations Drive Interest

**5** Context Is Critical

3 Put Surveys to Work

**6** Sharing What You Learn

# Know Your Audience



## **Know Your Audience**



"I owe you a favor!"

Motivated

**Top Scores** 

Wants to Write

**Shares Name & Details** 

More of These

MAY 13-16, 2019



"You ruined my life!"

**Highly Motivated** 

**Bottom Scores** 

Wants to Scream

**Shares A Tragedy** 

Less of These



"The link looked neat."

**Unmotivated** 

**Unsure** 

Writing Is Too Hard

**Details Are Scarce** 

More of These

# Invitations Drive Interest



# 3 Steps to Better Invitations



#### **Clearly Request a Response**

- Don't bury the request
- Have a clear call to action



#### **Use Friendly, Engaging Language**

- Consider your demographics
- Use appropriate brand-voice



#### **Differentiate Yourself From Scams**

- Build confidence in your authenticity
- Let respondents know what to expect

### **Invitations Drive Interest**

**Subject:** WKU ITS – Closed Ticket Notification for Hardware Question or Problem

#### **Ticket Closed**

WKU ITS **closed** your ticket. If you believe this to be in error or are still experiencing issues, please contact us at <a href="https://www.wku.edu/its/contact">https://www.wku.edu/its/contact</a>.

We invite you to fill out a <u>short survey</u> and provide feedback on this experience with our team. Thank you for your time.

**Subject:** How did we do closing ticket 123456 (Hardware Question or Problem)?

#### **Tell Us About Your Experience**

We'd like to hear from you regarding a recently closed ticket where you were listed as the requestor. Please take a few minutes to <u>tell us about your experience</u> with WKU ITS. You will not be asked to login to our survey, and we will not ask for personal or confidential information (like a password).

We regularly review customer feedback to help improve our services and meet campus needs.

If you need additional technical support, please visit <a href="https://www.wku.edu/its/contact">https://www.wku.edu/its/contact</a>.

### Results

**Response Rate** 

+6.5%

**More Responses** 

3.7x

Response Rates	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Average
Before	2.9%	2.6%	1.7%	1.1%	1.3%	1.4%	1.8%
After	9.7%	7.3%	8.5%	8.3%	7.8%	8.7%	8.3%
	+6.8%	+4.7%	+6.8%	+7.2%	+6.5%	+7.5%	+6.5%
Response OTY	2.5x	1.9x	3.5x	5.8x	4.7x	5.9x	3.7x

@ndytg

# Put Your Survey To Work

# Why Surveys Don't Work

- Passive monitoring.
- Long feedback cycles.
- Insights require effort.
- Difficult to automate.

# Absolute Resolution (AR)

- Measures closure, completeness
  - Not Satisfaction
- Captures post-contact concerns
  - Unresolved issues
  - Incomplete information
  - Unasked questions
- Reduce perceptions of effort
  - We call you back
- Empowers anticipatory service



# Absolute Resolution (AR)



# AR Absolutely Works

- Less than 2% of responses trigger a follow-up.
- Customers are good at self-selecting
  - False positives: 0.16%
    - Customers who didn't need a follow-up.
  - False negatives: 0.11%
    - Customers who continued to performance questions in error.
- Response times greatly reduced.
  - Easier on recovery team; they just check email.

# Asking Good Questions

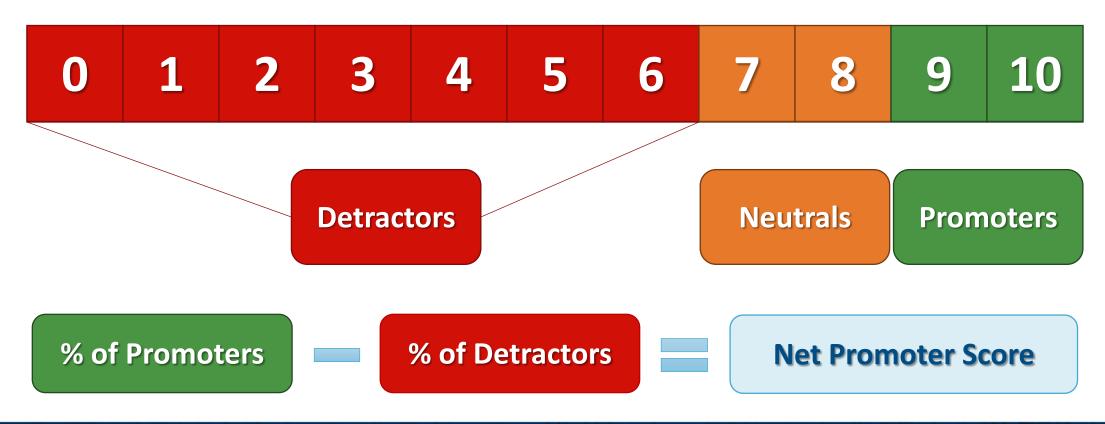


# Very Dissatisfied

- Old survey included an overall satisfaction question
- Didn't segment customers
  - Most responses were 1's or 5's
  - Resulting number wasn't helpful
- Good performance measures should segment customers
  - Differentiate between bad, okay, and great

# Net Promoter System (NPS)

"How likely are you to recommend us to a friend or colleague?"



# Customer Effort Score (CES)

### "How easy was it to work with ITS?"

**Extremely** difficult

Somewhat difficult

Neither easy nor difficult

Somewhat easy

Extremely easy

- Mitigate disloyalty by reducing effort
- NPS focuses on "WOW!", CES focuses on "easy"

# First Contact Resolution (FCR)

"How many times did you have to initiate contact with ITS to handle your request?"

Three or more times Twice Once

- No commonly agreed method for measuring
- Customers may perceive contacts differently than us
  - Customer perception is reality.
  - Asking gives us insight into customer's perception.

# Competitive Comparison (CC)

"How did this experience with ITS compare to your experiences with organizations other than WKU?"

**Much worse** 

Somewhat worse

About the same

Somewhat better

Much better

- Customer expectations are shaped by every provider, industry
- One of the more critical questions:
  - Top box NPS: 93.32%
  - Top box CES: 93.28%
  - Top box CC: 66.77%

### Likert Scale Fails

- How satisfied are you with the...
  - resolution to your ticket?
  - time it took to resolve your ticket?
  - IT staff's knowledge?
  - IT staff's ability to communicate effectively?
  - IT staff's courteousness and professionalism?
- Averages aren't actionable.

# Right Question, Right Customer

- Use question branching
- Allow open-ended responses
  - Context results in better comments
  - More flexible than Likert scales

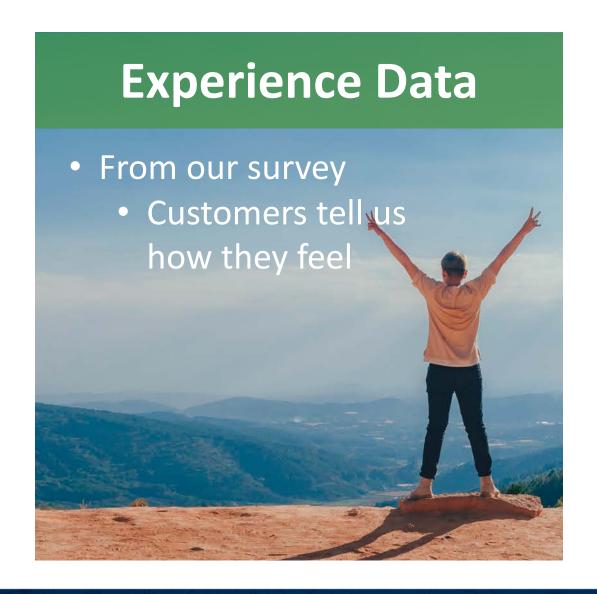
## Learn More About What Matters

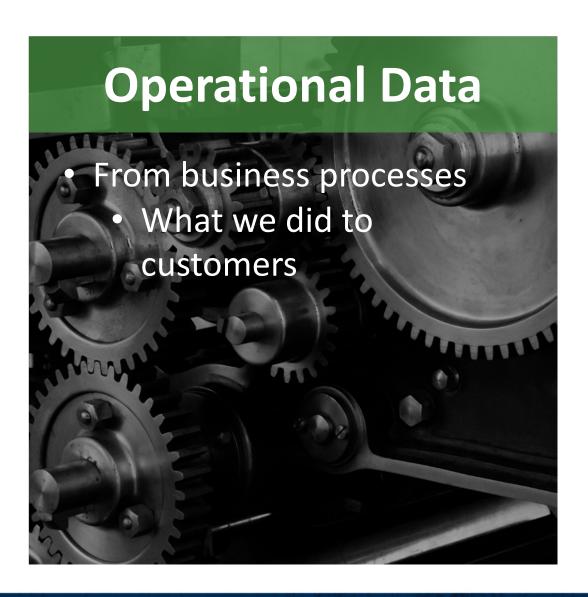
- Checkboxes (Yes/No) give a tally
  - Collect the same data, but useful
  - Easier to interpret and track
  - Quantify what happened
    - Four 5's and a 1 = 4.2 Average
    - Four 4's and a 5 = 4.2 Average
- Makes responding easy
  - More accurate responses
  - Don't check every box

# Context is Critical



## **Context Is Critical**





# Moving Mountains

- Aggregate scores are like mountains.
  - Impossible to move.
- Operational data is the story of how the mountain was created.
  - Story behind the score.



# Operational Data

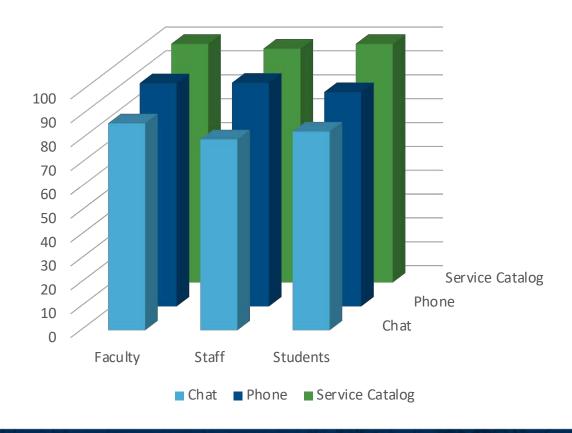
- Resolved By
- Resolved By (Group)
- Ticket Type
- Contact Source (Channel)
  - Phone, Chat, Service Catalog
- Customer Relationship
  - Faculty, Staff, Student, Alumni, etc.

# Learning from Linked Data

 Understand differences between internal and external customers

 Understand which processes create the worse sentiment

NPS by Relationship & Channel

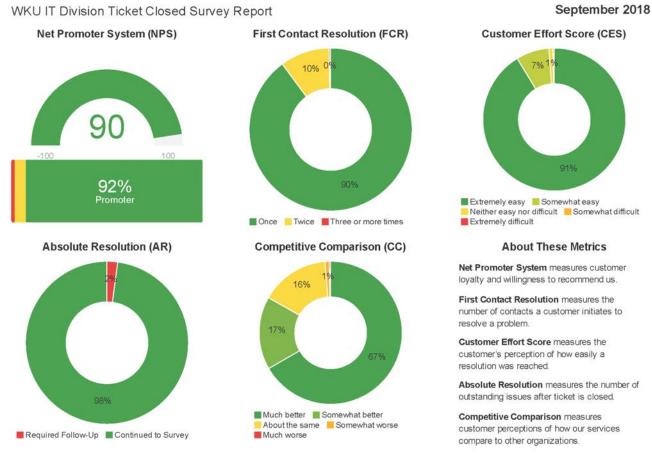


# Sharing What You Learn

# Front-Line Buy-In

- Sincerely requesting feedback drives responses
- Comments motivate and boost morale
- Reward for responses; coach by results.
  - Encourage learning, scores will follow.

### **Executive Dashboard**



Report created by Andrew Gilliam, Technical Support Services.



# Kudos Report

- Monthly report of all positive feedback.
- Encourages survey promotion
  - September: 107 comments
  - August: 142 comments
- Pride in delivering world-class service
  - Even if behind-the-scenes



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