# **How to Visualize Internal Collaboration**

Collaboration allows for the evolution of ideas with diverse input from multiple researchers and even multiple disciplines. Collaboration encourages the innovation that is vital to our interconnected world.

Esploro Analytics gives you tools to visualize the collaboration currently happening in your institution, between researchers and between Academic Units.

The Internal Collaboration Analysis dashboard can answer questions such as:

* Who are the researchers in our institution that collaborate the most?
* Which academic units are collaborating, and how strong are those collaborations?
* Where are the gaps in our institutional collaboration network?

Answering these questions will help you encourage collaboration in your institution.

This dashboard is found in Esploro Analytics. In the Esploro Research Hub, open the Analytics menu and select Data Visualization. If you have used the Esploro Internal Collaboration Analysis dashboard recently, you can access it from here. If it does not appear here, then follow this path. Click the navigator icon and then select Catalog. Select Shared Folders. Select the Esploro folder, then Reports, then DV. Select the tile showing Esploro Internal Collaboration Analysis.

This dashboard has two tabs: Overview and Collaborative Units. We’ll start with the Overview.

Here you can see several data visualizations, such as Collaboration between Researchers, Collaboration Between Units, and Collaboration per Year, both within and between units. The collaborations shown are based on approved assets in your repository that are not ETDs. When two or more affiliated researchers are co-authors on the same asset, that is considered a collaboration.

Use the filters to focus in on the information that is important to you. By default, the information shown is based on assets published in the last five years. Let’s use a filter to select only one researcher.

Double click on the title of Collaboration Between Researchers to view it in full screen. This researcher has recently collaborated with three other researchers in this institution. The thickness of the line indicates more collaboration. These two researchers have authored two assets together, while these two have authored four assets together.

We can add another researcher to the chart. This researcher has also collaborated with a few other researchers. However, we can see from this visualization that these two groups are not collaborating with each other.

Now, let’s exit this visualization and clear the Researchers. Let’s look at two academic units, also called Researcher Affiliation Units, Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics and department of Cell and Developmental Biology.

As with researchers, collaboration between units is measured by assets whose authors are affiliated with different units. The lines show which units have collaborated, and a thicker line represents more collaboration.

Now, let’s open the Collaborative Units Tab. It shows each academic unit along with how much collaboration has occurred within that unit as well as between this unit and other units. “Within” applies to collaborations where two or more researchers are from the same academic unit. “Between” applies to collaborations where one or more researchers are from a different academic unit. Some assets may be counted as both “within” and “between” if they have more than one author from the same unit and at least one other author from another unit.

The dashboard shows some reports that we think you will find useful. If you want to create your own reports, you can do that from the Internal Collaboration Subject Area, if you have the Esploro Designs Analytics role. For more on how to create your own reports, see the Esploro Essentials video Creating Analytics Reports.

That’s how to visualize internal collaboration.