What does the Data Warehouse do?

The primary responsibility of the Enterprise Data Warehouse at California State University, Chico is to provide "collect and connect" services to the campus. Collecting and connecting means extracting data from a wide variety of both campus and external data sources, combining and transforming that data into actionable formats and delivering the data to our end users based on customer specification. The resultant data is then used by campus report writers and developers to create reports and applications that allow their users to make informed, evidence-based decisions. We maintain, and ensure the high availability of, various campus data repositories, databases, metadata and reporting tools.

Primary responsibilities:

**Extract**
- We extract data from a variety of campus/off campus sources (Oracle, MySQL, SQL Server, LDAP, Active Directory, Excel, CSV)
- Campus Databases/sources (SCCM, WREC, OMNI, Campus Lab Usage Stats)
- CMS Databases (PeopleSoft HRS/IFC)
- Various off campus data sources (Examples of data extracted: Training records, Facilities data, Credentials)

**Transform**
- The extracted/staged data is then transformed into various report friendly database formats (Dimensional Model/Flattened reporting tables, etc). Resultant table specifications and output formats are customer driven.

**Load/Provide**
- The Data Warehouse is responsible for ensuring the timely delivery and high availability of the data once it is loaded into its appropriate areas. The Data Warehouse also provides an enterprise level business intelligence (BI) reporting tool, currently known as Insight. Occasionally, the Data Warehouse helps facilitate the shipment of authorized data (such as organizational and departmental structure data) to 3rd party/off campus entities.

Auxiliary responsibilities:

**Systems Integration**
- The Data Warehouse is occasionally tasked with integrating/synchronizing campus systems. Examples are the integration of separate ticketing systems used by the campus IT support and Telecommunications departments as well as synchronizing Active Directory with campus directory data.

**Security**
- In cooperation with the Student Administration, Human Resources and Financials security offices, the Data Warehouse helps administer a distributed security model for the major campus database, RDSDB, as well as the campus BI reporting tool, Insight.

**Report Writing/ Business Process Improvement**
- The Data Warehouse occasionally writes reports for departments when the requester has no other technical support/data experts under their employ. In most cases, however, report writing is normally left to the professionals who know their data best. In addition, the Warehouse is occasionally asked by departments to conduct business process improvement analysis.