Supporting students navigating the data landscape (Discussant Role)

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QAA Student-Led Project Event

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Concerns with current practices

- proxy measures (quantitative) for student voices
- misrepresentative voices
- use and abuse of student voices
- volume, repetition, exploitation

- **the HE data landscape requires greater ethical scrutiny**
- **data hierarchies exist**
- **student research is undervalued**
- **students are not always interested in research methodology**

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Institutional* Research and Evaluation: ethical scrutiny

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Student learning analytics

Student surveys

Student evaluations

Reflections and pilot studies

Evaluations of process and impact

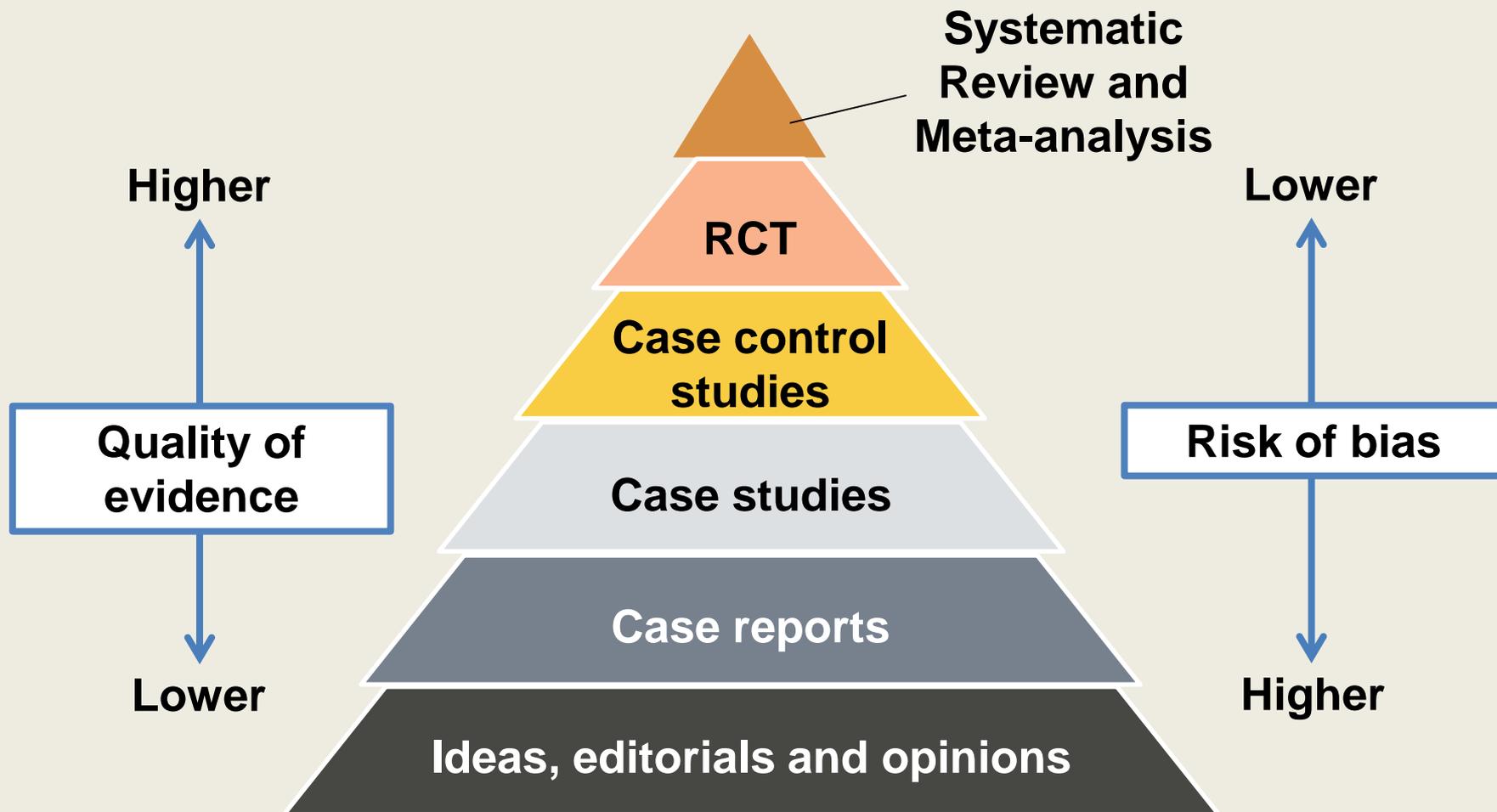Student research

Staff research

Service Evaluation
Measurement of standards
Internal appraisal only
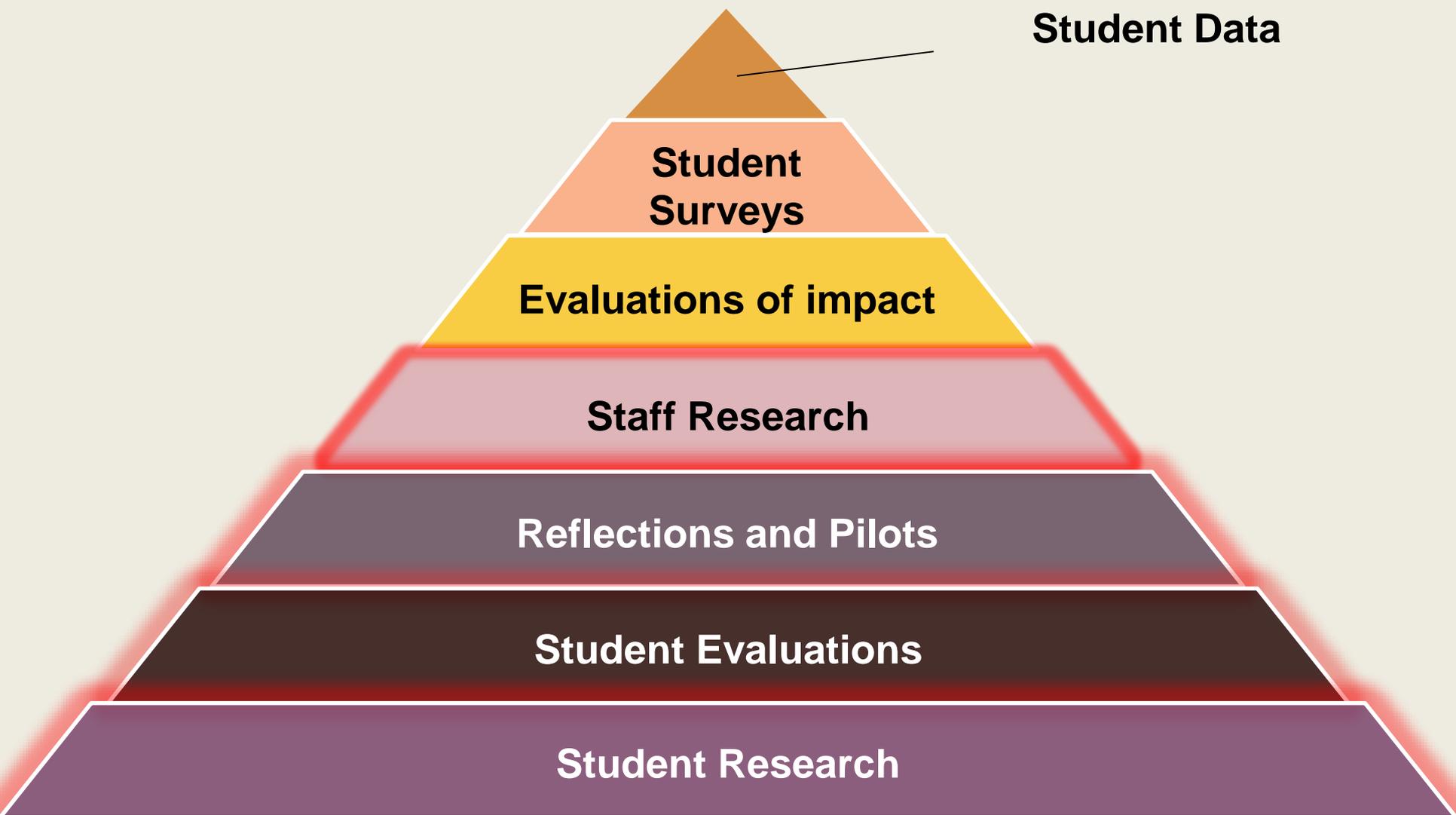No formal ethical approval required

Service Evaluation or Research

Research
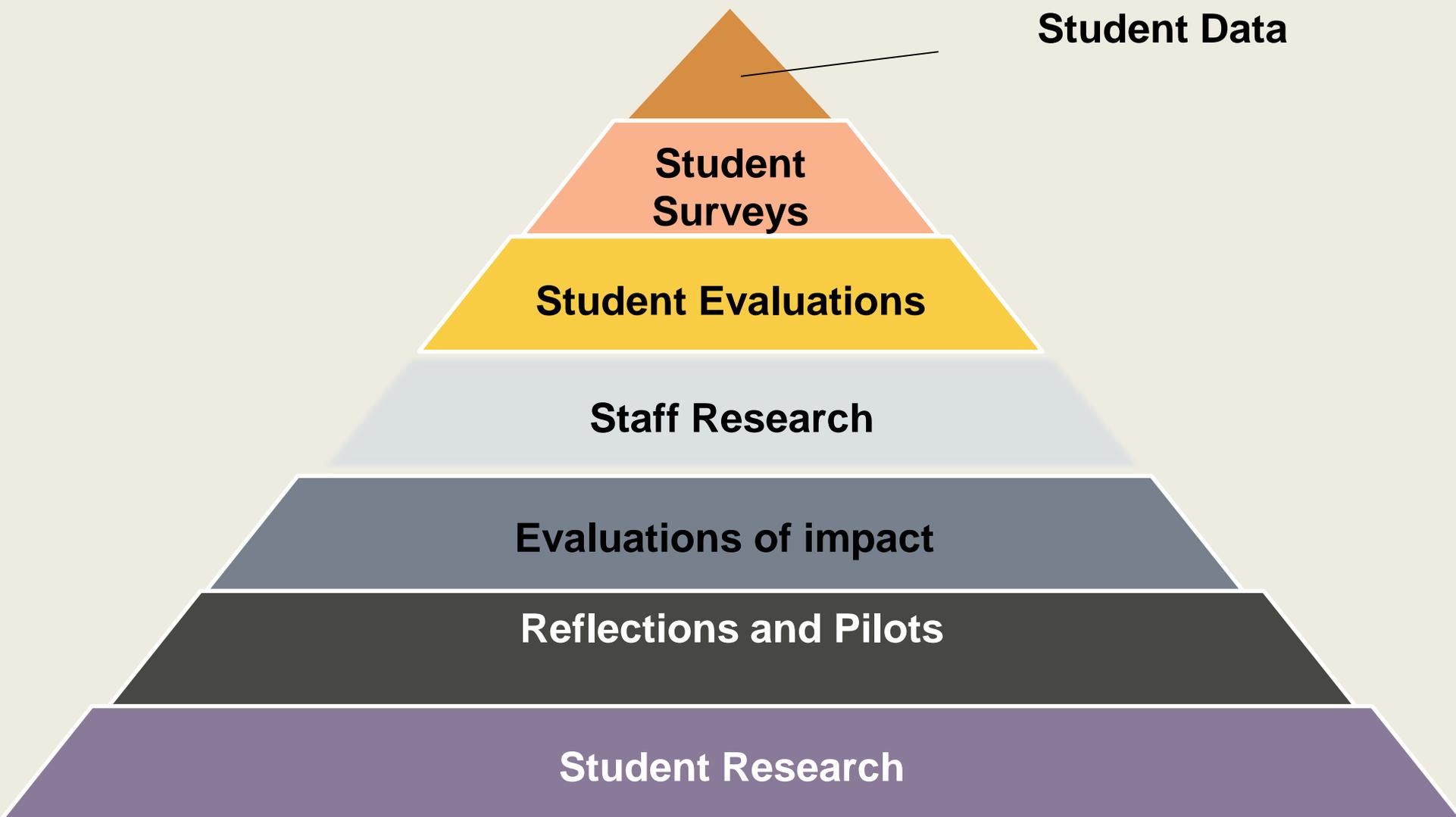Generates new knowledge
Can be shared externally
Ethical approval required

* University and/or Student Union/Association

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Data hierarchies exist

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Systematic Review and Meta-analysis

RCT

Case control studies

Case studies

Case reports

Ideas, editorials and opinions

Higher — **Quality of evidence** — **Lower**

Lower — **Risk of bias** — **Higher**

Nutley, S., Powell A., & Davies, H. (2013)

Data hierarchy: sector/policy makers

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Student Data

Student Surveys

Evaluations of impact

Staff Research

Reflections and Pilots

Student Evaluations

Student Research

Data hierarchy: strategic planners

Student Data

Student Surveys

Student Evaluations

Staff Research

Evaluations of impact

Reflections and Pilots

Student Research

Data hierarchy: curriculum designers

Student Evaluations

Reflections and Pilots

Student Surveys

Student Data

Staff Research

Evaluations of impact
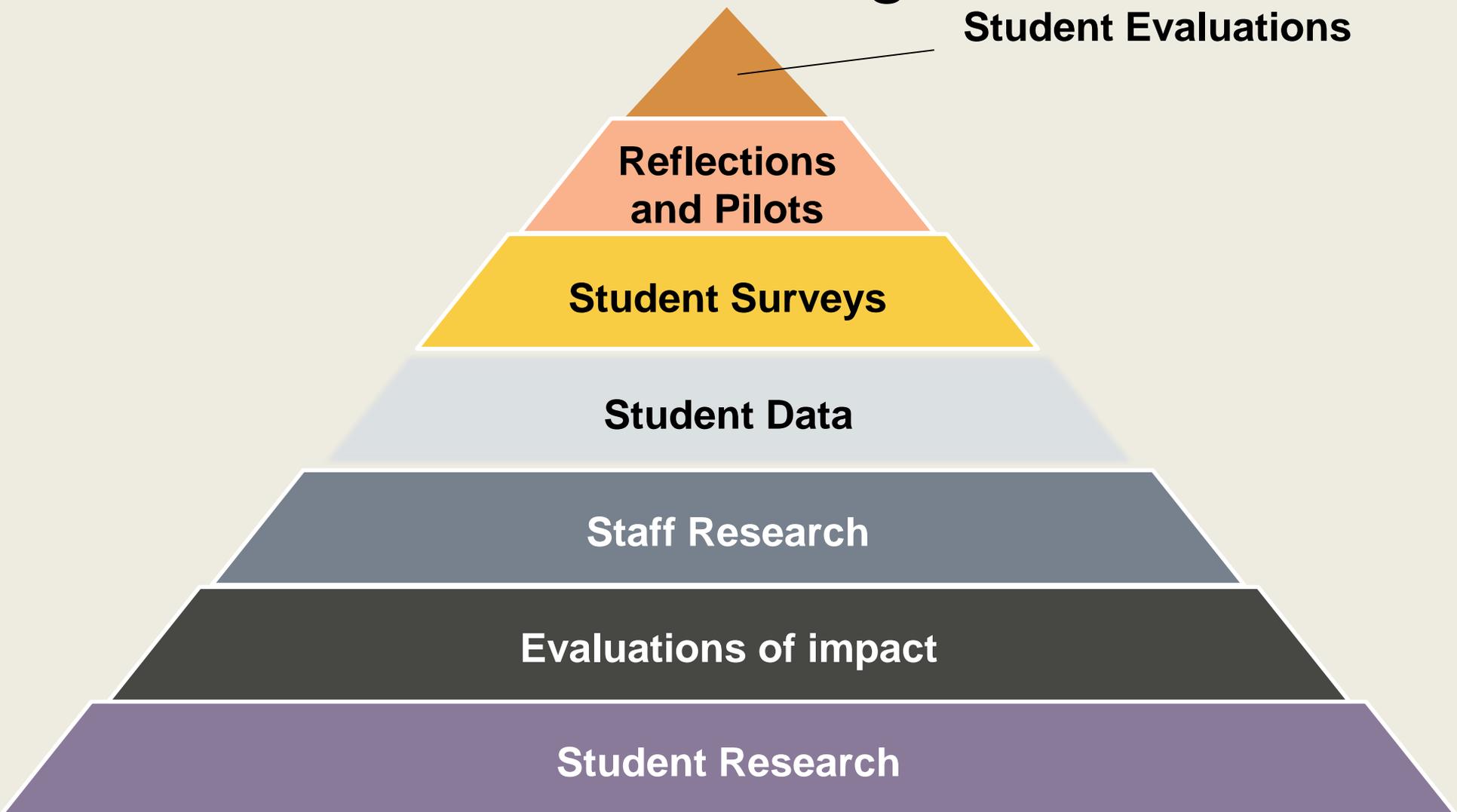
Student Research

- pre application or during period of study?

- students researching students in undervalued

**students are not interested in research methodology…..
unless they are collecting data**

What have I learnt? Reflections on your case studies and workshops

- does the HE data landscape require greater ethical scrutiny?

- do data hierarchies exist?

- is student research undervalued?

- are students interested in research methodology?

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