STUDENT ENGAGEMENT SURVEY RESULTS

California State University, Fresno

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Program Overview

- What do we know about student engagement on our campus?
- Selected data from the 2005 NSSE survey (approximately 650 first time students and 630 seniors).
- Benchmark Comparisons on measures of effective educational practice
- CAAP Reading Test
What *Really* Matters in College

Student Engagement

The research is unequivocal-

Impact of college is largely determined by individual effort.

Students are not passive recipients of institutional efforts to “educate” or “change” them.

Important to focus on ways in which an institution can shape its academic, interpersonal, and extracurricular offerings to encourage student engagement.

What Do We Know about College Student Engagement?

What percentage of our students participate in community service or volunteer work?

**First-Year**
More than 50%

**Senior**
More than 57%
What Do We Know about College Student Engagement?

What percentage of our students participate in co-curricular activities?

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<td><strong>First-Year</strong></td>
<td><strong>Senior</strong></td>
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<td>47%</td>
<td>41%</td>
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What Do We Know about College Student Engagement?

What percentage of our students worked with classmates outside of class to complete class assignments?

- First-Year: 84%
- Senior: 92%
What Do We Know about College Student Engagement?

What percentage of Fresno State students used an electronic medium (listserv, chat group, Internet, instant messaging, etc.) to discuss or complete an assignment?

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<th>First-Year</th>
<th>Senior</th>
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<td>81%</td>
<td>89%</td>
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What Do We Know about College Student Engagement?

What percentage of our students talked about career plans with a faculty member or advisor?

First-Year 67%  
Senior 81%
What percentage of our students spend more than 10 (20) hours per week preparing for class (studying, reading, writing, doing homework or lab work, analyzing data, rehearsing, and other academic activities)?

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<th>First-Year</th>
<th>Senior</th>
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<td>40% (12%)</td>
<td>49% (16%)</td>
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What Do We Know about College Student Engagement?

How many hours per week do students spend “using library resources in person”?

**First-Year**
- Zero - **35%**
- More than 10 - **6%**

**Senior**
- Zero - **36%**
- More than 10 - **7%**
What Do We Know about College Student Engagement?

What percentage of our students work off campus more than 10 hours per week for pay?

First-Year: 42%
Senior: 52%
Thinking about your overall experience at this institution, how would you rate the quality of relationships with faculty and administrative personnel and offices (Seniors only)?

- For faculty, 1 is unavailable, unhelpful, unsympathetic and 7 is available, helpful, sympathetic.
- For staff, 1 is Unhelpful, inconsiderate, rigid; 7 is helpful, considerate, flexible.
Thinking about your overall experience at this institution, to what extent does the university encourage contact between students from different economic, social, and racial or ethnic backgrounds?
Carnegie Group Comparison with Fresno State Results

- In thinking about your undergraduate program as a whole, including your major, have you done a culminating senior experience (e.g., senior comprehensive exam, capstone course, thesis or project)?

![Bar chart showing comparison between Fresno State, CSU, Masters, and NSSE percentage of students who have done a culminating senior experience.](chart.png)
NSSE 2005 Promising Findings

Most students (82%) would attend Fresno State if they could start over again, and 80% say they had a good or excellent educational experience.
Effective Educational Practices

- NSSE used clusters of questions to measure:
  - Level of academic challenge
  - Active and collaborative learning
  - Student-Faculty interaction
  - Enriching educational experiences
  - Supportive campus environment
**Benchmark Mean Comparisons**

**Level of Academic Challenge**

- Number of assigned readings
- Number of assigned papers
- Coursework emphasizing analysis, synthesis, judgement, application of theory
- Campus environment emphasizing study
- Preparing for class

* $P<.05$, $& P<.01$, $# P<.001$
Benchmark Mean Comparisons Active and Collaborative Learning

- Asked questions in class
- Contributed to discussion
- Worked with other students
- Tutored or taught others
- Service learning

* P<.05, & P<.01, # P<.001
Benchmark Mean Comparisons
Student Faculty Interaction

- Discussed grades, assignments or career plans
- Discussed ideas from readings outside of class
- Worked on activities other than coursework
- Prompt feedback on performance

* P<.05, & P<.01, # P<.001
Benchmark Mean Comparisons
Enriching Educational Experiences

- Co-curricular activities
- Community Service
- Internship, field experiences, etc
- Study abroad
- Independent study
- Serious conversations with students of different ethnicity
- Electronic discussions
- Learning community

* P<.05, & P<.01, # P<.001
Benchmark Mean Comparisons
Supportive Campus Environment

- Academic support
- Help to cope with non-academic responsibilities
- Quality of relationships with others-faculty, staff and students
- Social opportunities

* P<.05, & P<.01, # P<.001
Effective Educational Practices Comparisons

- When compared to the top 10% and the top 50% of institutions in the NSSE survey on these benchmarks, California State University, Fresno results are significantly lower for all clusters at both the first-year and senior level.
Additional Insights-CAAP

- Nationally normed reading test
  - 695 students spring 2005

- Close to national average (slightly below)

- Significant differences between
  - Transfer students (+) and those who started at Fresno State
  - Students in non-professional (+) and professional majors
  - Females (+) and males

- No significant difference
  - With increased number of units
Follow-up on CAAP Reading

- Attention to those entering as freshmen
  - University One, Learning Resource Center and Reading Faculty

- Attention to students declaring majors in professional areas of study
  - Business and Agricultural Sciences and Technology collaborating in follow-up this year

- Attention to pedagogical practices that can improve student reading skills
  - TLT and Reading Faculty working together
How Do I Find Out More?

Results and Analysis will be posted to the IRAP Website www.csufresno.edu/ir

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