



National Survey of Student Engagement 2013 Executive Summary

Source:

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

provost@siu.edu

Downloaded: 7/19/2019

NSSE 2013 Executive Summary

The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) is a survey administered annually by the Indiana University Center for Postsecondary Research on behalf of four-year institutions. Their primary purpose is to collect information from first-year and senior-level students regarding their learning and personal development experiences. Southern Illinois University Carbondale eligible students were emailed invitations to participate early in the spring term of 2013. SIU Carbondale had 947 students respond to the survey and a response rate for each cohort was calculated. Of the first-year students, 212 responded to the survey yielding a 12% response rate. Of the senior-level students, 735 responded to the survey yielding an 18% response rate.

In the NSSE 2013 Final Reports, the responses of the SIU Carbondale students are often compared to three comparison groups. The three comparison groups are comprised of all the participating institutions in NSSE this year (NSSE 2013), the participating institutions in the Carnegie Classification (Carnegie Class) and a peer class of institutions which are as follows: Kansas State, Mississippi State, Texas Tech, University of North Dakota, West Virginia and Wright State (Peer Institutions).

What follows are the top five items where the SIU Carbondale students scored higher than our peer institutions. The percentages following the items indicate how much higher our students scored than our peers. This grouping is based on a four-tier selection scale of "Very Often / Often / Sometimes / Never."

First-year

- Included diverse perspectives (...) in course discussions or assignments (+13)
- Discussions with ... people of a race or ethnicity other than your own (+10)
- Connected your learning to societal problems or issues (+9)
- Combined ideas from different courses when completing assignments (+8)
- Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue (+7)

Senior

- Summarized what you learned in class or from course materials (+6)
- Reviewed your notes after class (+6)
- Included diverse perspectives (...) in course discussions or assignments (+5)
- Tried to better understand someone else views by imagining ... his or her perspective (+4)
- Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue (+4)

What follows are the bottom five items where the SIU Carbondale students scored lower than our peer institutions. The percentages following the items indicate how much lower our students scored than our peers. This grouping is based on a four-tier selection scale of "Very Much / Quite a bit / Some / Very little" or a rating of at least 6 on a 7-point scale:

First-year

- Instructors ... used examples or illustrations to explain difficult points (-11)
- Inst. emphasizes ... attending campus activities and events (-12)
- Instructors ... clearly explained course goals and requirements (-13)
- Quality of interactions with ... students (-13)
- Quality of interactions with ... faculty (-14)

Senior

- Quality of interactions with ... student services staff (-8)
- Participated in an internship, co-op, field exp., student teach., clinical placemt. (-8)
- Inst. emphasizes...attending events that address important social/econ./poli. issues (-11)
- Inst. emphasizes... providing opportunities to be involved socially (-11)
- Inst. emphases... attending campus activities and events (-22)

The following are other items of interest:

- As for satisfaction with SIU Carbondale, 78% of first-year students rated their overall experience as "Excellent" or "Good" whereby 89% of our first-year peers responded similarly with regard to their respective institutions. Seventy-seven (77%) of our seniors rated their overall experience with the university as "Excellent" or "Good" whereas 88% of the senior peer students rated their institutions the same.
- When asked "Who would 'Definitely' or 'Probably' attend this institution again?" 78% of our first-year students responded as such while 88% of our first-year peers responded accordingly with regard to their institutions. Of the seniors, 74% SIU Carbondale seniors would definitely or probably attend SIU Carbondale again while 85% of the peer seniors would attend their respective institutions again.
- Regarding level of challenge in coursework, 39% of our first-year students felt highly challenged as compared to 54% of our first-year peers. For seniors, 53% felt highly challenged as compared to 57% of our senior peers.
- As for how much their institution emphasized spending significant time studying and on academic work, 73% of our first-year students responded "Very much" or "Quite a bit" as opposed to 82% of our first-year peers. Seventy-seven percent (77%) of SIU seniors

responded “Very much” or “Quite a bit” to this question as opposed to 80% of our senior peers.

- When seniors were questioned about their perceived gains regarding certain items, the responses of “Very much” or “Quite a bit” yielded the following percentages:
 - Thinking critically and analytically (77%)
 - Acquiring job- or work-related knowledge and skills (70%)
 - Working effectively with others (67%)
 - Writing clearly and effectively (64%)
 - Speaking clearly and effectively (59%)

For graphical representations of key findings, refer to the Snapshot report; for further analysis question by question, refer to the Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons report; and for student comments, refer to the Student Comments report.