

FOCUS DATA - DECEMBER 2008

2008 National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) Report Executive Snapshot

Question Comparisons

Listed below are the five questions on which NAU's first-year and senior students scored the highest and the five questions on which they scored the lowest, relative to students in our first selected comparison group. Questions asked are categorized into the following:

LAC=Level of Academic Challenge; ACL=Active and Collaborative Learning; SFI=Student-Faculty Interaction; EEE=Enriching Educational Experiences; SCE=Supportive Campus Environment

Highest Performing Areas				
Percent of First-year Students Who...		NAU	Selected Peers	Carnegie Peers
ACL	Asked questions/contributed to class discussions	59%	52%	53%
ACL	Made a class presentation	35%	27%	27%
ACL	Worked with other students on projects during class	48%	41%	43%
EEE	Had serious conversations w/students of another race or ethnicity	54%	45%	50%
EEE	Had serious conversations w/students of other religious/political/values	60%	54%	55%
Percent of Seniors Who...				
SFI	Discussed ideas from classes with faculty outside of class	35%	28%	27%
EEE	Used an electronic medium to discuss or complete an assignment	69%	59%	60%
EEE	Had serious conversations w/students of another race or ethnicity	58%	48%	54%
EEE	Had serious conversations w/ students of other religious/political/values	63%	55%	55%
EEE	Completed a culminating senior experience (capstone, thesis, comp. exam)	58%	33%	28%
Lowest Performing Areas				
Percent of First-year Students Who...		NAU	Selected Peers	Carnegie Peers
LAC	Spent more than 10 hours/week preparing for class (studying, etc.)	52%	57%	55%
ACL	Did a community- based project as part of a regular course	11%	14%	15%
EEE	Spent more than 5 hours/week participating in co-curricular activities	26%	30%	30%
SCE	Positively rated their relationships with administrative personnel and offices	46%	52%	51%
SCE	Said the institution provides substantial support for students' social needs	47%	50%	48%
Percent of Seniors Who...				
EEE	Participated in community service or volunteer work	60%	63%	57%
EEE	Had a study abroad experience	12%	16%	11%
EEE	Spent more than 5 hours/week participating in co-curricular activities	21%	28%	24%
SCE	Positively rated their relationships with other students	80%	84%	79%
SCE	Said the institutions provides substantial support for students' social needs	35%	38%	34%

Benchmarks of Effective Educational Practice				
<i>+ ' NAU's score is higher than the respective comparison group</i> <i>'- ' NAU's score is lower than the comparison group</i> <i>a blank indicates no significant difference</i>		NAU	Selected Peers	Carnegie Peers
Level of Academic Challenge (LAC) <i>How challenging is your institution's intellectual and creative work?</i>	First Year	52		
	Senior	58	+	+
Active and Collaborative Learning (ACL) <i>Are your students actively involved in their learning, individually and working with others?</i>	First Year	43	+	+
	Senior	54	+	+
Student-Faculty Interaction (SFI) <i>Do your students work with faculty members inside and outside the classroom?</i>	First Year	34	+	
	Senior	46	+	+
Enriching Educational Experiences (EEE) <i>Do your students take advantage of complementary learning opportunities?</i>	First Year	28	+	
	Senior	45	+	+
Supportive Campus Environment (SCE) <i>Do your students feel the institution is committed to their success?</i>	First Year	60		
	Senior	58		+