

MINUTES

Missouri S&T Retention Committee Meeting

January 13, 2011

8:15-9:15 AM

Members Present: Harvest Collier, Tyrone Davidson, Cecilia Elmore, Larry Gragg, Katie Jackson, Mary Ellen Kirgan, Thulasi Kumar, Rance Larsen, F. Scott Miller, Will Perkins, Stephen Raper, Kristi Schulte, Carol Smith, Lynn Stichnote, Laura Stoll, and Summer Young.

Members Absent: Gayatri Bhatt, Anna Gaw, Jay Goff, Zongmin Kang, Rachel Morris, Lee-Ann Morton, Stephanie Rostad, Michael Schwartz, and Brad Starbuck. Note: Gayatri Bhatt and Zongmin Kang are no longer employed by Missouri S&T and their names will be removed from the committee membership list)

I. Review and Approval of Minutes

The committee members reviewed the minutes from the 11-18-10 meeting. A motion was made (S. Raper) and seconded (K. Schulte) to approve the minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved.

II. Old Business—a) Review of Dec. 2nd presentation to the Chancellor

--This item was suspended until after new business in order to provide ample time for the NSSE presentation.

b) Reminder of Work Groups

--This item was suspended until after new business in order to provide ample time for the NSSE presentation.

III. New Business

--Dr. Thulasi Kumar (Director of S&T's Institutional Research and Assessment Office) provided a presentation of the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) for Missouri S&T First-Year Students and for Senior level students. Dr. Kumar's presentation related an overview of the key questions students responded to relative to the highest performing benchmarks of effective educational practice items and the key questions students responded to relative to the lowest performing benchmarks of effective educational practice items along with a comparison to the S&T Peer Group, Carnegie Class, and NSSE 2010 national norm. The selected benchmark areas include Level of Academic Challenge (LAC), Active and Collaborative Learning (ACL), Student-Faculty Interaction (SFI), Enriching Educational Experiences (EEE), and Supportive Campus Environment (SCE).

Notable was Missouri S&T's student response rate of 50.74% compared to the national response rate of 37%.

In summary, the multi-year trend of the benchmarks of effective educational practice show comparative improvement from first-year students to seniors in the LAC and SCE areas over the previous NSSE report. The areas of ACL, SFI, and EEE show a continuing decline over the previous NSSE report.

Relative to our comparison groups, S&T students scored lower or exhibited no significant difference for all of the benchmark areas. Discernment of any retention impact efforts relative to these benchmarks will need to be made. It was noted that the FSSE report may provide some insight based on the responses made by S&T faculty to the same survey questions that the students responded to.

Next Meeting: January 27, 2011 at 8:15 am; presentation will be made by Dr. Kumar on the Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (FSSE)

The meeting was adjourned.



Benchmarks of Effective Educational Practice

To represent the multi-dimensional nature of student engagement, NSSE developed five indicators of effective educational practice. These "benchmarks" are created from clusters of NSSE questions that best represent these practices.

The table below summarizes key benchmark results for your institution and institutions in your selected comparison groups. The '+' symbol indicates that your institution's score is higher than the respective comparison group ($p < .05$), the '-' symbol indicates a score lower than the comparison group, and a blank space indicates no significant difference. For additional details, review your *NSSE 2010 Benchmark Comparisons* report.

	Class	Comparison Groups			
		Missouri S&T	S&T Peer Group	Carnegie Class	NSSE 2010
Level of Academic Challenge (LAC)					
<i>How challenging is your institution's intellectual and creative work?</i>	First-Year	49	-	-	-
	Senior	54	-	-	-
Active and Collaborative Learning (ACL)					
<i>Are your students actively involved in their learning, individually and working with others?</i>	First-Year	42	-	-	-
	Senior	48	-	-	-
Student-Faculty Interaction (SFI)					
<i>Do your students work with faculty members inside and outside the classroom?</i>	First-Year	28	-	-	-
	Senior	39	-	-	-
Enriching Educational Experiences (EEE)					
<i>Do your students take advantage of complementary learning opportunities?</i>	First-Year	26	-	-	-
	Senior	39	-	-	-
Supportive Campus Environment (SCE)					
<i>Do your students feel the institution is committed to their success?</i>	First-Year	60	-	-	-
	Senior	54	-	-	-

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For More Information

A comprehensive summary of all results is contained in your institutional report, which we sent in August to Thulasi Kumar, Office of Institutional Research & Assessment. Reports used in this Executive Snapshot included the: NSSE 2010 Mean Comparisons, Frequency Distributions, Benchmark Comparisons, and Respondent Characteristics.

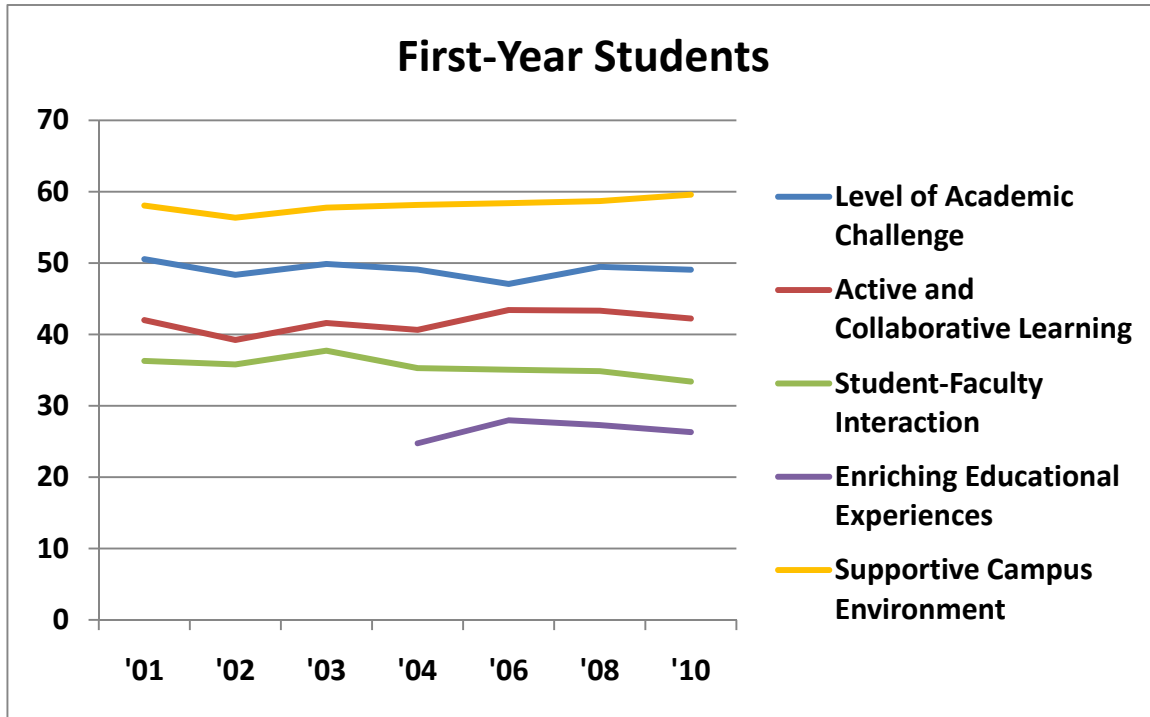


National Survey of Student Engagement

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NSSE SELECTED RESULTS: Multi-Year Trend



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