



CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

2014 NATIONAL SURVEY OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

NORTHWEST COMMISSION ON COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

A COMPARISON OF CWU NSSE RESULTS VS PEER RESULTS ON QUESTIONS INDICATIVE OF NWCCU STANDARDS

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I. ABSTRACT

Central Washington University (CWU) administered the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) during the spring quarter of 2014. The NSSE provides guidelines relating some of the NSSE questions to Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) accreditation standards. Tables in this report show CWU student and peer group responses to NSSE questions that related to NWCCU standards.

II. METHODOLOGY

The NSSE survey was emailed to CWU first year and senior students during the spring 2014 quarter. The invitation email was sent on 4/9/14, the fourth reminder email was sent on 4/29/14. The survey response rate was 16% for senior students and 21% for first year students.

Table 1 – CWU 2014 NSSE Response Rate

	First Year Students	Senior Students
Surveys Sent	1,513	2,243
Number of Responses	315	348
CWU Response Rate	21%	16%

All students who responded to the survey received a 10% coupon on a purchase from the Wildcat Shop (either in Ellensburg or online). Thirty respondents were randomly selected for early fall 2014 registration.

Note: the 2014 NSSE survey questions are at:

http://nsse.indiana.edu/pdf/survey_instruments/2014/NSSE%202014%20-%20US%20English.pdf

III. COMPARISON TABLES

Table 2 - Standard 2.C.5 – Faculty, through well-defined structures and processes with clearly defined authority and responsibilities, exercise a major role in the design, approval, implementation, and revision of the curriculum, and have an active role in the selection of new faculty. Faculty with teaching responsibilities take collective responsibility for fostering and assessing student achievement of clearly identified learning outcomes.

		CWU	Far West Public	Carnegie Class		NSSE 2013 & 2014		
		Mean	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e
3. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?								
a.	Talked about career plans with a faculty member	senior	2.5	.23 ***	.22	2.5	.06	2.4 *
				△				△
		first year	2.4	2.1 ***	.29	2.2 **	.16	2.2 *** .19
				△		△		△
d.	Discussed your academic performance with a faculty member	senior	2.0	1.9	.10	2.0	.00	1.9 .04
		first year	1.7	1.7	.10	1.7	.00	1.7 .02
5. During the current school year, to what extent have your instructors done the following?								
a.	Clearly explained course goals and requirements	senior	3.2	3.2	-.02	3.2	-.08	3.2 -.05
				3.1	3.2 *	-.13	3.2 *	3.2 * -.13
		first year		▼		▼		▼
				2.7	2.8	-.08	2.9 ***	-.20 2.8 -.10
d.	Provided feedback on a draft or work in progress	senior				▽		
				2.8	2.9	-.11	2.9	-.08 2.9 -.04
		first year				▽		
				2.9	2.8	.02	3.0 *	-.12 2.9 -.05
e.	Provided prompt and detailed feedback on tests or completed assignments	senior				▽		
				2.7	2.8	-.11	2.8 *	-.14 2.8 -.09
		first year				▽		
13. Indicate the quality of your interactions with the following people at your institution.								
b.	Academic advisors	senior	5.0	5.1	-.05	5.4 ***	-.23	5.2 *
						▽		▽
		first year	5.4	4.9 ***	.27	5.2	.12	5.1 * .15
				△				△
c.	Faculty	senior	5.5	5.5	.03	5.7 *	-.12	5.6 -.04
						▽		
		first year	5.2	5.1 *	.12	5.3	-.07	5.3 -.02

Table 3 - Standard 2.C.9 – The General Education component of undergraduate programs (if offered) demonstrates an integrated course of study that helps students develop the breadth and depth of intellect to become more effective learners and to prepare them for a productive life of work, citizenship, and personal fulfillment. Baccalaureate degree programs and transfer associate degree programs include a recognizable core of general education that represents an integration of basic knowledge and methodology of the humanities and fine arts, mathematical and natural sciences, and social sciences. Applied undergraduate degree and certificate programs of thirty (30) semester credits or forty-five (45) quarter credits in length contain a recognizable core of related instruction or general education with identified outcomes in the areas of communication, computation, and human relations that align with and support program goals or intended outcomes.

		CWU	Far West Public		Carnegie Class		NSSE 2013 & 2014	
		Mean	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e
1. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?								
e.	Asked another student to help you understand course material	senior	2.5	.2.5	-.09	2.4	.09	2.4
		first year	2.5	2.6 ***	-.20	2.5	-.08	2.6 *
g.	Prepared for exams by discussing or working through course material with other students	senior	2.6	2.6	-.03	2.4 *	.12	2.5
		first year	2.5	2.5	-.07	2.5	-.01	2.5
h.	Worked with other students on course projects or assignments	senior	3.0	3.1	-.04	2.8 ***	.21	2.9 **
		first year	2.5	2.7 ***	-.20	2.6	-.08	2.6 *
i.	Given a course presentation	senior	2.8	2.9	-.05	2.7 *	.10	2.7 **
		first year	2.0	2.4 ***	-.41	2.3 ***	-.27	2.2 ***
2. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?								
a.	Combined ideas from different courses when completing assignments	senior	3.1	3.1	.06	3.0 *	.12	3.0 *
		first year	2.6	2.7 *	-.14	2.7 *	-.12	2.7 *
b.	Connected your learning to societal problems or issues	senior	3.0	2.9	.09	2.9	.10	2.9 *
		first year	2.6	2.7	-.06	2.6	.00	2.6
c.	Included diverse perspectives (political, religious, racial/ethnic, gender, etc.) in course discussions or assignments	senior	2.7	2.7	.06	2.7	-.01	2.7
		first year	2.4	2.6 ***	-.21	2.6 **	-.14	2.6 *
f.	Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	senior	3.0	3.0	-.05	3.0	-.01	3.0
		first year	2.8	2.9 *	-.14	2.8	-.08	2.9
g.	Connected ideas from your courses to your prior experiences and knowledge	senior	3.3	3.3	.07	3.3	.06	3.3
		first year	3.0	3.1 **	-.18	3.1 *	-.13	3.1 **
4. During the current school year, how much has your coursework emphasized the following?								
b.	Applying facts, theories, or methods to practical problems or new situations	senior	3.1	3.1	-.01	3.2	-.03	3.1
		first year	2.9	2.9	-.08	2.9	-.10	3.0 **
c.	Analyzing an idea, experience, or line of reasoning in depth by examining its parts	senior	3.1	3.1	-.02	3.1	.00	3.1
		first year	2.9	3.0	-.06	3.0	-.03	3.0
d.	Evaluating a point of view, decision, or information source	senior	3.0	3.0	.05	3.0	.00	3.0
		first year	2.9	3.0	-.11	2.9	-.04	2.9
e.	Forming a new idea or understanding from various pieces of information	senior	3.1	3.0	.06	3.0	.03	3.0
		first year	2.9	3.0 *	-.12	2.9	-.05	2.9

6. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?										
b.	Used numerical information to examine a real-world problem or issue (unemployment, climate change, public health, etc.)	senior	2.6	2.5	.10	2.4	**	.15	2.4	**
						△			△	.15
c.	Evaluated what others have concluded from numerical information	senior	2.6	2.5	.07	2.4	**	.17	2.4	*
						△			△	.14
		first year	2.2	2.3	-.04	2.2		.04	2.3	-.03
8. During the current school year, about how often have you had discussions with people from the following groups?										
a.	People of a race or ethnicity other than your own	senior	3.1	3.2	*	-.13	3.0	.09	3.1	-.01
				▽						
b.	People from an economic background other than your own	senior	3.2	3.2	***	-.29	3.0	-.11	3.1	**
				▽					▽	.19
c.	People with religious beliefs other than your own	senior	3.2	3.1	*	.13	3.0	***	.21	3.0
				X			△			** .17
d.	People with political views other than your own	senior	3.2	3.0	***	.20	3.0	**	.17	3.1
				△			△			* .14
e.		first year	2.9	2.9		-.03	3.0		-.11	3.0
									▽	-.09
11. Which of the following have you done or do you plan to do before you graduate?										
a.	Participate in an internship, co-op, field experience, student teaching, or clinical placement	senior	54%	44%	**	.19	49%	.10	50%	.08
b.		first year	4%	8%	*	-.17	9%	*	-.18	9% *
				▽			▽		▽	-.17
c.	Participate in a learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two or more classes together	senior	24%	23%		.03	25%		-.02	24%
				X			△			-.01
d.		first year	19%	14%	*	.12	13%	**	.16	15% .10
e.	Work with a faculty member on a research project	senior	25%	23%		.05	24%		.00	24% .01
				X			△		▽	-.16
f.	Complete a culminating senior experience (capstone course, senior project or thesis, comprehensive exam, portfolio, etc.)	senior	54%	47%	*	.14	48%	*	.12	46% ** .16
				△			△		△	
g.		first year	3%	3%		.01	3%		.00	3% -.01
13. Indicate the quality of your interactions with the following people at your institution.										
a.	Students	senior	5.6	5.7		-.06	5.8	*	-.13	5.7
							▽			-.09
b.	Providing support to help students succeed academically	senior	5.3	5.5	*	-.16	5.6	***	-.21	5.6 ***
				▽			▽		▽	-.21
c.		first year	3.0	3.1		-.08	3.1		-.09	3.1
										-.11
14. How much does your institution emphasize the following?										
a.		senior	2.8	2.9	*	-.13	3.0	***	-.24	3.0 ***
				▽			▽		▽	-.21
b.		first year	3.0	3.1		-.08	3.1		-.09	3.1
										-.11

Table 4 - Standard 2.D.1 - Consistent with the nature of its educational programs and methods of delivery, the institution creates effective learning environments with appropriate programs and services to support student learning

		CWU	Far West Public	Effect size ^e	Carnegie Class	Effect size ^e	NSSE 2013 & 2014	Effect size ^e
		Mean	Mean		Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e
5. During the current school year, to what extent have your instructors done the following?								
a.	Clearly explained course goals and requirements	senior	3.2	.32 -.02	3.2	-.08	3.2	-.05
		first year	3.1	3.2 * -.13	3.2	* -.14	3.2	* -.13
			▼		▼		▼	
b.	Taught course sessions in an organized way	senior	3.1	.31 .05	3.2	-.05	3.2	-.02
		first year	2.9	3.1 *** -.18	3.1 ***	-.22	3.1 ***	-.23
			▼		▼		▼	
c.	Used examples or illustrations to explain difficult points	senior	3.1	.32 -.04	3.2	-.08	3.2	-.05
		first year	2.9	3.1 ** -.17	3.1 **	-.19	3.1 ***	-.20
			▼		▼		▼	
d.	Provided feedback on a draft or work in progress	senior	2.7	.28 -.08	2.9	*** -.20	2.8	-.10
					▽			
		first year	2.8	2.9 -.11	2.9	-.08	2.9	-.04
e.	Provided prompt and detailed feedback on tests or completed assignments	senior	2.9	.28 .02	3.0	* -.12	2.9	-.05
					▼			
		first year	2.7	2.8 -.11	2.8	* -.14	2.8	-.09
					▼			
11. Which of the following have you done or do you plan to do before you graduate? ^f								
a.	Participate in an internship, co-op, field experience, student teaching, or clinical placement	senior	54%	44% ** .19	49%	.10	50%	.08
		first year	4%	8% * -.17	9% *	-.18	9% *	-.17
			▼		▼		▼	
c.	Participate in a learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two or more classes together	senior	24%	23% .03	25% 25%	-.02	24%	-.01
		first year	19%	14% * .12	13% ** 13%	.16	15%	.10
d.	Participate in a study abroad program	senior	7%	8% .01	13% ** 13%	-.19	14% ***	-.22
					▽		▽	
		first year	1%	3% -.13	3% * 3%	-.16	4% * 4%	-.16
					▽		▽	
13. Indicate the quality of your interactions with the following people at your institution.								
b.	Academic advisors	senior	5.0	5.1 -.05	5.4	*** -.23	5.2	* -.13
					▼		▼	
		first year	5.4	4.9 *** -.27	5.2	.12	5.1	* .15
			△				△	
c.	Faculty	senior	5.5	5.5 .03	5.7	* -.12	5.6	-.04
					▽			
		first year	5.2	5.1 * .12	5.3	-.07	5.3	-.02
d.	Student services staff (career services, student activities, housing, etc.)	senior	4.7	4.8 -.07	5.0	** -.17	4.9	-.11
					▽			
		first year	4.8	4.8 .02	5.0	-.08	4.9	-.06
e.	Other administrative staff and offices (registrar, financial aid, etc.)	senior	4.8	4.8 .04	5.0	-.09	4.8	.00
		first year	4.8	4.7 .01	4.9	-.09	4.8	-.04
14. How much does your institution emphasize the following?								
b.	Providing support to help students succeed academically	senior	2.8	2.9 * -.13	3.0	*** -.24	3.0 ***	-.21
					▽		▽	
		first year	3.0	3.1 -.08	3.1	-.09	3.1	-.11
f.	Providing support for your overall well-being (recreation, health care, counseling, etc.)	senior	2.6	2.7 -.08	2.7	* -.13	2.8 **	-.16
					▽		▽	
		first year	3.0	3.0 .01	2.9	.03	3.0	-.03
h.	Attending campus activities and events (performing arts, athletic events, etc.)	senior	2.4	2.5 -.07	2.6	** -.19	2.7 ***	-.23
					▽		▽	
		first year	2.8	2.8 .01	2.9	* -.13	2.9	* -.15
i.	Attending events that address important social, economic, or political issues	senior	2.2	2.4 *** -.21	2.4	*** -.25	2.4 ***	-.24
					▽		▽	
		first year	2.4	2.5 * -.13	2.6	** -.18	2.6 **	-.19
needs.					▽		▽	

17. How much has your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?										
a.	Writing clearly and effectively	senior	3.0	.01	3.1		-.08	3.1		-.05
		first year	2.9	2.9	-.04	2.9		-.01	2.9	.02
b.	Speaking clearly and effectively	senior	2.8	2.9	-.08	3.0	*	-.14	2.9	-.10
		first year	2.4	2.8	***	-.37	2.7	***	-.29	2.7
c.	Thinking critically and analytically	senior	3.2	3.3	-.09	3.3	*	-.14	3.3	*
		first year	3.0	3.1	-.08	3.1		-.06	3.1	-.06
d.	Analyzing numerical and statistical information	senior	2.8	2.9	-.06	2.8		.01	2.8	-.02
		first year	2.5	2.7	*	-.15	2.6		-.02	2.6
e.	Acquiring job- or work-related knowledge and skills	senior	3.0	2.9	*	.14	3.0		.02	3.0
		first year	2.4	2.5		-.05	2.6	***	-.22	2.6
f.	Working effectively with others	senior	3.0	3.1		-.07	3.1		-.07	3.0
		first year	2.7	2.9	**	-.20	2.8	**	-.16	2.8
i.	Solving complex real-world problems	senior	2.7	2.8		-.08	2.8		-.09	2.8
		first year	2.6	2.6		-.05	2.6		-.02	2.6
										-.05

Table 5 - Standard 2.D.3 – Consistent with its mission, core themes, and characteristics, the institution recruits and admits students with the potential to benefit from its educational offerings. It orients students to ensure they understand the requirements related to their programs of study and receive timely, useful, and accurate information and advising about relevant academic requirements, including graduation and transfer policies.

		CWU	Far West Public		Carnegie Class		NSSE 2013 & 2014		
		Mean	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e	
3. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?									
a.	Talked about career plans with a faculty member	senior	2.5	2.3	***	.22	2.5	.06	
				△				△	
d.	Discussed your academic performance with a faculty member	senior	2.4	2.1	***	.29	2.2	**	
		first year	2.7	2.9	**	-.20	2.8	**	
5. During the current school year, to what extent have your instructors done the following?									
d.	Provided feedback on a draft or work in progress	senior	2.7	2.8		-.08	2.9	***	
						▽		-.10	
		first year	2.8	2.9		-.11	2.9		
						-.08	2.9	-.04	
13. Indicate the quality of your interactions with the following people at your institution.									
b.	Academic advisors	senior	5.0	5.1		-.05	5.4	***	
						▽		-.13	
		first year	5.4	4.9	***	.27	5.2		
				△			5.1	*	
14. How much does your institution emphasize the following?									
b.	Providing support to help students succeed academically	senior	2.8	2.9	*	-.13	3.0	***	
				▽		▽		-.21	
		first year	3.0	3.1		-.08	3.1		
						-.09	3.1	-.11	

Table 6 - Standard 2.D.10 – The institution designs, maintains, and evaluates a systematic and effective program of academic advisement to support student development and success. Personnel responsible for advising students are knowledgeable of the curriculum, program requirements, and graduation requirements and are adequately prepared to successfully fulfill their responsibilities. Advising requirements and responsibilities are defined, published, and made available to students.

		CWU	Far West Public	Carnegie Class		NSSE 2013 & 2014		
		Mean	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e
13. Indicate the quality of your interactions with the following people at your institution.								
b.	Academic advisors	senior	5.0	5.1	-.05	5.4 ***	-.23	5.2 *
					▽		▽	
		first year	5.4	4.9 ***	.27	5.2	.12	5.1 *
			△				△	
c.	Faculty	senior	5.5	5.5	.03	5.7 *	-.12	5.6
					▽			-.04
		first year	5.2	5.1 *	.12	5.3	-.07	5.3
			△				△	
d.	Student services staff (career services, student activities, housing, etc.)	senior	4.7	4.8	-.07	5.0 **	-.17	4.9
					▽			-.11
		first year	4.8	4.8	.02	5.0	-.08	4.9
			△				△	-.06
e.	Other administrative staff and offices (registrar, financial aid, etc.)	senior	4.8	4.8	.04	5.0	-.09	4.8
					▽			.00
		first year	4.8	4.7	.01	4.9	-.09	4.8
			△				△	-.04
14. How much does your institution emphasize the following?								
b.	Providing support to help students succeed academically	senior	2.8	2.9 *	-.13	3.0 ***	-.24	3.0 ***
				▽		▽	▽	
		first year	3.0	3.1	-.08	3.1	-.09	3.1
			△				△	-.11

Table 7 - Standard 2.D.11 - Co-curricular activities are consistent with the institution's mission, core themes, programs, and services and are governed appropriately.

		CWU	Far West Public	Carnegie Class		NSSE 2013 & 2014		
		Mean	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e
11. Which of the following have you done or do you plan to do before you graduate?^f								
a.	Participate in an internship, co-op, field experience, student teaching, or clinical placement	senior	54%	44% **	.19	49%	.10	50% .08
		first year	4%	8% *	-.17	9% *	-.18	9% * -.17
			▽		▽	▽	▽	
c.	Participate in a learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two or more classes together	senior	24%	23%	.03	25% △	-.02	24% -.01
		first year	19%	14% *	.12	13% **	.16	15% .10
			△				△	
d.	Participate in a study abroad program	senior	7%	8%	-.01	13% **	-.19	14% *** -.22
					▽		▽	
		first year	1%	3%	-.13	3% *	-.16	4% * -.16
			△		▽	▽	▽	
e.	Work with a faculty member on a research project	senior	25%	23%	.05	24%	.00	24% .01
		first year	2%	4%	-.09	5% *	-.14	5% * -.16
			△		▽	▽	▽	
f.	Complete a culminating senior experience (capstone course, senior project or thesis, comprehensive exam, portfolio, etc.)	senior	54%	47% *	.14	48% *	.12	46% ** .16
				△	△	△	△	
		first year	3%	3%	.01	3%	.00	3% -.01
			△					

Table 8 - Standard 2.D.12 - If the institution operates auxiliary services (such as student housing, food service, and bookstore), they support the institution's mission, contribute to the intellectual climate of the campus community, and enhance the quality of the learning environment. Students, faculty, staff, and administrators have opportunities for input regarding these services.

		CWU	Far West Public	Carnegie Class		NSSE 2013 & 2014				
		Mean	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e		
13. Indicate the quality of your interactions with the following people at your institution.										
d. Student services staff (career services, student activities, housing, etc.)	senior	4.7	4.8	-.07	5.0	**	.17	4.9	-.11	
					▽					
	first year	4.8	4.8	.02	5.0		-.08	4.9	-.06	
15. About how many hours do you spend in a typical 7-day week doing the following?										
b. Participating in co-curricular activities (organizations, campus publications, student government, fraternity or sorority, intercollegiate or intramural sports, etc.)	senior	3.6	3.8	-.03	4.4	*	-.11	4.5	**	-.14
					▽			▽		
	first year	4.1	4.1	-.01	5.1	**	-.15	5.4	***	-.19
					▽			▽		

Table 9 – Standard 2.E.1 - Consistent with its mission and core themes, the institution holds or provides access to library and information resources with an appropriate level of currency, depth, and breadth to support the institution's mission, core themes, programs, and services, wherever offered and however delivered.

		CWU	Far West Public	Carnegie Class		NSSE 2013 & 2014					
		Mean	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e			
14. How much does your institution emphasize the following?											
b. Providing support to help students succeed academically	senior	2.8	2.9	*	-.13	3.0	***	-.24	3.0	***	-.21
		▽			▽			▽			
	first year	3.0	3.1		-.08	3.1		-.09	3.1		-.11

Table 10 – Standard 2.G.5 - Consistent with its mission, core themes, and characteristics, the institution has appropriate and adequate technology systems and infrastructure to support its management and operational functions, academic programs, and support services, wherever offered and however delivered.

		CWU	Far West Public	Carnegie Class		NSSE 2013 & 2014					
		Mean	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e			
6. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?											
b. Used numerical information to examine a real-world problem or issue (unemployment, climate change, public health, etc.)	senior	2.6	2.5	.10	2.4	**	.15	2.4	**	.15	
		▽			△			△			
	first year	2.3	2.3	.05	2.2		.10	2.3		.06	
c. Evaluated what others have concluded from numerical information	senior	2.6	2.5	.07	2.4	**	.17	2.4	*	.14	
		▽			△			△			
	first year	2.2	2.3	-.04	2.2		.04	2.3		-.03	
14. How much does your institution emphasize the following?											
b. Providing support to help students succeed academically	senior	2.8	2.9	*	-.13	3.0	***	-.24	3.0	***	-.21
		▽			▽			▽			
	first year	3.0	3.1		-.08	3.1		-.09	3.1		-.11

Table 11 – 2.G.6 - The institution provides appropriate instruction and support for faculty, staff, students, and administrators in the effective use of technology and technology systems related to its programs, services, and institutional operations.

		CWU	Far West Public	Carnegie Class		NSSE 2013 & 2014		
		Mean	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e
6. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?								
b.	Used numerical information to examine a real-world problem or issue (unemployment, climate change, public health, etc.)	senior	2.6	2.5	.10	2.4	**	.15
						△		△
		first year	2.3	2.3	.05	2.2	.10	2.3
c.	Evaluated what others have concluded from numerical information	senior	2.6	2.5	.07	2.4	**	.17
						△		△
		first year	2.2	2.3	-.04	2.2	.04	2.3
								-.03