



CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

2012 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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1/12/2017

I. ABSTRACT

Central Washington University (CWU) administered the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) during the spring quarter of 2012. 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 2012 quarter. The invitation email was sent on 4/3/12, the fourth reminder email was sent on 5/8/12. 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	2,165	3,190
Number of Responses	368	638
CWU Response Rate	17%	20%

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 2012 registration.

Note: the 2012 NSSE survey questions are at:

http://nsse.indiana.edu/pdf/survey_instruments/2012/NSSE2012_US_English_Paper.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 2012	
		Class	Mean	Mean	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Effect Size ^c
1. In your experience at your college during the current year, about how often have you done the following? 1=Never, 2=Sometimes, 3=Often, 4=Very often									
n.	Discussed grades or assignments with an instructor	FY	2.70	2.58 *	.14	2.71	-.01	2.67	.04
		SR	2.94	2.77 ***	.19	2.91	.02	2.84 **	.11
o.	Talked about career plans with a faculty member or advisor	FY	2.31	2.14 ***	.19	2.32	-.01	2.23	.09
		SR	2.53	2.35 ***	.19	2.52	.01	2.44 *	.09
q.	Received prompt written or oral feedback from faculty on your academic performance	FY	2.65	2.68	-.04	2.78 **	-.15	2.74	-.11
		SR	2.74	2.76	-.02	2.92 ***	-.22	2.87 ***	-.15
r.	Worked harder than you thought you could to meet an instructor's standards or expectations	FY	2.65	2.68	-.03	2.83 ***	-.21	2.77 *	-.14
		SR	2.78	2.75	.03	2.89 **	-.13	2.84	-.07
8. Select the circle that best represents the quality of your relationships with people at your institution.									
b.	Relationships with faculty members (1=Unavailable, Unhelpful, Unsympathetic to 7=Available, Helpful, Sympathetic)	FY	5.26	5.21	.04	5.48 **	-.17	5.35	-.07
		SR	5.41	5.41	.00	5.70 ***	-.22	5.53 *	-.09

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 2012	
		Class	Mean	Mean	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Effect Size ^c
1. In your experience at your college during the current year, about how often have you done the following? 1=Never, 2=Sometimes, 3=Often, 4=Very often									
b.	Made a class presentation	FY	2.07	2.26***	-.23	2.45***	-.44	2.32***	-.30
		SR	3.02	2.71***	.35	2.91**	.13	2.81***	.23
d.	Worked on a paper or project that required integrating ideas or information from various sources	FY	3.15	3.17	-.03	3.16	-.02	3.14	-.01
		SR	3.48	3.37***	.15	3.41**	.11	3.38***	.15
e.	Included diverse perspectives (different races, religions, genders, political beliefs, etc.) in class discussions or writing assignments	FY	2.72	2.87**	-.16	2.85*	-.14	2.80	-.09
		SR	2.95	2.89	.07	2.94	.01	2.88	.07
g.	Worked with other students on projects during class	FY	2.28	2.41**	-.14	2.54***	-.30	2.46***	-.20
		SR	2.77	2.61***	.18	2.65**	.13	2.61***	.17
h.	Worked with classmates outside of class to prepare class assignments	FY	2.48	2.45	.03	2.47	.01	2.47	.01
		SR	2.94	2.78***	.17	2.74***	.21	2.77***	.18
i.	Put together ideas or concepts from different courses when completing assignments or during class discussions	FY	2.60	2.69	-.10	2.71*	-.12	2.67	-.08
		SR	3.01	2.99	.02	2.99	.02	2.99	.02
k.	Participated in a community-based project (e.g., service learning) as part of a regular course	FY	1.54	1.61	-.08	1.69***	-.17	1.62	-.09
		SR	1.75	1.75	-.01	1.84*	-.10	1.74	-.00
2. During the current school year, how much has your coursework emphasized the following mental activities? 1=Little, 2=Some, 3=Quite a bit, 4=Very much									
b.	Analyzing the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory, such as examining a particular case or situation in depth and considering its components	FY	3.04	3.18**	-.19	3.21***	-.22	3.20***	-.21
		SR	3.25	3.33*	-.10	3.31	-.08	3.33*	-.10
c.	Synthesizing and organizing ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships	FY	2.88	2.97*	-.12	3.01**	-.16	2.99*	-.13
		SR	3.15	3.13	.02	3.14	.01	3.14	.01
d.	Making judgments about the value of info., arguments, or methods, such as examining how others gathered and interpreted data and assessing the soundness of their conclusions	FY	2.85	2.97*	-.15	3.00**	-.18	2.97*	-.14
		SR	3.05	3.05	.00	3.12*	-.09	3.09	-.04
e.	Applying theories or concepts to practical problems or in new situations	FY	3.05	3.00	.06	3.14	-.10	3.11	-.07
		SR	3.27	3.22	.05	3.31	-.05	3.28	-.02
7. Which of the following have you done or do you plan to do before you graduate from your institution? (0=Have not done; 1=Done.)									
a.	Practicum, internship, field experience, co-op experience, or clinical assignment	FY	.05	.08*	-.11	.08*	-.11	.08*	-.10
		SR	.49	.45*	.10	.49	.01	.49	.00
b.	Community service or volunteer work	FY	.39	.37	.05	.39	.00	.40	-.03
		SR	.55	.58	-.05	.58	-.05	.59*	-.09
c.	Participate in a learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two or more classes together	FY	.20	.19	.02	.16	.11	.18	.05
		SR	.30	.27	.07	.28	.04	.27	.06
8. Select the circle that best represents the quality of your relationships with people at your institution.									
a.	Relationships with other students	FY	5.38	5.38	.00	5.55*	-.12	5.52	-.11
		SR	5.55	5.52	.02	5.74***	-.15	5.68*	-.10
10. To what extent does your institution emphasize each of the following?									
b.	Providing the support you need to help you succeed academically	FY	2.94	3.02	-.11	3.17***	-.30	3.14***	-.25
		SR	2.84	2.91	-.07	3.07***	-.27	3.01***	-.19
g.	Using computers in academic work	FY	3.18	3.24	-.07	3.30**	-.15	3.31**	-.17
		SR	3.53	3.43**	.13	3.42***	.14	3.45**	.11
11. To what extent has your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?									
a.	Acquiring a broad general education	FY	3.14	3.13	.01	3.20	-.08	3.19	-.06
		SR	3.11	3.18	-.08	3.29***	-.22	3.27***	-.19
b.	Acquiring job or work-related knowledge and skills	FY	2.70	2.68	.02	2.91***	-.23	2.86**	-.17
		SR	3.14	3.00**	.15	3.15	-.02	3.11	.03
c.	Writing clearly and effectively	FY	2.99	2.99	.00	3.11*	-.14	3.06	-.08
		SR	3.05	3.09	-.05	3.21***	-.19	3.16**	-.14
d.	Speaking clearly and effectively	FY	2.64	2.82**	-.19	2.98***	-.37	2.90***	-.28
		SR	3.01	2.96	.06	3.12**	-.12	3.04	-.04
e.	Thinking critically and analytically	FY	3.09	3.19*	-.13	3.30***	-.28	3.27***	-.23
		SR	3.28	3.35	-.08	3.40***	-.16	3.40***	-.15
f.	Analyzing quantitative problems	FY	2.84	2.91	-.07	3.02***	-.20	3.02***	-.20
		SR	3.01	3.10*	-.09	3.12**	-.12	3.14***	-.15
h.	Working effectively with others	FY	2.84	2.92	-.09	3.10***	-.30	3.03***	-.21
		SR	3.15	3.12	.03	3.24*	-.11	3.21	-.07
i.	Understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds	FY	2.52	2.68**	-.16	2.78***	-.27	2.71**	-.19
		SR	2.59	2.66	-.07	2.76***	-.17	2.71**	-.12
o.	Contributing to the welfare of your community	FY	2.30	2.39	-.09	2.55***	-.25	2.51***	-.21
		SR	2.34	2.46**	-.12	2.59***	-.24	2.54***	-.19
13. 1=Poor, 2=Fair, 3=Good, 4=Excellent									
	How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this institution?	FY	3.19	3.15	.05	3.27	-.11	3.25	-.08
		SR	3.09	3.15	-.08	3.26***	-.23	3.25***	-.22

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 needs.

		CWU		Far West Public		Carnegie Class		NSSE 2012	
		Class	Mean	Mean	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Effect Size ^c
10. To what extent does your institution emphasize each of the following?									
b.	Providing the support you need to help you succeed academically	FY	2.94	3.02	-.11	3.17***	-.30	3.14***	-.25
		SR	2.84	2.91	-.07	3.07***	-.27	3.01***	-.19
11. To what extent has your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?									
a.	Acquiring a broad general education	FY	3.14	3.13	.01	3.20	-.08	3.19	-.06
		SR	3.11	3.18	-.08	3.29***	-.22	3.27***	-.19
g.	Using computing and information technology	FY	2.87	2.90	-.03	3.07***	-.22	3.04***	-.19
		SR	3.15	3.13	.02	3.23*	-.09	3.21	-.06
13. 1=Poor, 2=Fair, 3=Good, 4=Excellent									
	How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this institution?	FY	3.19	3.15	.05	3.27	-.11	3.25	-.08
		SR	3.09	3.15	-.08	3.26***	-.23	3.25***	-.22

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 2012	
		Class	Mean	Mean	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Effect Size ^c
1. In your experience at your college during the current year, about how often have you done the following? 1=Never, 2=Sometimes, 3=Often, 4=Very often									
n.	Discussed grades or assignments with an instructor	FY	2.70	2.58*	.14	2.71	-.01	2.67	.04
		SR	2.94	2.77***	.19	2.91	.02	2.84**	.11
o.	Talked about career plans with a faculty member or advisor	FY	2.31	2.14***	.19	2.32	-.01	2.23	.09
		SR	2.53	2.35***	.19	2.52	.01	2.44*	.09
q.	Received prompt written or oral feedback from faculty on your academic performance	FY	2.65	2.68	-.04	2.78**	-.15	2.74	-.11
		SR	2.74	2.76	-.02	2.92***	-.22	2.87***	-.15
10. To what extent does your institution emphasize each of the following?									
b.	Providing the support you need to help you succeed academically	FY	2.94	3.02	-.11	3.17***	-.30	3.14***	-.25
		SR	2.84	2.91	-.07	3.07***	-.27	3.01***	-.19
12. 1=Poor, 2=Fair, 3=Good, 4=Excellent									
	Overall, how would you evaluate the quality of academic advising you have received at your institution?	FY	3.08	3.03	.06	3.15	-.08	3.11	-.04
		SR	2.78	2.90**	-.13	3.06***	-.31	3.01***	-.25

Table 6 - Standard 2.D.6 – Publications describing educational programs include accurate information on: a) national and/or state legal eligibility requirements for licensure or entry into an occupation or profession for which education and training are offered; or b) descriptions of unique requirements for employment and advancement in the occupation or profession.

		CWU		Far West Public		Carnegie Class		NSSE 2012	
		Class	Mean	Mean	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Effect Size ^c
11. To what extent has your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?									
b.	Acquiring job or work-related knowledge and skills	FY	2.70	2.68	.02	2.91***	-.23	2.86**	-.17
		SR	3.14	3.00**	.15	3.15	-.02	3.11	.03

Table 7 - 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 2012	
		Class	Mean	Mean	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Effect Size ^c
8. Select the circle that best represents the quality of your relationships with people at your institution.									
c.	Relationships with administrative personnel and offices (1=Unhelpful, Inconsiderate, Rigid to 7=Helpful, Considerate, Flexible)	FY	4.74	4.75	-.01	4.99**	-.16	4.89	-.10
		SR	4.67	4.64	.02	4.92***	-.15	4.81	-.08
10. To what extent does your institution emphasize each of the following?									
b.	Providing the support you need to help you succeed academically	FY	2.94	3.02	-.11	3.17***	-.30	3.14***	-.25
		SR	2.84	2.91	-.07	3.07***	-.27	3.01***	-.19
12. 1=Poor, 2=Fair, 3=Good, 4=Excellent									
	Overall, how would you evaluate the quality of academic advising you have received at your institution?	FY	3.08	3.03	.06	3.15	-.08	3.11	-.04
		SR	2.78	2.90**	-.13	3.06***	-.31	3.01***	-.25

Table 8 - 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 2012	
		Class	Mean	Mean	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Effect Size ^c
7. Which of the following have you done or do you plan to do before you graduate from your institution? (0=Have not done; 1=Done.)									
a.	Practicum, internship, field experience, co-op experience, or clinical assignment	FY	.05	.08*	-.11	.08*	-.11	.08*	-.10
		SR	.49	.45*	.10	.49	.01	.49	.00
b.	Community service or volunteer work	FY	.39	.37	.05	.39	.00	.40	-.03
		SR	.55	.58	-.05	.58	-.05	.59*	-.09
c.	Participate in a learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two or more classes together	FY	.20	.19	.02	.16	.11	.18	.05
		SR	.30	.27	.07	.28	.04	.27	.06
d.	Work on a research project with a faculty member outside of course or program requirements	FY	.07	.05	.11	.06	.05	.06	.06
		SR	.20	.18	.06	.18	.04	.20	.00
f.	Study abroad	FY	.03	.03	-.01	.03	-.01	.03	-.02
		SR	.09	.11*	-.09	.12**	-.10	.14***	-.16

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 2012	
		Class	Mean	Mean	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Effect Size ^c
10. To what extent does your institution emphasize each of the following?									
b.	Providing the support you need to help you succeed academically	FY	2.94	3.02	-.11	3.17***	-.30	3.14***	-.25
		SR	2.84	2.91	-.07	3.07***	-.27	3.01***	-.19

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 2012	
		Class	Mean	Mean	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Effect Size ^c
1. In your experience at your college during the current year, about how often have you done the following? 1=Never, 2=Sometimes, 3=Often, 4=Very often									
l.	Used an electronic medium (listserv, chat group, Internet, instant messaging, etc.) to discuss or complete an assignment	FY	2.44	2.66 ***	-.22	2.73 ***	-.29	2.71 ***	-.27
		SR	2.85	2.93 *	-.08	2.94 *	-.08	2.93	-.08
m.	Used e-mail to communicate with an instructor	FY	3.22	3.13	.11	3.26	-.06	3.23	-.02
		SR	3.50	3.38 ***	.17	3.49	.01	3.43 **	.10
10. To what extent does your institution emphasize each of the following?									
b.	Providing the support you need to help you succeed academically	FY	2.94	3.02	-.11	3.17 ***	-.30	3.14 ***	-.25
		SR	2.84	2.91	-.07	3.07 ***	-.27	3.01 ***	-.19
g.	Using computers in academic work	FY	3.18	3.24	-.07	3.30 **	-.15	3.31 **	-.17
		SR	3.53	3.43 **	.13	3.42 ***	.14	3.45 **	.11
11. To what extent has your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?									
f.	Analyzing quantitative problems	FY	2.84	2.91	-.07	3.02 ***	-.20	3.02 ***	-.20
		SR	3.01	3.10 *	-.09	3.12 **	-.12	3.14 ***	-.15
g.	Using computing and information technology	FY	2.87	2.90	-.03	3.07 ***	-.22	3.04 ***	-.19
		SR	3.15	3.13	.02	3.23 *	-.09	3.21	-.06

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 2012	
		Class	Mean	Mean	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Effect Size ^c
1. In your experience at your college during the current year, about how often have you done the following? 1=Never, 2=Sometimes, 3=Often, 4=Very often									
l.	Used an electronic medium (listserv, chat group, Internet, instant messaging, etc.) to discuss or complete an assignment	FY	2.44	2.66 ***	-.22	2.73 ***	-.29	2.71 ***	-.27
		SR	2.85	2.93 *	-.08	2.94 *	-.08	2.93	-.08
m.	Used e-mail to communicate with an instructor	FY	3.22	3.13	.11	3.26	-.06	3.23	-.02
		SR	3.50	3.38 ***	.17	3.49	.01	3.43 **	.10
10. To what extent does your institution emphasize each of the following?									
g.	Using computers in academic work	FY	3.18	3.24	-.07	3.30 **	-.15	3.31 **	-.17
		SR	3.53	3.43 **	.13	3.42 ***	.14	3.45 **	.11
11. To what extent has your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?									
f.	Analyzing quantitative problems	FY	2.84	2.91	-.07	3.02 ***	-.20	3.02 ***	-.20
		SR	3.01	3.10 *	-.09	3.12 **	-.12	3.14 ***	-.15
g.	Using computing and information technology	FY	2.87	2.90	-.03	3.07 ***	-.22	3.04 ***	-.19
		SR	3.15	3.13	.02	3.23 *	-.09	3.21	-.06