An Introduction to NSSE and FSSE

1. How to Access MSUB Data and Make Ad Hoc Requests
2. Concept of Student Engagement
3. MSUB NSSE Administration and Snapshot Report
4. MSUB FSSE Administration and Snapshot Report
5. Using MSUB’s NSSE and FSSE Data
6. Questions & Discussion
7. Contact Information
A QUICK REVIEW OF HOW TO ACCESS MSUB REPORTS AND MAKE AD HOC REQUESTS

IT/IRAP Website
http://www.msubillings.edu/it/irap/

Institutional Research, Analysis, and Programming

Mission
The Institutional Research and Programming group within the Information Technology Department provides the following services:
- Comprehensive Institutional Research, including in-depth topical research and analysis
- Requested internal and external Institutional reports
- Student course evaluation administration
- Data application (Excel, Argus, Tableau) development and maintenance for both operational and analytical uses
- IT reports software implementation and data support
- Test form development and maintenance
- MSUB Data Warehouse development, documentation and maintenance

Staff

Key Reporting Dates

Accessing Institutional Data
MSUB faculty and staff are able to access standard MSUB reports via the IT/ShareLink site, login required.

Data and Programming Requests
Access - Institutional Research SharePoint Site

https://sharepoint2010.msubillings.edu/sites/IR/

- **SHARED DOCUMENTS:** institutional reports containing aggregate information
  - National Survey of Student Engagement and Faculty Survey of Student Engagement folder

- **ONLINE RESOURCES:** external online resource websites

- **LINKS:** links to MSUB specific data applications

**ADMIN GENERAL HAS ACCESS**

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**IR Website**

http://www.msubillings.edu/it/irap/

**Institutional Research, Analysis, and Programming**

**Mission**

The Institutional Research and Programming group within the Information Technology Department provides the following services:

- Comprehensive institutional research, including in-depth topical research and analysis
- Required internal and external institutional reporting
- Student course evaluation administration
- Data applications, reports, and research development and maintenance
- Data management services
- Reporting and data support
- Work from development and maintenance
- MSUB Data Warehouse development, documentation and maintenance

**Staff**

**Key Reporting Dates**

**Accessing Institutional Data**

**Data and Programming Requests**

MSUB faculty and staff are able to request ad hoc reports and assistance with data applications via this REQUEST FORM.
What is Student Engagement?

What students do –
Time and energy devoted to studies and other educationally purposeful activities

What institutions do –
Using resources and effective educational practices to induce students to do the right things

Educationally effective institutions channel student energy toward the right activities
Seven Principles of Good Practice in Undergraduate Education

Student-faculty contact
Active learning
Prompt feedback
Time on task
High expectations
Experiences with diversity
Cooperation among students


NSSE Background

- Launched with grant from The Pew Charitable Trusts in 1999, supported by institutional participation fees since 2002.
- Institution types, sizes, and locations represented in NSSE are largely representative of U.S. baccalaureate institutions.
- More than 1,600 baccalaureate-granting colleges and universities in the US and Canada have participated to date.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Institutions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2001 thru 2010</td>
<td>1441</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>754</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>580</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>713</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>585</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>557</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Goals of NSSE Project

- Focus conversations on undergraduate quality
- Enhance institutional practice and improvement initiatives
- Foster comparative and consortium activity
- Provide systematic national data on “effective educational practices”

NSSE Survey Content

- Engagement in meaningful academic experiences
- Engagement in High-Impact Practices
- Student reactions to college
- Student background information
- Student learning & development
NSSE Engagement Indicators

Meaningful Academic Engagement Themes

- Academic Challenge
- Learning with Peers
- Experiences with Faculty
- Campus Environment

Engagement Indicators

- Higher-Order Learning
- Reflective & Integrative Learning
- Learning Strategies
- Quantitative Reasoning
- Collaborative Learning
- Discussions with Diverse Others
- Student-Faculty Interaction
- Effective Teaching Practices
- Quality of Interactions
- Supportive Environment

NSSE Engagement Indicators - SCORING

Scoring

To facilitate comparisons over time, as well as between groups of students within or between institutions, each Engagement Indicator is expressed on a 60-point scale. Computing Engagement Indicator scores involves three steps:

1. First, all items that contribute to an Engagement Indicator are converted to a 60-point scale. For example, items with four response options (e.g., Never, Sometimes, Often, and Very Often) are recoded with values of 0, 20, 40, or 60. Thus an Engagement Indicator score of zero means that every student chose the lowest response option for every item in that indicator, while a score of 60 means that every student chose the highest response to every item.

2. Second, recoded values for each component item are averaged together. For Engagement Indicators with five or more items (Reflective & Integrative Learning, Effective Teaching Practices, Quality of Interactions, and Supportive Environment) a mean was calculated for each student who answered all items or all but one of the items in the Engagement Indicator. For instance, a student must have answered at least four of the five Effective Teaching Practices items in order to receive an Effective Teaching Practices score. In contrast, a student must answer all three Quantitative Reasoning items in order to receive a Quantitative Reasoning score.

3. Finally, institutional Engagement Indicator scores are the weighted averages of the student-level scores for each class level. (More information about weighting can be found here.)
Survey Administration

- Census-administered to first-year students & seniors
- Spring administration via email
- Multiple follow-ups to increase response rates
- Topical Modules provide option to delve deeper into the student experience
  - Advising and Civic Engagement

A Commitment to Data Quality

NSSE’s Psychometric Portfolio presents evidence of validity, reliability, and other indicators of data quality. It serves higher education leaders, researchers, and professionals who use NSSE.

See the Psychometric Portfolio
nsse.indiana.edu/html/psychometric_portfolio.cfm
NSSE 2016 Results
Montana State University - Billings

NSSE 2016 Survey
Population and Respondents

- More than 1.3 million students were invited to participate in NSSE 2016, with 311,086 responding

- MSUB:
  - First-year 26% (110 of 423) response rate
  - Senior 39% (296 of 762) response rate
**NSSE 2016 U.S. Institution Response Rates**

**MSUB response rate = 34%**

**All NSSE 2016 institutions = 29%**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollment</th>
<th>Number of Institutions</th>
<th>Avg. Institutional Response Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2,500 or fewer</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,501 to 4,999</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,000 to 9,999</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10,000 or more</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All institutions</td>
<td>512</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NSSE 2016 Results for MSUB**

**MSUB Snapshot**

A Summary of Student Engagement Results

Student engagement represents two critical features of collegiate quality. The first is the amount of time and effort students put into their studies and other educationally purposeful activities. The second is how institutional resources, courses, and other learning opportunities facilitate student participation in activities that matter to student learning. NSSE surveys first-year and senior students to assess their levels of engagement and related information about their

This Snapshot is a concise collection of key findings from your institution's NSSE 2016 administration. We hope this information stimulates discussions about the undergraduate experience. Additional details about these and other results appear in the reports referenced throughout.
MSUB IPEDS PEERS:

IPEDS Peers (N=7)
Auburn University at Montgomery (Montgomery, AL)
Bemidji State University (Bemidji, MN)*
Black Hills State University (Spearfish, SD)
Cameron University (Lawton, OK)
Midwestern State University (Wichita Falls, TX)
Missouri Southern State University (Joplin, MO)
University of Southern Maine (Portland, ME)

NSSE 2016 MSUB Reports

Posted to IR Sharepoint

- NSSE16 Administration Summary (MSU Billings)
- NSSE16 Engagement Indicators (MSU Billings)
- NSSE16 Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons (MSU Billings)
- NSSE16 High-Impact Practices (MSU Billings)
- NSSE16 Multi-Year Report (MSU Billings)
- NSSE16 Pocket Guide Report (MSU Billings)
- NSSE16 Respondent Profile (MSU Billings)
- NSSE16 Selected Comparison Groups (MSU Billings)
- NSSE16 Snapshot (MSU Billings)
- NSSE16 Topical Module - Academic Advising (MSU Billings)
- NSSE16 Topical Module - Civic Engagement (MSU Billings)
Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (FSSE)
Montana State University - Billings

(FSSE is pronounced “fessie”)
College faculty survey that measures faculty expectations for student engagement in educational practices that are empirically linked with student learning and development.
FSSE Survey Content

- How often faculty use effective teaching practices
- How much faculty encourage students to collaborate
- The nature and frequency of faculty-student interactions
- Opportunities to engage in diverse perspectives
- The importance faculty place on increasing institutional support for students
- The importance faculty place on various areas of learning and development
- How faculty members organize their time, both in and out of the classroom

FSSE 2016 Project Scope

- In 2016, more than 14,500 faculty members from 121 institutions responded to the survey.
- In 2016, 41% of the faculty contacted responded to the survey.
- Response rates at individual institutions ranged from 13% to 78%.
- The average institutional response rate was 45%.
- MUSB’s response rate was 46% (99 of 213)
FSSE Administration

- Third-party administration in the spring
- Institutions choose faculty to be surveyed – University Campus faculty
- Faculty responses are kept anonymous
- Administered as an online-only survey
- Institutions are able to add topical modules to the end of the core FSSE instrument (Academic Advising and Civic Engagement)

FSSE 2016 Results for MSUB

MSUB Snapshot

FSSE 2016 Snapshot
Montana State University Billings

A Summary of Faculty Results
Student engagement represents two critical features of collegiate quality. The first is the amount of time and effort students put into their studies and other educationally purposeful activities. The second is how institutional resources, courses, and other learning opportunities facilitate student participation in activities that matter to student learning. FSSE surveys faculty who teach at least one undergraduate course in the current academic year. This Snapshot is a concise collection of key findings from your institution’s FSSE 2016 administration. We hope this information stimulates discussions about the undergraduate experience. Additional details about these and other results appear in the Frequencies and FSSE-NSSE Combined reports.
FSSE 2016 MSUB Reports

Posted to IR Sharepoint

- FSSE16 Administration Summary (MSU Billings)
- FSSE16 Frequencies (MSU Billings)
- FSSE16 Respondent Profile (MSU Billings)
- FSSE16 Snapshot (MSU Billings)
- FSSE16 Topical Module - Academic Advising (MSU Billings)
- FSSE16 Topical Module - Civic Engagement (MSU Billings)
- FSSE-NSSE Combined Report 2016 (MSU Billings)

Using Your NSSE and FSSE Data
Using NSSE and FSSE Data at MSUB

- Review survey instruments – what items are related to your operational area? What items are of interest to you?
- Review provided reports – what surprises you? What needs further investigation? What information indicates action is needed?
- After reviewing the instruments and provided reports, what questions do you have? Ad hoc analysis requests?
- Investigate how your colleagues have used NSSE/FSSE data.
- Where is improvement needed? What actions can be taken to make changes?

User Resources

The NSSE Institute for Effective Educational Practice develops user resources and responds to requests for assistance in using student engagement results to improve student learning and institutional effectiveness.

nsse.indiana.edu/institute/

Select user resources have been added to IR Sharepoint folder.
Resources Available to Users

**NSSE Accreditation Toolkits**
Maps NSSE items to accreditation standards/criteria to support data use in accreditation
- Northwest – Institutional Accreditation
- AACSB – Disciplinary Accreditation

**NSSE Item Campus-wide Mapping**
Maps NSSE items to institutional functions

Internal Campus Uses

- Gauge status of campus priorities
- Examine changes in student engagement between first and senior years
- Assess campus progress over time
- Encourage dialogue about good practice
- Link with other data to test hypotheses, evaluate programs
- Improve curricula, instruction, services
External Campus Uses

- Assess status vis-à-vis peers, competitors
- Identify, develop, market distinctive competencies
- Encourage collaboration in consortia (e.g., statewide NSSE conference)
- Provide evidence of accountability for good processes (while awaiting improvement in outcomes)

Questions & Discussion
Contact Information

Montana State University - Billings

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