

# NSSE Foundations

Regional User's Workshop  
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## Overview

- History
- Theory
- Core Surveys
- Administration
- Deliverables
- Data
- Dissemination

## History

- Founded with a grant from Pew Charitable Trusts to change the national discussion about collegiate quality
- Proposed as an alternative to traditional rankings (US News and World Report)

## History

- Growth of NSSE – 2000-2005


Year	Number of Institutions
2000	~280
2001	~320
2002	~360
2003	~420
2004	~480
2005	~520

## History

- Other Projects
  - CSEQ/CSXQ
  - BEAMS
  - DEEP


## Theory

- The time and energy students devote to educationally purposeful activities is the single best predictor of their learning and personal development. (Kuh, 2002)
- These things can be measured and then changed by institutions

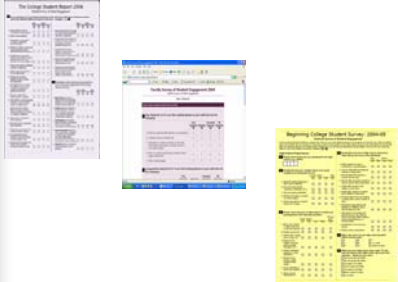



## Theory

- We are trying to create a yearly, national snapshot of students in the US
- All Students are Important: even adult, even commuting, even online
- Schools can foster changes if they know what they need to do,





## Core Surveys

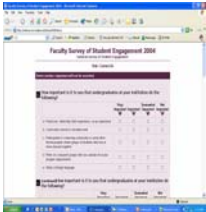

## Core Surveys: NSSE

- Research based on effective educational practices
- Designed and tested for high validity and reliability
- Relatively stable over time
- Credibility of self-reported data
- Over 200,000 students at 475 institutions annually

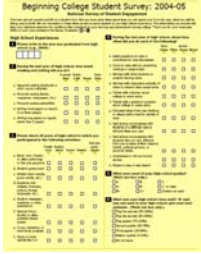
## Core Surveys: FSSE

- Designed to parallel NSSE undergraduate survey
  - Faculty perceptions of student engagement
  - Importance faculty place on various areas of learning and development
  - Nature and frequency of faculty-student interactions
  - How faculty members organize class time
- Catalyst for productive discussions related to teaching and learning
- To date more than 34,000 faculty members at 276 four-year institutions

## Core Surveys: BCSS

- Based on numerous requests over the years for pre-college controls
- Measures first-year students' expectations for college and selected high school experiences
- Ability to combine with spring NSSE data for pre- and post-look at first-year experience
- Piloted in fall 2004 at 20 institutions





## Core Surveys: The NSSElings

**Additional surveys have been spawned from NSSE**

- Community College Survey
- Law School Survey
- High School Survey
- Chiropractic College Survey
- Canadian Survey
- Spanish, Russian, and French translations



## Administration: Timeline




<p><b>Late May - July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registration opens for NSSE and FSSE 2006</li> </ul> <p><b>July - September</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registration remains open until 9/20 for NSSE and 11/1 for FSSE</li> <li>Institutions begin to submit and upload materials for NSSE and FSSE</li> </ul> <p><b>October</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Institutions continue to submit and upload materials for NSSE and FSSE</li> <li>Population file submission deadline is 10/31</li> <li>NSSE and institutions finalize consortia and consortium questions</li> </ul> <p><b>November - December</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FSSE registration closes 11/1</li> <li>Institutions continue to submit and upload materials to NSSE &amp; FSSE</li> <li>Annual report and benchmark reports sent to 2004 institutions (early-mid November)</li> </ul> <p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Institutions continue to submit and upload site materials for NSSE and FSSE</li> </ul>	<p><b>February - March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First wave of 2005 NSSE surveys are sent out</li> <li>Special local administration surveys are sent by NSSE staff</li> </ul> <p><b>March - April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Web administration of 2005 FSSE begins</li> <li>NSSE/FSSE, CSR, and institutions conduct aggressive follow-up activities including letters and emails</li> </ul> <p><b>May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NSSE, CSR, and institutions continue aggressive follow-up activities</li> <li>FSSE web administration closes mid-May</li> <li>Registration opens for NSSE and FSSE 2006</li> </ul> <p><b>June - July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NSSE web and paper administration closes 6/1</li> <li>Analysis of NSSE data</li> <li>Preparation of NSSE institutional Reports</li> </ul> <p><b>August</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2005 Institutional Reports sent.</li> </ul>
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## Administration



- Decisions
  - Choosing Mode
    - Web, Web+, Paper
  - Sample Size
    - Oversampling Options
  - Consortium
    - Finding like schools
    - Additional Questions
  - Special Groups
    - Subpopulations at your school

## Administration



- What we need from you
  - Registration
  - Population files
  - Letterhead (for paper schools)
  - Accurate Addresses

## NSSE Deliverables





## Deliverables: Institutional Report




<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overview</li> <li>Institutional data</li> <li>Item averages and response percentages</li> <li>Respondent characteristics</li> <li>Experimental items if applicable</li> <li>First-year students and seniors</li> <li>Comparisons by consortium, Carnegie, and national</li> <li>Information video</li> <li>Using NSSE Data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FSSE Report if applicable</li> <li>Accreditation toolkit</li> <li>NSSE Institute</li> <li>Additional Information</li> </ul> 
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## Deliverables: Annual Report

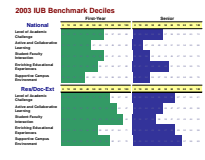


**Effective Educational Practices**

- Level of Academic Challenge
- Active and Collaborative Learning
- Student-Faculty Interaction
- Enriching Educational Experiences
- Supportive Campus Environment



## Deliverables: Benchmark Report



**2003 RUB Benchmark Deciles**

**Level of Academic Challenge**

Benchmark	Actual	Target
Level of Academic Challenge	56.0	52.4
Active and Collaborative Learning	43.5	41.4
Student-Faculty Interaction	42.7	35.8
Enriching Educational Experiences	50.6	50.4
Supportive Campus Environment	70.8	63.3

**Level of Academic Challenge (in percentages)**

Year	Actual	Target
2003	56.0	52.4
2004	56.0	52.4
2005	56.0	52.4

## Deliverables: Engagement Index

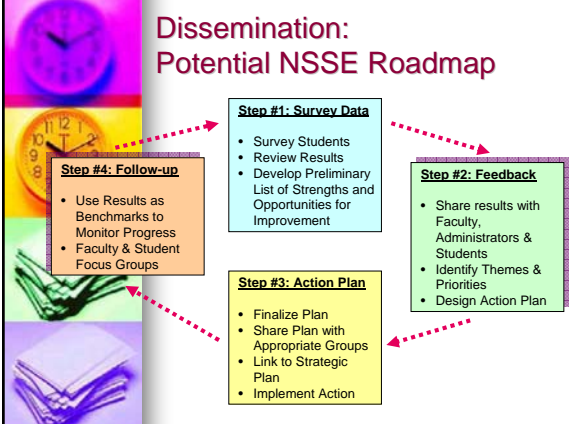
- Are you doing better or worse given your institutional and student characteristics?

Benchmark	Actual	Target	Residual	Standardized Residual	Actual	Target	Residual	Standardized Residual
Level of Academic Challenge	56.0	52.4	3.5	1.3	60.0	56.9	3.1	1.1
Active and Collaborative Learning	43.5	41.4	2.1	0.6	58.8	54.0	4.8	1.5
Student-Faculty Interaction	42.7	35.8	6.9	1.7	48.4	45.4	3.0	0.8
Enriching Educational Experiences	50.6	50.4	0.2	0.0	44.7	48.7	-4.0	-0.9
Supportive Campus Environment	70.8	63.3	7.5	2.0	67.4	62.6	4.7	1.2

## Data

- What to look for
  - What did you expect
  - What didn't you expect
- What questions to ask
  - What changes could be made
  - Who else could be involved

## Dissemination: Potential NSSE Roadmap



**Step #1: Survey Data**

- Survey Students
- Review Results
- Develop Preliminary List of Strengths and Opportunities for Improvement

**Step #2: Feedback**

- Share results with Faculty, Administrators & Students
- Identify Themes & Priorities
- Design Action Plan

**Step #3: Action Plan**

- Finalize Plan
- Share Plan with Appropriate Groups
- Link to Strategic Plan
- Implement Action

**Step #4: Follow-up**

- Use Results as Benchmarks to Monitor Progress
- Faculty & Student Focus Groups

## Questions?

Thank you.