

National Survey of Student Engagement Summary of Survey Results - 2000

The survey included 276 four-year colleges and universities. MSUM had an 48% response rate (higher than the average of 42%) with 74% female and 97% white respondents. 45% were first year students and 55% were seniors. 84% were full time and 37% were on-campus. In the following, the first number cited is the mean for MSUM students and the second is that for all masters I and II institutions.

The following areas were found where MSUM has a statistically significant difference from the mean of Masters-level I and II schools, our comparison group.

College Activities:

Academic, Intellectual, Social Experiences: **(1= never, 2= occasionally, 3= often, 4= very often)**

- **Came to class unprepared** – (first year 1.81 versus 1.66 was not ss) seniors 1.97 compared to 1.77
- **Asked questions in class or contributed to class discussions** – First year 2.42 versus 2.75 and senior 2.89 versus 3.07.
- **Participated in a community-based project as part of a regular course** – first year – 1.13 versus 1.36 (seniors 1.55 versus 1.61 was not a ss difference)
- **Had serious conversations with other students whose religious beliefs, political opinions, or personal values were very different from yours** – Senior 2.16 versus 2.40 for the average masters level schools.
- **Had serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity** – both first year and seniors (not surprisingly) were different from the mean – first year 2.10 versus 2.46 and seniors 2.00 versus 2.48.

Reading and Writing

- **Number of written papers or reports of fewer than 20 pages** – (1= none, 2= fewer than 5, 3= 5 to 10, 4= 11-20 and 5=more than 20) first year 3.84 versus 3.53. Note that this is the one item in which our difference was better than the mean!! (seniors were not ss at 3.33 versus 3.28. We did not differ significantly for number of papers of 20 pages or more at either level).
- **Nature of exams taken this year** – (1= mostly multiple choice or short answer up to 7=mostly essay and open-ended problems). First year 2.86 versus 3.75 and senior 3.72 versus 4.22.

Character of Mental Activities (1= very little, 2= some 3= quite a bit, 4= very much)

- **Synthesizing and organizing ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships** – First year 2.25 versus 2.57
- **Making judgments about the value of information, arguments or methods such as examining how other gathered and interpreted data and assessing the soundness of their conclusions.** – first year 2.17 versus 2.55.

Weekly Activities (1= 5 or fewer hours per week, 2= 6-10 hrs/wk, 3= 11-15, 4= 16-20, 5=21-25, 6=26-30 and 7= more than 30 hours per week)

- **Relaxing and socializing** – first year – 3.72 versus 3.15.

- **Providing care for dependents living with you** – first year 1.20 versus 1.65.

Educational and Personal

Knowledge Skills and Personal development (1=very little, 2=some, 3=quite a bit, 4= very much)

- **Voting in elections** – first year 1.37 versus 1.65.
- **Understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds** – first year 2.19 versus 2.60.
- **Contributing to the welfare of your community** – first year 1.81 versus 2.19 and senior 2.14 versus 2.41.

Opinions About Your School

Institutional Emphasis (1=very little, 2= some, 3= quite a bit, 4= very much)

- **Spending significant amounts of time studying and on academic work** – senior 2.85 versus 3.11.
- **Encouraging contact among students from different economic, social, and racial or ethnic backgrounds** –first year 2.08 versus 2.47 and senior 2.03 versus 2.30.

Summarized by JAS from data provided