

## Summary of Student Integration, Persistence, & Satisfaction (SIPS) Survey

### SIPS Survey Overview:

- Survey developed by the John Gardner Institute and administered by Institutional Research and Effectiveness
- Survey open 11/22/17-12/17/17
- Surveys sent via a unique email link to currently enrolled first year (0-29 credits) and second year (30-59 credits) WNC degree-seeking or university-transfer seeking students.
- In addition, **NO** high school, Jump Start, personal interest, adult education, or undecided academic plan students were included.
- First and second year students were asked the same 40 questions. The survey took approximately 15-20 minutes to complete. Students in target populations received five emails over four weeks with survey links and information about incentive prizes for participation. Two All College emails were sent encouraging faculty and staff to remind students about the survey.
- First Year student response rate: 21.7% (297 out of 1,371)
- Second Year student response rate: 25.7% (164 out of 638)

The following pages give an overview of survey results, first for agree/disagree questions, and then for optional short response questions.

**Agree/Disagree Survey Questions**

Scale: 1 = strongly disagree; 2 = disagree; 3 = not sure; 4 = agree; 5 = strongly agree

General Questions	First Year Students (297 respondents)			Second Year Students (164 respondents)		
	Responses	Mean	Std.Dev.	Responses	Mean	Std.Dev.
Most of my courses have been intellectually stimulating		4.3	0.86		4.4	0.83
I am satisfied with my academic experience at the institution		4.3	0.98		4.2	1.02
I am more likely to attend a cultural event (e.g. a concert, lecture, or art show) now compared to a few months ago		3.3	1.24		3.1	1.24
I am satisfied with the extent of my intellectual development		4.2	0.95		4.2	0.93
In addition to required reading assignments, I read many of the recommended books in my courses		3.5	1.27		3.5	1.22
My interest in ideas and intellectual matters has increased since starting classes		4.1	1.00		4.1	0.96
I have an idea about what I want to major in		4.3	0.98		4.5	0.95
This year my academic experience has positively influenced my intellectual growth and interest in ideas		4.2	0.96		4.1	1.08
Getting good grades is important to me		4.7	0.69		4.7	0.66
I have performed academically as well as I anticipated		4.0	1.07		4.1	1.06
My interpersonal relationships with students have positively influenced my intellectual growth and interest in ideas		3.7	1.09		3.7	1.23
I have developed close personal relationships with other students		3.2	1.39		3.4	1.41
The student friendships I have developed have been personally satisfying		3.5	1.27		3.5	1.32
My personal relationships with other students have positively influenced my personal growth, values, and attitudes		3.4	1.26		3.4	1.33
It has been easy for me to meet and make friends with students		3.3	1.33		3.5	1.35

**Agree/Disagree Survey Questions**

Scale: 1 = strongly disagree; 2 = disagree; 3 = not sure; 4 = agree; 5 = strongly agree

First Year Students (297 respondents)

Second Year Students (164 respondents)

General Questions	Responses	Mean	Std. Dev.
I am satisfied with my dating relationships		3.5	1.43
Many students I know would be willing to listen and help me if I had a personal problem		3.5	1.15
Most students at Western Nevada College have values and attitudes similar to mine		3.6	1.03
I am satisfied with the opportunities to participate in organized extra-curricular activities at Western Nevada College		3.6	1.10
I am happy with my living/residence arrangement		4.1	1.15
I am satisfied with my opportunities to meet and interact informally with faculty members		3.9	1.07
Many faculty members I have had contact with are willing to spend time outside of class to discuss issues of interest and importance to students		3.9	1.06
I have developed a close, personal relationship with at least one faculty member		3.3	1.40
My non-classroom interactions with faculty members have positively influenced my intellectual growth and interest in ideas		3.7	1.11
My non-classroom interactions with faculty members have positively influenced my personal growth, values, and attitudes		3.7	1.11
My non-classroom interactions with faculty members have positively influenced my career goals and aspirations		3.7	1.11
Many faculty members I have had contact with are genuinely outstanding or superior teachers		4.1	1.00
Many faculty members I have had contact with are genuinely interested in students		4.1	0.94
Many faculty members I have had contact with are genuinely interested in teaching		4.2	0.95
Many faculty members I have had contact with are interested in helping students grow in more than just academic areas		4.1	1.00
It is important to me to graduate from college		4.7	0.71
It is important to me to graduate from Western Nevada College		4.4	0.98
I am confident that I made the right decision in choosing to attend Western Nevada College		4.5	0.85
I will most likely return to Western Nevada College next term		4.6	0.89

Responses	Mean	Std. Dev.
	3.8	1.37
	3.5	1.25
	3.3	1.18
	3.4	1.09
	4.2	1.11
	3.9	1.08
	3.9	1.09
	3.2	1.47
	3.5	1.30
	3.6	1.23
	3.6	1.21
	4.0	1.02
	4.1	1.04
	4.2	1.07
	3.9	1.10
	4.8	0.64
	4.6	0.87
	4.5	0.92
	4.5	0.96

**Agree/Disagree Survey Questions**

Scale: 1 = strongly disagree; 2 = disagree; 3 = not sure; 4 = agree; 5 = strongly agree

First Year Students (297 respondents)

Second Year Students (164 respondents)

	Responses	Mean	Std. Dev.	Responses	Mean	Std. Dev.
<b>Other Questions / External Influences</b>						
Campus Size		4.3	0.92		4.4	0.83
Location		4.4	0.88		4.4	0.79
Racial and ethnic composition of campus		4.2	0.96		4.2	0.96
Economic diversity of campus		4.1	1.04		4.0	0.99
Sense of community at the institution		4.0	1.13		4.0	1.11
<b>Work Status (details)</b>						
Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statement: "My employment has positively impacted my experience at Western Nevada College this year."		3.6	1.26		3.6	1.31
<b>Education Value</b>						
Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statement "Western Nevada College offers a quality education for the price of tuition."		4.2	1.00		4.2	1.03
<b>Continuing Factors</b>						
Student Environment (e.g., social life on campus, student culture)		3.2	1.31		3.3	1.38
Academic factors (e.g., challenging faculty and academics)		4.1	0.94		4.2	0.88
Financial factors (e.g., cost of attendance, personal debt from loans)		4.4	0.86		4.3	0.86
Institutional characteristics (e.g., size of campus, location of campus, types of students on campus)		3.6	1.21		3.7	1.13
Academic support offered (e.g. academic advising, tutoring)		4.1	1.03		4.1	1.01
Personal support offered (e.g. career services, counseling)		4.0	1.09		3.9	1.09
Student Diversity		3.5	1.32		3.3	1.28

## Optional Short Answer Responses

### **40A-1. Please tell us more about your perceptions of the campus environment at Western Nevada College**

#### First Year Students

- I think theater classes and dance classes should be offered at other campus location and not only the main campus
- One problem I feel is that some of the parking areas are very dark at night, especially by the Reynolds building. Personally, as a female, it makes me uncomfortable walking to my car at night. Other than that, the college campus is welcoming and organized. It didn't take me long to find my classes at all during the first week of classes. Also, I like the different themes of each building, it matches the college's student atmosphere well.
- Clean, healthy and well located. very helpful faculty.

#### Second Year Students

- I'm going to answer this question, but I don't think it'll make a difference. Recently, Western Nevada College has become a non-smoking campus. The reason for this, as far as I know, is because they received a grant. As a student who has paid for his own tuition and for the past few semesters. To continue my academic career. To take one of my stress relievers away. Only to realize that tuition has only got higher and books have only gotten more expensive on this campus. Now, I know, I am a minority as far as smokers go. You're asking me to abstain from my addiction while I attend classes that I am paying for yet, I'm not seeing any benefits from this money that the campus has received.

### **40B-1. Please tell us more about your particular academic needs at Western Nevada College**

#### First Year Students

- I wish there were more methods for finding what I'm interested in majoring in going forward.
- I went to become a substance abuse counselor. Great Basin has a 3 + 1 year program. A student attends Great Basin for 3 years and then transfers to you and our for one year. I would have liked to have been able to attend Western Nevada college and receive the certification to become a counselor.
- I wish I can learn hairdressing here

#### Second Year Students

- I need the Social Work program to meet up with UNR. It would be nice to be able to transfer 90 credits.
- My teachers do not grade in an appropriate time leaving students unsure of their academic standing or how to improve.
- Am finishing my last term and will have my associates. Would like to see some more options for four degrees become available.
- I am graduating with an AA from WNC this semester, before transferring to UNR for a bachelors degree. I would gladly stay if a bachelors program was offered.
- I've had a very difficult time with the financial aid and getting my tuition covered

## Optional Short Answer Responses

### **40C-2. Please tell us more about your particular financial concerns**

#### First Year Students

- I currently unemployed
- I am not attending again due to personal issues not due to financial
- I have been struggling the past year with financial issues, and when going to the school for any sort of help (financial aid, payment plans, ect.) I found the faculty to be very unhelpful and unconcerned whether a good student wanted or could attend college or not. This is extremely off putting, especially since I really enjoy learning and was excited to start school. Now I am not sure if I can even attend and my attitude is sour towards this entire school.
- I need to work full time which means I wont have the time needed to take classes and be successful in them.
- I worry about being eligible for a variety of scholarships.
- It's not so much that I cannot afford Western Nevada College, it's just that I could not afford a bigger university, and as such, had to go to Western Nevada College. My financial concerns with this campus are nearly nonexistent, it is a very affordable college for the education one receives.

#### Second Year Students

- I receive out of state tuition and do not receive enough in grants and scholarships

### **40D-1. Please tell us more about support you would like to have as a student at Western Nevada College**

#### First Year Students

- I do not feel that I need any at this time
- I need a teacher who teaches, not a teacher who tells you to read a book and cannot explain when you have questions. I need a teacher who has a responsibility to his students and grades homework.
- Something that I would like to see offered is a little extra help for older people (senior citizens) returning to school. At the beginning of the semester, I ran into several of them who were ready to give up before classes even started because they were so overwhelmed.

#### Second Year Students

- This semester was a complete mistake and I'm not looking forward to repeating it! Canvas Online classes are a joke and I'm not sure what needs to happen there, but it did not work for me in my favor! Other factors were involved in this decision, but I will not be coming back next semester!