



National Survey of Student Engagement

Executive Snapshot 2012

Washington State University

Dear Colleague:

This document presents some key findings from your institution's participation in the 2012 National Survey of Student Engagement. We hope you can use this information to stimulate discussion on your campus about the undergraduate experience at Washington State University.

Sincerely,

Alexander C. McCormick

Director, National Survey of Student Engagement

Deep Approaches to Learning

As we approach the launch of an updated NSSE survey, this year's edition of *Annual Results* revisits and replicates a collection of important findings from NSSE's first 13 years.

One notable finding involves Deep Approaches to Learning (DAL) which help students make richer, more lasting connections to material through an emphasis on activities such as higher-order learning, integration, and reflection (see the Director's Message on page 5, and Selected Results on page 10 of *Annual Results*). Replicating an analysis from 2004, we found that students who participated in DAL at higher levels made more purposeful use of their time and were more engaged in other ways.

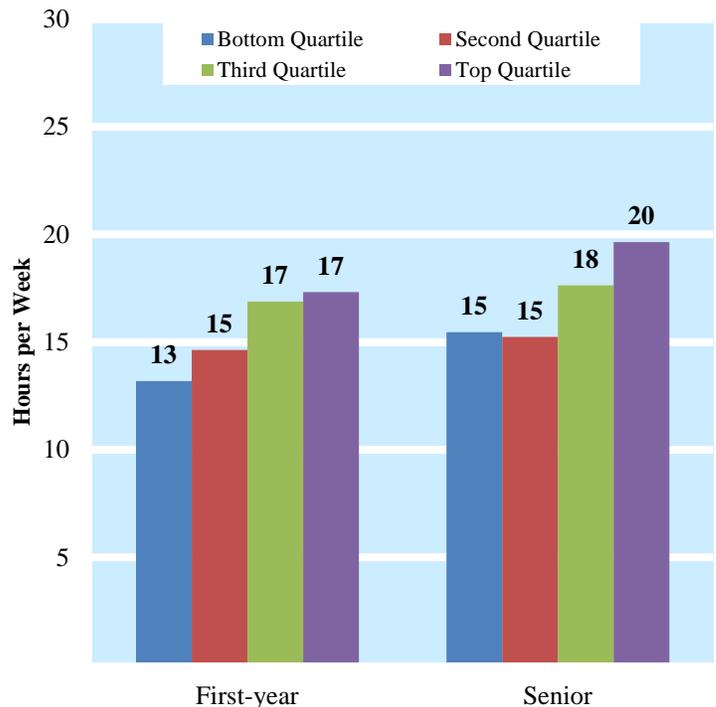
We thought you'd be interested to know your students' scores on this important measure. Table 1 at right compares your students' engagement in DAL with those enrolled at your selected NSSE 2012 comparison groups, with an indication of whether your students scored significantly higher (+) or lower (-) than the comparison group. (If no plus or minus sign is shown, the difference is not statistically significant.) Figure 1 illustrates how DAL relates to time spent preparing for class among your first-year students and seniors.

We are pleased to report that the Deep Approaches to Learning scale, including subscales of higher-order learning and reflective and integrative learning, is included in the updated NSSE survey. We hope you find these measures and other changes that have resulted from our research to be welcome

Table 1. DAL Comparison Results^a

	WSU	Comparison Groups		
		Legislative Peers	Carnegie Class	AAU Public
First-Year				
mean	59	58	60	60
ES		.03	-.08	-.09
Senior				
mean	66	+ 63 ***	+ 64 ***	+ 64 ***
ES		.16	.12	.13

Figure 1. Class Preparation Time^b by DAL Score^c



a. For details on the DAL scale including component items and how it is computed, visit nsse.iub.edu/html/creating_scales.cfm; *p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001;

ES=Cohen's *d* effect size, where .2 is often considered small, .5 moderate, and .8 large.

b. Adjusted for part-time students (see nsse.iub.edu/html/PT_adjustment.cfm).

c. Your students were divided into quartiles, four groups of equal size based on their DAL scores.