



CIRP College Senior Survey Summer 2014 Item Related to Interdisciplinary Thinking

Dates of Administration: April 24, 2014 – May 13, 2014

Method of Administration: Web survey (Administered by CIRP)

Demographics and Response Rates

Responses 146/180 = 81%

Total opt out 15/180 = 8%

Valid Responses 131/150 = 72%

Male 60/131 = 46%

Female 71/131 = 54%

Longitudinal 128 matched pairs from first to senior year (97%)

Peer Group: Private, Nonsectarian 4-Year Colleges

Background:

The CIRP Senior Survey (CSS) focuses on a broad range of outcomes and post-college goals and plans, including academic achievement and engagement, student-faculty interaction, cognitive and affective development, student goals and values, satisfaction with college, degree aspirations and experience and post-college plans. This report is focused on items on the CSS that relate to the student learning outcome of interdisciplinary thinking. It pairs with the CIRP Freshman Survey to provide longitudinal data on students' growth during their undergraduate experience which we use to assess the impact of our curriculum on students learning.

HMC participates in the CSS survey annually each spring, surveying all graduating seniors. Typically, this survey is done using a paper survey, but this year that option was not available to us from CIRP, so we participated electronically.

The results of the CSS are used throughout the campus in departmental program reviews to evaluate growth and development on student learning outcomes; in career services to establish career and graduate school activities one year out; and by the college overall in accreditation and assessment activities.

Highlights:

The CSS recently added one item that directly addresses Interdisciplinary Thinking: "How often in the past year did you: Integrate skills and knowledge from different sources and experiences." Because the item is new to the CSS there is no longitudinal information available yet, so this report only addresses responses from seniors, and establishes the tracking of this item over time.

- 8 out of 10 HMC respondents indicate that they frequently integrate skills and knowledge from different sources and experiences. This is on par with our peer group (82%).

- Perhaps more interesting at the differences among HMC respondents by gender. Female HMC respondents were more likely to report that they frequently integrated skills and knowledge from different courses and experiences (90%) than male respondents (78%).
- This item is still new to the survey, and should continue to be tracked over time to gain confidence in the results and examine changes longitudinally. It also should be paired with other assessment data on integrative thinking to provide further context for the results.

	Total		HMC Only	
How often in the past year did you:	HMC	Peer Group	Males	Females
Integrate skills and knowledge from different sources and experiences				
Frequently	86.4%	82.4%	78.0%	90.1%
Occasionally	15.4%	17.2%	22.0%	9.9%
Never	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%
MEAN	2.85	2.82	2.78	2.90