



CIRP College Senior Survey Summer 2014

Selected items Related to Societal Impact and Application

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 employment and advanced education plans. This report is focused on items on the CSS that relate to the student learning outcome of societal impact and application. Results are paired with the CIRP Freshman Survey findings to provide longitudinal data on students' growth during their undergraduate experience which can be used to understand the impact of college.

HMC participates in the CSS survey annually each spring, and surveys 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 contains several items that relate to applying knowledge to real world settings and placing knowledge in broader societal contexts. As highlighted above, the CSS contains a longitudinal profile that allows us to examine changes from first year to senior year for some items.

- Overall, HMC respondents' assessment of their understanding of local, national and global issues is not as strong as their peer group. While male respondents at HMC rate themselves stronger than female respondents, means for these items correspond to "average" for HMC respondents.
- While nearly half (41%) of HMC respondents indicated that professors frequently offered them an opportunity to apply classroom learning to real life situations, respondents were considerably less likely to report other activities that would serve to reinforce the application of theoretical knowledge or contribute to a discussion of the societal impact of issues: 80% of respondents indicated they did not perform community service as part of a course; 65% indicated they did not publically communicate their opinion about a cause.
- Looking longitudinally, while nearly one half (46%) of first year respondents indicated they had not participated in community service as part of a class in their senior year of high school, 8 out of 10 respondents had not participated in community service as part of a college course.

	Total		HMC Only	
Think about your current abilities and tell us how strong or weak you believe you are in the following areas:	HMC	Peer Group	Males	Females
Understanding of the problems facing my community				
A major strength	11.8%	17.4%	17.2%	7.2%
Somewhat strong	37.0%	38.2%	34.5%	39.1%
Average	33.9%	35.8%	27.6%	39.1%
Somewhat weak	14.2%	7.5%	13.8%	14.5%
A major weakness	3.1%	1.0%	6.9%	0.0%
MEAN	3.40	3.63	3.41	3.39
Understanding of national issues				
A major strength	7.1%	11.4%	13.8%	1.4%
Somewhat strong	25.2%	30.0%	24.1%	26.1%
Average	40.2%	39.2%	41.4%	39.1%
Somewhat weak	22.0%	16.9%	19.0%	24.6%
A major weakness	5.5%	2.4%	1.7%	8.7%
MEAN	3.06	3.31	3.29	2.87
Understanding of global issues				
A major strength	5.5%	11.3%	10.3%	1.4%
Somewhat strong	26.8%	27.7%	31.0%	23.2%
Average	37.0%	37.8%	36.2%	37.7%
Somewhat weak	23.6%	19.3%	19.0%	27.5%
A major weakness	7.1%	3.9%	3.4%	10.1%
MEAN	3.00	3.23	3.26	2.78

	Total		HMC Only	
How often in the past year did you:	HMC	Peer Group	Males	Females
Perform community service as part of a class				
Frequently	3.1%	15.3%	1.7%	4.2%
Occasionally	16.9%	43.5%	15.3%	18.3%
Not at all	80.0%	41.1%	83.1%	77.5%
MEAN	1.23	1.74	1.19	1.27
Publically communicated your opinion about a cause				
Frequently	6.2%	18.2%	10.2%	2.8%
Occasionally	28.5%	40.7%	30.5%	26.8%
Not at All	65.4%	41.1%	59.3%	70.4%
MEAN	1.41	1.77	1.51	1.32
Professors at your college provided you with: An opportunity to apply classroom learning to "real life" issues				
Frequently	40.5%	48.3%	46.6%	35.3%
Occasionally	50.0%	44.9%	44.8%	54.4%
Not at All	9.5%	6.7%	8.6%	10.3%
MEAN	2.31	2.42	2.38	2.25

How often in the past year did you:	FY	SR	Change
Perform community service as part of a class			
Frequently	13.5%	3.2%	-10.3%
Occasionally	40.5%	15.9%	-24.6%
Not at All	46.0%	81.0%	35.0%
MEAN	1.67	1.22	-0.45