







Charting the Course: QM's 6th Annual Conference

Quality Assurance in Online Learning



The Student Voice

Inter-institutional Research on the Impact of QM for Students



Presenters

Deb Adair

QM Managing Director and Chief Planning Officer

Michael Atkisson

DropThought Senior Director, Business and Product
 Development

Julie Bryant

Noel-Levitz Associate Vice President, Retention Solutions



Session Objectives

- QM's 2014-2015 Research Agenda on Impact
 - Identifying existing impact research and how these projects contribute
- Purpose and Value of Student Voice Projects
 - Examining what we hope to learn
- DropThought: Semantic Analysis of Student Feedback
- Noel-Levitz: Student Perception and Satisfaction
- Institutional need to demonstrate impact
 - Discussing the relevance and potential for your own institution
- Questions





QM 2014/15 Research Agenda

QM's 2014-2015 Research Agenda on Student Impact builds on

- established QM principle of "taking a student's perspective"
- Evidence of impact on faculty, institution, policy & practice
- course & departmental-level studies of QM impact on satisfaction & perceptions of quality
- Ralston-Berg's longitudinal, multi-institutions study:
 <u>Do quality standards matter to students</u>
- independent research, such as recent Bailie's recent,
 What online students want compared to what institutions expect





Focus on Students

Important, and inter-related:

- Student behavior
- Student outcomes
- Student perceptions/attitudes/affect

Where can the effect of QM most likely, and most strongly, be observed?



The Purpose of the Study

- National, inter-institutional student impact study
- Campus engagement in national research
- Reflecting previous research
- Comparison with national data
- Actionable data, no or reduced cost to institutions
- Demonstrating QM impact to institutional stakeholders
- Data for increased student success, strategic planning, and accreditation preparation





Alignment with Standards

Both studies align student feedback with the QM standards.

- Semantic analysis aligned to QM General Standards
- Survey questions aligned to QM Review Standards
- QM standards, and survey questions, align with accreditation standards
- View the <u>Alignment Map</u>





Hearing the Student Voice: Semantic Analysis of Student Course Feedback Aligned to Quality Matters General Standards

A national, inter-institutional research project with





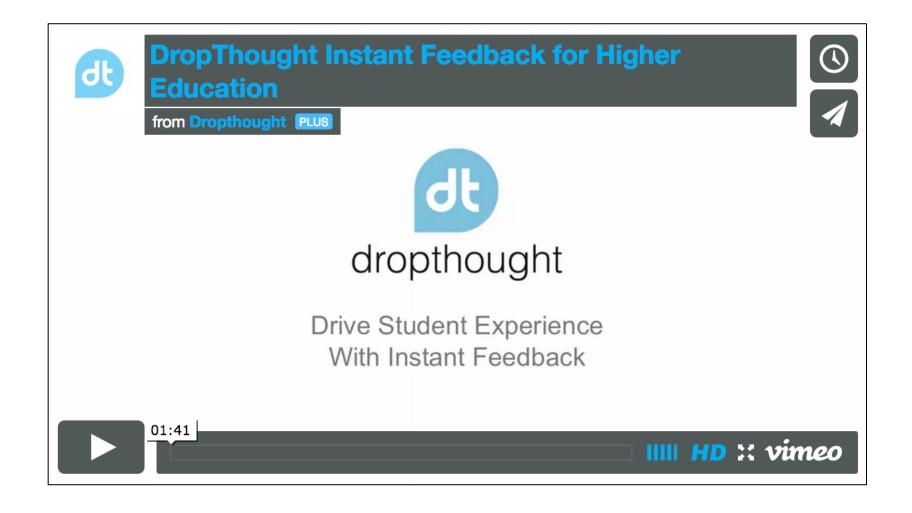


Project Scope

Description, timing, participants
How it fits the QM research agenda
Outcomes/benefits



Let's take a look at how DropThought captures real-time, anonymous student feedback and makes it actionable

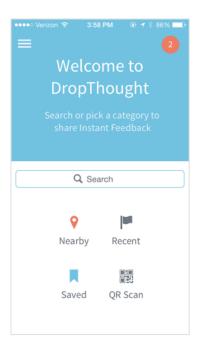


Capture anytime/anywhere student feedback about the course experience generally



Students leave instant feedback on their mobile devices about general aspects of the course in 4 easy steps:

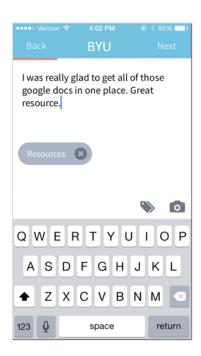
1. Open app



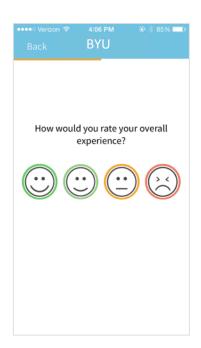
2. Select course



3. Leave feedback



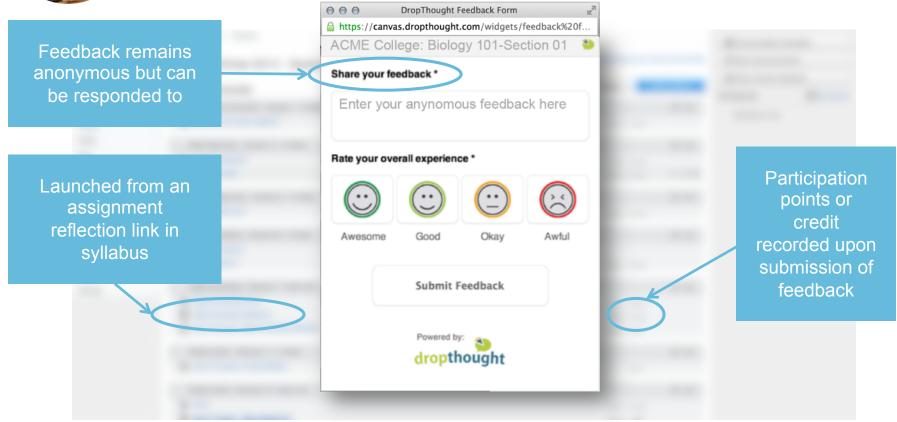
4. Rate experience



Capture student feedback per assignment and activity for the duration of the course



Students launch the Instant Feedback web widget from an assignment link in the LMS



Instructors review and manage student feedback by web or mobile in real time...

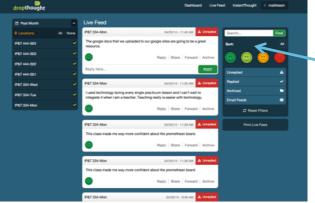
Review and respond when needed by mobile



Analyze patterns in feedback with the DropThought Dashboard

Feedback organized by assignment





Sort feedback by sentiment level and custom searches

For QM's research, DropThought classifies student feedback into categories and subcategories...

Y (negative)

Y (positive)

QM General Standard X Organic Organic Subcategory Z Subcategory Y Comment Comment Comment Comment segment about segment about segment about segment about

Z (negative)

Z (negative)

...For example, here are the QM General Standard (GS) categories that we will be using...

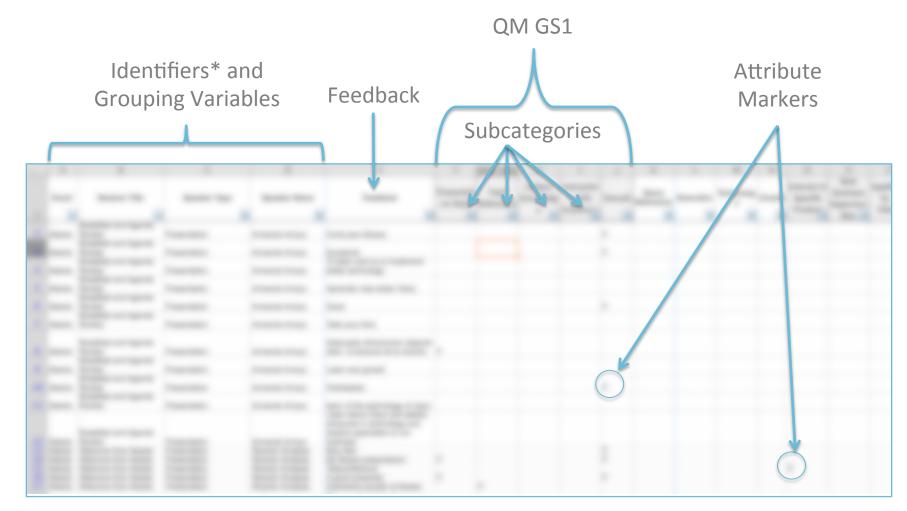
Top Level Category (QM GS)	Description (comments about)
Beginning Design	The beginning of the semester, where do I start, etc.
Learning Objectives	Whether students could or knew how to meet the learning objectives
Assessment	The grading, assessments, quizzes, tests, etc.
Materials	The materials used or instructions around them
Activities	Assignments, activities, their instructions, or running of
Tech/Nav.	Technology used, usability, instructions for tech
Support	Learning support outside the class
Accessibility	Readability, equal access for students with disabilities
Teaching	The instructor, teaching, etc.
Other	Anything else

...Then, DropThought classifies feedbacks semantically and by attribute within a particular QM GS

Category (QM GS)	Preliminary Subcategories
Activities	Applicability/Utility
	Activity Instructions
	Technology used, usability, instructions for tech
	Practice Time
	Time to complete
	Group Work
	Grading

Feedback Attributes	Preliminary Types
Attributes	Positive
	Negative
	Neutral

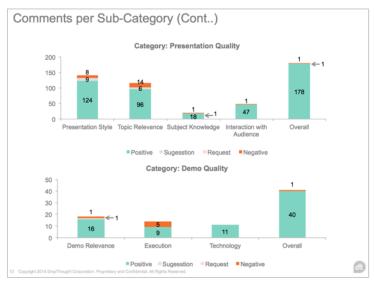
After the end of the study, instructors will receive the anonymous results of feedback classifications for their class in a data file

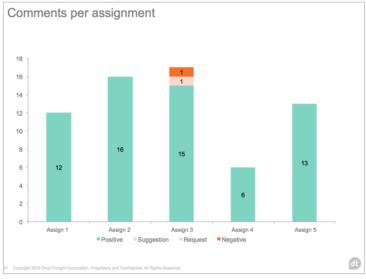


^{*}Student identifying information will be anonymized

Text analytics will help not only the QM study, but also will help instructors answer important questions when they explore their own data

- What assignments and activities produced the richest reflections?
- Which class sessions and assignments resonated the most and the least with students?
- What course logistics and instructions can I make more clear?







Quality Matters for Online Students: A National, Interinstitutional Study on the Impact of QM on Online Student Priorities and Satisfaction

A national, inter-institutional research project with





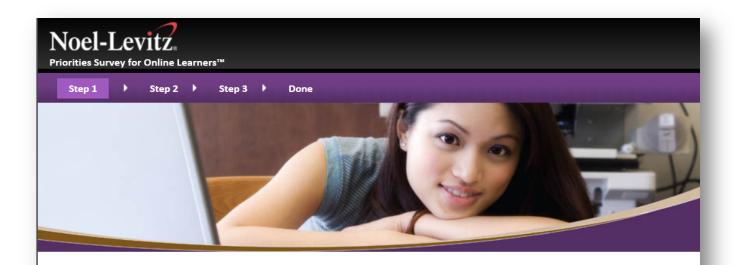


Project Scope

Description, timing, participants
How it fits the QM research agenda
Outcomes/benefits



Priorities Survey for Online Learners



Priorities Survey for Online Learners™

Copyright 2001, Noel-Levitz, Inc. All rights reserved.

Dear Sample University student:

Your thoughtful and candid responses to this survey are very important to your institution. Your responses will give your campus leadership insights about the aspects of this program that are important to you as well as how satisfied you are with them.

Thank you for your participation.

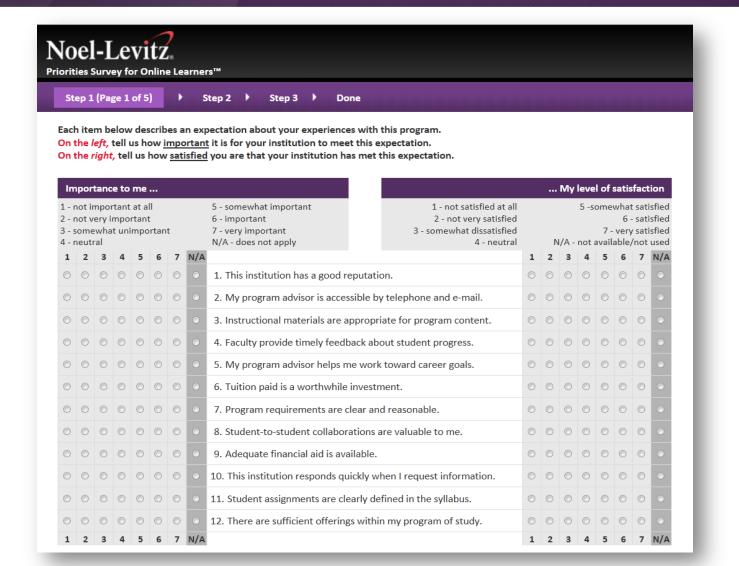
INSTRUCTIONS:

- Indicate your responses to each item as requested
- At the end of each section, click on "next page" to continue
- Be sure to complete the survey in one sitting (if you exit and return to the survey, your original responses will be lost)

Please note:

You will need approximately 10-15 minutes to complete the survey. To see as much of the survey as possible, you may want to maximize your browser window.

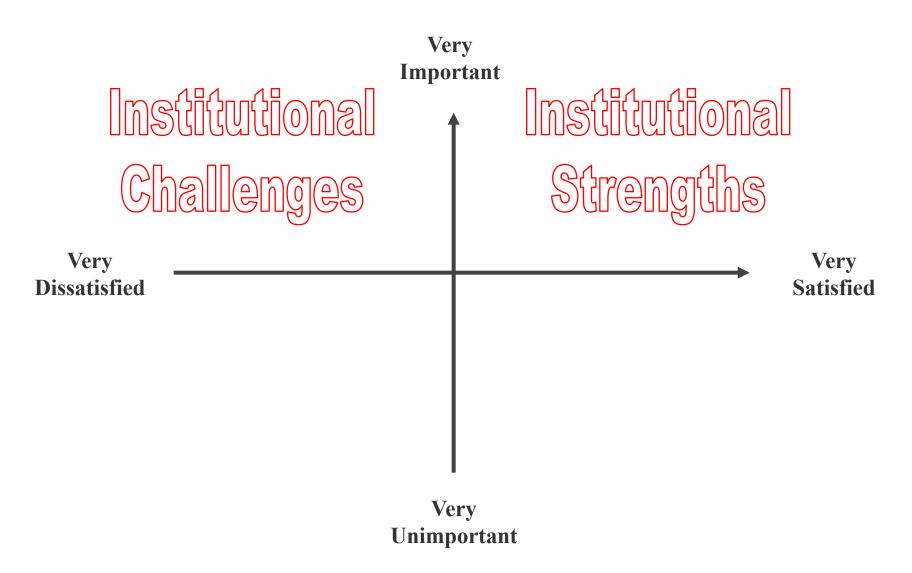
Priorities Survey for Online Learners



Priorities Survey for Online Learners

- Appropriate for students enrolled in 100 percent online programs or hybrid programs
 - Undergraduate or graduate students
- Only available for online administrations
 - Invite 100 percent of your population and expect a 20 percent response rate
- 26 standard items on the survey, covering the following categories:
 - Academic services
 - Enrollment services
 - Institutional perceptions
 - Instructional services
 - Student services

Matrix for prioritizing action



Top strengths and challenges: Online learners

Top strengths:

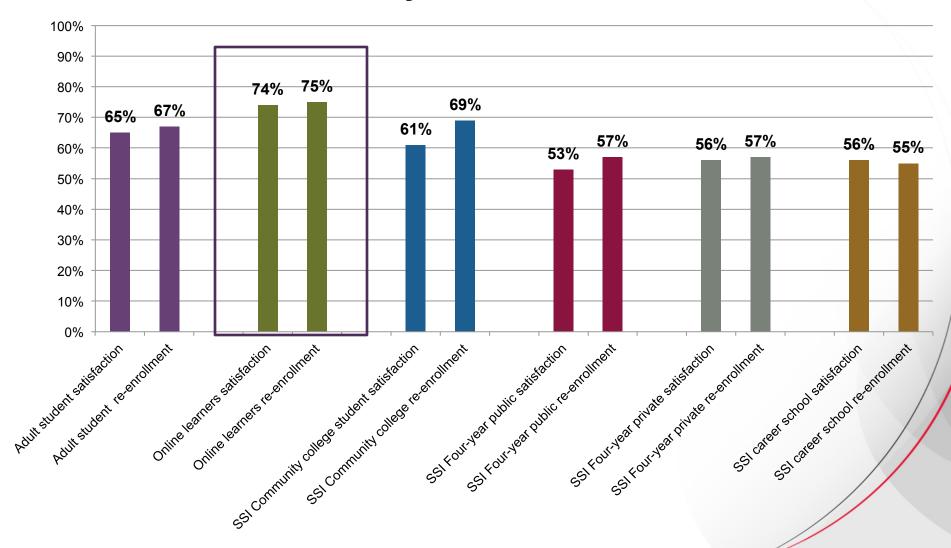
- Registration for online courses is convenient.
- Instructional materials are appropriate for program content.
- Billing and payment procedures are convenient for me.
- Adequate online library resources are provided.

Top challenges:

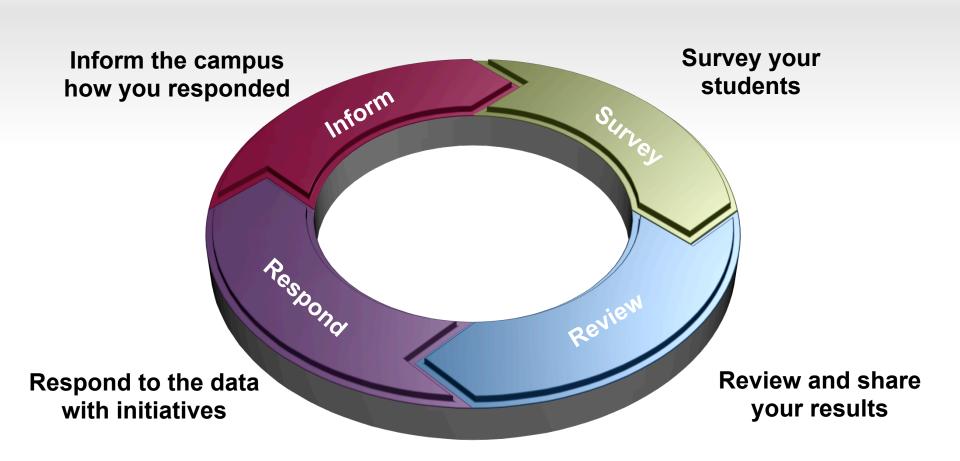
- The quality of online instruction is excellent.
- Student assignments are clearly defined in the syllabus.
- Faculty are responsive to student needs.
- Tuition paid is a worthwhile investment.
- Faculty provide timely feedback about student progress.

Overall satisfaction/likelihood to re-enroll

Percentage of students satisfied/very satisfied or probably/ definitely would re-enroll



Systematic assessment cycle



PSOL Details – Lots of Flexibility

- Survey in the fall or spring
- Survey students in QM Programs as well as Non-QM programs
- Noel-Levitz will manage the e-mail invitation process for you, with your messages, your timeline and your incentives
- Option to customize the survey with additional items

Quality Matters Custom Items

- 1. This institution's online courses are of high quality.
- 2. Courses have clear instruction about getting started and where to begin.
- 3. The technologies required in my courses are readily available, provided or easily downloaded.
- 4. Navigation in the online courses is logical, consistent, and efficient.
- 5. Course learning objectives, and instructions on how to meet them, are made clear in my courses.
- 6. Courses are well-designed, readable and not distracting.



You will receive your results within two weeks after your online account closes

PSOL Sample



Welcome Strategic Planning Overview Jem Report	Scale Report	Summary Report	Item Percentage Report	Demographics
			.	•
Print Entire Report				
	Strange	ths and Challenges		
Strengths •	Strengt	urs and originalityes		vs. Comparison ①
21. Adequate online library resources are provided.				13. 30mpan30n €
22. I am aware of whom to contact for questions about program	s and services			0
30. Campus item 4	o and octvices.			
27. Campus item 1				
28. Campus item 2				
18. Registration for online courses is convenient.				
Instructional materials are appropriate for program content.				O
Challenges 1				
20. The quality of online instruction is excellent.				©
25. Faculty are responsive to student needs.				0
Tuition paid is a worthwhile investment.				0
10. This institution responds quickly when I request information.				
Faculty provide timely feedback about student progress.				0
14. I receive timely information on the availability of financial aid	l.			O
		Benchmarks		
Higher Satisfaction vs. National Online Learners				
20. The quality of online instruction is excellent.				
21. Adequate online library resources are provided.				
22. I am aware of whom to contact for questions about program	s and services.			
25. Faculty are responsive to student needs.				
11. Student assignments are clearly defined in the syllabus.				
9. Adequate financial aid is available.				
Instructional materials are appropriate for program content.				

Welcome...

Strategic Planning Overview Item Report

Scale Report

Summary Report

Item Percentage Report

Demographics

Print Entire Report

Print This Section

Sort on each column to see data from highest to lowest.

		PSOL Sample		National Online Learners						
•	Item	Importance	Satisfaction /	SD	Gap ①	Importance	Satisfaction /	SD	Gap	Difference ①
	1. This institution has a good reputation.	6.53	6.04 /	1.24	0.49	6.47	5.98 /	1.21	0.49	0.06
	2. My program advisor is accessible by telephone and e-mail.	6.62	6.22 /	1.21	0.40	6.49	6.03 /	1.36	0.46	0.19 ***
*	3. Instructional materials are appropriate for program content.	6.64	6.23 /	1.17	0.41	6.62	6.00 /	1.21	0.62	0.23 ***
4	Faculty provide timely feedback about student progress.	6.61	5.96 /	1.34	0.65	6.62	5.79 /	1.41	0.83	0.17 ***
	5. My program advisor helps me work toward career goals.	6.45	5.85 /	1.43	0.60	6.32	5.59 /	1.61	0.73	0.26 ***
	6. Tuition paid is a worthwhile investment.	6.63	5.95 /	1.38	0.68	6.65	5.76 /	1.45	0.89	0.19 ***
	7. Program requirements are clear and reasonable.	6.61	6.11 /	1.20	0.50	6.63	5.94 /	1.29	0.69	0.17 ***
	8. Student-to-student collaborations are valuable to me.	5.79	5.80 /	1.38	-0.01	5.40	5.54 /	1.42	-0.14	0.26 ***
	9. Adequate financial aid is available.	6.65	6.08 /	1.40	0.57	6.50	5.83 /	1.53	0.67	0.25 ***
q	10. This institution responds quickly when I request information.	6.62	6.02 /	1.35	0.60	6.60	5.94 /	1.40	0.66	0.08
	11. Student assignments are clearly defined in the syllabus.	6.66	6.22 /	1.16	0.44	6.68	5.97 /	1.30	0.71	0.25 ***
	12. There are sufficient offerings within my program of study.	6.57	6.05 /	1.23	0.52	6.58	5.94 /	1.28	0.64	0.11 **
	13. The frequency of student and instructor interactions is adequate.	6.47	5.94 /	1.36	0.53	6.40	5.80 /	1.36	0.60	0.14 **
9	14. I receive timely information on the availability of financial aid.	6.60	5.91 /	1.47	0.69	6.45	5.76 /	1.55	0.69	0.15 **

PSOL Sample



Welcome... Strategic Planning Overview Item Report Scale Report Summary Report

Item Percentage Report

Demographics

Expand / Toggle All

Print Entire Report

Print This Section

Sort on each column to see data from highest to lowest.

		PSOL Sample			Nati				
0	Scale / Item	Importance	Satisfaction	/ SD	Gap ①	Importance	Satisfaction / SD	Gap	Difference ①
	■ Enrollment Services	6.63	6.14	/ 1.08	0.49	6.54	6.04 / 1.09	0.50	0.10 **
	9. Adequate financial aid is available.	6.65	6.08	/ 1.40	0.57	6.50	5.83 / 1.53	0.67	0.25 ***
*	18. Registration for online courses is convenient.	6.65	6.39	/ 1.10	0.26	6.64	6.37 / 1.10	0.27	0.02
q	14. I receive timely information on the availability of financial aid.	6.60	5.91	/ 1.47	0.69	6.45	5.76 / 1.55	0.69	0.15 **
	23. Billing and payment procedures are convenient for me.	6.60	6.18	/ 1.27	0.42	6.56	6.16 / 1.27	0.40	0.02
	Institutional Perceptions	6.58	6.00	/ 1.18	0.58	6.56	5.87 / 1.20	0.69	0.13 ***
	Academic Services	6.55	6.03	/ 0.97	0.52	6.46	5.90 / 1.01	0.56	0.13 ***
	Student Services	6.54	6.06	/ 1.07	0.48	6.41	5.85 / 1.14	0.56	0.21 ***
	▶ Instructional Services	6.51	6.04	/ 1.03	0.47	6.45	5.85 / 1.06	0.60	0.19 ***

National Group Means are based on 114138 records

^{*}Difference statistically significant at the .05 level

^{**}Difference statistically significant at the .01 level

^{***}Difference statistically significant at the .001 level

PSOL Sample



Welcome... Strategic Planning Overview | Item Report | Scale Report | Summary Report | Item Percentage Report | Demographics

Print Entire Report | Print This Section

	PSOL Sample	National Online Learners	
Summary			Difference
So far, how has your college experience met your expectations?	5.40	5.18	0.22 ***
1=Much worse than expected	1%	2%	
2=Quite a bit worse than I expected	1%	1%	
3=Worse than I expected	5%	6%	
4=About what I expected	17%	23%	
5=Better than I expected	27%	25%	
6=Quite a bit better than I expected	13%	15%	
7=Much better than expected	32%	26%	
Rate your overall satisfaction with your experience here thus far.	5.99	5.83	0.16 ***
1=Not satisfied at all	1%	1%	
2=Not very satisfied	1%	2%	
3=Somewhat dissatisfied	3%	4%	
4=Neutral	5%	5%	
5=Somewhat satisfied	8%	11%	
6=Satisfied	34%	37%	
7=Very satisfied	44%	37%	
All in all, if you had to do it over, would you enroll here again?	5.93	5.86	0.07
1=Definitely not	3%	2%	
2=Probably not	3%	4%	
3=Maybe not	2%	3%	
4=I don't know	8%	6%	
5=Maybe yes	6%	7%	
6=Probably yes	22%	26%	
7=Definitely yes	53%	49%	

Strategic Planning Overview Welcome...

Item Report

Scale Report

Summary Report Item Percentage Report

Demographics

Print Entire Report

Print This Section

Sort on each column to see data from highest to lowest.

This report provides a look at the percentage of responses that indicated an answer of 6 or 7 to the items in the survey: 6 is considered "important" or "satisfied" and 7 is considered "very important" or "very satisfied."

		PSOL Sample		National Online Learners				
1	Item	Importance %	Satisfaction %	Gap ①	Importance %	Satisfaction %	Gap ①	Difference ①
	1. This institution has a good reputation.	91%	76%	15%	88%	75%	13%	1%
	2. My program advisor is accessible by telephone and e-mail.	92%	82%	10%	88%	77%	11%	5%
*	3. Instructional materials are appropriate for program content.	94%	84%	10%	94%	76%	18%	8%
4	4. Faculty provide timely feedback about student progress.	93%	75%	18%	94%	69%	25%	6%
	5. My program advisor helps me work toward career goals.	89%	70%	19%	83%	64%	19%	6%
4	6. Tuition paid is a worthwhile investment.	93%	75%	18%	93%	68%	25%	7%
	7. Program requirements are clear and reasonable.	94%	80%	14%	94%	74%	20%	6%
	8. Student-to-student collaborations are valuable to me.	68%	68%	0%	55%	60%	-5%	8%
	9. Adequate financial aid is available.	93%	80%	13%	89%	71%	18%	9%
4	10. This institution responds quickly when I request information.	94%	77%	17%	93%	75%	18%	2%
	11. Student assignments are clearly defined in the syllabus.	94%	83%	11%	95%	75%	20%	8%
	12. There are sufficient offerings within my program of study.	92%	77%	15%	92%	74%	18%	3%
	13. The frequency of student and instructor interactions is adequate.	89%	75%	14%	87%	70%	17%	5%
Ŋ	14. I receive timely information on the availability of financial aid.	93%	74%	19%	88%	70%	18%	4%
	15. Channels are available for providing timely responses to student complaints.	88%	70%	18%	84%	63%	21%	7%
	16. Appropriate technical assistance is readily available.	92%	78%	14%	89%	77%	12%	1%
	17. Assessment and evaluation procedures are clear and reasonable.	93%	79%	14%	91%	76%	15%	3%
*	18. Registration for online courses is convenient.	94%	87%	7%	93%	87%	6%	0%
	19. Online career services are available.	88%	76%	12%	78%	65%	13%	11%

PSOL Sample



Expand / Toggle All Print Entire Report Print This Section

Indicates the response option that was selected by the majority of survey participants.

Gender

		N	%
*	Female	746	78.12%
	Male	209	21.88%
	Total	955	100%
	No Answer	7	

Welcome... Strategic Planning Overview | Item Report | Scale Report | Summary Report | Item Percentage Report | Demographics

⊸ Age

		N	%
	18 and under	0	0%
	19 to 24	57	5.97%
*	25 to 34	303	31.73%
	35 to 44	297	31.10%
	45 to 54	217	22.72%
	55 to 64	74	7.75%
	65 and over	7	0.73%
	Total	955	100%
	No Answer	7	

▼ Ethnicity/Race

		N	%
	African-American	322	34.29%
	American Indian or Alaskan Native	13	1.38%
	Asian or Pacific Islander	18	1.92%
*	Caucasian/White	439	46.75%
	Hispanic	72	7.67%
	Other race	29	3.09%
	Race - Prefer not to respond	46	4.90%
	Total	939	100%
	No Answer	23	

Current Enrollment Status

Marital Status

		N	%
	Single	238	25.19%
	Single with children	253	26.77%
	Married	110	11.64%
*	Married with children	301	31.85%
	Marital - Prefer not to respond	43	4.55%
	Total	945	100%
	No Answer	17	

Current Plans

		N	%
*	Complete online degree program	873	93.37%
	Complete degree on campus	5	0.53%
	Transfer credits	23	2.46%
	Complete this course	34	3.64%
	Total	935	100%
	No Answer	27	

▼ Current Online Enrollment

		N	%
	1-3 credits	257	27.63%
	4-6 credits	100	10.75%
	7-9 credits	48	5.16%
	10-12 credits	87	9.35%
	13-15 credits	67	7.20%
*	More than 15 credits	371	39.89%
	Total	930	100%
	No Answer	32	

Previous Online Enrollment

PSOL Reports for the QM Project

- Campus results vs. National Comparison Group
- Campus results (QM programs) vs. QM Comparison Group
- Optional items:
 - Your QM programs vs. your non-QM programs
 - Year-to-year reports to compare with previous administrations
 - Raw data

Your data will help you with:



See the full survey instrument here: www.noellevitz.com/PSOL



Q Search Noel-Levitz

Higher Education Consultants

Enrollment & Campus Planning

Recruitment & Financial Aid

Student Retention

Market Research

Marketing, Web, & Technologies

Home > Student Retention > Satisfaction-Priorities Assessments > Priorities Survey for Online Learners

Student Retention

Student Retention Consulting

Student Retention Consultants

Satisfaction-Priorities Assessments

Student Satisfaction Inventory™ (SSI)

Institutional Priorities Survey™

Adult Learner Inventory™

Adult Student Priorities Survey™

Priorities Survey for Online

Check prices and order

Frequently Asked Questions

Case Study - Fort Hays State University (Kansas)

Parent Satisfaction Inventory™

Assessments for Private Post-Secondary Schools

Retention Management System $Plus^{\intercal M}$

Increase College Completion Rates

Retention Revenue Estimator

Priorities Survey for Online Learners™

Assess the satisfaction and priorities of students in distance learning and online programs



Check prices and order >>

Online learning programs are rapidly gaining popularity. But students in these programs also have different needs, expectations, and priorities than traditional students.

Now you can measure the satisfaction levels of online learners with the Priorities Survey for Online Learners (PSOL). The first survey of its kind designed specifically for online students, the PSOL can tell you how satisfied your students are and what issues are really important to them.

Resources

See samples

Take a look at samples of the Priorities Survey for Online Learners. Please note that the PSOL is only available online.

PSOI sample

Noel-Levitz.

Julie L. Bryant

Associate Vice President, Retention Solutions

800-876-1117 319-626-8786 direct julie-bryant@noellevitz.com



www.noellevitz.com blog.noellevitz.com Twitter: JulieBryantNL

Noel-Levitz®

Shannon Cook

Senior Director, Retention Solutions

800-876-1117 319-626-8593 direct shannon-cook@noellevitz.com



www.noellevitz.com blog.noellevitz.com twitter.com/noellevitz



Outcomes of Interest for Institutions

Impact of QM Student Perception





Potential at Your Institution

- How do you evaluate your investment in QM?
- What kind of student feedback tools do you currently use at the course and/or program level?
 - What do you collect and how do you use the data?
- Who participates in researching on teaching and learning at your institution?
 - Would they participate in these studies?



Questions

What questions do you have about these projects? What else do you need to know to move forward?



For Further Questions Contact

Penny Ralston-Berg, Project Manager penny.ralston-berg@qualitymatters.org

Barbra Burch, QM Research & Development bburch@qualitymatters.org





A national benchmark for online course design.

www.qualitymatters.org

1997 Annapolis Exchange Pkway, Suite 300 Annapolis, MD 21401