THE IRISH SURVEY OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT (ISSE)

Institution name: St Angela's College, Sligo

Results of ISSE 2018

A: Context

Development and implementation of the Irish Survey of Student Engagement is driven by the intention to inform, support and encourage quality enhancement. The survey takes place each February – March and is open to first year undergraduates, final year undergraduates, and postgraduate taught students. Twenty seven institutions participated in 2018.

The ISSE reflects many aspects of students' experiences in higher education. It is designed to focus on student engagement, namely the amount of time and effort that students put into meaningful and purposeful educational activities and the extent to which institutions provide such opportunities and encourage students to engage with them. The data collected reflects students' self-reported perceptions of their experiences and this data set is one of many sources of evidence available to institutions to inform their enhancement activities.

The ISSE national steering group regards the comprehensive nature of data gathered as a key strength. Interpretation of detailed results requires appreciation of the local context. This means that staff and students within individual institutions are best placed to own and to interrogate institution-level data. Accordingly, any queries about these data should be directed to the individual institution in question. Institutions are committed to interpreting and utilising ISSE data to enhance the experiences of their students and do not support the use of student engagement results for any overly simplistic purpose that could be perceived as ranking institutions.

To aid navigation of the data, responses for many of the individual questions may be combined to create related indicator scores. These indicators scores act as "signposts" and are calculated on a scale from 0 to 60. Calculation of these scores is explained in the introductory section of the national report. No single indicator reflects the complex dimensions of student behaviour and institutional performance. Comparison of individual scores across institutions is inappropriate given that the differences with respect to mission, resources, profile and response rates. Comparison of indicator scores for various disciplines (for example, section 3.6 of the national report) illustrates the notable variation that exists between fields of study at national level. The proportion of students studying particular disciplines also influences the overall results for each institution.

The following tables provide percentage responses by year / cohort, weighted at institutional level, and the calculated score (out of 60) for each indicator.

B: Indicator scores (out of 60)

Many questions contribute to engagement indicators, as shown in section C. Indicator scores are calculated on a scale from 0 to 60 using responses to the contributing question items.

Indicator	Indicator score (all respondents)
Higher Order Learning	34.1
Reflective and Integrative Learning	30.1
Quantitative Reasoning	15.5
Learning Strategies	28.7
Collaborative Learning	29.5
Student-Faculty Interaction	12.8
Effective Teaching Practices	30.8
Quality of Interactions	33.9
Supportive Environment	18.3

C: Responses to individual questions

Higher Order Learning	Responses	All Students	Undergrad - Year 1	Undergrad - Final Yr	Postgrad taught
Applying facts, theories, or methods to practical problems or new situations	Very little	5.7	3.2	9.6	0.0
	Some	30.4	12.8	44.7	31.0
	Quite a bit	40.3	50.3	28.9	50.4
	Very much	23.5	33.8	16.8	18.6
Analysing an idea, experience, or line of reasoning in depth by examining its parts	Very little	8.5	5.3	12.4	4.1
	Some	47.6	49.5	55.7	17.7
	Quite a bit	23.6	22.9	17.9	43.1
	Very much	20.3	22.3	14.0	35.1
Evaluating a point of view, decision, or information source	Very little	7.0	6.4	9.6	0.0
	Some	41.1	31.9	50.0	37.1
	Quite a bit	26.1	35.4	22.3	14.5
	Very much	25.8	26.3	18.1	48.3
Forming an understanding or new idea from various pieces of information	Very little	8.0	7.5	11.0	0.0
	Some	33.7	24.7	43.2	26.7
	Quite a bit	33.8	43.3	27.6	29.1
	Very much	24.5	24.5	18.3	44.2

Reflective and Integrative Learning	Responses	All Students	Undergrad - Year 1	Undergrad - Final Yr	Postgrad taught
Combined ideas from different subjects / modules when completing assignments	Never	9.3	4.9	10.9	18.3
	Sometimes	48.2	50.1	47.7	44.0
	Often	28.4	30.5	30.3	13.8
	Very often	14.1	14.6	11.2	23.9
Connected your learning to problems or issues in society	Never	11.4	18.8	6.0	6.5
	Sometimes	49.5	60.1	42.2	40.4
	Often	26.2	12.9	38.4	25.6
	Very often	12.9	8.2	13.4	27.6
Included diverse perspectives (political, religious, racial/ethnic, gender, etc.) in discussions or assignments	Never	23.2	27.8	17.0	31.2
	Sometimes	42.8	45.2	46.8	19.4
	Often	26.4	22.1	26.3	42.1
	Very often	7.5	4.9	9.9	7.3
Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue	Never	16.4	13.9	16.9	24.2
	Sometimes	35.9	37.3	38.9	16.5
	Often	36.3	37.0	35.2	38.4
	Very often	11.4	11.8	9.0	20.9
Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from their perspective	Never	5.1	2.8	6.0	10.1
	Sometimes	48.2	64.1	42.7	13.8
	Often	33.5	27.5	39.3	32.1
	Very often	13.2	5.6	12.1	44.0
Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept?	Never	2.4	1.4	3.0	3.7
	Sometimes	41.6	36.5	45.8	43.2
	Often	38.3	41.4	36.0	36.6
	Very often	17.7	20.7	15.2	16.6
Connected ideas from your subjects / modules to your prior experiences and knowledge	Never	0.8	0.7	1.0	0.0
	Sometimes	39.8	38.2	45.4	23.9
	Often	40.3	43.1	39.1	34.8
	Very often	19.2	18.0	14.5	41.3

Quantitative Reasoning	Responses	All Students	Undergrad - Year 1	Undergrad - Final Yr	Postgrad taught
Reached conclusions based on your analysis of numerical information (numbers, graphs, statistics, etc.)	Never	43.0	51.7	41.6	21.0
	Sometimes	41.6	35.7	51.3	25.7
	Often	12.8	10.3	7.1	39.9
	Very often	2.7	2.3	0.0	13.4
Used numerical information to examine a real-world problem or issue (unemployment, climate change, public health, etc.)	Never	36.0	45.5	28.3	34.4
	Sometimes	44.2	35.4	55.7	30.4
	Often	13.2	13.5	13.7	10.5
	Very often	6.6	5.6	2.3	24.7
Evaluated what others have concluded from numerical information	Never	50.2	52.9	50.9	39.1
	Sometimes	35.5	33.4	43.3	14.3
	Often	12.9	11.2	5.8	42.8
	Very often	1.5	2.5	0.0	3.8

Learning Strategies	Responses	All Students	Undergrad - Year 1	Undergrad - Final Yr	Postgrad taught
Identified key information from recommended reading materials	Never	10.7	17.4	8.0	0.0
	Sometimes	41.8	42.8	46.0	23.9
	Often	32.4	22.4	39.1	39.0
	Very often	15.1	17.4	6.9	37.1
Reviewed your notes after class	Never	12.2	4.9	16.0	20.9
	Sometimes	45.6	44.8	49.5	34.4
	Often	28.1	30.6	25.3	30.4
	Very often	14.1	19.7	9.2	14.3
Summarised what you learned in class or from course materials	Never	16.7	14.2	20.3	11.4
	Sometimes	46.6	48.0	50.0	30.6
	Often	24.7	18.0	23.9	47.5
	Very often	12.0	19.8	5.8	10.5

Collaborative Learning	Responses	All Students	Undergrad - Year 1	Undergrad - Final Yr	Postgrad taught
Asked another student to help you understand course material	Never	16.7	19.4	6.1	47.7
	Sometimes	36.8	38.8	37.3	28.4
	Often	29.7	31.0	32.6	14.6
	Very often	16.7	10.8	24.1	9.3
Explained course material to one or more students	Never	15.0	18.7	9.0	24.8
	Sometimes	31.3	24.8	35.9	36.0
	Often	39.5	45.7	36.2	31.1
	Very often	14.2	10.8	18.9	8.2
Prepared for exams by discussing or working through course material with other students	Never	16.1	15.5	10.1	41.3
	Sometimes	31.4	38.3	27.2	23.1
	Often	27.3	27.5	26.2	31.1
	Very often	25.2	18.8	36.4	4.5
Worked with other students on projects or assignments	Never	22.9	32.1	10.2	40.2
	Sometimes	33.3	30.6	37.7	25.9
	Often	34.4	30.3	38.2	33.9
	Very often	9.3	6.9	13.9	0.0

Student-Faculty Interaction	Responses	All Students	Undergrad - Year 1	Undergrad - Final Yr	Postgrad taught
Talked about career plans with academic staff	Never	51.5	52.7	45.3	69.6
	Sometimes	35.4	30.4	42.1	26.6
	Often	9.7	12.2	9.2	3.8
	Very often	3.4	4.6	3.4	0.0
Worked with academic staff on activities other than coursework (committees, student groups, etc.)	Never	70.3	71.8	68.6	71.5
	Sometimes	23.5	25.3	28.0	2.9
	Often	4.3	2.3	1.1	21.8
	Very often	1.8	0.6	2.3	3.8
Discussed course topics, ideas, or concepts with academic staff outside of class	Never	46.2	33.7	58.7	40.2
	Sometimes	39.0	43.5	34.4	41.7
	Often	13.4	22.8	6.9	7.6
	Very often	1.4	0.0	0.0	10.5
Discussed your performance with academic staff	Never	37.1	27.9	43.7	41.9
	Sometimes	45.8	49.5	43.6	42.0
	Often	15.5	21.0	11.6	12.3
	Very often	1.7	1.6	1.1	3.8

Effective Teaching Practices	Responses	All Students	Undergrad - Year 1	Undergrad - Final Yr	Postgrad taught
Clearly explained course goals and requirements	Very little	10.0	3.7	17.4	4.1
	Some	29.5	12.9	40.4	42.2
	Quite a bit	41.8	53.8	36.5	23.7
	Very much	18.8	29.5	5.6	30.0
Taught in an organised way	Very little	11.4	11.3	8.0	22.6
	Some	24.5	10.2	37.8	22.7
	Quite a bit	43.3	49.6	43.3	25.6
	Very much	20.7	28.9	10.9	29.1
Used examples or illustrations to explain difficult points	Very little	6.7	0.0	13.4	4.1
	Some	30.9	21.0	36.4	41.3
	Quite a bit	41.4	52.8	35.2	28.7
	Very much	21.1	26.3	15.0	25.9
Provided feedback on a draft or work in progress	Very little	27.0	16.0	37.8	23.7
	Some	37.5	40.4	31.3	49.5
	Quite a bit	25.4	32.8	22.9	12.3
	Very much	10.0	10.7	8.0	14.5
Provided prompt and detailed feedback on tests or completed assignments	Very little	24.5	6.6	41.8	20.5
	Some	32.8	28.1	36.5	34.0
	Quite a bit	29.3	45.9	16.3	23.7
	Very much	13.4	19.4	5.4	21.8

Quality of Interactions	Responses	All Students	Undergrad - Year 1	Undergrad - Final Yr	Postgrad taught
Students	1=Poor	6.6	0.0	6.8	24.4
	2	4.0	2.1	6.7	0.0
	3	6.6	2.1	10.9	4.4
	4	16.2	11.4	19.0	20.1
	5	16.7	15.3	20.1	8.9
	6	28.9	50.1	14.8	17.7
	7=Excellent	21.1	19.2	21.7	24.5
Academic advisors	1=Poor	8.4	1.0	9.9	24.4
	2	12.0	8.0	16.6	7.8
	3	7.9	7.0	8.3	8.9
	4	23.2	16.3	33.5	7.8
	5	19.8	27.6	15.2	13.3
	6	19.7	32.0	9.7	18.7
	7=Excellent	9.0	8.0	6.9	19.1
Academic staff	1=Poor	6.5	0.0	5.4	27.6
	2	6.5	2.1	10.7	4.2
	3	11.3	10.1	12.1	11.7
	4	20.2	11.4	32.5	3.3
	5	17.7	26.6	10.7	17.0
	6	25.5	39.8	19.0	8.5
	7=Excellent	12.4	10.1	9.6	27.7

Quality of Interactions	Responses	All Students	Undergrad - Year 1	Undergrad - Final Yr	Postgrad taught
Support services staff (career services, student activities, accommodation, etc.)	1=Poor	16.1	3.7	20.2	37.0
	2	7.1	3.7	11.3	0.0
	3	15.7	11.9	19.8	10.1
	4	13.1	12.2	12.8	17.1
	5	15.0	23.1	11.6	4.4
	6	17.5	26.0	13.0	10.1
	7=Excellent	15.6	19.5	11.3	21.4
Other administrative staff and offices (registry, finance, etc.)	1=Poor	11.1	3.6	12.6	24.4
	2	14.6	9.7	21.3	4.4
	3	18.8	20.2	16.8	22.1
	4	15.2	19.0	15.6	4.4
	5	14.8	12.7	18.4	7.8
	6	16.6	26.5	7.0	24.5
	7=Excellent	8.9	8.2	8.4	12.3

Supportive Environment	Responses	All Students	Undergrad - Year 1	Undergrad - Final Yr	Postgrad taught
Providing support to help students succeed academically	Very little	16.3	2.0	29.5	11.8
	Some	40.8	43.7	42.1	29.6
	Quite a bit	25.9	26.9	20.3	40.6
	Very much	16.9	27.4	8.0	17.9
Using learning support services (learning centre, computer centre, maths support, writing support etc.)	Very little	27.7	18.4	38.9	16.3
	Some	35.7	33.5	37.9	34.6
	Quite a bit	18.4	20.0	12.3	33.8
	Very much	18.2	28.1	10.9	15.3
Contact among students from different backgrounds (social, racial/ethnic, religious, etc.)	Very little	34.4	23.3	45.3	29.7
	Some	41.2	39.8	38.4	53.3
	Quite a bit	13.9	15.9	13.6	10.0
	Very much	10.4	21.0	2.7	7.0
Providing opportunities to be involved socially	Very little	47.4	41.6	60.0	23.7
	Some	37.8	35.5	31.6	62.4
	Quite a bit	9.6	11.0	7.0	14.0
	Very much	5.2	11.8	1.4	0.0
Providing support for your overall well-being (recreation, health care, counselling, etc.)	Very little	37.4	30.6	45.8	28.5
	Some	35.7	32.2	32.4	54.5
	Quite a bit	17.8	19.0	19.1	10.9
	Very much	9.1	18.2	2.7	6.1
Helping you manage your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)	Very little	58.9	62.9	63.2	35.5
	Some	30.4	20.2	29.8	58.4
	Quite a bit	8.0	11.8	5.6	6.1
	Very much	2.6	5.1	1.3	0.0
Attending campus activities and events (special speakers, cultural performances, sporting events, etc.)	Very little	55.2	59.8	56.5	39.4
	Some	31.2	17.3	35.2	53.6
	Quite a bit	10.6	15.0	8.3	7.0
	Very much	3.0	7.8	0.0	0.0
Attending events that address important social, economic, or political issues	Very little	45.6	51.1	46.9	27.6
	Some	37.9	25.3	40.7	61.5
	Quite a bit	13.8	16.7	12.4	10.9
	Very much	2.7	6.9	0.0	0.0

Non-indicator items	Responses	All Students	Undergrad - Year 1	Undergrad - Final Yr	Postgrad taught
Asked questions or contributed to discussions in class, tutorials, labs or online	Never	6.9	4.9	7.9	10.1
	Sometimes	43.0	45.4	42.9	34.9
	Often	32.3	29.9	34.9	30.3
	Very often	17.8	19.8	14.2	24.7
Come to class without completing readings or assignments	Never	32.1	42.3	19.0	47.7
	Sometimes	43.2	39.1	49.3	34.0
	Often	16.8	15.1	17.9	18.3
	Very often	7.9	3.5	13.9	0.0
Made a presentation in class or online	Never	35.9	49.9	18.1	56.0
	Sometimes	43.6	22.8	63.0	40.4
	Often	19.5	24.7	18.9	3.7
	Very often	1.1	2.6	0.0	0.0
Improved knowledge and skills that will contribute to your employability	Never	5.9	0.0	6.9	20.9
	Sometimes	21.7	16.9	30.9	3.8
	Often	42.5	44.8	42.6	35.3
	Very often	29.9	38.4	19.6	40.0
Explored how to apply your learning in the workplace	Never	6.5	5.8	9.0	0.0
	Sometimes	26.9	29.6	26.3	21.0
	Often	38.5	40.0	39.7	29.5
	Very often	28.1	24.6	25.0	49.5
Exercised or participated in physical fitness activities	Never	36.2	39.8	36.9	23.1
	Sometimes	34.5	33.0	33.1	43.7
	Often	13.3	9.6	15.0	18.1
	Very often	16.0	17.5	15.0	15.2
Blended academic learning with workplace experience	Never	11.9	9.7	15.1	7.6
	Sometimes	26.6	39.5	21.0	6.7
	Often	38.1	30.1	44.1	41.9
	Very often	23.4	20.7	19.8	43.8
Worked on assessments that informed you how well you are learning	Never	31.7	33.7	28.5	36.2
	Sometimes	43.6	32.7	53.8	41.9
	Often	15.1	14.7	16.6	11.4
	Very often	9.7	18.8	1.2	10.5
Memorising course material	Very little	18.3	15.9	12.5	42.3
	Some	28.4	30.6	20.9	46.3
	Quite a bit	21.8	28.0	23.6	0.0
	Very much	31.6	25.5	42.9	11.4
Work with academic staff on a research project	Have not decided	25.6	31.3	22.5	20.2
	Do not plan to do	41.5	45.0	38.0	43.6
	Plan to do	19.8	18.5	18.4	27.7
	Done or in progress	13.1	5.3	21.0	8.5
Community service or volunteer work	Have not decided	23.7	38.9	16.3	7.5
	Do not plan to do	21.2	4.2	28.5	42.7
	Plan to do	34.0	38.2	38.4	8.5
	Done or in progress	21.0	18.7	16.7	41.3
Spending significant amounts of time studying and on academic work	Very little	8.2	13.4	4.0	7.9
	Some	23.1	25.6	17.8	33.6
	Quite a bit	28.7	21.5	31.1	39.7
	Very much	40.0	39.6	47.1	18.8

Non-indicator items	Responses	All Students	Undergrad - Year 1	Undergrad - Final Yr	Postgrad taught
Writing clearly and effectively	Very little	11.4	6.1	12.2	23.4
	Some	34.5	30.4	41.0	24.5
	Quite a bit	40.9	49.4	39.8	21.2
	Very much	13.2	14.1	7.0	31.0
Speaking clearly and effectively	Very little	11.4	3.1	12.2	31.8
	Some	26.1	27.6	24.7	26.7
	Quite a bit	38.3	36.1	44.1	25.4
	Very much	24.2	33.3	19.0	16.0
Thinking critically and analytically	Very little	6.0	5.1	2.7	19.1
	Some	21.2	15.3	27.4	17.0
	Quite a bit	50.6	52.4	54.5	32.9
	Very much	22.2	27.1	15.4	31.0
Analysing numerical and statistical information	Very little	40.4	35.7	42.4	46.8
	Some	39.1	38.4	43.6	26.4
	Quite a bit	15.4	19.0	12.5	15.0
	Very much	5.1	6.9	1.6	11.7
Acquiring job- or work-related knowledge and skills	Very little	15.3	16.3	17.9	4.2
	Some	24.1	26.3	24.8	16.0
	Quite a bit	34.6	33.8	35.3	34.1
	Very much	25.9	23.5	22.0	45.7
Working effectively with others	Very little	12.3	2.0	13.9	35.1
	Some	27.1	25.3	31.0	19.2
	Quite a bit	38.8	49.8	35.8	17.9
	Very much	21.9	22.8	19.3	27.7
Solving complex real-world problems	Very little	21.5	23.3	24.7	6.5
	Some	45.7	42.4	43.8	60.5
	Quite a bit	17.7	16.1	17.9	21.2
	Very much	15.1	18.2	13.6	11.7
Being an informed and active citizen (societal / political / community)	Very little	21.3	19.4	19.0	34.1
	Some	35.9	50.3	31.3	11.7
	Quite a bit	28.4	11.9	40.0	34.9
	Very much	14.4	18.4	9.7	19.2
How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this institution?	Poor	7.8	1.1	7.1	27.6
	Fair	27.3	22.8	35.7	12.7
	Good	47.3	55.7	45.5	31.0
	Excellent	17.6	20.4	11.8	28.7
If you could start over again, would you go to the same institution you are now attending?	Definitely no	11.5	2.2	20.1	8.5
	Probably no	15.6	8.4	24.1	7.5
	Probably yes	37.7	36.7	34.0	52.1
	Definitely yes	35.2	52.7	21.8	32.0