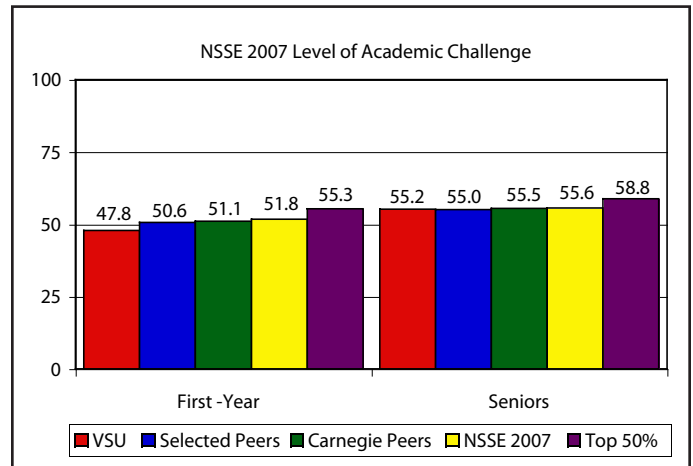


The National Survey of Student Engagement annually obtains information from hundreds of thousands of college students across the nation about their participation in educational programs and activities that increase their learning and personal development. The results indicate how undergraduates spend their time and what they gain from their college experience. Since survey items reflect confirmed “good practices” in undergraduate education, students who engage in these activities are more likely to be successful and to earn a college degree. The highlights presented below for Valdosta State University represent 214 first-year students and 347 seniors who completed the NSSE survey in Spring 2007, resulting in an overall response rate of 19%. The results are displayed in five benchmark areas and compare VSU’s responses with those from other four-year selected peer institutions, Carnegie peers, all students participating in the NSSE, and the top 50% of institutions nationwide.

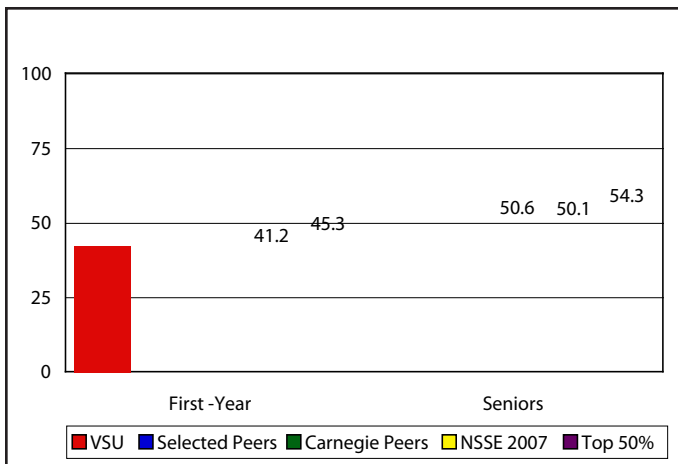
Benchmark: Level of Academic Challenge

seniors at Carnegie peer institutions.

- 66% of first-year students and 75% of seniors at VSU replied that their coursework emphasizes making judgments about the value of information, arguments, or methods “quite a bit” or “very much.” Comparable Carnegie peer institutions’ percentages are 67% and 72%.
- 61% of first-year students and 74% of seniors at VSU said their coursework emphasizes synthesizing and organizing ideas and information “quite a bit” or “very much.” For Carnegie peer institutions, the corresponding percentages are 66% and 74%, respectively.



Benchmark: Active and Collaborative Learning



Source: NSSE 2007.

- 51% of first-year students and 65% of seniors at VSU said they received prompt feedback from faculty on their academic performance