Good Ideas on Sharing NSSE Data

The following ideas were contributed by participants in recent Regional NSSE Users Workshops.

Sharing NSSE Data with Administration

- Don’t just send a report. Share results and schedule a time to meet with deans.
- Provost required deans & faculty to submit plans for improving NSSE scores.
- Added “group” variables to pop file, made it easier to identify distance ed, departments later.
- Discussed multi-year comparison in a retreat.
- Trend analyses to check past years’ performance against actual performance (on benchmarks) and to set goals for 2007.
- Involved marketing students in promotion of survey and getting student feedback.
- Kept deans informed of administration process—their students in sample, templates of letters, when survey was in the field, and provided updates on their response rates throughout.
- Created colorful brochure with graphs, tables of data of interest to campus, deans, VPs.
- Formulate Student Affairs benchmarks to generate more interest in results.

Sharing NSSE Data with Faculty and Students

- Formed “Action Team” (faculty & staff) to spearhead administration, promotion & help analyze results.
- Host lunch to discuss findings with faculty.
- Student Ambassadors met with FY classes, and SR capstones to discuss impact/importance of participation.
- Ads promoting survey & explaining results, placed in campus paper.
- College wide symposium on NSSE, with discussion groups.
- Involved student affairs to promote survey administration and to solicit students for focus group to examine survey results.
- Table tents with findings in dining halls.
- Created “Get Engaged” t-shirts to give away at all-campus NSSE forum.
- Joined a consortium to get more responses to questions of interest to our institution (urban).
- Passed out Nestle bars on flyers with a “Got NSSE?” campaign slogan reminding students to check their school email for their NSSE invitation.
- Inserted flyers on NSSE into graduating senior packets.
- Chalked notice about NSSE on campus walkways; ads in campus newspapers; streamers on campus computers in InfoCommons and computing labs; put article on homepage of institution Web site.
- Pulled together a focus group made up of a representative from student-focused campus organizations.

Creating Action Plans for Sharing NSSE Data

- Relevancy. What data is most compelling for your campus, units, departments, students, student affairs, deans? Tease departments, units with small sets of results, not the whole report.
- What campus initiatives might benefit from NSSE data? Connect results to “hot issues” on campus, send to relevant groups.
- How can you use comparison group data to motivate reflection and action on your results?
- Can you look at your results relative to part performance and absolute standards and commit to getting better?
- What other institutional data can you link to NSSE results?