

Survey Says: BCSSE* as an Advising Tool



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**Beginning College Survey of Student Engagement*

Topics for Today

- Introducing “Bessie”
- BCSSE scales
- Advising Report (*handout*)
- BCSSE as a resource for advisors

<http://ire.udel.edu/ir/bcsse/>



What IS “Bessie”?

- Survey of student perceptions — offshoot of National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) <http://bcsse.indiana.edu/>.
- Snapshot of student perceptions and expectations of the college experience before they begin their first year.
- Offered to all incoming first-year students at UD as part of Admissions/NSO checklist.

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Where Can I Find It, and When?

- Institutional Research site — survey materials & aggregate results (ire.udel.edu/ir/bcsse/).
- Advising Notes — individual results posted in the fall.
- Relevant materials will be posted on the Advisor Network Sakai site.

The screenshot shows the Institutional Research website for the University of Delaware. The header includes the university logo and navigation links for 'Contact Us' and 'Search'. Below the header is a main navigation bar with dropdown menus for 'IRE Home', 'Enrollment Data', 'Student Outcomes Data', 'Faculty & Staff Data', 'Financial Data', 'Dashboards', and 'Annual Publications'. The main content area is titled 'Beginning College Survey of Student Engagement (BCSSE)'. It features a 'Data Information' sidebar with links to Enrollment Data, Student Outcomes Data, Faculty & Staff Data, Institutional Data on Diversity, Financial Data, and Rankings. The main text describes the BCSSE survey, its purpose, and the data it collects. It also mentions that the BCSSE reports include an institutional report and a student advising report. There are sections for '2015 Reports' and '2014 Reports', each with links to the Survey Instrument, Institutional Report, and Advising Report Mean Scores. An 'Additional Resources' sidebar lists links for 'Using your BCSSE Advising Report', 'Academic Success Resource Crosswalk for BCSSE Advising Report', and 'Decision Support & Resources'.

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Looking at College Success

- **Student perceptions and expectations** have a great effect on academic performance, and are more predictive of college success than excellent SAT scores and high school grades.
- Awareness of these **non-cognitive** aspects of our advisees' lives can help us anticipate challenges and help prepare for them.

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BCSSE Scales

Perception of academic preparation in high school

- Quantitative reasoning
- Learning strategies

Expectations about relationships in the college environment (quality, type of interactions)

- Collaborative learning with peers
- Interaction/engagement with faculty
- Discussions with diverse others

Expectations for success

- Perseverance to graduation
- Difficulty of achieving success in the first year
- Preparedness for college-level work

Perception of the importance of a challenging, supportive environment

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Key Non-Cognitive Factors Assessed

- Academic preparation in high school
- Propensity for engagement
- Motivation/resilience
- Academic expectations for college
- Expectations for support
 - Social (formal and informal)
 - Academic (formal and informal)

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Reading the BCSSE Advising Report

HS Behaviors & FY Expectations

HS Academic Activities

**First-Year Expectations for Effective Educational
Practice**

Expected Transition Difficulty

Academic Perseverance

Academic Preparation

Importance of Campus Support

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BCSSE as an Advising Tool

Expectations vs. Reality

- Identify areas of mismatch HS → FY to open a discussion
- Use Academic Success Resource Crosswalk as a helpful resource keyed to non-cognitive factors (<https://sites.udel.edu/ire/files/2016/04/BCSSE-Crosswalk-Final-1di25ow.pdf>)
- Assist students in making connections

<http://ire.udel.edu/ir/bcsse/>



Exploring Together

General impressions?

- Benefits
- Limitations

Relationship builder?

- Beyond one-on-one

Other opportunities?

Questions?

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Thanks for
Joining Us!

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