

## **Indirect Measures of Proficiencies**

In addition to using the NSSE Benchmarks as an indication of general learning proficiencies, the institution also looks at selected self-reported assessments in six critical skill areas (information literacy was just added). The results drawn from the surveys are appended. All data examined is for seniors.

### **Critical Thinking**

Both the NSSE and CSS measures examined show PLNU's scores to be equivalent to a variety of comparison groups. The NSSE data shows a very slight increase over time.

### **Information Literacy**

NSSE data indicates that PLNU is equivalent to comparators. CSS results comparator results have not yet been received.

### **Oral Communication**

The NSSE data indicates that PLNU is quite similar to the various comparison groups. There has been a slight increase over time in the percentage of students who have given an oral report in their senior year and a concomitant increase in their belief that their college education has improved their speaking ability.

PLNU's alumni survey also shows that a high percentage of our alumni (surveyed 1-10 years after graduation) believe that their education contributed to their speaking ability.

### **Written Communication**

NSSE data indicates that our students are like their peers in their assessment of the institution's contribution to their ability to write. However, based on 2005 and 2011 NSSE data, PLNU is having the students write fewer 5-19 page papers in their senior year than our comparators (CCCU or selected Comparators).

PLNU's alumni survey also shows that a high percentage of alumni (surveyed 1-10 years after graduation) believe that their college education contributed to their writing ability.

### **Quantitative Reasoning**

NSSE results indicate that PLNU seniors state that their education contributed to their ability to analyze quantitative problems at approximately the same rate as the students at peer institutions.

PLNU's alumni survey indicates a high percentage of alumni believe that their problem solving ability was enhanced while in college.

### **Diversity**

NSSE data indicates that our students are interacting with various aspects of diversity at about the same rate as peer and comparator institutions. Issues queried included:

- Including diverse perspectives in classroom discussions
- Had a serious conversation with a student of a different race or ethnicity
- Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from her perspective.

Slightly fewer students at PLNU than at our comparators indicated that their PLNU experience had contributed to their understanding of people from other racial and ethnic groups. The CSS data that we have indicate similar results (PLNU is waiting on the 2012 CSS results).

The alumni PLNU surveyed indicated that they are more sensitive to issues of race and class and that their time at PLNU had a positive impact on their understanding of several issues related to diversity.

## GE - Critical Thinking

### NSSE

|         |      | Thinking critically and analytically |             |       |         |       |
|---------|------|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------|---------|-------|
|         |      | PLNU                                 | Comparators | CCCU  | Masters | NSSE  |
| Seniors | 2000 | 87.6%                                |             | 87.5% |         | 86.0% |
|         | 2005 | 89%                                  | 92%         |       | 87%     | 87%   |
|         | 2011 | 92%                                  | 90%         | 92%   | 87%     | 90%   |

Percentages indicate sum of "Quite a Bit" and "Very Much"

### CSS

|  |      | Critical thinking skills |                                 |                             |
|--|------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|  |      | PLNU                     | Other Religious 4-Year Colleges | All Private 4-Year Colleges |
|  | 2005 | 41.8%                    | 37.3%                           | 40.2%                       |
|  | 2006 | 38.6%                    | 40.6%                           | 43.0%                       |
|  | 2008 | 50.0%                    | 45.9%                           | 46.8%                       |
|  | 2012 | 59.0%                    | *                               | *                           |

Percentages indicate students reporting "much stronger"

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Awaiting report from HERI

## GE - Information Literacy

### NSSE

| In your experience at your institution during the current school year, about how often have you done each of the following? |      | Worked on a paper or project that required integrating ideas or information from various sources. |             |      |         |      |
|---|------|---|-------------|------|---------|------|
|   |      | PLNU  | Comparators | CCCU | Masters | NSSE |
| Seniors   | 2011 | 89%   | 90%         | 92%  | 88%     |      |

Percentages indicate sum of "Often" and "Very Often"

### CSS

| How often in the past year did you: |      | Evaluate the quality or reliability of information you received |                                 |                             |
|-------------------------------------|------|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                                     |      | PLNU  | Other Religious 4-Year Colleges | All Private 4-Year Colleges |
|                                     | 2012 | 59.0%   | *                               | *                           |

| How often in the past year did you: |      | Integrate skills and knowledge from different sources and experiences |                                 |                             |
|-------------------------------------|------|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                                     |      | PLNU  | Other Religious 4-Year Colleges | All Private 4-Year Colleges |
|                                     | 2012 | 76.2%   | *                               | *                           |

Percentages indicate students reporting "Frequently"

\* Awaiting report from HERI

## GE - Speaking Effectively

### NSSE

| In your experience at your institution during the current school year, about how often have you done each of the following? |      | Made a class presentation |             |       |         |       |
|---|------|---------------------------|-------------|-------|---------|-------|
|   |      | PLNU                      | Comparators | CCCU  | Masters | NSSE  |
| Seniors   | 2000 | 62.9%                     |             | 60.1% |         | 57.7% |
|   | 2005 | 66%                       | 65%         |       | 68%     | 65%   |
|   | 2011 | 69%                       | 69%         | 69%   | 64%     |       |

Percentages indicate sum of "Often" and "Very Often"

| To what extent has your college education contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas? |      | Speaking clearly and effectively |             |       |         |       |
|---|------|----------------------------------|-------------|-------|---------|-------|
|   |      | PLNU                             | Comparators | CCCU  | Masters | NSSE  |
| Seniors   | 2000 | 72.6%                            |             | 73.1% |         | 71.3% |
|   | 2005 | 77%                              | 76%         |       | 74%     | 73%   |
|   | 2011 | 83%                              | 78%         | 78%   | 74%     |       |

Percentages indicate sum of "Quite a Bit" and "Very Much"

## Alumni Survey (Homegrown)

| How much were your abilities in the following areas enhanced by your total undergraduate experience at PLNU (in and out of the classroom)? |      | Speaking effectively |               |          |              |      |
|--|------|----------------------|---------------|----------|--------------|------|
|  |      | Very Much Enhanced   | Much Enhanced | Enhanced | Not Enhanced | N/A  |
|  | 2012 | 24.1%                | 32.7%         | 34.6%    | 8.2%         | 0.4% |

| Describe the level of impact that your education at Point Loma had in each of the following areas: |      | Developing effective verbal communication. |          |       |      |
|--|------|--|----------|-------|------|
|  |      | Major                                      | Moderate | Minor | None |
|  | 2005 | 40.9%                                      | 46.7%    | 10.3% | 2.1% |

Percentages for those who earned an undergraduate degree from PLNU

## GE - Written

### NSSE

|         |      | To what extent has your college education contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas? |             |       |         |       |
|---------|------|---|-------------|-------|---------|-------|
|         |      | Writing clearly and effectively   |             |       |         |       |
|         |      | PLNU  | Comparators | CCCU  | Masters | NSSE  |
| Seniors | 2000 | 73.5%   |             | 76.1% |         | 76.4% |
|         | 2005 | 79%   | 81%         |       | 78%     | 77%   |
|         | 2011 | 79%   | 82%         | 83%   | 78%     |       |

Percentages indicate sum of "Quite a Bit" and "Very Much"

|         |      | In your experience at your institution during the current school year, about how often have you done each of the following? |             |       |         |       |
|---------|------|---|-------------|-------|---------|-------|
|         |      | Rewrote a paper or an assignment several times  |             |       |         |       |
|         |      | PLNU  | Comparators | CCCU  | Masters | NSSE  |
| Seniors | 2000 | 25.7%   |             | 18.4% |         | 26.5% |

Percentages indicate sum of "Often" and "Very Often"

|         |      | In your experience at your institution during the current school year, about how often have you done each of the following? |             |      |         |      |
|---------|------|---|-------------|------|---------|------|
|         |      | Prepared two or more drafts of a paper or assignments before turning it in  |             |      |         |      |
|         |      | PLNU  | Comparators | CCCU | Masters | NSSE |
| Seniors | 2005 | 39%   | 40%         |      | 48%     | 47%  |
|         | 2011 | 38%   | 39%         | 45%  | 49%     |      |

Percentages indicate sum of "Often" and "Very Often"

|         |      | During the current school year, about how much reading and writing have you done? |             |      |         |      |
|---------|------|---|-------------|------|---------|------|
|         |      | Number of written papers or reports between 5 and 19 pages                        |             |      |         |      |
|         |      | PLNU  | Comparators | CCCU | Masters | NSSE |
| Seniors | 2005 | 52%   | 59%         |      | 49%     | 52%  |
|         | 2011 | 48%   | 54%         | 60%  | 47%     |      |

Percentages indicate 5 or more such papers or reports

## Alumni Survey (Homegrown)

| How much were your abilities in the following areas enhanced by your total undergraduate experience at PLNU (in and out of the classroom)? |                    |               |          |              |      |
|--|--------------------|---------------|----------|--------------|------|
| Writing effectively  |                    |               |          |              |      |
|  | Very Much Enhanced | Much Enhanced | Enhanced | Not Enhanced | N/A  |
| 2012   | 26.8%              | 31.5%         | 36.2%    | 5.1%         | 0.4% |

| Describe the level of impact that your education at Point Loma had in each of the following areas: |       |          |       |      |
|--|-------|----------|-------|------|
| Developing effective written communication.  |       |          |       |      |
|  | Major | Moderate | Minor | None |
| 2005   | 42.4% | 44.1%    | 11.7% | 1.8% |

Percentages for those who earned an undergraduate degree from PLNU

## GE - Quantitative

### NSSE

|         |      | Analyzing quantitative problems |             |       |         |       |
|---------|------|---------------------------------|-------------|-------|---------|-------|
|         |      | PLNU                            | Comparators | CCCU  | Masters | NSSE  |
| Seniors | 2000 | 62.8%                           |             | 60.0% |         | 66.3% |
|         | 2005 | 69%                             | 71%         |       | 72%     | 72%   |
|         | 2011 | 79%                             | 70%         | 75%   | 76%     |       |

Percentages indicate sum of "Quite a Bit" and "Very Much"

## Alumni Survey (Homegrown)

|  |      | Solving problems   |               |          |              |      |
|--|------|--------------------|---------------|----------|--------------|------|
|  |      | Very Much Enhanced | Much Enhanced | Enhanced | Not Enhanced | N/A  |
|  | 2012 | 22.9%              | 35.7%         | 36.8%    | 4.3%         | 0.4% |

Percentages for those who earned an undergraduate degree from PLNU

## GE - Diversity

### NSSE

In your experience at your institution during the current school year, about how often have you done each of the following?

Included diverse perspectives (different races, religions, genders, political beliefs, etc.) in class discussions or writing assignments

|         |      | PLNU | Comparators | CCCU | Masters | NSSE |
|---------|------|------|-------------|------|---------|------|
| Seniors | 2005 | 63%  | 67%         |      | 62%     | 62%  |
|         | 2011 | 70%  | 68%         | 70%  | 65%     |      |

In your experience at your institution during the current school year, about how often have you done each of the following?

Had serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity than your own

|         |      | PLNU  | Comparators | CCCU  | Masters | NSSE  |
|---------|------|-------|-------------|-------|---------|-------|
| Seniors | 2000 | 55.5% |             | 39.9% |         | 45.8% |
|         | 2005 | 48%   | 53%         |       | 49%     | 52%   |
|         | 2011 | 52%   | 53%         | 49%   | 55%     |       |

During the current school year, about how often have you done each of the following?

Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from his or her perspective

|         |      | PLNU | Comparators | CCCU | Masters | NSSE |
|---------|------|------|-------------|------|---------|------|
| Seniors | 2005 | 70%  | 73%         |      | 64%     | 66%  |
|         | 2011 | 75%  | 73%         | 74%  | 67%     |      |

Percentages indicate sum of "Often" and "Very Often"

To what extent has your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?

Understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds

|         |      | PLNU | Comparators | CCCU | Masters | NSSE |
|---------|------|------|-------------|------|---------|------|
| Seniors | 2000 | 51%  |             | 53%  |         | 55%  |
|         | 2005 | 41%  | 58%         |      | 53%     | 53%  |
|         | 2011 | 53%  | 57%         | 59%  | 58%     |      |

Percentages indicate sum of "Quite a Bit" and "Very Much"

# CSS

| During the past year, how often have you done each of the following? |       |                                 |                             |
|--|-------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Socialized with someone of another racial/ethnic group               |       |                                 |                             |
|  | PLNU  | Other Religious 4-Year Colleges | All Private 4-Year Colleges |
| 2008   | 47.5% | 38%                             | 44%                         |

Percentages indicate students reporting "Frequently" or "Occasionally"

| To what extent have you experienced the following with students from a racial/ethnic group other than your own? |       |                                 |                             |
|---|-------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Dined or shared a meal  |       |                                 |                             |
|   | PLNU  | Other Religious 4-Year Colleges | All Private 4-Year Colleges |
| 2012  | 60.6% | *                               | *                           |

| To what extent have you experienced the following with students from a racial/ethnic group other than your own? |       |                                 |                             |
|---|-------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Studied or prepared for class   |       |                                 |                             |
|   | PLNU  | Other Religious 4-Year Colleges | All Private 4-Year Colleges |
| 2012  | 50.5% | *                               | *                           |

Percentages indicate students reporting "Often" or "Very Often"

\* Awaiting report from HERI

## Alumni Survey (Homegrown)

| Because of my education at Point Loma:<br>I am more sensitive to issues of race and class. |                |       |         |          |                   |      |
|--|----------------|-------|---------|----------|-------------------|------|
|  | Strongly Agree | Agree | Neutral | Disagree | Strongly Disagree | N/A  |
| 2005   | 14.2%          | 28.8% | 35.4%   | 15.0%    | 4.5%              | 1.9% |

| Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the following statements:<br>My undergraduate experience at PLNU had a positive impact on |                |       |         |          |                   |      |
|--|----------------|-------|---------|----------|-------------------|------|
|  | Strongly Agree | Agree | Neutral | Disagree | Strongly Disagree | N/A  |
| My sensitivity toward and concern for others   |                |       |         |          |                   |      |
| 2012   | 30.2%          | 46.9% | 15.5%   | 3.9%     | 1.9%              | 1.6% |
| My understanding of people of different racial and ethnic backgrounds  |                |       |         |          |                   |      |
| 2012   | 19.8%          | 35.0% | 31.5%   | 8.9%     | 3.5%              | 1.2% |
| My affirmation of the equality of all people   |                |       |         |          |                   |      |
| 2012   | 28.7%          | 36.0% | 24.8%   | 7.0%     | 2.3%              | 1.2% |

Percentages for those who earned an undergraduate degree from PLNU