

Effective Educational Practices – Benchmark Groupings

Level of Academic Challenge

Active and Collaborative Learning

Student Faculty Interaction

Enriching Educational Experiences

Supportive Campus Environment

NSSE - Benchmark Comparisons

- ◆ **The Benchmark Comparisons report compares the performance of SRU with our PASSHE institutions, Carnegie Peers, and all 2008 institutions.**

- ◆ **To focus discussions on the importance of student engagement and guide institutional improvement efforts, NSSE created five clusters or “benchmarks” of effective educational practice:**
 - **Level of Academic challenge** – including the number and length of written reports, hours spent studying and preparing for class, reading requirements, and the need to synthesize and organize ideas (SRU FR Means were higher than PASSHE Institutions and Carnegie Peers).
 - **Active and collaborative learning** – including working with other students inside and outside class, participating in class discussions, making presentations, tutoring, and community-based projects. (SRU FR and SR Means were higher than PASSHE Institutions and Carnegie Peers).
 - **Student-faculty interaction** – including faculty feedback, working with faculty on research projects and other activities, and discussing assignments and career plans with faculty. (SRU FR and SR Means were higher than PASSHE Institutions and Carnegie Peers).
 - **Enriching educational experiences** – including interaction with students of diverse economic, social, and racial backgrounds, community service and volunteer work, learning communities, internships, practicum, field work, independent study, and culminating senior experiences. (SRU FR and SR Means were equal to or higher than PASSHE Institutions and Carnegie Peers).
 - **Supportive campus environment** – including how campuses help students cope with non-academic responsibilities like work and family, the quality of relationships with faculty, administration, and other students, and the presence of social supports. (SRU FR and SR Means were higher than PASSHE Institutions and Carnegie Peers).