



Preparing people to lead extraordinary lives

National Survey of Student Engagement 2008: Comparison of Loyola and AJCU Peer Results

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Loyola participates in a Jesuit Consortium within the National Survey of Student Engagement. Students at each institution in the consortium receive an extra module of questions at the end of the survey, in which they are asked about the extent to which their experience at their institution has contributed to their development in areas related to the Jesuit mission.

This report summarizes responses to those questions by freshmen and seniors at Loyola and at the other Jesuit Consortium member institutions. Responses are on a scale from 0 (very little) to 3 (very much). Comparisons are made across the five years of the Consortium, with a focus on the 2008 results (see Table 1 below).

Key Findings

- Loyola freshmen and seniors reported Loyola's contribution to their development as greatest in the area of "demonstrating respect for others' differences," with seniors also reporting a higher level of contribution to "making ethical decisions in professional situations."
- Other areas of relatively high institutional contribution were "ability to look critically at society and its institutions" and "making ethical decisions in personal situations."
- Loyola seniors reported low institutional contributions in the areas of "actively working toward a more inclusive community," "understanding what it means to be men and women for others," and, along with freshmen, "making connections between your intellectual and spiritual life."
- Across **all** items, Loyola freshmen and seniors report less institutional contribution to their development in areas of the Jesuit mission

than do students at other Consortium institutions.

- In 2008, the largest differences in responses between Loyola students and their counterparts were:
 - for seniors, in "actively working toward a more inclusive community," "understanding what it means to be men and women for others," and "making connections between your intellectual and spiritual life," and
 - for both freshmen and seniors, in "leading by example."
- These low ratings by students of Loyola's contribution to their development in areas of the Jesuit mission are, in some cases, the result of a decline beginning in 2006. In 2004 and 2005, Loyola had received equal or slightly higher ratings on several items than did the other Consortium institutions.

Implications

- While Loyola students rated Loyola's contribution to their development in some areas higher than in other areas, the differences in ratings across areas were generally fairly small.
- Although the magnitude of differences in responses by Loyola students and students at other Consortium institutions were not large, there are two reasons for concern about those differences:
 - Loyola is declining in relative terms, compared to other Jesuit institutions, and
 - Loyola is lower on every single item than is the Jesuit Consortium.

| Table 1: NSSE Jesuit Consortium 2004-08 | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------|------|------|------|------|---------|------|------|------|------|
| Extent of Institution's Contribution to Student Development in Areas Related to Jesuit Mission (Average on scale from 0 = very little to 3 = very much) | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Freshmen | | | | | Seniors | | | | |
| | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |
| Understanding the mission of your institution | | | | | | | | | | |
| Loyola | 1.5 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.6 | 1.8 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 1.8 |
| Jesuit | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| Devoting effort to help others in need | | | | | | | | | | |
| Loyola | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.6 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 1.8 |
| Jesuit | 1.9 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 2.1 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| Leading by example | | | | | | | | | | |
| Loyola | 1.4 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 1.6 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.8 |
| Jesuit | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 2.1 |
| Increasing your awareness of the relationship between global and local issues | | | | | | | | | | |
| Loyola | 1.5 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.6 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.9 |
| Jesuit | 1.5 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 2.0 |
| Actively working to further social justice | | | | | | | | | | |
| Loyola | 1.5 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 1.4 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.7 |
| Jesuit | 1.6 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.9 |
| Defining your own values and beliefs | | | | | | | | | | |
| Loyola | 1.6 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.9 |
| Jesuit | 1.8 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.1 |
| Demonstrating respect for others' differences | | | | | | | | | | |
| Loyola | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| Jesuit | 1.9 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 2.2 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 2.1 |
| Actively working toward a more inclusive community | | | | | | | | | | |
| Loyola | 1.5 | 1.7 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1.5 |
| Jesuit | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.8 |
| Ability to look critically at society and its institutions | | | | | | | | | | |
| Loyola | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.9 |
| Jesuit | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.1 |
| Making ethical decisions in personal situations | | | | | | | | | | |
| Loyola | 1.6 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.9 |
| Jesuit | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.1 |
| Making ethical decisions in professional situations | | | | | | | | | | |
| Loyola | 1.6 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| Jesuit | 1.7 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 2.2 |
| Understanding what it means to be men and women for others | | | | | | | | | | |
| Loyola | 1.4 | 1.7 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.6 |
| Jesuit | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.9 |
| Making connections between your intellectual and spiritual life | | | | | | | | | | |
| Loyola | 1.4 | 1.6 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.4 |
| Jesuit | 1.6 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.6 | 1.7 |

Source: National Survey of Student Engagement, Jesuit Consortium questions 2004-08

Note: **Bolded red** indicates that Loyola's average is at least .25 lower than that of Jesuit peers; there are no differences of that magnitude for which Loyola's average is higher.