UC Denver NSSE facts – for Faculty

What: National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE, pronounced “Nessie”)

Who: All first-year students and all seniors

When: February through May 2010

Where: UC Denver: → E-mails to students link them to online survey

Why: Participation in NSSE is important to UC Denver staff, faculty and students because it:
  ■ Helps us improve the student experience –
    o Examples of changes might be made based upon NSSE findings: Improvements in advising
  ■ Helps school/college administrators gather needed information (e.g., accreditation, program review, accountability reporting, process improvement)
  ■ Provides additional information for our diversity programs.

What’s in it for faculty?
  ■ Understand who our students are (e.g., working, providing care to family members)—may facilitate faculty in presenting information to their classes
  ■ Identify areas of concern to students to improve their educational experience as well as the student services offered at UC Denver – satisfied students are likely better learners
  ■ Highlights areas of excellence – information we can all share with
  ■ Information collected might be useful in grant preparation

What’s in it for our students?
  ■ Opportunity for students to identify areas of concern – so as to improve educational experiences as well as the student services offered at UC Denver.
  ■ Gathers data to understand who our students are (e.g., working, providing care to family members)
  ■ Incentives: participants who complete the survey by March 2 will be eligible for a drawing to win one of 20 gift cards valued at $50 each

NSSE Email/Administration Schedule:
  ■ Invitation: Monday, February 15, 2010
  ■ Follow-up: Tuesday, February 23, 2010
  ■ Reminder 1: Wednesday, March 3, 2010
  ■ Reminder 2: Tuesday, March 30, 2010
  ■ Final Reminder: Monday, April 12, 2010

Contact: Christine Stroup-Benham, PhD
For students to access their surveys, they should use the url provided in the email they received. It is an individualized url (so that NSSE is able to identify those who are eligible for the incentive prizes mentioned above). If a student has that information, they can also go to http://www.nssesurvey.org to access the survey. General NSSE URL: http://nsse.iub.edu/html/about.cfm

Goal: Increase participation in NSSE; use of data by campus community.

FYI: 2008 UC Denver NSSE Administration

- Random sample of first-years and seniors: Web + paper administration
  - 20% response rate (UCD overall) compared to the overall NSSE response rate of 37%
- Three comparison groups:
  - Urban universities consortium, Carnegie classification, Downtown Campus peers

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