

Resolution on CCSSE

Resolution AA3 – 2008-09

WHEREAS the SUNY Board of Trustees Resolution on the Implementation of Strengthened Campus Based Assessment (June 2004) states,

“This academic assessment shall be accompanied by a measure of the level of student engagement in academic activities, as a way of providing a context for interpreting assessment data”; and

WHEREAS the Provost's Advisory Task Force on Assessment Reporting [May 2006] contains among its recommendations, item #12, that

“System Administration should coordinate the administration of the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) and the Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE) using procedures similar to those utilized in administering the Student Opinion Survey (SOS), with a focus on campus confidentiality and internal campus use of the survey results to make local improvements;” and

WHEREAS the above named report specifically states how confidentiality is to be preserved as outlined in the attached Appendix B to the report; and

WHEREAS it has come to the attention of the Faculty Council of Community Colleges that the policies of CCSSE do not lead to “campus confidentiality and internal campus use of the survey results”; and

WHEREAS following the mandate of SUNY System Administration, all of the SUNY community college campuses are administering the CCSSE in the Spring 2009 semester, using methods of data gathering that vary from campus to campus, possibly skewing the results; and

WHEREAS it is too late to stop the process for this semester; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED that the FCCC encourages the SUNY community college faculty and administrative leadership to administer the CCSSE survey as requested by System Administration for Spring 2009; and be it further

RESOLVED that the FCCC requests that the SUNY community colleges no longer participate in the CCSSE program in the future; and be it further

RESOLVED that the FCCC expresses its disappointment in SUNY System Administration for promising confidentiality in the survey when no such possibility ever existed; and be it further

RESOLVED that any instrument adopted by a SUNY community college campus for *measuring the level of student engagement in academic activities* shall be required to meet the confidentiality requirements cited above.

Passed Unanimously March 28, 2009

**APPENDIX B: Recommendations on Utilization and Reporting of Assessment Results –
Report of the Provost’s Advisory Task Force on the
Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes**

1. System Administration should only report data gathered through University-wide assessment for accountability purposes after adequate reliability and validity estimates of the measures being used are demonstrated.
2. Stringent guidelines should be developed and adhered to in order to ensure that confidentiality of assessment data is maintained.
3. Assessment results should never be used to punish, publicly compare, or embarrass students, faculty, courses, programs, departments, or institutions either individually or collectively, or to make public comparisons among groups of students based on gender, race, ethnicity, or other demographic factors.
4. System Administration should publicly disseminate assessment data only through aggregate reporting, for SUNY as a whole, or by sector.
5. While individual programs are free to use their own assessment results in ways they see fit, individual campuses should publicly disseminate assessment data only through aggregate reporting for the institution as a whole, or by school or college.