

**St. Norbert College**  
**Digital Commons @ St. Norbert College**

---

Assessment News

Office of Institutional Effectiveness

---

9-26-2007

## Volume 7, Issue 1

St. Norbert College

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.snc.edu/assessmentnews>

---

### Recommended Citation

St. Norbert College, "Volume 7, Issue 1" (2007). *Assessment News*. Paper 51.  
<http://digitalcommons.snc.edu/assessmentnews/51>

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the Office of Institutional Effectiveness at Digital Commons @ St. Norbert College. It has been accepted for inclusion in Assessment News by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ St. Norbert College. For more information, please contact [sarah.titus@snc.edu](mailto:sarah.titus@snc.edu).



# INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

Volume 7, Issue 1

September 26, 2007

## Assessment News

### Inside this Issue:

Program Review Data Available Electronically	1
Sustaining Student Learning Outcomes Assessment	1
General Education Assessment Cycle	1
SNC Freshmen: 1997-2006 (Data from the annual Freshman Survey)	2-3
SNC Participates in National U-CAN Roll-out	3-4

**Assessment Conference Possibilities**  
 Improving Student Learning Through Assessment Workshop, Continuing Education Institute, October 18-19, 2007, St. Norbert College.  
 IUPUI 2007 Assessment Inst. Nov. 4-6, 2007, Indianapolis, IN.

### Program Review Data Available Electronically – No More Lost Binders

Beginning in 2007-2008, all program review data will be made available electronically. Electronic access will replace the cumbersome process of annual binder updates. In addition, electronic access will provide OIE greater flexibility to update data as they become available (rather than only once a year in September).

To access your program review data, go to the J-drive and click on a folder entitled "Access Your Program Review Data". You will see a single PowerPoint file called "Access Program Review Data". Clicking on this file and subsequent menu options will take you to the program review data for your major, minor or other academic program as well as to overall data for your division or the College as a whole. This system was designed by Travis Vanden Heuvel, a Junior Business Administration major, who has been a Research Assistant in the OIE since 2005. If you have comments or suggestions about how access to program review data can be further improved, please pass these on to any OIE faculty or staff.

### Sustaining Student Learning Outcomes Assessment

It has been nearly two years since our successful Focused Visit on assessment and strategic planning. The Higher Learning Commission will return for a full site visit in 2011-2012 (our self-study will be written in 2010-2011) and will no doubt expect to see a record of sustained activity in both arenas. Every academic, student life, and Mission & Heritage program on campus undertook some significant assessment activity in advance of the Focused Visit. Many, but not all, programs have continued to assess student learning for program review, and, more importantly, because they find it useful for program improvement. We've built a viable foundation for assessing student learning; let's not let our momentum lapse. If you need assistance with updating or carrying out your assessment plan, please contact the OIE. We would be happy to help. Finally, assessment reports incorporated in program review documents will be excerpted and posted once the new OIE web site is up and running. If you have other analyses/reports that are not yet posted, please send them to Pat Wery (pat.wery@snc.edu).

\*\*\*\*\*

### Assessment Mini-grants Available for 2007-2008

2007-2008 is OIE's first year of operation supported only by the College's operating budget. OIE's budget includes funds for assessment mini-grants, but total mini-grant funding will be less than what it was under the Title III grant. Approximately 18 mini-grants of about \$750 will be available this academic year to support student learning outcomes assessment. Mini-grant funds can be used to purchase materials or as a stipend to support data analysis and/or report writing. At 18 grants per year, every campus program doing student learning outcomes assessment, could receive mini-support every third year. If demand for mini-grant funds exceeds what is currently available, the OIE will use our request history to construct a future Stage 2 budget request. Guidelines for applying for funds and the application cover sheet can be found on the OIE web site ([www.snc.edu/oie](http://www.snc.edu/oie))

### General Education Assessment Cycle

	Cycle 1	Comp	Cycle 2	Comp
Gs 1 Lower	2004-2005	X	2008-2009	
Gs 2	2004-2005	X	2008-2009	
Gs 3	2003-2004	X	2007-2008	
Gs 4	Ongoing	X	Ongoing	
Gs 5	2002-2003	X	2006-2007	X
Gs 6	2003-2004	X	2007-2008	
Gs 7	2004-2005	No	2007-2008	
Gs 8	Ongoing	X	Ongoing	
Gs 9 Writing	2004, 2006	X	2009	
Gs 1 Upper	2002-2003	X	2006-2007	X
Gs 10	2003-2004	X	2008-2009	
Gs 11	2004-2005	X	2007-2008	
Gs 12	2002-2003	X	2006-2007	X
Critical Thinking	2002, 2003, 2006	X	2009	

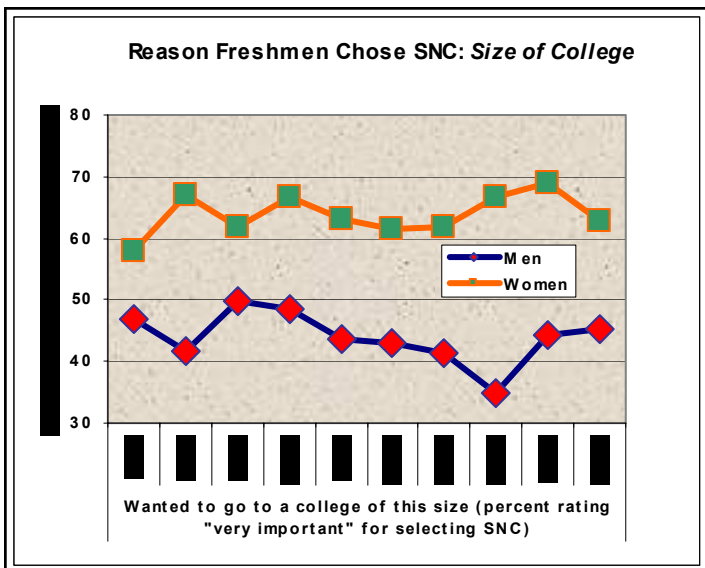
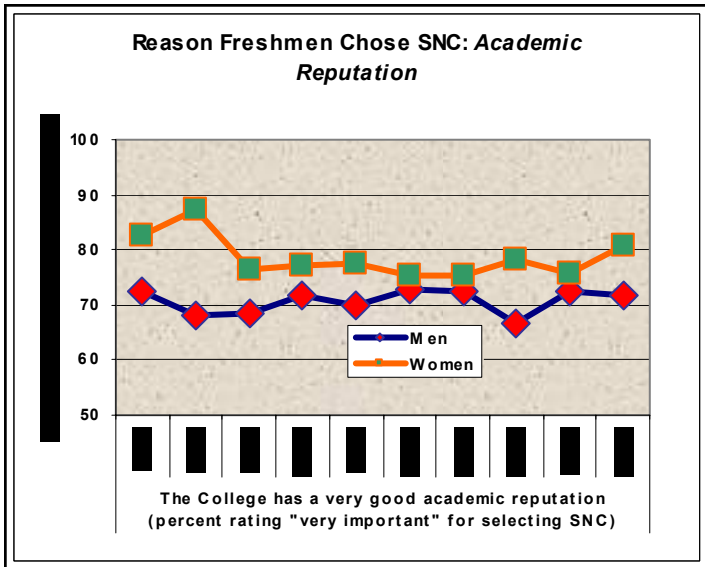
**St. Norbert Freshmen: 1997-2006**  
**Data from the Annual Freshman Survey**

By: Jack Williamsen  
 Data Analyst

Since 1971, St. Norbert has participated in the national freshman survey conducted by the Higher Education Research Institute (HERI) at UCLA.

Below are seven charts showing selected ten year trends from survey responses provided by entering freshman classes from 1997-2006 (data from our 2007 entering class are not yet available). Three topics from the survey (*Reasons freshmen chose SNC, Goals after college, and Political Orientation*) are represented by two charts each. A brief comment follows each topic.

*Reasons Freshmen chose SNC*

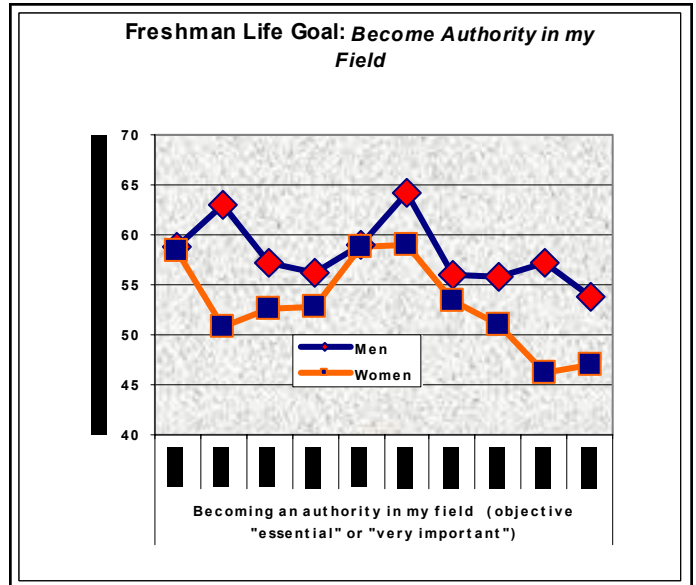
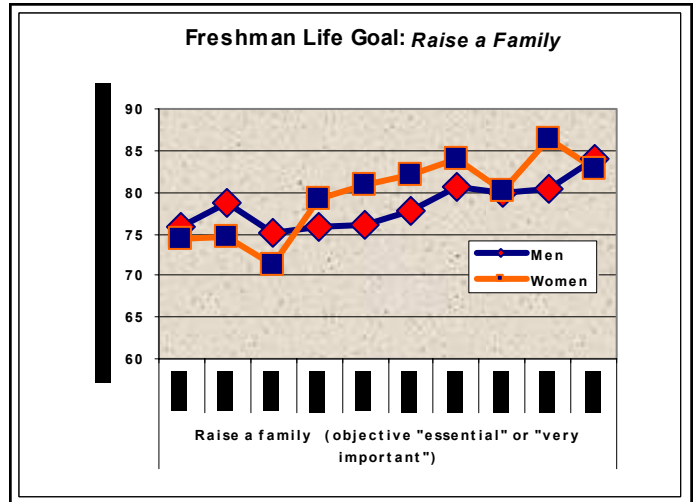


Comment: Since 1997, about 70-80% of our entering freshman men and women have indicated that the College’s academic reputation is a “very important” reason for selecting St. Norbert. No obvious trend is apparent.

The relatively small size of the College is consistently more important to our freshman women than to our freshman men. Perhaps women prefer our smaller size because they anticipate their curricular and cocurricular educational experiences will be

more “personal” than at a larger institution. Consistently, less than half our freshman men report that our size is a compelling factor in selecting SNC.

*Anticipating the future: post-college goals*



Comment: There is a clear ten year trend for more of our entering freshmen to view *raising a family* as an “essential” or “very important” life goal. Conversely, “*becoming an authority in my field*” has been losing importance for our freshmen. Coincidence? Correlation, maybe, but not a causal relationship? Hmm. (Continued on Page 3)



**ASSESSMENT RESOURCES**

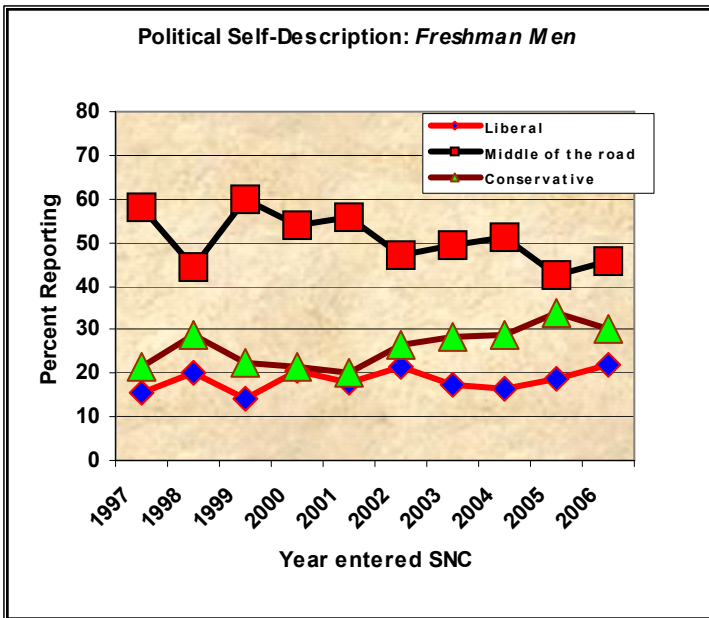
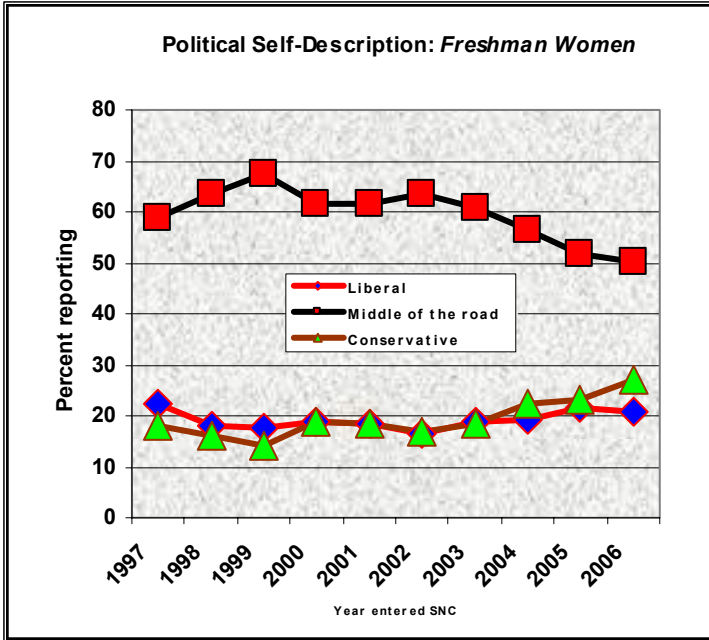
- Robert A. Rutter, A.V.P. for Institutional Effectiveness (403-3964)
- Jack Williamsen, Data Analyst (403-3993)
- Patricia Wery, Administrative Assistant (403-3855)
- Deborah Anderson, Natural Sciences Assessment Specialist (403-3199)
- Ray Zurawski, Academic Programs Assessment Specialist (403-3202)
- Joanne Blascak, Data Retrieval Specialist (403-3238)

- Travis Vanden Heuvel—Research Assistant (403-3855)
- Kevin Steiner—Research Fellow (403-3855)
- Angela Virtues—Research Fellow (403-3855)
- Carresa Swanson—Research Fellow (403-3855)

Office of Institutional Effectiveness  
 Main Hall, Room 219  
 (Phone: 403-3855) FAX: 403-4096  
 Web site: www.snc.edu/oie/

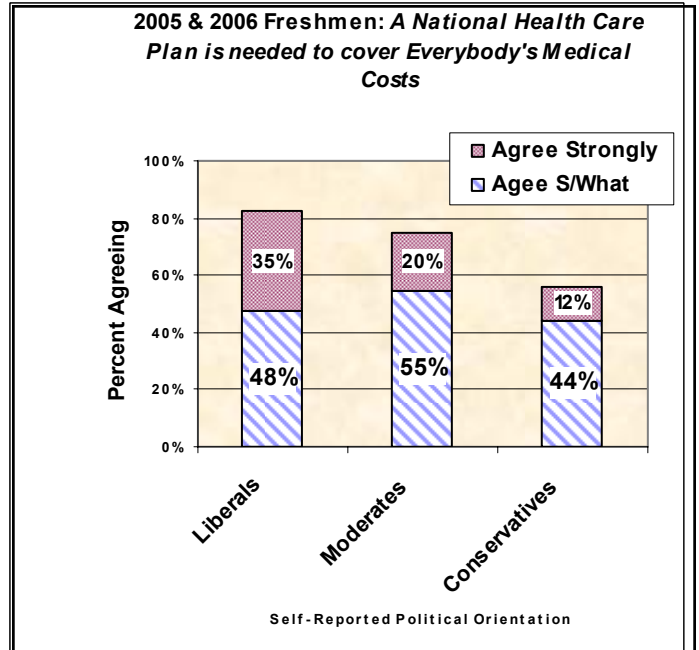
**St. Norbert Freshmen: 1997-2006**  
**Data from the Annual Freshman Survey**  
 (Continued from Page 2)

*Political Orientation*



Comment: Only half (or less) of our freshmen describe themselves as politically “middle-of-the-road” in 2006, down from about 60% in 1997. Freshman men have led the trend, with self-reported conservatism gaining at the expense of moderates for both sexes. Liberals have held fast to the 20% mark. Is this material for *Fox News*?

*Politics and Health Care*



Comment: The 2005 & 2006 Surveys asked an opinion question re: national health care. The pooled data from these two class years shows the expected differences in agreement on the need for a national health care plan, based on political orientation. Note, however, that even self-described conservative freshmen show a majority in favor of the general concept.

\*\*\*\*\*

**SNC Participates in National U-CAN Roll-out**

St. Norbert College is one of about 500 independent colleges and universities whose profile will be available to prospective students when The National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU) consumer-information initiative -- the University and College Accountability Network (U-CAN) -- is launched later this month. Based on focus group feedback, U-CAN was designed to give, in a common format, prospective students and their families concise, Web-based consumer-friendly information on individual private colleges and universities.

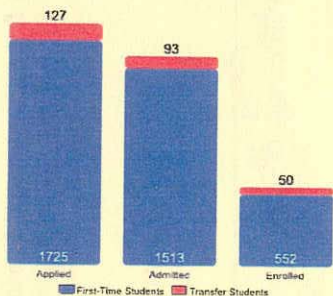
Included in the institutional profile is information about admissions, enrollment, academics, student demographics, graduation rates, most common fields of study, transfer of credit policy, accreditation, faculty information, class size, tuition and fee trends, price of attendance, financial aid, campus housing, student life, and campus safety. In the future, U-CAN profiles also will include information identified by policymakers as important for accountability. The OIE is currently developing a two page “assessment summary” to add to our U-CAN profile. St. Norbert College’s U-Can profile appears on Page 4.

## About St. Norbert College

Intellectually, spiritually and personally challenging, St. Norbert offers small class sizes, individual attention and faculty members who make student success their top priority. Students have 40-plus programs to choose from, and a multitude of internship opportunities. Students can study abroad at 75 program sites on six continents. Undergraduates here regularly experience graduate-level collaborative research with faculty. Academic advisors guide students throughout their college career, and an active alumni community provides valuable career networking.

## About Our Students

### Admissions

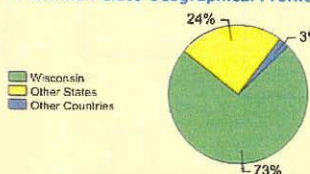


### Middle 50% ACT Range For Freshman Class

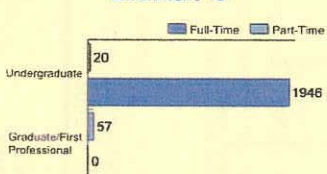
English	21-27
Mathematics	20-27
Reading	22-28
Science	22-26

Average High School GPA of Freshman Class: 3.27

### Freshman Class Geographical Profile



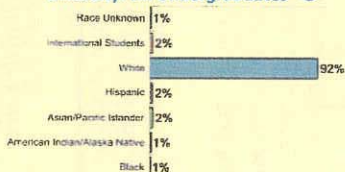
### Enrollment



### Gender: All Undergraduates

Women	56%
Men	44%

### Diversity: All Undergraduates



### Freshmen Returning For Sophomore Year:

80%

## About Our Graduates

### Percentage of Students Who Graduate\*

Within 4 Years	66%
Within 5 Years	70%
Within 6 Years	72%

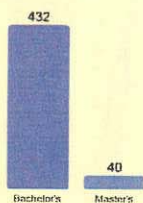
\* St. Norbert exemplifies its commitment to student success by holding the best four-year graduation rate in Wisconsin, making St. Norbert an exceptional value.

### Thinking About Life After College

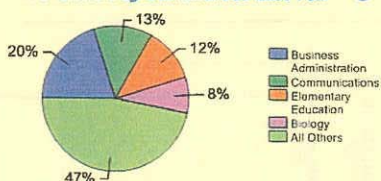


For more information click on the topics listed above.

### Number of Degrees Awarded Last Year

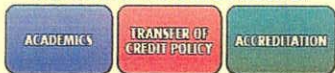


### Bachelor's Degrees Awarded Last Year\*



\* More than 40 programs and several pre-professional programs available, or design your own major. Now earn a Bellin College of Nursing degree here, also.

### Click here for more information on

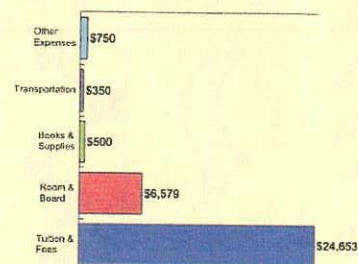


[Click Here To Go To Page 2](#)

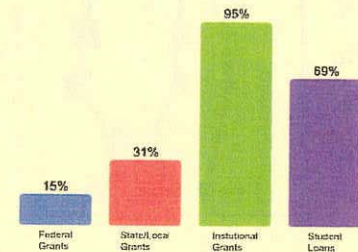
FOR MORE ABOUT OUR STUDENTS  
[CLICK HERE](#)

## What Students Pay

### Price of Attendance in 2007-08



### Percent of Freshmen Receiving Aid by Type



### 2006 Average Net Tuition for Aided Undergraduates \*

\$11,121

\* Net tuition for each individual student may be lower or higher depending on family income and student eligibility and availability of grant aid.

For additional information from our institution [click here.](#)

### Tuition and Fees History



### About Our Faculty

#### Faculty Information

Student Faculty Ratio	14:1
Full-time Faculty with highest degree	92%

#### Undergraduate Class Size

Number of Students	2-19	20-39	40-99	100+	Total
Number of Classes	190	173	6	0	369

## About Campus Life

### What it's Like on Our Campus

St. Norbert is a riverfront residential campus where students are actively involved in academic exploration, service, athletics, study abroad and leadership. Internships are encouraged. Students note the sense of community and world-wide opportunities, and love the campus so much, they refer to St. Norbert as "home."



### Student Life



For more information click on the topics listed above.

### Campus Safety

Student safety is of utmost importance. A member of ConnectED emergency information system, immediate notifications are sent campus-wide should emergency situations occur. Campus Safety offers escorts or mobile transports to anyone on campus needing safe transport during evening hours. Lighted "blue phones" are visible around campus for emergency needs.

[Click here for Campus Safety Measures.](#)

[Click here to see our Campus Safety Report.](#)

[Click Here to find out more about our faculty.](#)



[Click Here To Go Back To Page 1](#)