

# Stephen F. Austin State University Student Satisfaction Inventory Spring 2012

Prepared by The Office of Institutional Research

#### **Stephen F. Austin State University**

#### **Student Satisfaction Inventory**

#### Spring 2012

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# Stephen F. Austin State University Student Satisfaction Inventory Spring 2012

#### **Executive Summary**

In 1999, the Texas legislature passed a bill (SB1563) requiring state agencies to assess "customer satisfaction". Approximately 87% of the 11,917 Stephen F. Austin State University (SFA) students in Spring 2012 enrolled as undergraduates. To meet the 2012 requirement, SFA surveyed a sample of students classified as full-time undergraduate students during the spring semester. In addition to fulfilling state requirements, the survey collected selected benchmarks for the SFA strategic plan.

The web-based survey was completed by 415 students (10% of the selected sample). Table 1 shows detailed survey population demographics. Table 2 displays results related to the *2013 Strategic Plan – Preparing for the Future*.

#### **Methodology**

Students to be surveyed were randomly selected from a percentage of the students in each of the university colleges in order to represent the total enrollment population. The Noel-Levitz Student Satisfaction Inventory (SSI) invitation was e-mailed to 4000 full-time SFA undergraduates on Wednesday, March 21, 2012. Two survey reminder emails were sent on April 2, 2012 and April 13, 2012. The survey closed on April 23, 2012, giving the students 34 days to complete the survey. The Office of Institutional Research received both raw data results and prepared reports from Noel-Levitz.

#### Results

#### Legislation Customer Service Categories

Texas legislation requires survey results for seven specific customer service categories. Survey means for the categories are provided by question in Table 7. Legislation category means are provided below.

#### Response Scale = 1 (low) - 7 (high)

	<u>Importance</u>	<u>Satisfaction</u>
Facilities	6.37	5.28
Staff	6.31	5.54
Internet Sites	6.23	5.80
Complaint-Handling	6.23	5.05
Service Timeliness	6.37	5.51
Printed Information	6.07	5.63
Communication	6.30	5.18

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#### SSI Benchmark Categories

The Noel-Levitz Student Satisfaction Inventory evaluates student satisfaction in 12 categories. Table 3 summarizes responses by category and individual questions. Category survey response means are provided below.

	<u>R</u> (	<u>esponse Scale =</u>	<u>: 1 (low) – 7 (hig</u>	<u>h)</u>
	<u>SF</u>	<u>-A</u>	Nat'l Pub	lic 4-Year
	<u>Importance</u>	<u>Satisfaction</u>	<u>Importance</u>	<u>Satisfaction</u>
Student Centeredness	6.28	5.56	6.14	5.21
Campus Life	5.97	5.39	5.78	5.03
Instructional Effectiveness	6.43	5.70	6.37	5.36
Recruitment & Financial Aid	6.36	5.31	6.21	4.97
Campus Support Services	6.20	5.75	6.10	5.41
Academic Advising	6.49	5.84	6.38	5.36
Registration Effectiveness	6.36	5.37	6.25	5.11
Safety & Security	6.47	5.04	6.32	4.69
Concern for the Individual	6.31	5.46	6.17	5.11
Service Excellence	6.22	5.32	6.08	5.06
Responsiveness to Diverse Populations	N/A	5.47	N/A	5.24
Campus Climate	6.28	5.49	6.16	5.20

#### Strengths

Strengths are items with high importance and high satisfaction. They are specifically defined as items above the midpoint in importance and in the upper quartile of SFA's satisfaction scores.

Thirteen items were identified as strengths for SFA. Eight of these strengths are categorized as Instructional Effectiveness items. The remaining strength items relate to Academic Advising, Campus Climate, Campus Life, and Student Centeredness. All categorized items identified as strengths also received higher satisfaction scores versus other four-year public institutions. Table 4 lists individual items identified as strengths in Spring 2012.

#### Challenges

Challenges are items with high importance and low satisfaction. They are specifically defined as items above the midpoint in importance and in the lowest quartile of SFA's satisfaction scores. Table 5 provides individual items identified as challenges in Spring 2012.

#### **Enrollment Factors**

Table 6 lists items that indicate students' factors in their decision to enroll. Students indicated that cost was the most important factor in the decision to enroll, while the opportunity to play sports was the least important.

#### Conclusion

In the SSI, questions in the Instructional Effectiveness benchmark consistently appear as strengths for SFA from year to year. Instructional Effectiveness questions addressing the quality of instruction, course offerings, and faculty prove students appreciate SFA's commitment to the effectiveness of instructional efforts. SSI questions also indicate students value SFA's dedication to quality academic advising.

SSI questions related to recruitment, financial aid, registration, and campus safety indicate areas for investigation. Not only do these areas seem to consistently appear as challenges on the SSI, but satisfaction rates to some questions have also declined from 2010 to 2012. Additionally, instructional effectiveness items addressing faculty interactions with students suggest areas for inquiry.

#### **Table 1: Population Demographics**

	Number of Responses	% of all Responses
Total	415	100%
BY CATEGORY:		
Gender		
Male	113	27.2%
Female	291	70.1%
Unknown	11	2.7%
Age		
18 and under	49	11.8%
19 to 24	291	70.1%
25 to 34	33	8.0%
35 to 44	25	6.0%
45 and over No Answer	10 7	2.4% 1.7%
Race	1	1.70
African-American	71	17.1%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0	0.0%
Asian or Pacific Islander	7	1.7%
Hispanic	39	9.4%
White/Non-Hispanic	271	65.3%
Other	6	1.4%
Unknown	21	5.1%
Classification		
Freshman	107	25.8%
Sophomore	75	18.1%
Junior	120	28.9%
Senior	104	25.1%
Special Student	1	0.2%
No Answer	8	1.9%
Current GPA		
No Credits Earned	3	0.7%
1.99 or below	21	5.1%
2.0 - 2.49	46	11.1%
2.5 - 2.99	99	23.9%
3.0 - 3.49	126	30.4%
3.5 or above	107	25.8%
No Answer	13	3.1%

NOTE: Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Table 2: Responses Related to SFA 2013 - Preparing for the Future

QUESTION CATEGORIES	2010	Response		2012	Response		Percent		
Response scale: Response of 1 indicates not		(N = 384) (N = 415)					Change in Satisfaction		
important/ satisfied at all, while 7 indicates very	Importance	Satisfaction	Performance	Importance	Satisfaction	Performance	(2010 to		
important/ satisfied. Response of 4 = neutral.	(1 - 7)	(1 - 7)	Gap*	(1 - 7)	(1 - 7)	Gap*	2012)		
Strategic Plan - Initiative 1: Enhance excellence in teaching & learning, research, scholarship, creative work, & s									
3. Faculty care about me as an individual.	6.36	5.52	0.84	6.26	5.41	0.85	-2.0%		
The content of the courses within my major is valuable.	6.69	5.80	0.89	6.60	5.89	0.71	1.6%		
16. The instruction in my major field is excellent.	6.73	5.87	0.86	6.64	5.87	0.77	0.0%		
25. Faculty are fair and unbiased in their treatment of individual students.	6.49	5.42	1.07	6.44	5.47	0.97	0.9%		
39. I am able to experience intellectual growth here.	6.59	5.83	0.76	6.50	5.90	0.60	1.2%		
41. There is a commitment to academic excellence on this campus.	6.51	5.51	1.00	6.44	5.60	0.84	1.6%		
46. I can easily get involved in campus organizations.	6.15	5.62	0.53	6.07	5.71	0.36	1.6%		
47. Faculty provide timely feedback about student progress in a course.	6.55	5.28	1.27	6.46	5.39	1.07	2.1%		
53. Faculty take into consideration student differences as they teach a course.	6.38	5.18	1.20	6.30	5.34	0.96	3.1%		
58. The quality of instruction I receive in most of my classes is excellent.	6.71	5.77	0.94	6.55	5.80	0.75	0.5%		
61. Adjunct faculty are competent as classroom instructors.	6.33	5.70	0.63	6.19	5.69	0.50	-0.2%		
65. Faculty are usually available after class and during office hours.	6.55	5.91	0.64	6.41	5.92	0.49	0.2%		
68. Nearly all of the faculty are knowledgeable in their field.	6.65	6.08	0.57	6.55	6.03	0.52	-0.8%		
69. There is a good variety of courses provided on this campus.	6.57	5.96	0.61	6.38	5.95	0.43	-0.2%		
70. Graduate teaching assistants are competent as classroom instructors.	6.30	5.38	0.92	6.28	5.52	0.76	2.6%		
79. My coursework is academically challenging.	6.33	6.04	0.29	6.24	5.98	0.26	-1.0%		

Table 2: Responses Related to SFA 2013 - Preparing for the Future

QUESTION CATEGORIES	2010	Response (N = 384		2012			
Response scale: Response of 1 indicates not important/ satisfied at all, while 7 indicates very	Importance	Satisfaction	Performance	Importance	Satisfaction		Change in Satisfaction (2010 to
important/ satisfied. Response of 4 = neutral.	(1 - 7)	(1 - 7)	Gap*	(1 - 7)	(1 - 7)	Gap*	2012)
Strategic Plan - Initiative 1: Enhance excellence in t (continued)	eaching 8	learning,	research, s	cholarshi	p, creative	e work, & s	ervice
80. My coursework emphasizes critical thinking skills through the analysis and organization of ideas or information.	6.34	6.07	0.27	6.32	5.99	0.33	-1.3%
81. The number of course-assigned readings with textbooks, books or book-length packs is adequate.	6.11	5.62	0.49	6.13	5.65	0.48	0.5%
82. My assignments include written papers and reports between 5 and 19 pages.	5.00	5.33	-0.33	5.03	5.39	-0.36	1.1%
83. My assignments include written papers and reports of fewer than 5 pages.	5.62	5.47	0.15	5.58	5.65	-0.07	3.3%
Strategic Plan - Initiative 4: Develop a learner-cente	red enviro	onment					
Most students feel a sense of belonging here.	6.06	5.44	0.62	5.97	5.40	0.57	-0.7%
2. The campus staff are caring and helpful.	6.45	5.54	0.91	6.38	5.48	0.90	-1.1%
3. Faculty care about me as an individual.	6.36	5.52	0.84	6.26	5.41	0.85	-2.0%
4. Admissions staff are knowledgeable.	6.35	5.41	0.94	6.38	5.51	0.87	1.8%
5. Financial aid counselors are helpful.	6.43	5.31	1.12	6.38	5.18	1.20	-2.4%
6. My academic advisor is approachable.	6.57	6.06	0.51	6.52	6.05	0.47	-0.2%
10. Administrators are approachable to students.	6.13	5.39	0.74	6.10	5.44	0.66	0.9%
12. Financial aid awards are announced to students in time to be helpful in college planning.	6.50	5.23	1.27	6.45	5.12	1.33	-2.1%
13. Library staff are helpful and approachable.	6.01	5.67	0.34	6.02	5.73	0.29	1.1%
14. My academic advisor is concerned about my success as an individual.	6.56	5.75	0.81	6.45	5.72	0.73	-0.5%

Table 2: Responses Related to SFA 2013 - Preparing for the Future

QUESTION CATEGORIES	2010	Response	e Mean	2012	Response	e Mean	Percent		
Response scale: Response of 1 indicates not		(N = 384)	)		(N = 415)	)	Change in Satisfaction		
important/ satisfied at all, while 7 indicates very	Importance	Satisfaction	Performance	Importance	Satisfaction	Performance	(2010 to		
important/ satisfied. Response of 4 = neutral.	(1 - 7)	(1 - 7)	Gap*	(1 - 7)	(1 - 7)	Gap*	2012)		
Strategic Plan - Initiative 4: Develop a learner-centered environment (continued)									
16. The instruction in my major field is excellent.	6.73	5.87	0.86	6.64	5.87	0.77	0.0%		
17. Adequate financial aid is available for most students.	6.55	5.00	1.55	6.52	5.03	1.49	0.6%		
18. Library resources and services are adequate.	6.34	5.76	0.58	6.25	5.82	0.43	1.0%		
19. My academic advisor helps me set goals to work toward.	6.33	5.42	0.91	6.39	5.65	0.74	4.2%		
22. Counseling staff care about students as individuals.	6.31	5.42	0.89	6.30	5.49	0.81	1.3%		
25. Faculty are fair and unbiased in their treatment of individual students.	6.49	5.42	1.07	6.44	5.47	0.97	0.9%		
26. Computer labs are adequate and accessible.	6.40	5.62	0.78	6.21	5.94	0.27	5.7%		
27. The personnel involved in registration are helpful.	6.36	5.45	0.91	6.35	5.51	0.84	1.1%		
29. It is an enjoyable experience to be a student on this campus.	6.56	5.71	0.85	6.46	5.77	0.69	1.1%		
30. Residence hall staff are concerned about me as an individual.	6.01	4.76	1.25	5.95	5.13	0.82	7.8%		
32. Tutoring services are readily available.	6.30	5.88	0.42	6.25	6.00	0.25	2.0%		
33. My academic advisor is knowledgeable about requirements in my major.	6.71	6.04	0.67	6.57	6.01	0.56	-0.5%		
39. I am able to experience intellectual growth here.	6.59	5.83	0.76	6.50	5.90	0.60	1.2%		
41. There is a commitment to academic excellence on this campus.	6.51	5.51	1.00	6.44	5.60	0.84	1.6%		
43. Admissions counselors respond to prospective students' unique needs and requests.	6.24	5.44	0.80	6.20	5.55	0.65	2.0%		
44. Academic support services adequately meet the needs of students.	6.29	5.57	0.72	6.29	5.73	0.56	2.9%		

Table 2: Responses Related to SFA 2013 - Preparing for the Future

QUESTION CATEGORIES	2010	Response	e Mean	2012	Response	e Mean	Percent		
Response scale: Response of 1 indicates not		(N = 384)	)		(N = 415	)	Change in Satisfaction		
important/ satisfied at all, while 7 indicates very	Importance	Satisfaction	Performance	Importance	Satisfaction	Performance	(2010 to		
important/ satisfied. Response of $4 = neutral$ .	(1 - 7)	(1 - 7)	Gap*	(1 - 7)	(1 - 7)	Gap*	2012)		
Strategic Plan - Initiative 4: Develop a learner-centered environment (continued)									
45. Students are made to feel welcome on this campus.	6.44	5.80	0.64	6.40	5.84	0.56	0.7%		
48. Admissions counselors accurately portray the campus in their recruiting practices.	6.34	5.42	0.92	6.23	5.51	0.72	1.7%		
49. There are adequate services to help me decide upon a career.	6.41	5.38	1.03	6.30	5.60	0.70	4.1%		
55. Major requirements are clear and reasonable.	6.62	5.64	0.98	6.50	5.74	0.76	1.8%		
59. This institution shows concern for students as individuals.	6.48	5.39	1.09	6.39	5.46	0.93	1.3%		
Strategic Plan - Initiative 5: Create new learning opp	ortunites	through	.interdiscip	linaryex	periences	•			
62. There is a strong commitment to racial harmony on this campus.	6.03	5.24	0.79	6.07	5.40	0.67	3.1%		
87. Institution's commitment to under-represented populations?	N/A	5.53	N/A	N/A	5.46	N/A	-1.3%		
Strategic Plan - Initiative 6: Increase the visibility of	the unive	rsity thro	ugh market	ing initiati	ves				
51. This institution has a good reputation within the community.	6.28	5.73	0.55	6.27	5.81	0.46	1.4%		
75. The SFA Web site (www.sfasu.edu) portrays a professional look.	6.02	6.16	-0.14	6.05	5.97	0.08	-3.1%		
76. The SFA Web site (www.sfasu.edu) easily provides the information I need.	6.49	5.62	0.87	6.41	5.62	0.79	0.0%		
78. Printed information published by SFA departments and offices is helpful.	6.21	5.67	0.54	6.07	5.63	0.44	-0.7%		

QUESTION CATEGORIES	2010	Response (N = 384)	Mean	2012	Response (N = 415)		Percent Change in
Response scale: Response of 1 indicates not important/ satisfied at all, while 7 indicates very important/ satisfied. Response of 4 = neutral.	Importance (1 - 7)	Satisfaction (1 - 7)	Performance Gap*	Importance (1 - 7)		Performance Gap*	Satisfaction (2010 to 2012)
Student Centeredness	6.35	5.54	0.81	6.28	5.56	0.72	0.4%
Most students feel a sense of belonging here.	6.06	5.44	0.62	5.97	5.40	0.57	-0.7%
The campus staff are caring and helpful.	6.45	5.54	0.91	6.38	5.48	0.90	-1.1%
10. Administrators are approachable to students.	6.13	5.39	0.74	6.10	5.44	0.66	0.9%
29. It is an enjoyable experience to be a student on this campus.	6.56	5.71	0.85	6.46	5.77	0.69	1.1%
45. Students are made to feel welcome on this campus.	6.44	5.80	0.64	6.40	5.84	0.56	0.7%
59. This institution shows concern for students as individuals.	6.48	5.39	1.09	6.39	5.46	0.93	1.3%
Campus Life	6.04	5.30	0.74	5.97	5.39	0.58	1.7%
A variety of intramural activities are offered.	5.12	5.66	-0.54	5.16	5.76	-0.60	1.8%
23. Living conditions in the residence halls are comfortable.	6.46	4.43	2.03	6.29	4.73	1.56	6.8%
24. The intercollegiate athletic programs contribute to a strong sense of school spirit.	5.71	5.39	0.32	5.68	5.35	0.33	-0.7%
30. Residence hall staff are concerned about me as an individual.	6.01	4.76	1.25	5.95	5.13	0.82	7.8%
31. Males and females have equal opportunities to participate in intercollegiate athletics.	5.80	5.81	-0.01	5.67	5.70	-0.03	-1.9%
38. There is an adequate selection of food available in the cafeteria.	6.32	4.29	2.03	6.23	4.76	1.47	11.0%
40. Residence hall regulations are reasonable.	6.20	5.07	1.13	6.02	5.19	0.83	2.4%
42. There are a sufficient number of weekend activities for students.	5.84	5.18	0.66	5.74	5.21	0.53	0.6%
46. I can easily get involved in campus organizations.	6.15	5.62	0.53	6.07	5.71	0.36	1.6%
52. The student center is a comfortable place for students to spend their leisure time.	6.19	5.92	0.27	6.01	5.78	0.23	-2.4%

QUESTION CATEGORIES	2010	Response	Mean	2012	Response		Percent
Response scale: Response of 1 indicates not important/		(N = 384)			(N = 415)		Change in Satisfaction
satisfied at all, while 7 indicates very important/ satisfied.	Importance		Performance	Importance		Performance	(2010 to 2012)
Response of 4 = neutral.	(1 - 7)	(1 - 7)	Gap*	(1 - 7)	(1 - 7)	Gap*	2012)
Campus Life (continued)	6.04	5.30	0.74	5.97	5.39	0.58	1.7%
56. The student handbook provides helpful information about campus life.	5.98	5.43	0.55	5.86	5.43	0.43	0.0%
63. Student disciplinary procedures are fair.	6.24	5.66	0.58	6.19	5.63	0.56	-0.5%
64. New student orientation services help students adjust to college.	6.20	5.43	0.77	6.22	5.61	0.61	3.3%
67. Freedom of expression is protected on campus.	6.28	5.67	0.61	6.30	5.68	0.62	0.2%
73. Student activities fees are put to good use.	6.27	4.88	1.39	6.25	4.92	1.33	0.8%
Instructional Effectiveness	6.53	5.66	0.87	6.43	5.70	0.73	0.7%
3. Faculty care about me as an individual.	6.36	5.52	0.84	6.26	5.41	0.85	-2.0%
8. The content of the courses within my major is valuable.	6.69	5.80	0.89	6.60	5.89	0.71	1.6%
16. The instruction in my major field is excellent.	6.73	5.87	0.86	6.64	5.87	0.77	0.0%
25. Faculty are fair and unbiased in their treatment of individual students.	6.49	5.42	1.07	6.44	5.47	0.97	0.9%
39. I am able to experience intellectual growth here.	6.59	5.83	0.76	6.50	5.90	0.60	1.2%
41. There is a commitment to academic excellence on this campus.	6.51	5.51	1.00	6.44	5.60	0.84	1.6%
47. Faculty provide timely feedback about student progress in a course.	6.55	5.28	1.27	6.46	5.39	1.07	2.1%
53. Faculty take into consideration student differences as they teach a course.	6.38	5.18	1.20	6.30	5.34	0.96	3.1%
58. The quality of instruction I receive in most of my classes is excellent.	6.71	5.77	0.94	6.55	5.80	0.75	0.5%
61. Adjunct faculty are competent as classroom instructors.	6.33	5.70	0.63	6.19	5.69	0.50	-0.2%
65. Faculty are usually available after class and during office hours.	6.55	5.91	0.64	6.41	5.92	0.49	0.2%

QUESTION CATEGORIES	2010	Response (N = 384)	Mean	2012	Response (N = 415)	Mean	Percent Change in
Response scale: Response of 1 indicates not important/ satisfied at all, while 7 indicates very important/ satisfied.	Importance	Satisfaction	Performance	Importance	Satisfaction	Performance	Satisfaction (2010 to
Response of 4 = neutral.	(1 - 7)	(1 - 7)	Gap*	(1 - 7)	(1 - 7)	Gap*	2012)
Instructional Effectiveness (continued)	6.53	5.66	0.87	6.43	5.70	0.73	0.7%
68. Nearly all of the faculty are knowledgeable in their field.	6.65	6.08	0.57	6.55	6.03	0.52	-0.8%
69. There is a good variety of courses provided on this campus.	6.57	5.96	0.61	6.38	5.95	0.43	-0.2%
70. Graduate teaching assistants are competent as classroom instructors.	6.30	5.38	0.92	6.28	5.52	0.76	2.6%
79. My coursework is academically challenging.	6.33	6.04	0.29	6.24	5.98	0.26	-1.0%
80. My coursework emphasizes critical thinking skills through the analysis and organization of ideas or information.	6.34	6.07	0.27	6.32	5.99	0.33	-1.3%
81. The number of course-assigned readings with textbooks, books or book-length packs is adequate.	6.11	5.62	0.49	6.13	5.65	0.48	0.5%
82. My assignments include written papers and reports between 5 and 19 pages.	5.00	5.33	-0.33	5.03	5.39	-0.36	1.1%
83. My assignments include written papers and reports of fewer than 5 pages.	5.62	5.47	0.15	5.58	5.65	-0.07	3.3%
Recruitment and Financial Aid	6.40	5.30	1.10	6.36	5.31	1.05	0.2%
Admissions staff are knowledgeable.	6.35	5.41	0.94	6.38	5.51	0.87	1.8%
5. Financial aid counselors are helpful.	6.43	5.31	1.12	6.38	5.18	1.20	-2.4%
12. Financial aid awards are announced to students in time to be helpful in college planning.	6.50	5.23	1.27	6.45	5.12	1.33	-2.1%
17. Adequate financial aid is available for most students.	6.55	5.00	1.55	6.52	5.03	1.49	0.6%
43. Admissions counselors respond to prospective students' unique needs and requests.	6.24	5.44	0.80	6.20	5.55	0.65	2.0%
48. Admissions counselors accurately portray the campus in their recruiting practices.	6.34	5.42	0.92	6.23	5.51	0.72	1.7%

QUESTION CATEGORIES	2010	Response (N = 384)		2012	Response (N = 415)		Percent Change in
Response scale: Response of 1 indicates not important/ satisfied at all, while 7 indicates very important/ satisfied. Response of 4 = neutral.	Importance (1 - 7)	Satisfaction (1 - 7)	Performance Gap*	Importance (1 - 7)	Satisfaction (1 - 7)	Performance Gap*	Satisfaction (2010 to 2012)
Campus Support Services	6.26	5.63	0.63	6.20	5.75	0.45	2.1%
13. Library staff are helpful and approachable.	6.01	5.67	0.34	6.02	5.73	0.29	1.1%
18. Library resources and services are adequate.	6.34	5.76	0.58	6.25	5.82	0.43	1.0%
26. Computer labs are adequate and accessible.	6.40	5.62	0.78	6.21	5.94	0.27	5.7%
32. Tutoring services are readily available.	6.30	5.88	0.42	6.25	6.00	0.25	2.0%
44. Academic support services adequately meet the needs of students.	6.29	5.57	0.72	6.29	5.73	0.56	2.9%
49. There are adequate services to help me decide upon a career.	6.41	5.38	1.03	6.30	5.60	0.70	4.1%
54. Bookstore staff are helpful.	6.11	5.51	0.60	6.10	5.46	0.64	-0.9%
74. The online degree audit feature in MySFA (which shows courses required for degree completion) is useful.	6.41	5.62	0.79	6.22	5.54	0.68	-1.4%
75. The SFA Web site (www.sfasu.edu) portrays a professional look.	6.02	6.16	-0.14	6.05	5.97	0.08	-3.1%
76. The SFA Web site (www.sfasu.edu) easily provides the information I need.	6.49	5.62	0.87	6.41	5.62	0.79	0.0%
77. SFA provides adequate technical support to students using computing and information technology on and off campus.	6.41	5.68	0.73	6.36	5.52	0.84	-2.8%
78. Printed information published by SFA departments and offices is helpful.	6.21	5.67	0.54	6.07	5.63	0.44	-0.7%

QUESTION CATEGORIES  Response scale: Response of 1 indicates not important/	2010	Response (N = 384)	Mean	2012	Response (N = 415)	Mean	Percent Change in
satisfied at all, while 7 indicates very important/ satisfied.  Response of 4 = neutral.	Importance (1 - 7)	Satisfaction (1 - 7)	Performance Gap*	Importance (1 - 7)	Satisfaction (1 - 7)	Performance Gap*	Satisfaction (2010 to 2012)
Academic Advising	6.56	5.79	0.77	6.49	5.84	0.65	0.9%
6. My academic advisor is approachable.	6.57	6.06	0.51	6.52	6.05	0.47	-0.2%
14. My academic advisor is concerned about my success as an individual.	6.56	5.75	0.81	6.45	5.72	0.73	-0.5%
19. My academic advisor helps me set goals to work toward.	6.33	5.42	0.91	6.39	5.65	0.74	4.2%
33. My academic advisor is knowledgeable about requirements in my major.	6.71	6.04	0.67	6.57	6.01	0.56	-0.5%
55. Major requirements are clear and reasonable.	6.62	5.64	0.98	6.50	5.74	0.76	1.8%
Registration Effectiveness	6.37	5.42	0.95	6.36	5.37	0.99	-0.9%
11. Billing policies are reasonable.	6.34	5.18	1.16	6.42	4.95	1.47	-4.4%
20. The business office is open during hours which are convenient for most students.	6.19	5.49	0.70	6.21	5.52	0.69	0.5%
27. The personnel involved in registration are helpful.	6.36	5.45	0.91	6.35	5.51	0.84	1.1%
34. I am able to register for classes I need with few conflicts.	6.67	5.24	1.43	6.58	5.13	1.45	-2.1%
50. Class change (drop/add) policies are reasonable.	6.31	5.76	0.55	6.21	5.77	0.44	0.2%
Safety and Security	6.52	4.56	1.96	6.47	5.04	1.43	10.5%
7. The campus is safe and secure for all students.	6.61	5.40	1.21	6.58	5.68	0.90	5.2%
21. The amount of student parking space on campus is adequate.	6.45	2.62	3.83	6.37	3.48	2.89	32.8%
28. Parking lots are well-lighted and secure.	6.39	4.96	1.43	6.42	5.46	0.96	10.1%
36. Security staff respond quickly in emergencies.	6.64	5.62	1.02	6.54	5.75	0.79	2.3%

QUESTION CATEGORIES	2010	Response (N = 384)	Mean	2012	Response (N = 415)		Percent Change in
Response scale: Response of 1 indicates not important/ satisfied at all, while 7 indicates very important/ satisfied. Response of 4 = neutral.	Importance (1 - 7)		Performance Gap*	Importance (1 - 7)		Performance Gap*	Satisfaction (2010 to 2012)
Concern for the Individual	6.39	5.41	0.98	6.31	5.46	0.85	0.9%
3. Faculty care about me as an individual.	6.36	5.52	0.84	6.26	5.41	0.85	-2.0%
14. My academic advisor is concerned about my success as an individual.	6.56	5.75	0.81	6.45	5.72	0.73	-0.5%
22. Counseling staff care about students as individuals.	6.31	5.42	0.89	6.30	5.49	0.81	1.3%
25. Faculty are fair and unbiased in their treatment of individual students.	6.49	5.42	1.07	6.44	5.47	0.97	0.9%
30. Residence hall staff are concerned about me as an individual.	6.01	4.76	1.25	5.95	5.13	0.82	7.8%
59. This institution shows concern for students as individuals.	6.48	5.39	1.09	6.39	5.46	0.93	1.3%
Service Excellence	6.28	5.22	1.06	6.22	5.32	0.90	1.9%
The campus staff are caring and helpful.	6.45	5.54	0.91	6.38	5.48	0.90	-1.1%
13. Library staff are helpful and approachable.	6.01	5.67	0.34	6.02	5.73	0.29	1.1%
15. The staff in the health services area are competent.	6.29	4.64	1.65	6.23	5.01	1.22	8.0%
22. Counseling staff care about students as individuals.	6.31	5.42	0.89	6.30	5.49	0.81	1.3%
27. The personnel involved in registration are helpful.	6.36	5.45	0.91	6.35	5.51	0.84	1.1%
57. I seldom get the "run-around" when seeking information on this campus.	6.47	4.72	1.75	6.31	4.92	1.39	4.2%
60. I generally know what's happening on campus.	6.09	5.25	0.84	5.97	5.28	0.69	0.6%
71. Channels for expressing student complaints are readily available.	6.27	4.96	1.31	6.23	5.05	1.18	1.8%

QUESTION CATEGORIES	2010	Response (N = 384)	Mean	2012	Percent Change in		
Response scale: Response of 1 indicates not important/	Importance		Performance	Importance	(N = 415) Satisfaction	Performance	Satisfaction
satisfied at all, while 7 indicates very important/ satisfied.  Response of 4 = neutral.	(1 - 7)	(1 - 7)	Gap*	(1 - 7)	(1 - 7)	Gap*	(2010 to 2012)
Responsiveness to Diverse Populations	N/A	5.53	N/A	N/A	5.47	N/A	-1.1%
84. Institution's commitment to part-time students?	N/A	5.66	N/A	N/A	5.42	N/A	-4.2%
85. Institution's commitment to evening students?	N/A	5.61	N/A	N/A	5.39	N/A	-3.9%
86. Institution's commitment to older, returning learners?	N/A	5.80	N/A	N/A	5.60	N/A	-3.4%
87. Institution's commitment to under-represented populations?	N/A	5.53	N/A	N/A	5.46	N/A	-1.3%
88. Institution's commitment to commuters?	N/A	4.82	N/A	N/A	5.11	N/A	6.0%
89. Institution's commitment to students with disabilities?	N/A	6.01	N/A	N/A	5.89	N/A	-2.0%
Campus Climate	6.34	5.43	0.91	6.28	5.49	0.79	1.1%
Most students feel a sense of belonging here.	6.06	5.44	0.62	5.97	5.40	0.57	-0.7%
The campus staff are caring and helpful.	6.45	5.54	0.91	6.38	5.48	0.90	-1.1%
3. Faculty care about me as an individual.	6.36	5.52	0.84	6.26	5.41	0.85	-2.0%
7. The campus is safe and secure for all students.	6.61	5.40	1.21	6.58	5.68	0.90	5.2%
10. Administrators are approachable to students.	6.13	5.39	0.74	6.10	5.44	0.66	0.9%
29. It is an enjoyable experience to be a student on this campus.	6.56	5.71	0.85	6.46	5.77	0.69	1.1%
37. I feel a sense of pride about my campus.	6.13	5.65	0.48	6.01	5.66	0.35	0.2%
41. There is a commitment to academic excellence on this campus.	6.51	5.51	1.00	6.44	5.60	0.84	1.6%
45. Students are made to feel welcome on this campus.	6.44	5.80	0.64	6.40	5.84	0.56	0.7%
51. This institution has a good reputation within the community.	6.28	5.73	0.55	6.27	5.81	0.46	1.4%

QUESTION CATEGORIES  Response scale: Response of 1 indicates not important/		Response (N = 384)		2012	Mean	Percent Change in	
satisfied at all, while 7 indicates very important/ satisfied.  Response of 4 = neutral.	Importance (1 - 7)	Satisfaction (1 - 7)	Performance Gap*	Importance (1 - 7)	Satisfaction (1 - 7)	Performance Gap*	Satisfaction (2010 to 2012)
Campus Climate (continued)	6.34	5.43	0.91	6.28	5.49	0.79	1.1%
57. I seldom get the "run-around" when seeking information on this campus.	6.47	4.72	1.75	6.31	4.92	1.39	4.2%
59. This institution shows concern for students as individuals.	6.48	5.39	1.09	6.39	5.46	0.93	1.3%
60. I generally know what's happening on campus.	6.09	5.25	0.84	5.97	5.28	0.69	0.6%
62. There is a strong commitment to racial harmony on this campus.	6.03	5.24	0.79	6.07	5.40	0.67	3.1%
66. Tuition paid is a worthwhile investment.	6.57	5.29	1.28	6.56	5.43	1.13	2.6%
67. Freedom of expression is protected on campus.	6.28	5.67	0.61	6.30	5.68	0.62	0.2%
71. Channels for expressing student complaints are readily available.	6.27	4.96	1.31	6.23	5.05	1.18	1.8%

#### Stephen F. Austin State University

#### **Student Satisfaction Inventory - Spring 2010 & Spring 2012**

Table 4: Items Identified as Strengths

QUESTION CATEGORIES	2010	Response	Mean	2012 l	Response	Mean	Percent
Response scale: Response of 1 indicates not important/		(N = 384)	1		(N = 415)		Change in
satisfied at all, while 7 indicates very important/ satisfied.  Response of 4 = neutral.	Importance (1 - 7)	Satisfaction (1 - 7)	Performance Gap**	Importance (1 - 7)	Satisfaction (1 - 7)	Performance Gap**	Satisfaction (2010 to 2012)
Academic Advising							
6. My academic advisor is approachable.*	6.57	6.06	0.51	6.52	6.05	0.47	-0.2%
14. My academic advisor is concerned about my success as an individual.*	6.56	5.75	0.81				
33. My academic advisor is knowledgeable about requirements in my major.*	6.71	6.04	0.67	6.57	6.01	0.56	-0.5%
Campus Climate							
45. Students are made to feel welcome on this campus.*	6.44	5.80	0.64	6.40	5.84	0.56	0.7%
Campus Life							
72. On the whole, the campus is well-maintained.*	6.50	6.02	0.48	6.42	6.09	0.33	1.2%
Campus Support Services							
18. Library resources and services are adequate.	6.34	5.76	0.58				
Instructional Effectiveness							
8. The content of the courses within my major is valuable.*	6.69	5.80	0.89	6.60	5.89	0.71	1.6%
16. The instruction in my major field is excellent.*	6.73	5.87	0.86	6.64	5.87	0.77	0.0%
39. I am able to experience intellectual growth here.*	6.59	5.83	0.76	6.50	5.90	0.60	1.2%
58. The quality of instruction I receive in most of my classes is excellent.*	6.71	5.77	0.94	6.55	5.80	0.75	0.5%
65. Faculty are usually available after class and during office hours.*	6.55	5.91	0.64	6.41	5.92	0.49	0.2%
68. Nearly all of the faculty are knowledgeable in their field.*	6.65	6.08	0.57	6.55	6.03	0.52	-0.8%
69. There is a good variety of courses provided on this campus.*	6.57	5.96	0.61	6.38	5.95	0.43	-0.2%
80. My coursework emphasizes critical thinking skills through the analysis and organization of ideas or information.	6.34	6.07	0.27	6.32	5.99	0.33	-1.3%
Student Centeredness							
29. It is an enjoyable experience to be a student on this campus.*				6.46	5.77	0.69	

NOTE: Items may appear in more than one category.

<sup>\*</sup>NOTE: Denotes items that received higher satisfaction scores in 2012 vs. other four-year public institutions.

<sup>\*\*</sup>NOTE: The Performance Gap is defined as the Importance Score minus the Satisfaction Score. The larger the Performance Gap, the greater the discrepancy between what students expect and their level of satisfaction with the current situation.

Table 5: Items Identified as Challenges

QUESTION CATEGORIES	2010	Response (N = 384)	Mean	2012	Response (N = 415)	Mean	Percent Change in
Response scale: Response of 1 indicates not important/ satisfied at all, while 7 indicates very important/ satisfied. Response of 4 = neutral.	Importance (1 - 7)	Satisfaction (1 - 7)	Performance Gap*	Importance (1 - 7)	Satisfaction (1 - 7)	Performance Gap*	Satisfaction (2010 to 2012)
Campus Climate							
57. I seldom get the "run-around" when seeking information on this campus.	6.47	4.72	1.75	6.31	4.92	1.39	4.2%
66. Tuition paid is a worthwhile investment.	6.57	5.29	1.28	6.56	5.43	1.13	2.6%
Campus Life							
23. Living conditions in the residence halls are comfortable (adequate space, lighting, heat, air, etc.)	6.46	4.43	2.03	6.29	4.73	1.56	6.8%
Concern for the Individual							
59. This institution shows concern for students as individuals.	6.48	5.39	1.09	6.39	5.46	0.93	1.3%
Instructional Effectiveness							
25. Faculty are fair and unbiased in their treatment of individual students.	6.49	5.42	1.07	6.44	5.47	0.97	0.9%
47. Faculty provide timely feedback about student progress in a course.	6.55	5.28	1.27	6.46	5.39	1.07	2.1%
53. Faculty take into consideration student differences as they teach a course.	6.38	5.18	1.20	6.30	5.34	0.96	3.1%
Recruitment & Financial Aid							
Admissions staff are knowledgeable.				6.38	5.51	0.87	
5. Financial aid counselors are helpful.	6.43	5.31	1.12	6.38	5.18	1.20	-2.4%
12. Financial aid awards are announced to students in time to be helpful in college planning.	6.50	5.23	1.27	6.45	5.12	1.33	-2.1%
17. Adequate financial aid is available for most students.	6.55	5.00	1.55	6.52	5.03	1.49	0.6%
Registration Effectiveness							
11. Billing policies are reasonable.	6.34	5.18	1.16	6.42	4.95	1.47	-4.4%
34. I am able to register for classes I need with few conflicts.	6.67	5.24	1.43	6.58	5.13	1.45	-2.1%
Safety & Security						T	
7. The campus is safe and secure for all students.	6.61	5.40	1.21	6.58	5.68	0.90	5.2%
21. The amount of student parking space on campus is adequate.	6.45	2.62	3.83	6.37	3.48	2.89	32.8%
28. Parking lots are well-lighted and secure.	6.39	4.96	1.43	6.42	5.46	0.96	10.1%
Service Excellence							
57. I seldom get the "run-around" when seeking information on this campus.	6.47	4.72	1.75				
Student Centeredness							
The campus staff are caring and helpful.				6.38	5.48	0.90	

NOTE: Items may appear in more than one category.

<sup>\*</sup>NOTE: The Performance Gap is defined as the Importance Score minus the Satisfaction Score. The larger the Performance Gap, the greater the discrepancy between what students expect and their level of satisfaction with the current situation.

#### **Table 6: Factors in Decision to Enroll**

	2010 Response Mean (N = 384)	2012 Response Mean (N = 415)
Response scale: Response of 1 indicates not important at all,	Importance	Importance
while 7 indicates very important. Response of $4 =$ neutral.	(1 - 7)	(1 - 7)
90. Cost as factor in decision to enroll.	6.19	6.26
oo. Goot as lactor in accident to enion.	0.10	0.20
91. Financial aid as factor in decision to enroll.	6.09	6.22
92. Academic reputation as factor in decision to enroll.	6.01	6.06
97. Campus appearance as factor in decision to enroll.	5.73	5.74
98. Personalized attention prior to enrollment as factor in decision to enroll.	5.67	5.73
93. Size of institution as factor in decision to enroll.	5.65	5.61
96. Geographic setting as factor in decision to enroll.	5.52	5.50
95. Recommendations from family/friends as factor in decision to enroll.	5.16	5.13
94. Opportunity to play sports as factor in decision to enroll.	3.48	3.81

**Table 7: Customer Service Responses** 

QUESTION CATEGORIES	2010 Response Mean (N = 384)			2012	Percent Change in		
Response scale: Response of 1 indicates not important/ satisfied at all, while 7 indicates very	Importance	Satisfaction	Performance	Importance	(N = 415) Satisfaction	Performance	Satisfaction (2010 to 2012)
important/ satisfied. Response of 4 = neutral.  Facilities	(1 - 7) <b>6.44</b>	(1 - 7) <b>4.87</b>	Gap*	(1 - 7) <b>6.37</b>	(1 - 7) <b>5.28</b>	Gap*	8.3%
7. The campus is safe and secure for all students.	6.61	5.40	1.21	6.58	5.68	0.90	5.2%
18. Library resources and services are adequate.	6.34	5.76	0.58	6.25	5.82	0.43	1.0%
21. The amount of student parking space on campus is adequate.	6.45	2.62	3.83	6.37	3.48	2.89	32.8%
26. Computer labs are adequate and accessible.	6.40	5.62	0.78	6.21	5.94	0.27	5.7%
28. Parking lots are well-lighted and secure.	6.39	4.96	1.43	6.42	5.46	0.96	10.1%
Staff	6.73	5.80	0.93	6.68	5.86	0.82	1.0%
2. The campus staff are caring and helpful.	6.45	5.54	0.91	6.38	5.48	0.90	-1.1%
3. Faculty care about me as an individual.	6.36	5.52	0.84	6.26	5.41	0.85	-2.0%
4. Admissions staff are knowledgeable.	6.35	5.41	0.94	6.38	5.51	0.87	1.8%
5. Financial aid counselors are helpful.	6.43	5.31	1.12	6.38	5.18	1.20	-2.4%
6. My academic advisor is approachable.	6.57	6.06	0.51	6.52	6.05	0.47	-0.2%
10. Administrators are approachable to students.	6.13	5.39	0.74	6.10	5.44	0.66	0.9%
13. Library staff are helpful and approachable.	6.01	5.67	0.34	6.02	5.73	0.29	1.1%
14. My academic advisor is concerned about my success as an individual.	6.56	5.75	0.81	6.45	5.72	0.73	-0.5%
15. The staff in the health services area are competent.	6.29	4.64	1.65	6.23	5.01	1.22	8.0%
19. My academic advisor helps me set goals to work toward.	6.33	5.42	0.91	6.39	5.65	0.74	4.2%
22. Counseling staff care about students as individuals.	6.31	5.42	0.89	6.30	5.49	0.81	1.3%
25. Faculty are fair and unbiased in their treatment of individual students.	6.49	5.42	1.07	6.44	5.47	0.97	0.9%
27. The personnel involved in registration are helpful.	6.36	5.45	0.91	6.35	5.51	0.84	1.1%
30. Residence hall staff are concerned about me as an individual.	6.01	4.76	1.25	5.95	5.13	0.82	7.8%

**Table 7: Customer Service Responses** 

QUESTION CATEGORIES	2010 Response Mean			2012	Percent		
Response scale: Response of 1 indicates not	Importance	(N = 384) Satisfaction	Performance	Importance	(N = 415) Satisfaction	Performance	Change in Satisfaction
important/ satisfied at all, while 7 indicates very important/ satisfied. Response of 4 = neutral.	(1 - 7)	(1 - 7)	Gap*	(1 - 7)	(1 - 7)	Gap*	(2010 to 2012)
Staff (continued)	6.72	5.80	0.92	6.66	5.84	0.83	0.6%
33. My academic advisor is knowledgeable about requirements in my major.	6.71	6.04	0.67	6.57	6.01	0.56	-0.5%
36. Security staff respond quickly in emergencies.	6.64	5.62	1.02	6.54	5.75	0.79	2.3%
54. Bookstore staff are helpful.	6.11	5.51	0.60	6.10	5.46	0.64	-0.9%
61. Adjunct faculty are competent as classroom instructors.	6.33	5.70	0.63	6.19	5.69	0.50	-0.2%
Internet Sites	6.26	5.89	0.36	6.23	5.80	0.44	-1.6%
75. The SFA Web site (www.sfasu.edu) portrays a professional look.	6.02	6.16	-0.14	6.05	5.97	0.08	-3.1%
76. The SFA Web site (www.sfasu.edu) easily provides the information I need.	6.49	5.62	0.87	6.41	5.62	0.79	0.0%
Complaint-Handling	6.27	4.96	1.31	6.23	5.05	1.18	1.8%
71. Channels for expressing student complaints are readily available.	6.27	4.96	1.31	6.23	5.05	1.18	1.8%
Service Timeliness	6.43	5.50	0.93	6.37	5.51	0.87	0.1%
12. Financial aid awards are announced to students in time to be helpful in college planning.	6.50	5.23	1.27	6.45	5.12	1.33	-2.1%
20. The business office is open during hours which are convenient for most students.	6.19	5.49	0.70	6.21	5.52	0.69	0.5%
34. I am able to register for classes I need with few conflicts.	6.67	5.24	1.43	6.58	5.13	1.45	-2.1%
44. Academic support services adequately meet the needs of students.	6.29	5.57	0.72	6.29	5.73	0.56	2.9%
49. There are adequate services to help me decide upon a career.	6.41	5.38	1.03	6.30	5.60	0.70	4.1%
65. Faculty are usually available after class and during office hours.	6.55	5.91	0.64	6.41	5.92	0.49	0.2%
77. SFA provides adequate technical support to students using computing and information technology on and off campus.	6.41	5.68	0.73	6.36	5.52	0.84	-2.8%
Printed Information	6.21	5.67	0.54	6.07	5.63	0.44	-0.7%
78. Printed information published by SFA departments and offices is helpful.	6.21	5.67	0.54	6.07	5.63	0.44	-0.7%

**Table 7: Customer Service Responses** 

QUESTION CATEGORIES  Response scale: Response of 1 indicates not	2010	Response (N = 384)	Mean	2012	Percent Change in		
important/ satisfied at all, while 7 indicates very important/ satisfied. Response of 4 = neutral.	Importance (1 - 7)	Satisfaction (1 - 7)	Performance Gap*	Importance (1 - 7)	Satisfaction (1 - 7)	Performance Gap*	Satisfaction (2010 to 2012)
Communications	6.40	5.12	1.28	6.30	5.18	1.12	1.1%
12. Financial aid awards are announced to students in time to be helpful in college planning.	6.50	5.23	1.27	6.45	5.12	1.33	-2.1%
47. Faculty provide timely feedback about student progress in a course.	6.55	5.28	1.27	6.46	5.39	1.07	2.1%
57. I seldom get the "run-around" when seeking information on this campus.	6.47	4.72	1.75	6.31	4.92	1.39	4.2%
60. I generally know what's happening on campus.	6.09	5.25	0.84	5.97	5.28	0.69	0.6%