2023 National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)
Inclusive Polytechnic Identity Summary Report

Cal Poly Pomona (CPP) is deeply committed to ensuring an educational experience that fosters student learning and success for every student. As part of that commitment, the Office of Assessment and Program Review participates in the nationwide National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) every three years to gather information as to the extent to which CPP is meeting this commitment. This survey collects information from first-year and senior students about their participation in programs and activities, what they have gained from their classes, the quality of interactions with faculty and students, as well as their satisfaction with educationally-important activities. Survey results are used to understand and improve student learning and experiences, and also assists the institution in addressing potential equity gaps, and identifying additional resources to improve the undergraduate experience.

In the Spring 2023 semester, all first-year and senior students were invited to participate in the NSSE; approximately 22% of these students completed the survey. A variety of recruitment messages were used to encourage student participation, including emails from President Coley, messages displayed on students' Bronco portal, and advertisements posted in the library. The first 500 respondents were provided with $5 Bronco Bucks, and 10 seniors were randomly selected to receive $100 Bronco Bucks.

CPP's NSSE results were compared with three peer groups. The table below outlines the approximate number of first-year and senior respondents from each category. The list of institutions for each of the comparative groups are detailed in appendices A and B.

	Cal Poly Pomona	CSU[1]	Master's[2]	NSSE Total[3]
Institutions	N = 1	N = 14	N = 192	N = 789
First-year students	405	7,783	47,568	201,075
Seniors	813	15,420	57,856	221,707
Total	*1,218*	*23,203*	*105,424*	*422,782*

This report details the alignment of NSSE questions with the elements of CPP's inclusive polytechnic identity (figure below[4]). A summary of the findings is provided at the end of this report.

Cal Poly Pomona's Inclusive Polytechnic University

[1] Only those CSUs who participated in NSSE in 2022 and 2023.
[2] Carnegie Classification: Master's Colleges. and Universities. Only NSSE participants from 2022 and 2023.
[3] All institutions who participated in NSSE in 2022 and 2023.
[4] https://www.cpp.edu/academic-affairs/documents/academic_master_plan_2019-02-13_final.pdf

Application of Knowledge

Cal Poly Pomona's learn-by-doing philosophy is demonstrated in the university's commitment to a hands-on application of principles to address opportunities and challenges of the modern world, ensuring graduates are prepared to enter the workforce or graduate studies.

During the current school year, how much has your coursework emphasized:					
1 = Very little, 2 = Some, 3 = Quite a bit, 4 = Very much		**Mean Response**			
		CPP	**CSU**	**Master's L**	**NSSE TOTAL**
Applying facts, theories, or methods to practical problems or new solutions?	FY	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.9
	SR	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.1
Analyzing an idea, experience, or line of reasoning in depth by examining its parts?	FY	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.9
	SR	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.1
Evaluating a point of view, decision, or information source?	FY	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9
	SR	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Forming a new idea or understanding from various pieces of information?	FY	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9
	SR	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0

During the current school year, about how often have you done the following:					
1 = Never, 2 = Sometimes, 3 = Often, 4 = Very often		**Mean Response**			
		CPP	**CSU**	**Master's L**	**NSSE TOTAL**
Combined ideas from different courses when completing assignments?	FY	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.6
	SR	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9
Connected your learning to societal problems or issues?	FY	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6
	SR	2.7	2.8***	2.8***	2.8***
Included diverse perspectives (political, religious, racial/ethnic, gender, etc.) in course discussion or assignments?	FY	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6
	SR	2.5	2.7***	2.7***	2.7***
Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue?	FY	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8
	SR	2.8	2.9*	2.9*	2.9**
Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from their perspective?	FY	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9
	SR	2.9	3.0**	3.0	3.0
Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept?	FY	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9
	SR	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Connected ideas from your courses to your prior experiences and knowledge	FY	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.1
	SR	3.1	3.2**	3.2***	3.2***

Please note that these scores are significantly different from the corresponding CPP score, p < .05
**Please note that these scores are significantly different from the corresponding CPP score, p < .01*
***Please note that these scores are significantly different from the corresponding CPP score, p < .001*

Critical Thinking and Problem Solving

Critical thinking and problem solving are emphasized at Cal Poly Pomona by teaching students to apply theoretical principles learned in the classroom to real-world situations through active learning. These activities may include research, creative projects, performances, or culminating experiences. Critical thinking is also a student learning outcome adopted by the Academic Senate. NSSE grouped seven different questions together under the category Reflective and Integrative Learning (i.e., Academic Challenge).

During the current school year, about how often have you done the following:					
1 = Never, 2 = Sometimes, 3 = Often, 4 = Very often		Mean Response			
		CPP	CSU	Master's L	NSSE TOTAL
Combined ideas from different courses when completing assignments?	FY	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.6
	SR	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9
Connected your learning to societal problems or issues?	FY	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6
	SR	2.7	2.8***	2.8***	2.8***
Included diverse perspectives (political, religious, racial/ethnic, gender, etc.) in course discussion or assignments?	FY	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6
	SR	2.5	2.7***	2.7***	2.7***
Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue?	FY	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8
	SR	2.8	2.9*	2.9*	2.9**
Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from their perspective?	FY	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9
	SR	2.9	3.0**	3.0	3.0
Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept?	FY	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9
	SR	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Connected ideas from your courses to your prior experiences and knowledge	FY	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.1
	SR	3.1	3.2**	3.2***	3.2***

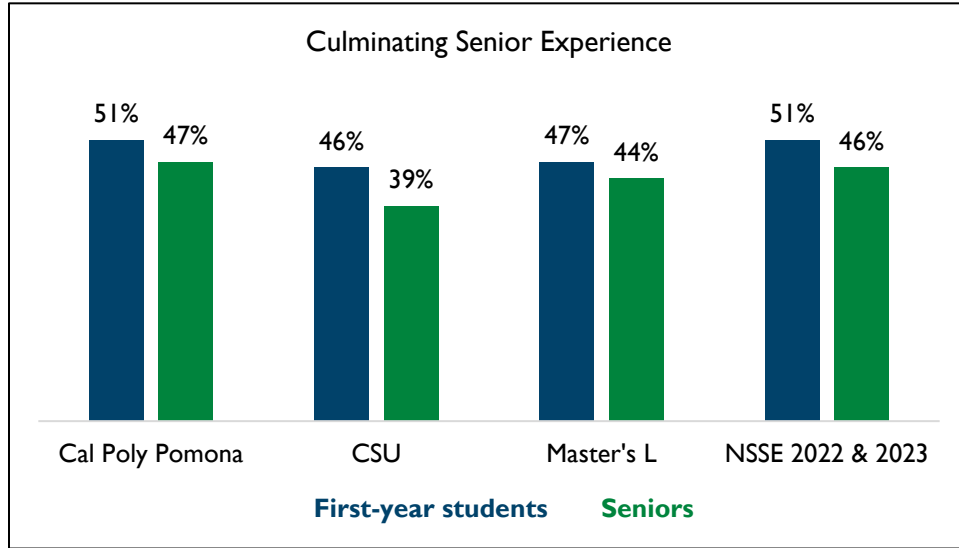*Please note that these scores are significantly different from the corresponding CPP score, $p < .05$

**Please note that these scores are significantly different from the corresponding CPP score, $p < .01$

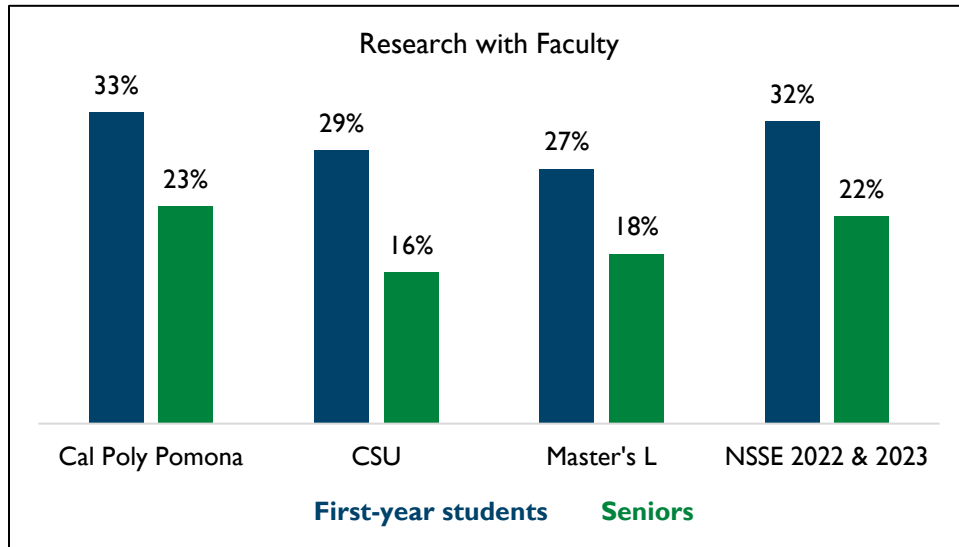***Please note that these scores are significantly different from the corresponding CPP score, $p < .001$

Creativity, Discovery, and Innovation

Creativity, discovery, and innovation are at the core of Cal Poly Pomona's mission to provide tried and true methods to replicate real-world experiences into student learning.
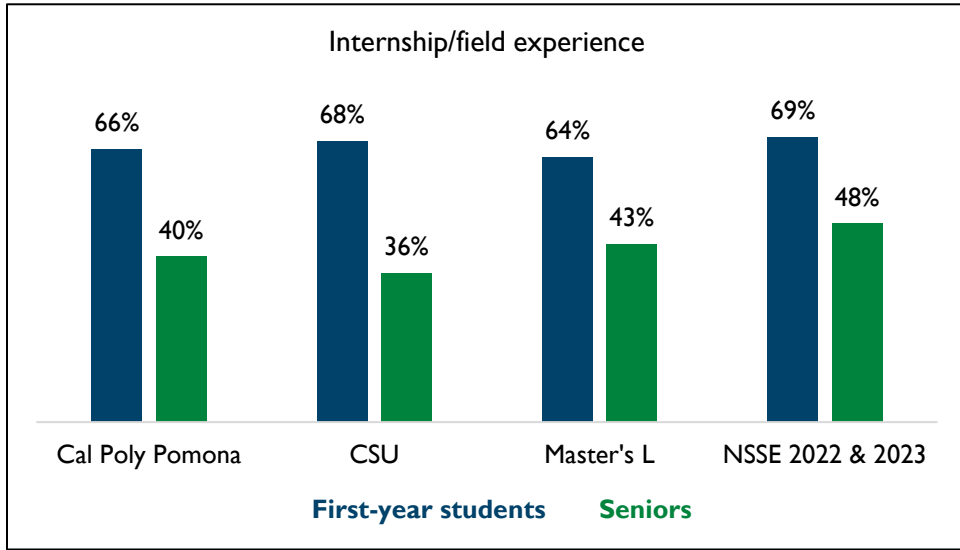
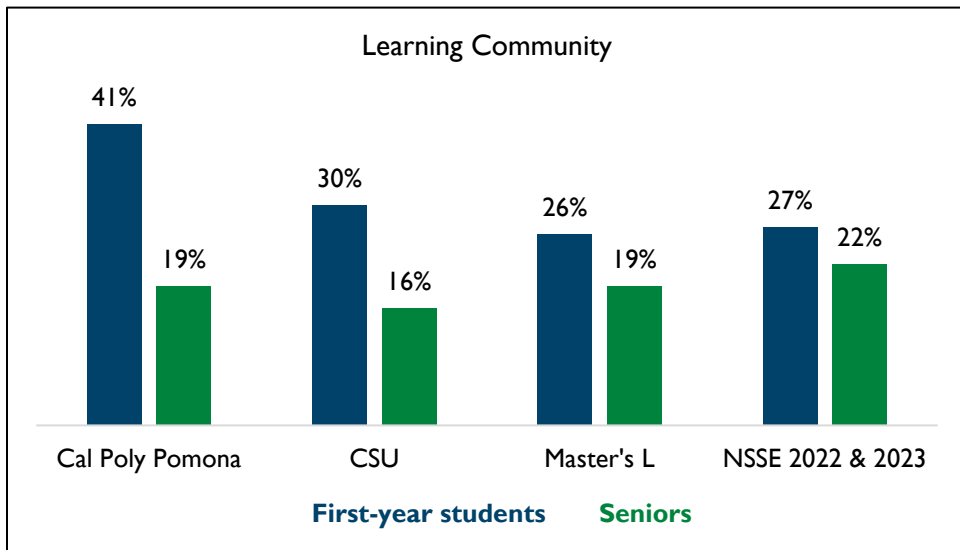**Percentage of Freshmen's Planned and Seniors' Actual Participation in a Culminating Senior Experience.**

Culminating Senior Experience

	Cal Poly Pomona	CSU	Master's L	NSSE 2022 & 2023
First-year students	51%	46%	47%	51%
Seniors	47%	39%	44%	46%

Percentage of Freshmen's Planned and Seniors' Actual Participation in Faculty Research.

Research with Faculty

	Cal Poly Pomona	CSU	Master's L	NSSE 2022 & 2023
First-year students	33%	29%	27%	32%
Seniors	23%	16%	18%	22%

Percentage of Freshmen's Planned and Seniors' Actual Participation in an Internship, Field Experience, etc.

Internship/field experience

	Cal Poly Pomona	CSU	Master's L	NSSE 2022 & 2023
First-year students	66%	68%	64%	69%
Seniors	40%	36%	43%	48%

Percentage of Freshmen's Planned and Seniors' Actual Participation in a Learning Community.

Learning Community

	Cal Poly Pomona	CSU	Master's L	NSSE 2022 & 2023
First-year students	41%	30%	26%	27%
Seniors	19%	16%	19%	22%

Percentage of Freshmen's Planned and Seniors' Actual Participation in a Study Abroad Program.

Study Abroad

	First-year students	Seniors
Cal Poly Pomona	31%	5%
CSU	31%	4%
Master's L	26%	6%
NSSE 2022 & 2023	33%	9%
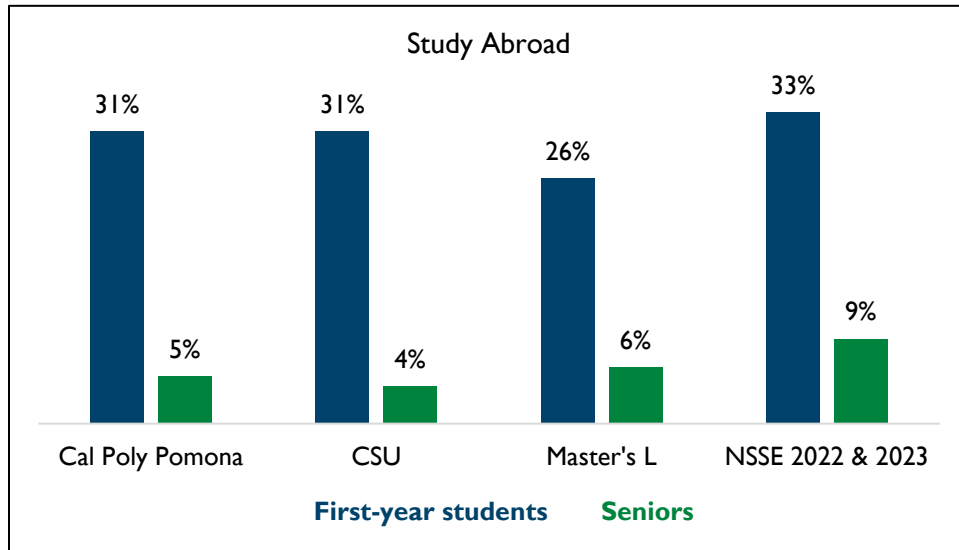
Diverse and Multi-disciplinary Perspectives

Diversity is another core value of Cal Poly Pomona's mission to enrich student learning. In fact, Cal Poly Pomona believes it is necessary to include diverse perspectives in order to draw connections between various interpersonal and disciplinary collaborations.

During the current school year, about how often have you done the following:		Mean Response			
1 = Never, 2 = Sometimes, 3 = Often, 4 = Very often		CPP	CSU	Master's L	NSSE TOTAL
Included diverse perspectives (political, religious, racial/ethnic, gender, etc.) in course discussion or assignments?	FY	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6
	SR	2.5	2.7***	2.7***	2.7***
Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from their perspective?	FY	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9
	SR	2.9	3.0**	3.0	3.0
Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept?	FY	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9
	SR	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0

**Please note that these scores are significantly different from the corresponding CPP score, p < .01
***Please note that these scores are significantly different from the corresponding CPP score, p < .001

During the current school year, how often have you had discussions with the people from the following groups:		Mean Response			
1 = Never, 2 = Sometimes, 3 = Often, 4 = Very often		CPP	CSU	Master's L	NSSE TOTAL
People of a race or ethnicity other than your own?	FY	3.1	3.0	2.9*	3.0*
	SR	3.1	3.2	3.0***	3.0***
People from an economic background other than your own?	FY	3.0	2.9*	2.9***	3.0
	SR	3.0	3.0	2.9**	3.0
People with religious beliefs other than your own?	FY	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9
	SR	2.9	2.9	2.8*	2.9
People with political views other than your own?	FY	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.8*
	SR	2.7	2.7	2.8**	2.8***

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Collaborative Learning

Group approaches to learning and problem solving are utilized to facilitate and instill strong interpersonal and leadership skills so that students may succeed at Cal Poly Pomona and in their future careers and graduate studies. The ability to work effectively with others is developed by participating in learning communities, collaborative projects, and collaborative assignments.

How much has your experience at this institution:					
1 = Very little, 2 = Some, 3 = Quite a bit, 4 = Very much		**Mean Response**			
		CPP	**CSU**	**Master's L**	**NSSE TOTAL**
Contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development to working effectively with others?	FY	2.9	2.9	2.8*	2.8*
	SR	3.2	3.1***	3.0***	3.0***

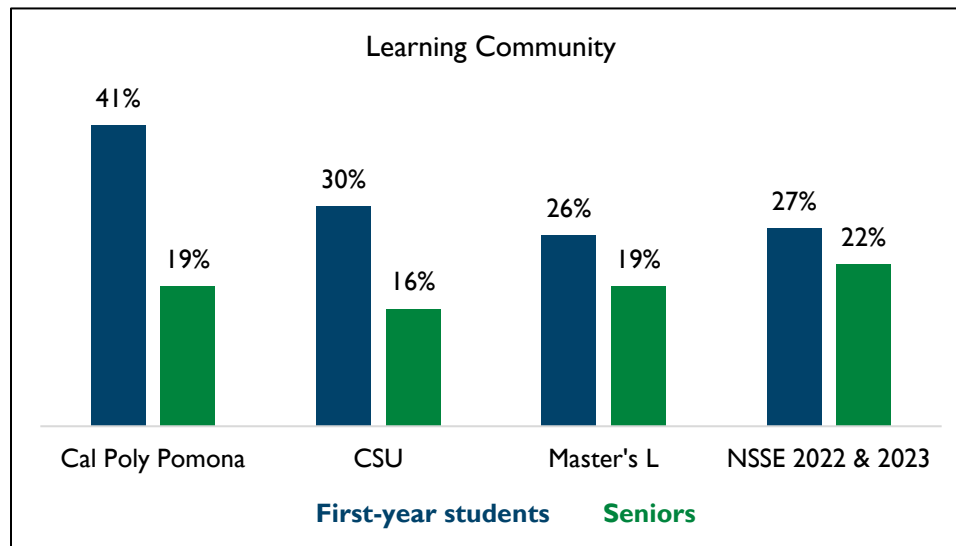*Please note that these scores are significantly different from the corresponding CPP score, p < .05*
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During the current school year, how often have you done the following:					
1 = Never, 2 = Sometimes, 3 = Often, 4 = Very often		**Mean Response**			
		CPP	**CSU**	**Master's L**	**NSSE TOTAL**
Asked another student to help you understand the course material?	FY	2.7	2.6	2.3***	2.5***
	SR	2.7	2.5***	2.3***	2.4***
Explained course material to one or more students?	FY	2.6	2.5	2.3***	2.5
	SR	2.8	2.7**	2.5***	2.6***
Prepared for exams by discussing or working through course material with other students?	FY	2.4	2.4	2.2***	2.3
	SR	2.6	2.4***	2.2***	2.3***
Worked with other students on course projects or assignments?	FY	2.6	2.7	2.3***	2.5**
	SR	3.2	2.9***	2.6***	2.7***

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Percentage of Freshmen's Planned and Seniors' Actual Participation in a Learning Community.

Learning Community

- Cal Poly Pomona: First-year students 41%, Seniors 19%
- CSU: First-year students 30%, Seniors 16%
- Master's L: First-year students 26%, Seniors 19%
- NSSE 2022 & 2023: First-year students 27%, Seniors 22%

First-year students   **Seniors**

Community and Global Engagement

The university places importance on helping students become ethical and civic-minded citizens, with engagement with local communities and establishing reciprocal relationships as crucial. Students are encouraged to engage with the community through local internships, service-learning activities, and other community engagement opportunities the university offers to students. Through the university's international exchange and study abroad programs, students can experience different cultures, views, and ideals.

Number of Hours CPP Students Spent Doing Community Service or Volunteer Work.
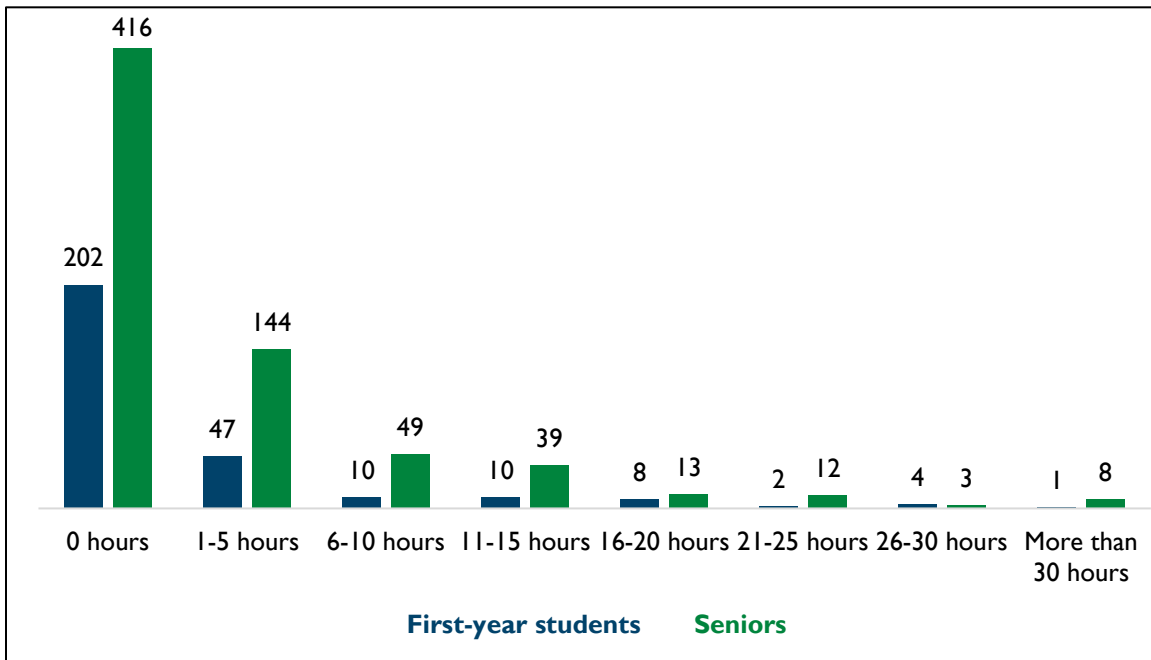
How much does your institution emphasize the following:					
1 = Very little, 2 = Some, 3 = Often, 4 = Very often		**Mean Response**			
		CPP	**CSU**	**Master's L**	**NSSE TOTAL**
Providing opportunities to be involved socially?	FY	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9*
	SR	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.8
Attending events that address important social, economic, or political issues?	FY	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.4
	SR	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.3
Encouraging contact among students from different backgrounds (social, racial/ethnic, religious, etc.)?	FY	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7
	SR	2.8	2.7	2.6***	2.6***

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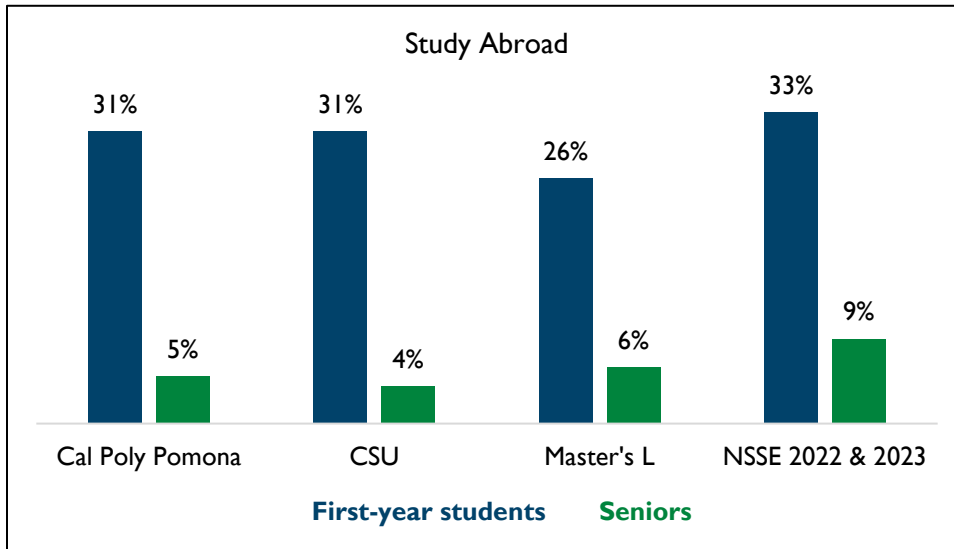***Please note that these scores are significantly different from the corresponding CPP score, $p < .001$

How many of your courses at this institution have included a community-based project (service-learning)?					
1 = None, 2 = Some, 3 = Most, 4 = All		Mean Response			
		CPP	CSU	Master's L	NSSE TOTAL
How many courses have included service-learning?	FY	1.8	1.6**	1.7**	1.6**
	SR	1.9	1.8	1.8*	1.7**

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**Please note that these scores are significantly different from the corresponding CPP score, p < .01*

Percentage of Freshmen's Planned and Seniors' Actual Participation in a Study Abroad Program.

Study Abroad

- Cal Poly Pomona: First-year students 31%, Seniors 5%
- CSU: First-year students 31%, Seniors 4%
- Master's L: First-year students 26%, Seniors 6%
- NSSE 2022 & 2023: First-year students 33%, Seniors 9%

First-year students   **Seniors**

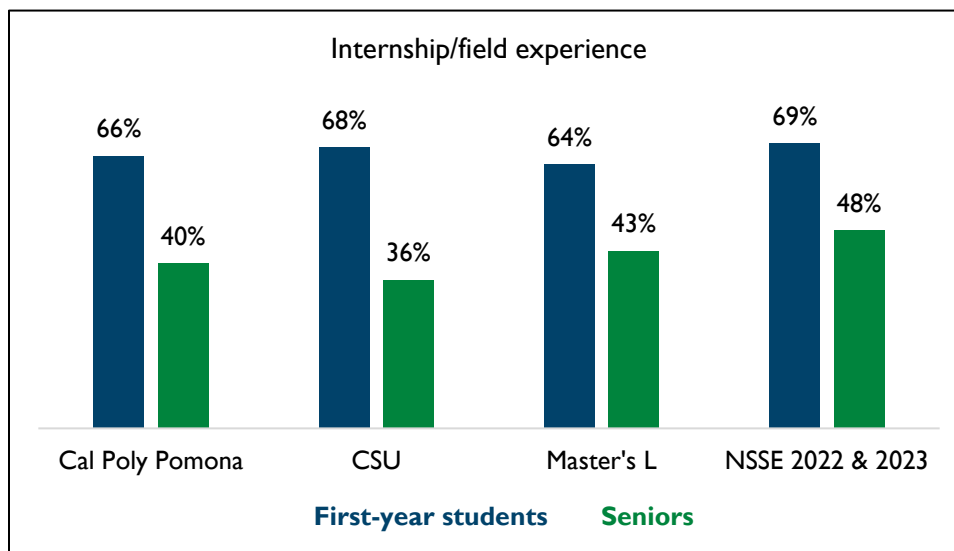**Professional and Career Readiness**

The polytechnic elements ensure that graduates are ready to enter the workforce and/or graduate studies as effective, ethical citizens. The methods comprised in all the elements instills the values required to ensure graduates are ready for their professional and career opportunities available to them.

During the current school year, about how often have you done the following:					
1 = Never, 2 = Sometimes, 3 = Often, 4 = Very often		**Mean Response**			
		CPP	**CSU**	**Master's L**	**NSSE TOTAL**
Talked about career plans with a faculty member?	FY	2.2	2.1	2.3**	2.3**
	SR	2.4	2.3*	2.4	2.4

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Percentage of Freshmen's Planned and Seniors' Actual Participation in an Internship, Field Experience, etc.

Internship/field experience

- Cal Poly Pomona: First-year students 66%, Seniors 40%
- CSU: First-year students 68%, Seniors 36%
- Master's L: First-year students 64%, Seniors 43%
- NSSE 2022 & 2023: First-year students 69%, Seniors 48%

First-year students   **Seniors**

How much has your experience at this institution:					
1 = Very little, 2 = Some, 3 = Quite a bit, 4 = Very much		**Mean Response**			
		CPP	**CSU**	**Master's L**	**NSSE TOTAL**
Contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development to acquiring job- or work-related knowledge and skills?	FY	2.6	2.5*	2.7	2.6
	SR	3.0	2.9***	3.0	3.0

Please note that these scores are significantly different from the corresponding CPP score, p < .05
***Please note that these scores are significantly different from the corresponding CPP score, p < .001*

Summary and Highlights

Application of Knowledge:

- Both first-year students and seniors at CPP reported that their coursework emphasized applying facts, theories, or methods to practical problem or new solutions at similar levels as their comparison group peers.
- CPP seniors reported significantly fewer instances of including diverse perspectives in courses discussions and assignments in comparison peers at other institutions.

Critical Thinking and Problem Solving:

- First-year students reported engaging in various aspects of critical thinking and problem solving similarly to their comparison group peers, where as CPP seniors reported engaging significantly less in critical thinking and problem solving than their peers.
- CPP seniors reported combining ideas from different courses when completing assignments slightly more often than their comparison group peers.

Creativity, Discovery, and Innovation

- While the majority of first-year students planned to participate in a culminating senior experience, a slightly smaller percentage of seniors actually reported having done so.
- A greater percentage (27%) of CPP seniors reported participation in faculty research in comparison to their peers in comparison groups, including CSU (16%) and Master's-level institutions (18%).

Diverse and Multi-disciplinary Perspectives

- Both first-year and senior students included diverse perspectives (political, religious, racial/ethnic, gender, etc.) in course discussion or assignments less frequently than their comparison group peers.
- CPP's senior students had discussions with others of a different race or ethnicity, economic background, and religious beliefs more frequently than some of their comparison group peers.

Collaborative Learning

- Both first-year students and seniors reported interacting with fellow students significantly more often than their peers in the comparison groups, including working together to understand course material, preparing for exams, and on projects and assignments.

Community and Global Engagement

- The majority of CPP students reported 0 hours per week engaged in community service.
- First-year students reported less institutional emphasis on providing opportunities to be involved socially in comparison to their peer groups at other institutions, but slightly less than NSSE comparison universities.
- Both first-year and senior students felt that CPP emphasized attending "Some" events that address important social, economic, or political issues as often as their comparison group peers.
- A greater percentage of first-year students reported interest in studying abroad than seniors who reported participating. This pattern is consistent with our comparative groups.

Professional and Career Readiness

- First-year students discussed career plans with a faculty member statistically less frequently than their peers in comparison groups, but slightly more frequently than their CSU peers. Seniors, however, discussed their career plans with faculty just as frequently as their peers, but slightly more frequently than their CSU peers.
- A greater percentage of first-year students reported plans to participate in internships/field experiences than seniors who actually did so. This pattern is consistent with our comparison groups as well.