Revealing Institutional Strengths and Challenges at SCC

January 2019

SCC administered the *Revealing Institutional Strengths and Challenges* (RISC) Survey to our students in fall 2017. Survey items asked whether students were facing challenges during the current term in five broad areas and with three levels of detail.

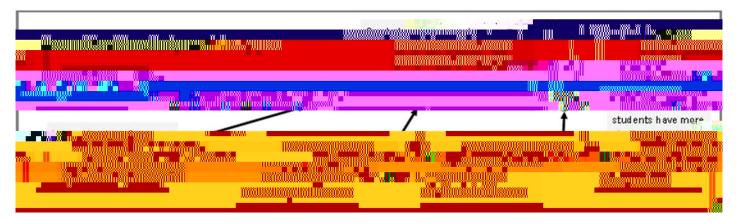
The survey was administered online to 7,720 students in late fall 2017. Several email contacts resulted in 1,583 responses, for a 21% response rate. Nine other community colleges who administered the survey in Fall 2017 and Fall 2018 are used for benchmark numbers in this report.

Figu O! (44%). And maller proportion have challenges with *campus environment* (29%) and *academic support services* (27%).

SCC students were more likely than students at the benchmark schools to report challenges in all categories. The biggest gap between SCC and benchmark students was in the area of *finances and financial aid;* the smallest gap was for *academic support services*. In other words, SCC students reported notably more challenges with finances and financial aid than students at other schools.

Figure 1





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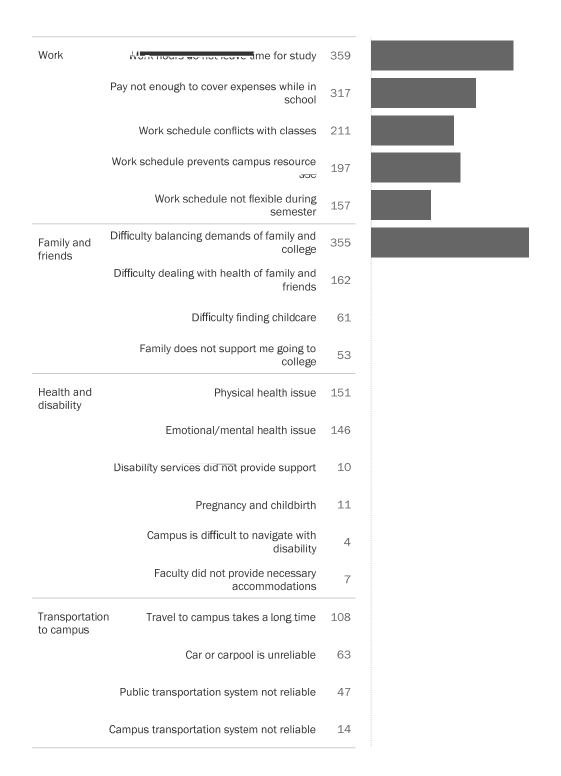
Within each of the five broad categories, there are three to five more detailed categories of challenges. Those results are shown in Figure 2. There were three of these categories in which 30 percent or more of SCC students indicated challenges to their success: *work* (39%), *family and friends* (32%), and *paying expenses* (40%). Notably, SCC students were *less* likely than benchmark students to report that faculty were a challenge to their success (as indicated by the blue circle).

Figure 2

Work and Personal Work 615 Family and friends 502

Figures 3-7 shows the most detailed level of detail about each area of potential challenges. Generally speaking, SCC students reported <u>more challenges</u> than benchmark schools in the detailed areas of *work* (Figure 3), *online classes* (Figure 4), and *paying expenses* (Figure 5); and <u>fewer challenges</u> in detailed areas of *faculty* (Figure 4), *financial aid office* (Figure 5), and *registering for courses* (Figure 7).

Figure 3



Online classes	Di culty learning material on my own	197
Г	oi culty keeping up because of no regular class times	166
	Lack of interaction with faculty	164
	Di culty using course technology	105
Developmenta I courses	Lack of interaction with other students	93
	Di culty taking exams at testing center	41
	Courses were too hard	106
	Required to take too many	76
	Did not prepare me for college-level courses	61
	Courses were too easy	16
Doing college-level	Poor planning & time management skills	125

Figure 5

Paying expenses	Living expenses	463
	Books, software and other supplies	361
	Tuition and fees	344
	Childcare	69
Financial Aid office	Process was unclear	98
	Errors processing financial aid	67
	Gave me wrong information	58
	Delays in getting money	52
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Figure 6

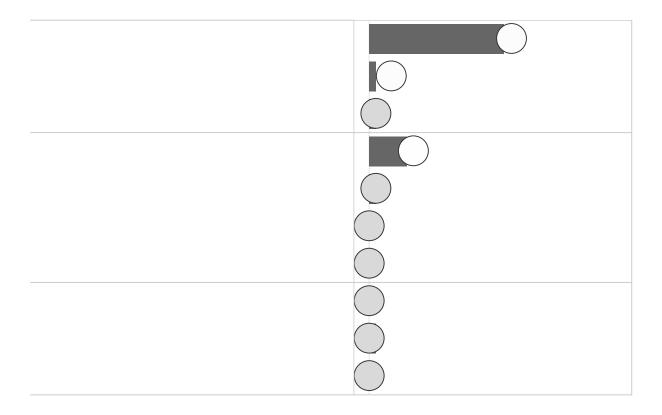


Figure 7

Registering fo	r Course not offered at times I needed	86	
	Course not offered this semester	50	
	Course was offered but full	53	
	Had a registration hold	25	
Academic advising	Diffice ដែល បីភេកឧបក្សាយបានការាវ៉ា advisor	125	
	Not told to take necessary course	61	
	Told to take unnecessary course	48	
	Course/program materials were incorrect	25	
Tutoring	Tutoring not available when I needed assistance	44	
	onvenient	39	
	Tutoring not available in subject area	31	
	Tutoring not helpful	25	
Computer & science labs	Lab busy when needed	13	
	Lab hours not convenient	15	
	Problems using computers and equipment	19	
Library	Hours not convenient	9	
	Resources I needed not available online	12	
	Study spaces not available when needed	13	
	Staff not helpful	7	