



FACULTY SENATE

Student Affairs Committee

Minutes

November 3, 2022

8:30-10:00 a.m.

Microsoft Teams

Present: Terry Delaney (CALs), Krisan Geary (CEMS), Denise Hersey (LIB), Nathan Kokinda (CNHS), Trish O’Kane (RSENR), Jennifer Prue (CESS), Sarah Twitchell (LCOM), Scott Van Keuren (CAS)

Absent: Matthew Carlson (CAS), Thomas Borchert (Faculty Senate President), Devika Singh (LCOM), Pending (GSS), Pending (GSB) Pending (SGA)

Guests: J. Dickinson, Erica Caloiero, Veronika Carter, Jay Jacobs

Co-Chair Jennifer Prue called the meeting to order at 8:30 am via Microsoft Teams.

1. **Minutes.** The minutes of the October SAC meeting are approved as written.
2. **Test Optional, Jay Jacobs.** Early observations have been positive for test optional policies however it is early, and it is important to continue to monitor the data.

VPEM Test Optional Analysis 2022

Office of Institutional Research and Assessment
Updated – 9/30/2022



The University of Vermont

2020 Cohort

One-Year and Two-Year Retention (FTFY Students Only)

Test Optional	Original Cohort Size	Total Retention 1-yr Later	Total Retention 2-yr Later	Average First Fall GPA
Yes	14	92.9%	57.1%	3.38
No	2473	87.7%	79.9%	3.31
All	2487	87.8%	79.8%	3.31

- First year test optional was offered
- The model results are significant for both 1-yr and 2-yr retention rates
- Did not make sense to look at this model broken down by college since the sample size was 14 and not all colleges were represented
- The overall sample size of those who opted test optional was too small to generalize and extrapolate
- Variance in retention rates can be explained by the small n's across each college, each student that is not retained effect the retention rate more heavily

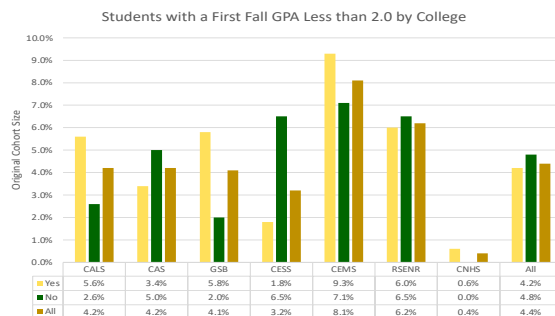
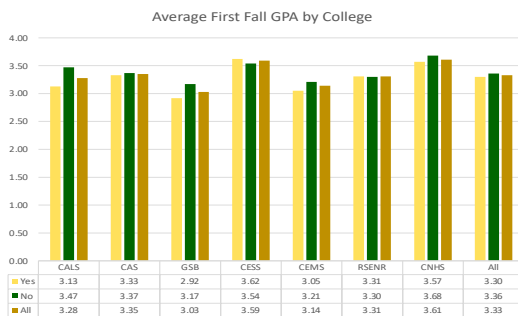
2021 Cohort

Test Optional Effect on One-Year Retention Rates and First Fall GPA

- About 55% did not submit test scores
- Those who chose not to submit test scores retained at about the same rate as those who chose to submit either an SAT or ACT score for the 2021 Cohort (88.2% versus 89.1%).
- "Did they submit test scores?" was not a significant predictor (p-value of .94) of one-year retention rates after controlling for high school GPA, first-fall semester GPA, and College/School (see Appendix for model).
- Those who chose not to submit test scores had about the same average first Fall GPA as those who chose to submit either an SAT or ACT score for the 2021 Cohort, as a whole (3.30 vs 3.36)
- "Did they submit test scores?" was not a significant predictor (p-value of .03) of first-fall semester GPA after controlling for high school GPA, and College/School (see Appendix for model).
- Both models had relatively low r-square suggesting that whether students submitting test scores does not have a large effect on whether a student is retained or their first fall academic performance.

Test Optional	Original Cohort Size	Retention 1-yr Later	Average First Fall GPA
Yes	1588	88.2%	3.30
No	1343	89.1%	3.36
All	2931	88.6%	3.33

Test Optional Effect on First Fall GPA



- The only significant differences in first Fall GPA related to Test Optional effect was for CALS and GSB colleges
- No significant difference in Test Optional effect related to those with a GPA below 2.0 vs those with a GPA greater than 2.0

Appendix

One-Year Retention Rate Logistic Regression Model for 2021 Cohort

Variable	DF	Parameter Estimate	Standard Error	t Value	Pr > t
Intercept	1	0.46	0.03	14.93	<0.01
Did they submit scores?	1	-0.00	0.03	-0.07	0.94
Do they have HS GPA?	1	0.37	0.14	2.75	<0.01
HS GPA * Do they have HS GPA	1	-0.10	0.04	-2.77	<0.01
First Fall GPA	1	0.12	0.01	14.25	<0.01
CALS	1	0.00	0.02	0.16	0.87
RSENR	1	0.03	0.02	1.57	0.11
GSB	1	0.07	0.02	3.15	<0.01
CEMS	1	0.05	0.02	2.59	<0.01
CESS	1	0.01	0.03	0.25	0.80
CNHS	1	0.02	0.02	0.83	0.41

Adjusted R Squared
0.07

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First Fall GPA Regression Model for 2021 Cohort

Variable	DF	Parameter Estimate	Standard Error	t Value	Pr > t
Intercept	1	3.30	0.02	162.07	<0.01
Did they submit scores?	1	-0.13	0.06	-2.12	0.03
Do they have HS GPA?	1	-3.65	0.28	-13.02	<0.01
HS GPA * Do they have HS GPA	1	1.03	0.07	14.12	<0.01
CALS	1	-0.09	0.04	-2.10	0.04
RSENR	1	-0.04	0.05	-0.88	0.38
GSB	1	-0.26	0.05	-5.55	<0.01
CEMS	1	-0.20	0.04	-5.26	<0.01
CESS	1	0.28	0.05	5.05	<0.01
CNHS	1	0.25	0.05	5.52	<0.01

Adjusted R Squared
0.11

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3. Orientation, Jay Jacobs.

- The biggest change is it moving from June / July to August right before the term starts.
- Split it in teams and hired more orientation leads so they could have smaller groups.
- Made it a Friday / Saturday to make it easier for faculty to be involved.
- 6-week data shows that more students are using an advisor.

4. Bias Response Report, Erica Caloiero. The focus is on IT infrastructure.

- The ability to have a clearer process for collecting data and reports.
- Who across campus is receiving initial reports? This helps support timeliness of response.
- Needs oversight groups, there is a committee structure.
- Needs to be a process of training.

- Communication on what is available.

The link to submit a report is <https://www.uvm.edu/sconduct/submit-report>.

5. **Out of Class Expectations, Scott.** Scott presented at the October 24th Faculty Senate meeting to update the senate on the work that the SAC is doing around this topic. Scott suggested that the SAC works at reviewing policies that directly relate this issue. He expressed concern that SGA is not sending a representation to the SAC.
6. **Incomplete / Withdrawal Policies, J. Dickinson.** This is a working item and will be on the December agenda, J. Dickinson will provide draft policies for the committee to review at the December meeting.
7. **Religious Policy Progress Report, Jenny.** This is be presented at the December meeting.
8. **Final Exam Policy, J. Dickinson & Veronika Cater.** This is be voted on at the December meeting.

2. No course may conduct more than one in class exam or test during the last two weeks of the semester (week prior to finals week and the week of finals) except lab exams with specific lab sections and practical exams associated with non-lab courses.

The current [final exam policy](#) states:

2. No course may conduct more than one in class exam or test during the last two weeks of the semester (week prior to finals week and the week of finals).

At the April meeting, it was suggested that the following language replace the second bullet-point:

2. No course may conduct more than one in class exam or test during the last two weeks of the semester (week prior to finals week and the week of finals) except lab exams with specific lab sections and practical exams associated with non-lab courses.

9. New / Old Business.

- Jay Jacobs will provide the SAC with transfer student data that will be discussed at a future SAC meeting.

The SAC was adjourned at 10:00 a.m. The next meeting of the SAC will be on December 1, 2022, at 8:30am on Microsoft Teams.