
NSSE 2014

Civic Engagement: Open-Ended Responses

Emporia State University

The final question of the Civic Engagement module asked students to respond to the following question in an open text box:

*"Think about the experiences you may have had with local, campus, state, national, or global issues.
What about these experiences has been most meaningful to you?"*

Important:

- Confidential student responses to this question appear on the following pages. Because open-ended responses are confidential, student identifiers are not given in this report but are provided in a separate SPSS data file. For this reason, please use discretion when using, storing, and disseminating the SPSS file.
- **These open-ended responses appear exactly as the students entered them and may not be suitable for distribution without prior review. Faculty members, administrators, or other students may be mentioned by name, and responses were not edited for grammar, offensive language, excessive length, or otherwise questionable content.**
- Open-ended responses are sorted by class, enrollment status, and sex. Information for these variables was provided by your institution.

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Class	Enrollment	Sex	Open-Ended Response
First-year	Full-time	Female	That people are trying to fix them.
First-year	Full-time	Female	Just learning about all the different global issues going on right now
First-year	Full-time	Female	I grow up super fast here because of the experienced I had every single day, I met a very nice American roomie when I first came here, she changed me from a naive insecure weak person to a tough positive confident happy person. And the Mexico trip made me become more thankful, considerate, get closer to Jesus and how sweet u could be if u have belief in your heart. and Chicago tour show me how lively and how much freedom American young ppl have, and New Mexico trip make me made a goal of my life to be a volunteer forever. Lastly the education system, the way they teach here have trained myself to be more creative and logical at the same time, teamwork, reduce fear of public speaking, how to use ur textbook knowledge in real life, dance with Passion, communication skill so on, btw thanks for all the relationship I had, emporia changed my life:)
First-year	Full-time	Female	We discuss them in a class, so I stay fairly up to date on big things
First-year	Full-time	Female	The experiences that are most meaningful to me are the experiences that allow me to meet and get to know new people. I've always been shy and since coming to college have found myself becoming less shy. I enjoy meeting new people, learning new things, and gaining a new perspective.
First-year	Full-time	Female	Lately the experience has been with the snow and ice and the issue of closing the school BEFORE the kids are hurt on the ice.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I've met people from all over the world who have really opened my eyes to what things are like in other countries.
First-year	Full-time	Female	This university and the people that work here, are great.
First-year	Full-time	Female	Living in the dorms can be hard with so many unfamiliar faces but the RA's make it so much easier. The RA's here are so welcoming and always there whenever they are needed.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I love all the activities that go on, on campus. It makes me feel included in a lot of things and it really means a lot to me to be included on things that are going on around me. Emporia has been one of the best things that has happened to me and I could never go somewhere else for school.
First-year	Full-time	Female	The cost of Higher Education would be the most meaningful topic affecting students, and the ways to work around them. Learning how to be flexible enough to succeed in, while entering this sector of the workforce later in life.
First-year	Full-time	Female	The most meaningful experience is being able to work on an art project and having my teacher help me with whatever I need
First-year	Full-time	Female	When I went to the She writes love on her arms conference. That was very touching and made an impression on me as I have a son with depression.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I just like to know what is going on.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I am not sure about it
First-year	Full-time	Female	These experiences have been most meaningful to me because they have helped me learn more about myself and helped me organize my time in a better manner.
First-year	Full-time	Female	I have had experience with people in third world countries, and that has impacted people the most. Children suffering especially impacts me.
First-year	Full-time	Male	Every things which are local, campus, state, national, and global issues were the most meaningful for me.
First-year	Full-time	Male	self pride
First-year	Full-time	Male	Being involved in the ESU Honors Program has allowed me great opportunities to meet new people and to present my research to a wider range of student and non-student scholars. I am also involved with writing for the campus newspaper so I am greatly interested in what goes on during the school week on campus.
First-year	Full-time	Male	The plays I have seen in this university

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First-year	Full-time	Male	The friends that I have made while living in the dorms are very important to me. I've partnered with some people that will continue to affect my life outside of college. Everything that I have done at this institution is all in preparation for a larger plan that I have for myself and I can promise that I will continue with that throughout the rest of my college career here at Emporia State University.
First-year	Full-time	Male	Going to small classes at esu is the best part and why I enjoy coming to school here
First-year	Full-time	Male	The experience that meant the most to me was a global issue. We brought the founder of To Write Love On Her Arms to campus to speak about suicide and self-harm. The event was incredibly moving and made a great difference in a number of people's lives. It also assured me that my decision to transfer was the right one.
First-year	Full-time	Male	The great atmosphere here on campus! Everyone is so helpful and inviting which makes the college experience that much better!! :)
First-year	Full-time	Male	fighting the illegal and amoral spying, espionage, and censorship of students and employees by their schools and employers
First-year	Not full-time	Female	I think working in the community of Emporia has been the most beneficial to me. I have loved every minute of getting to know the family around this town.
First-year	Not full-time	Female	The National issues is most meaningful to me because it's something that even when I get out of college could still be affecting everyday living.
First-year	Not full-time	Male	hehe I DONOT THINK SO
First-year	Not full-time	Male	People are very friendly and they help me a lot with my studies and lives.
Senior	Full-time	Female	Doing volunteer work to help improve the community was a meaningful experience. I really enjoy the feeling you get when helping others. I was also a nice bonding experience with my peers.
Senior	Full-time	Female	The most meaningful experience I have had is educating and working with high school students on understanding, communicating about, and arguing about international and national issues. I have coached debate and speech, and students are generally informed and discussing issues.
Senior	Full-time	Female	one of the most meaningful experiences i will always remeber is, the breast cancer awarness event that was held on campus. The reason this event is significant to me, is because; i have family memebers who were viticims of breast cancer and have lost lives as a result of it. Every since, i lost my grandmother and auntie, i have been more focused into promoting the cause of breast cancer awareness.
Senior	Full-time	Female	I believe that my experiences with local, state, national, and global issues have been the most meaningful to me because they deal more with what will effect my students and I. I'm with the Kansas City Distance Program of Emporia.
Senior	Full-time	Female	Worked with a group of high school students discussing and demonstrated water quality issues we face.
Senior	Full-time	Female	The most memorable issue that I have had to deal with is parking on campus. I was ticketed for not inserting a quarter in the parking meter. I did insert a quarter in the parking meter, but it was broken. I did not notice this and when I returned from class I had a ticket. I immediately called parking and they told me that they would eventually have someone look at it. They waited one week and then still ticketed me. I called them again and they said that the police officer who looked at it determined that it was working. After talking to them I went and looked at the exact meter I had been parked at. It said out of order. When speaking to them once again, they told me that it must have broke after the officer talked to me and still forced me to pay the ticket and the late fee. I spoke with other students about my situation and they said that they had the same thing happen to them. When exploring the issue we found that there wasn't anything we could do about it.
Senior	Full-time	Female	The campus is super friendly and very welcoming. Living in the dorms were so much fun. You get to meet wonderful groups of people.
Senior	Full-time	Female	Working on the End It Movement was one of the most meaningful experiences I had ever had in my life. I got to know shocking facts about modern slavery and I worked with people in an international ministry to raise awareness of the movement.

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Senior	Full-time	Female	I have recently been keeping up on the bill that Kansas is trying to pass that will null the Common Core Standards. This is meaningful to me because I am going to be an educator. The Common Core Standards are truly raising the bar for our future students in Kansas and around the nation. If Kansas chooses to pass this bill, then educators will not have any standards to teach until new standards are created. Educators will also not have a state test to give to their students. This will really hurt Kansas and Kansas' students.
Senior	Full-time	Female	They hop me see past the everyday ruse that students get themselves stuck in. It shows me that my problems aren't really problems, just challenges. Life is a lot more than going to class and reading. It is the experience you take from ordinary interactions. One of the most meaningful experiences I will ever remember is a conversation I had with a maintenance man during the summer. It's the ordinary things that are special.
Senior	Full-time	Female	The connection with staff and other students has been the most meaningful to me, I have made connections with so many people that will be life long friendships.
Senior	Full-time	Female	N/A I don't do those kind of things
Senior	Full-time	Female	eye opener
Senior	Full-time	Female	I am a non-traditional student and I have to say the other students made me feel very at home. I had a bump with my adviser but that seems to have worked out.
Senior	Full-time	Male	Bringing people together for a common purpose. Many hands make light work.
Senior	Full-time	Male	At ESU I found a hard emphasis on the arts. They had many guest speakers and performers here, and there are many opportunities to be creative, and to involve yourself in a large number of hobbies, clubs, ensembles, and teams. For such a small town, and a small university, it is surprising how involved you can be. It is also surprisingly diverse. Emporia is a small Kansas town of 25000 or so, but I encountered people from countries I may never visit myself (and I have been to many places). Quite impressive for a small place.
Senior	Full-time	Male	The support.
Senior	Full-time	Male	What is most meaningful is being able to see how people can resolve issues by coming up with a compromise or an agreement that will mutually benefit the major views. In today's world it is easy to see how stubborn people become and how they are not willing to budge for any reason. At Emporia, we often work together to achieve our goals and help the community prosper.
Senior	Full-time	Male	Interestingly, my experiences in this area have usually been those I've shared with friends/faculty (such as Kansas House Bill 2453, the KBOR Social Media Policy, etc). I believe that my research on these topics has broadened my ability to interact with the aforementioned groups on meaningful, personal level (such as reading material created by various faculty, and discussing relevant issues with friends).
Senior	Full-time	Male	My experience with the Campus was good.
Senior	Not full-time	Female	I interned for a State Senator for 4 years. I may consider running for an elected office.
Senior	Not full-time	Female	Discovering that other people think in a similar way and desire change just like I do.
Senior	Not full-time	Male	The opportunity that higher education provides to students to expand their view on the world through involvement with all different people from all walks of life which thus fosters the new bases of viewing the world from a more global and broader perspective.
Senior	Not full-time	Male	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Learning English. 2. Learning American culture. 3. Learning business knowledge.
Senior	Not full-time	Male	The education system in America is very poorly operated and is failing us as students.