

November 25, 2001

Dear Student:

Iowa State University is keenly interested in your opinions about your learning community experience this semester. Please help us by completing and returning the enclosed survey. The survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete. Results from this study will be used to improve learning communities at Iowa State University.

If you are willing to participate:

- Write your University ID (the middle nine digits of the ISU card number) on the attached survey form and on the General Purpose Answer Sheet, beginning with the first box of the Identification Number section. (There will be one box left empty.)
- Fill-in the appropriate circle on the answer sheet in the column below each box.
- Darken with a number 2 pencil the circle on the answer sheet indicating the one answer you select for each question.
- Record on the survey itself your written answers to the questions on the back page.

Your University ID is needed to link this survey to any previous or follow-up survey, as well as to access demographic information not obtained from the survey. Your identity and individual responses will be kept confidential, and only group data will be reported. You can withdraw from the study at any time. Please return the survey to your learning community coordinator or the person administering the survey.

If you have any questions, please contact Michelle McFadden via phone (294-2545) or email (mcfadden@iastate.edu). Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Howard N. Shapiro
Vice Provost for Undergraduate Programs

Michelle D. McFadden
Graduate Research Assistant

ISU Learning Community Survey

University ID: _____

Section A

For each learning community dimension described in items 1 through 8, record your satisfaction on the answer sheet, using the scale below. If the item does not apply to you, choose 10 for your response.

Very Dissatisfied 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 Strongly Satisfied (10 = Does Not Apply)

1. Overall learning community experience
2. Social activities in the learning community
3. Peer mentor
4. Peer mentor availability
5. Peer mentor helpfulness
6. Peer mentor knowledge of the discipline
7. Peer mentor knowledge of Iowa State University resources
8. Peer mentor level of concern about my academic success

Section B

Respond to questions 9 through 12, using the scale below. If the item does not apply to you, choose 10 for your response.

None 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 Great Deal (10 = Does Not Apply)

As a member of a residential learning community, how often have you had the opportunity to:

9. interact with other students in your program or major?
10. study with students in your classes?
11. converse with other students in your living area about academic topics?
12. If you participated in Supplemental Instruction this semester, how much did it improve your learning?

Section C

On the answer sheet, please record the ONE answer you select for item 13. Also, if you choose "Other (Please specify)," record your comment in the space provided.

13. Which of the following had the greatest impact on your decision to join a learning community?
- a. ISU representative who visited my high school
 - b. Correspondence I received from my department or college
 - c. Experience Iowa State (EIS)
 - d. Learning Community brochure
 - e. Orientation
 - f. Learning Community website
 - g. Academic Adviser at ISU
 - h. Friend
 - i. Parent/Guardian
 - j. Other (Please specify): _____

Section D

Record your written comments for the following questions.

14. What was the most satisfying aspect of your learning community?

15. What was the most disappointing aspect of your learning community?