



**START**  
with what sets us apart



## ABOUT THE SURVEYS DRIVING SUCCESS AT HESSTON COLLEGE

### CCSSE

The Community College Survey of Student Engagement provides information about effective educational practices at two-year colleges nationwide. Data from the 2009 CCSSE was instrumental in Hesston College's #2 ranking by *Washington Monthly* magazine in 2010. The nationally normed survey is utilized by 663 two-year colleges across the U.S. as a means of measuring five benchmarks in key areas of student engagement. Those areas are:

- Academic challenge
- Support for learners
- Active and collaborative learning
- Student effort
- Student-faculty interaction

### IDEA

The Individual Development and Educational Assessment provides student ratings regarding instruction and student learning at **two-year, four-year** and **graduate institutions** nationwide. Each Hesston College faculty member surveys a minimum of one course at the end of each semester. Specific areas measured by IDEA include:

- Student progress on relevant objectives
- Teacher excellence
- Course quality
- Teaching methods

### SSI

The Student Satisfaction Instrument is administered by Noel-Levitz and measures student satisfaction and priorities. It is the most widely used survey of its type with more than 3 million students from 2,100 institutions having used the survey. Hesston College's comparison group for this instrument is **private four-year colleges** and **universities**. Noel-Levitz is a national marketing firm that specializes in higher education.



In August 2010, we received word that *Washington Monthly* magazine had ranked Hesston College the No. 2 two-year college in the United States. The ranking came from an unfamiliar source, yet it served as a much-appreciated affirmation of the hard work our faculty and staff do day in and day out to provide our students with an exceptional learning experience.

Rather than sitting back and saying “we’ve arrived,” we set about getting better. The ranking was based on the college’s results in the 2009 Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE). The survey is one of several nationally normed surveys we utilize to discover our strengths and assess our opportunities for growth. We also use the Individual Development and Educational Assessment (IDEA) to measure areas of instructional effectiveness and the Student Satisfaction Inventory to measure student perceptions of their college experience.

Since receiving the 2009 results that yielded the No. 2 ranking – as well as the results of each of our other survey instruments – our

faculty have mounted an impressive effort to continue improving our students’ academic experience. I am pleased to report that we have done more than maintain the quality that garnered the No. 2 ranking. We have exceeded results in every benchmark area from the CCSSE and improved upon almost every aspect of the student experience measured by the SSI.

Every day we tell parents, prospective students, alumni, donors and neighbors about the life-changing opportunities that define the Hesston Experience. We have story after story of students and alumni whose Hesston College start has allowed them to go everywhere. These stories inspire us and remind us that our mission to educate and nurture each student within Christ-centered community is sacred.

This booklet highlights our achievements related to the ongoing assessment work in which we engage to better understand the high quality of the Hesston Experience so that each student may start here, go everywhere.

Enjoy,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Howard Keim". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Howard Keim  
President

## INTRODUCTION

PRESIDENT HOWARD KEIM



*I see teaching as a conversation every day. I try to share of myself, let students get to know me and allow them to share of themselves. At the end of the course, I want there to be a clear practical take-away.*

*—Kevin Wilder, Sociology and Bible faculty*

*“Students learn more when they are actively involved in their education and have opportunities to think about and apply what they are learning in different settings.” –CCSSE*

It’s a rare student who enjoys passively listening to lectures and repeating miscellaneous facts and theories memorized for a final exam. Research on student learning indicates that this sort of classroom experience does little for long-term learning and real-world applications. Hesston College faculty create a learning environment that challenges students to work together to solve real problems. Sure, it takes more time and energy to conceptualize, present and assess such learning. However, we know it’s worth it, and we have the data to prove that we do it well.

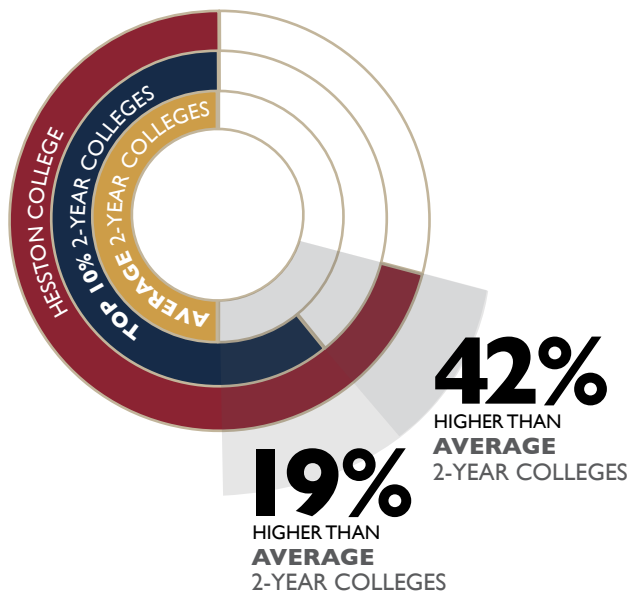
According to the SSI, Hesston College students’ top three priorities for their college experience are: faculty knowledge within their field, excellent instruction and valuable course content within their major field of study. Essentially, students want knowledgeable instructors who know how to present meaningful information in effective ways. These are the same priorities for students at private four-year colleges nationwide.

According to our results, Hesston College students are **MORE** satisfied with these items than their peers at private four-year colleges nationwide.

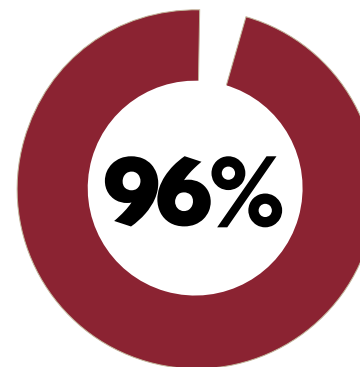
## ACTIVE AND COLLABORATIVE LEARNING

## STUDENT SATISFACTION AT HESSTON COLLEGE

Average percent of student satisfaction compared to what’s important to them:

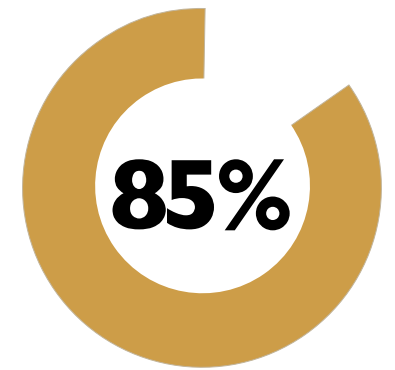


HESSTON COLLEGE BENCHMARK SCORES  
CCSSE



HESSTON COLLEGE

VS

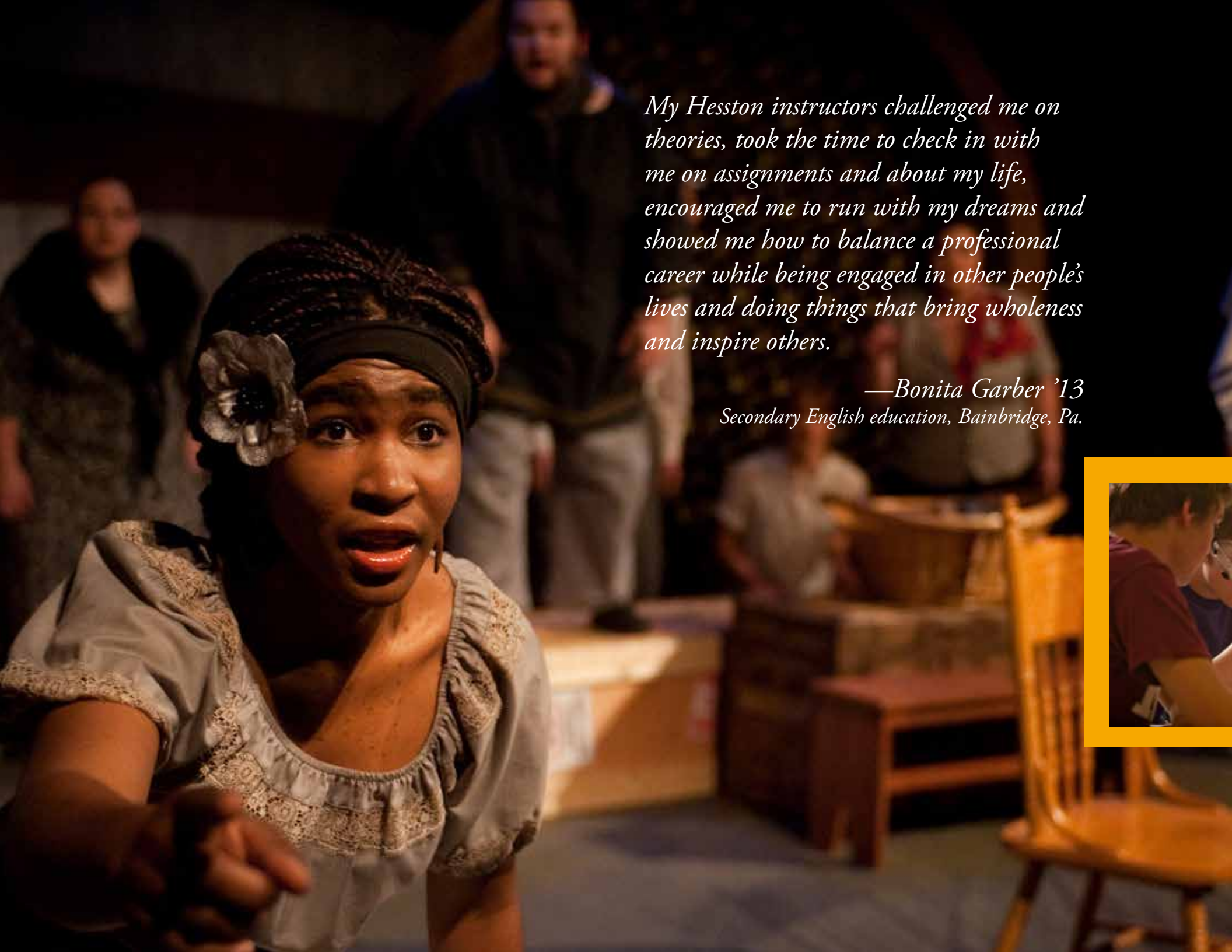


AVERAGE PRIVATE  
**FOUR-YEAR** COLLEGE OR  
UNIVERSITY

SSI

## THE EXPERIENCE:

STUDENT LEARNING AND  
INTELLECTUAL GROWTH



*My Hesston instructors challenged me on theories, took the time to check in with me on assignments and about my life, encouraged me to run with my dreams and showed me how to balance a professional career while being engaged in other people's lives and doing things that bring wholeness and inspire others.*

*—Bonita Garber '13  
Secondary English education, Bainbridge, Pa.*



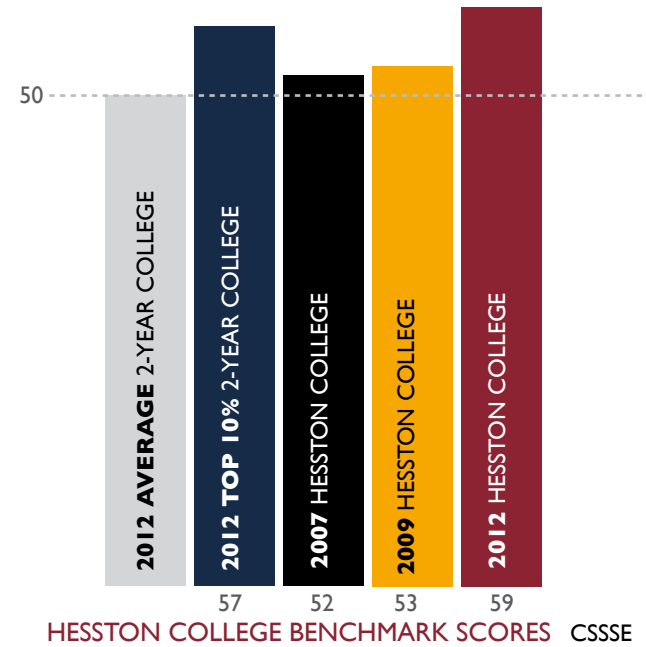
“Kids these days...” It’s a refrain frequently repeated in response to nearly every flaw an older generation perceives among a younger one. In academic settings, it often comes up when the topic of student effort is mentioned. According to **CCSSE**, “Students’ own behaviors contribute significantly to their learning and the likelihood they will successfully attain their goals.” Hesston College faculty have dedicated countless hours to improving student effort with an underlying

assumption that students today learn differently than in the past.

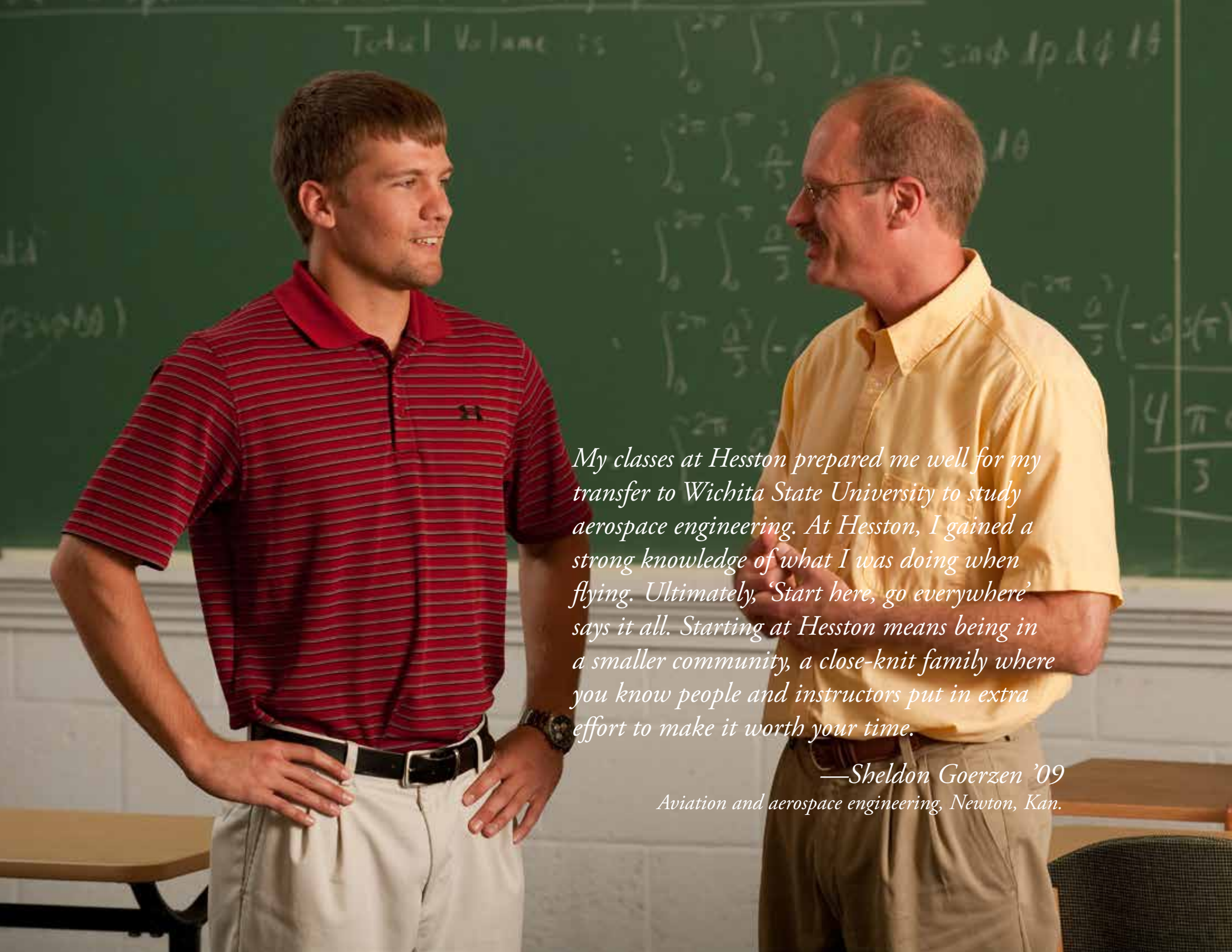
Faculty efforts are yielding positive results. In 2007 and 2009, the college’s scores were just slightly better than the national average. Results from the 2012 survey are even better and show that our faculty are making progress at getting more out of students and separating Hesston College from the average pack of two-year colleges.



**STUDENT EFFORT 2007 | 2009 | 2012**



**THE EXPERIENCE:**  
STUDENT LEARNING AND  
INTELLECTUAL GROWTH



*My classes at Hesston prepared me well for my transfer to Wichita State University to study aerospace engineering. At Hesston, I gained a strong knowledge of what I was doing when flying. Ultimately, 'Start here, go everywhere' says it all. Starting at Hesston means being in a smaller community, a close-knit family where you know people and instructors put in extra effort to make it worth your time.*

*—Sheldon Goerzen '09  
Aviation and aerospace engineering, Newton, Kan.*



## IT'S NOT ENOUGH TO CHALLENGE STUDENTS

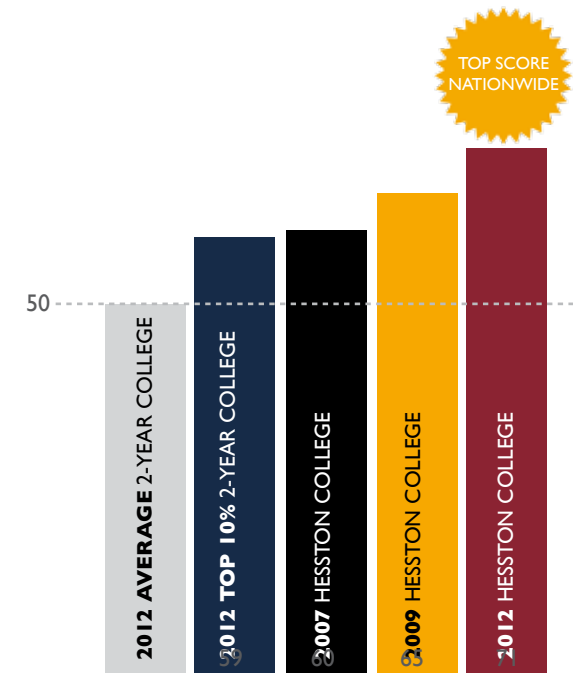
and expect they will receive a quality education. An exceptional academic experience also entails supporting each student to reach his or her fullest potential. Whether he or she is a National Merit Scholar, an average achiever or a student with additional learning needs, each Hesston College student has an entire network of support at his or her disposal.

Officially, Hesston College can't say we're #1 when it comes to support for learners. We will say that our score for support for learners was the highest reported among two-year colleges in 2012.

Hesston College students are more satisfied with the following specific areas of support than their peers at four-year private colleges and universities nationwide:

- Academic advisors' knowledge about major requirements
- Residence hall staff's concern about each student
- Admissions counselors' responsiveness to students' unique needs and requests
- Caring and helpful campus staff

SUPPORT FOR LEARNERS 2007 | 2009 | 2012



HESSTON COLLEGE BENCHMARK SCORES CSSSE

## ACADEMIC ADVISING AT HESSTON COLLEGE

Many colleges and universities separate the delicate work of academic advising from the role of teaching. At Hesston College, each student has the benefit of a faculty advisor who is trained to help students discover their passions and ensure they earn the credits they need.

- Average advisee to advisor ratio: 24:1
- First-year students connect with their advisors once a week for their first eight weeks on campus
- Faculty advisors are required to attend monthly training meetings



## THE EXPERIENCE:

ROBUST  
STUDENT SUPPORT

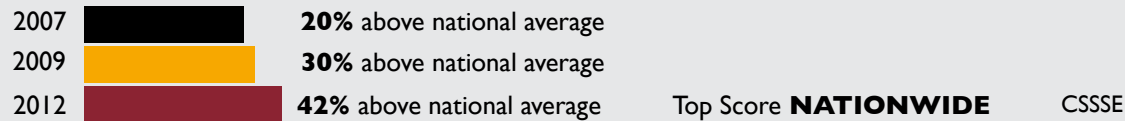
*Creating a Christ-centered community requires a rich student-faculty interaction where faculty model Christ's love and students feel genuinely cared about. At Hesston College, we believe that learning occurs best in a safe environment where students can sense that their needs and concerns are important to faculty and staff and that they will be supported in their journey — unconditionally.*

*—Bonnie Sowers, Nursing Program Director*



# HOW WE COMPARE TODAY

## STUDENT- FACULTY INTERACTION



We cherish relationships at Hesston College. Students who start here connect with faculty who really get to know them and become personally invested in their success. This kind of nurturing mentorship is directly correlated to positive learning outcomes and student success. If our **CCSSE** score in the area of student-faculty interaction is any indicator – and we think it is – our faculty are doing an exceptional job.

Back in 2007, student-faculty interaction at Hesston College was above average. Since then, the college's scores have skyrocketed and are now at the highest score reported among two-year colleges nationwide. Translation: no other two-year college in the country does student-faculty interaction better than Hesston College.

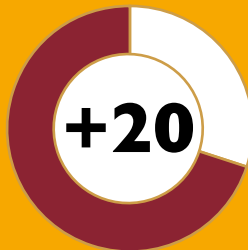
## STUDENT SATISFACTION

HOW HESSTON COLLEGE COMPARES **NATIONWIDE** TO AVERAGE PRIVATE **FOUR-YEAR** COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

CAMPUS SUPPORT SERVICES



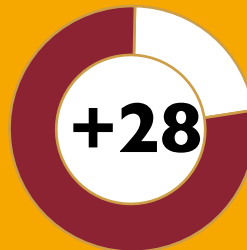
INSTRUCTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS



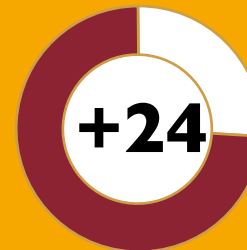
STUDENT CENTEREDNESS



SAFETY & SECURITY



CONCERN FOR INDIVIDUAL



ACADEMIC ADVISING



HESSTON COLLEGE PERCENTILE RANK ABOVE NATIONAL AVERAGE AT PRIVATE FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

SSI

## THE EXPERIENCE:

ROBUST  
STUDENT SUPPORT



*The learning environment at Hesston is one in which you are pushed to discover things on your own while receiving incredible support from faculty and classmates. My interactive class discussions and projects at Hesston pushed me to think critically and to think for myself.*

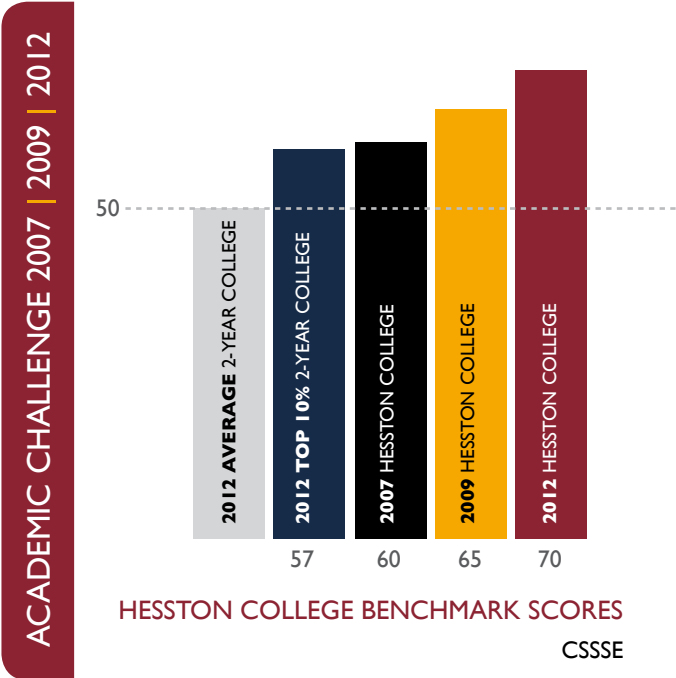
*—Mallory Eicher '13  
English education, Berne, Ind.*

Most Hesston College students will transfer credits to another academic institution as they pursue bachelor's degrees. Transferability is about more than articulation agreements, it's about crafting courses and learning experiences that prepare students for their next step in life.

In 2007, Hesston College's benchmark score ranked 10 points above the national average for academic challenge at two-year colleges. That wasn't good enough. After five years of researching, implementing and innovating new teaching techniques, that score improved another 10 points in 2012. The most recent results are merely

hundredths of a percentage point shy of the top score in the U.S. Are we pleased? Yes. Satisfied? No. We believe our students deserve the best, and that's exactly what we intend to provide – and not just compared to our two-year counterparts.

According to 2011-12 IDEA data comparing Hesston College courses to courses at two- and four-year institutions, more than **THREE FOURTHS** of Hesston classes rank in the top half of all classes taught nationwide. That's how we prepare students to transfer.

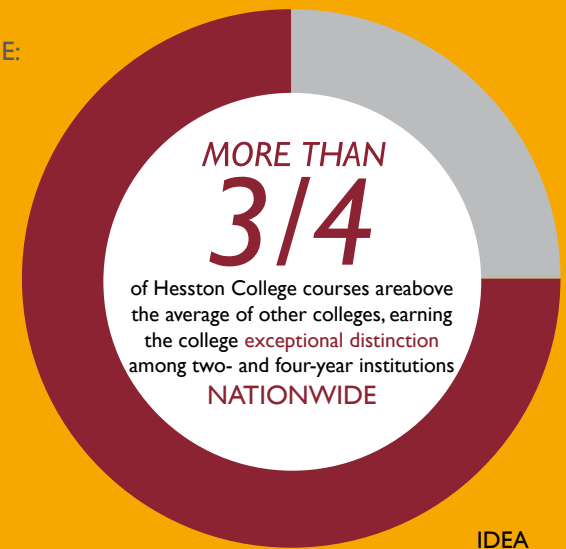


#### ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS TO DATE:

- Baker University – School of Professional and Graduate Studies (Wichita, Kan.)
- Bethel College (North Newton, Kan.)
- Bluffton (Ohio) University
- Eastern Mennonite University (Harrisonburg, Va.)
- Friends University College of Adult and Professional Studies (Wichita, Kan.)
- Goshen (Ind.) College
- Kansas State University-Salina
- Kansas Wesleyan University (Salina)
- Messiah College (Grantham, Pa.)
- Newman University (Wichita, Kan.)
- Sterling (Kan.) College
- Tabor College (Hillsboro, Kan.)
- University of Kansas School of Nursing (Lawrence)

#### OTHER SCHOOLS WHERE OUR STUDENTS HAVE GONE:

- Colorado School of Mines (Golden)
- Duke University (Durham, N.C.)
- Embry Riddle Aeronautical University
- Harvard University (Cambridge, Mass.)
- Howard University (Washington, D.C.)
- Indiana University (Bloomington)
- Iowa State University (Ames)
- James Madison University (Harrisonburg, Va.)
- Kansas State University (Manhattan)
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Cambridge)
- Missouri University of Science and Technology (Rolla)
- Oklahoma State University (Stillwater)
- Purdue University (West Lafayette, Ind.)
- The Ohio State University (Columbus)
- The University of Kansas (Lawrence)
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of Cincinnati (Ohio)
- University of Iowa (Iowa City)
- University of Michigan (Ann Arbor)
- University of Notre Dame (Notre Dame, Ind.)
- University of Southern California (Los Angeles)
- University of Texas (Austin)
- Wichita (Kan.) State University



**THE EXPERIENCE:**  
HESSTON COLLEGE  
STUDENTS EARN READILY  
TRANSFERABLE CREDITS



*My instructors had a desire not to just improve my knowledge and teach me to be a good pilot. They had a desire to make sure I could get a good job after I graduated. They supported me and my classmates and instilled in us a sense of professionalism that prepared well for the real world.*

*—Ezekiel Lazaro '13  
Aviation, Andover, Kan.*

## HESSTON COLLEGE OFFERS TWO-YEAR DEGREES IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

Aviation – Air Traffic Control  
Aviation – Flight  
Bible and Religion  
Business  
Computer Information Technology  
Early Childhood Education  
General Studies  
Nursing  
Pastoral Ministries  
Youth Ministry

In the 2012-13 academic year, about 41 percent of Hesston College students were enrolled in one of the college's outstanding professional programs.

We have the only FAA-certified air traffic control program in the state of Kansas and one of only 36 nationwide. More than 700 pilots have trained at Hesston College. Our nursing program is one of the strongest in the state with an overall pass rate of 98.72% on the exam to earn RN licensure – and that's with 46 years' worth of nurses

taking the exam. An equally impressive stat over the program's 46-year history: 100 percent of Hesston nursing graduates who have sought a nursing position have landed a job.



## THE EXPERIENCE:

OUTSTANDING  
PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

