

Itasca Community College General Education Student Survey Results 2006-07

All students who graduated from Itasca Community College (ICC) during the 2006-07 academic year were asked to complete the General Education Student Survey. The majority of graduates complied with this request. The purpose of this survey was to obtain students' perceptions of the degree to which classes and related experiences at ICC improved their performance on ICC's Foundational Goals and Outcomes listed on the survey.

Three hundred and twenty-four students completed the survey. Forty-six percent plan to continue their education and work, 40% plan to continue their education and 8% intend to work (Table 1). This reflects an increase in students' intent to continue their education and work. Only 8% of the respondents said they were going to work after graduation; this rate is lower than the prior four years. Fifty percent of the respondents were 20 years old or younger, 34% were between 21 and 35 years old and 10% were 36 years and older (Table 2).

Graduates were asked to rate their level of agreement in regards to their classes and experiences at ICC using a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 = Strongly Disagree, 3 = Neutral, and 5 = Strongly Agree. These results are shown in Table 3, Chart 1, and on the General Education Student Survey (Page 5).

SUMMARY

These results indicate that, on average, recent Itasca Community College graduates believe that:

- Classes and related experiences at ICC improved their knowledge or abilities in most General Educational Foundational Goal areas, with the exception of "Understanding of political processes and how to participate in them" (Table 3). This area is slightly higher than last year but still lower than the prior years (Chart 1).
- Chart 1 shows that the level of agreement for all questions except "computers and other technology" were rated higher than the prior year.
- All areas, except understanding political processes and how to participate in them, received a mean rating above 3.50 (on a scale from 1-5). Between 68.7% and 90.4% of the respondents either agreed or strongly agreed with items asking about improved performance on all but the political processes general education goal.
- Students were especially positive (average rating over 4 or at least 79% agreement) in about the college's impact on the areas of improved ability to collect, analyze, and apply information; to communicate in writing; desire to continue to learn throughout life; ability to think logically; ability to do research; to communicate orally; ability to listen and understand; ability to identify problems and implement actions; work cooperatively with others; generate new ideas and increased understanding of individual and group differences.
- This is the most number of areas that respondents have rated such a high level of agreement in - 11 out of 19 areas met the criteria of being "especially positive".
- Students were more neutral (average rating less than 3.7 or less than 70% agreement) about the college's impact on understanding of political processes and how to participate in them (average rating 3.37 and 44.9% agreement).
- The level of agreement at which students feel that their experiences and classes at ICC have improved their general education is slightly higher than the prior year except for computer and other technology which was slightly lower (-.05). Several areas had notable fluctuations (+.10 or higher) and they are the understanding of individual and group differences; identify problems and implement actions; communicate orally; and political processes and how I can participate in them.

**Itasca Community College
General Education Student Survey - Spring 2007**

Table 1

In the year or two following my graduation from ICC, I plan to:

| | 2007 | | 2006 | | 2005 | | 2004 | | 2003 | |
|-----------------------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|
| | Count | Percent | Count | Percent | Count | Percent | Count | Percent | Count | Percent |
| Continue my education | 129 | 40% | 89 | 45% | 94 | 36% | 109 | 33% | 114 | 44% |
| Work | 27 | 8% | 22 | 11% | 25 | 9% | 66 | 20% | 40 | 15% |
| Both of the above | 149 | 46% | 81 | 41% | 130 | 49% | 149 | 45% | 105 | 40% |
| Missing | 19 | 6% | 6 | 3% | 15 | 6% | 7 | 2% | 3 | 1% |
| Total | 324 | | 198 | | 264 | | 331 | | 262 | |

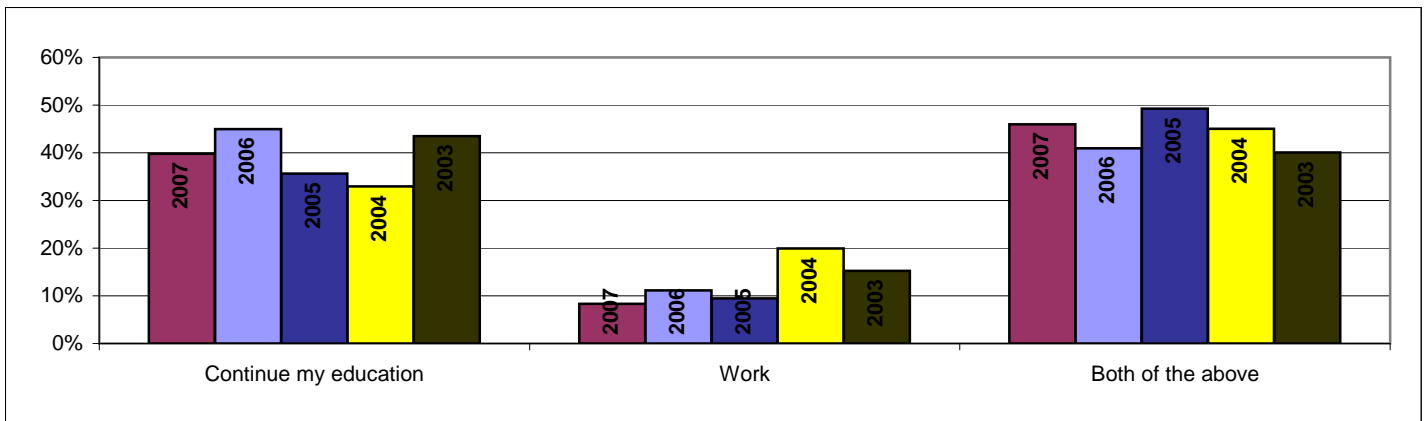


Table 2
My age group is:

| | 2007 | | 2006 | | 2005 | | 2004 | | 2003 | |
|-------------------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|
| | Count | Percent | Count | Percent | Count | Percent | Count | Percent | Count | Percent |
| 20 yrs or younger | 161 | 50% | 95 | 48% | 121 | 46% | 106 | 32% | 122 | 47% |
| 21-35 | 110 | 34% | 76 | 38% | 96 | 36% | 146 | 44% | 117 | 45% |
| 36-45 | 23 | 7% | 12 | 6% | 20 | 8% | 47 | 14% | 13 | 5% |
| 46-60 | 11 | 3% | 9 | 5% | 14 | 5% | 30 | 9% | 6 | 2% |
| 61 yrs or older | | | | | | | | | 1 | 0% |
| Missing | 19 | 6% | 6 | 3% | 13 | 5% | 2 | 1% | 3 | 1% |
| Total | 324 | | 198 | | 264 | | 331 | | 262 | |

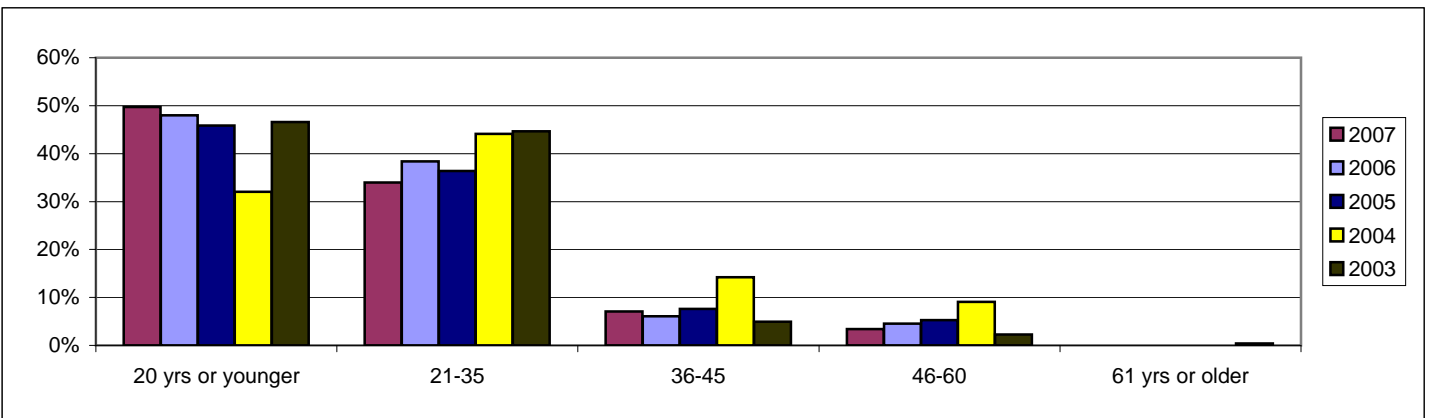
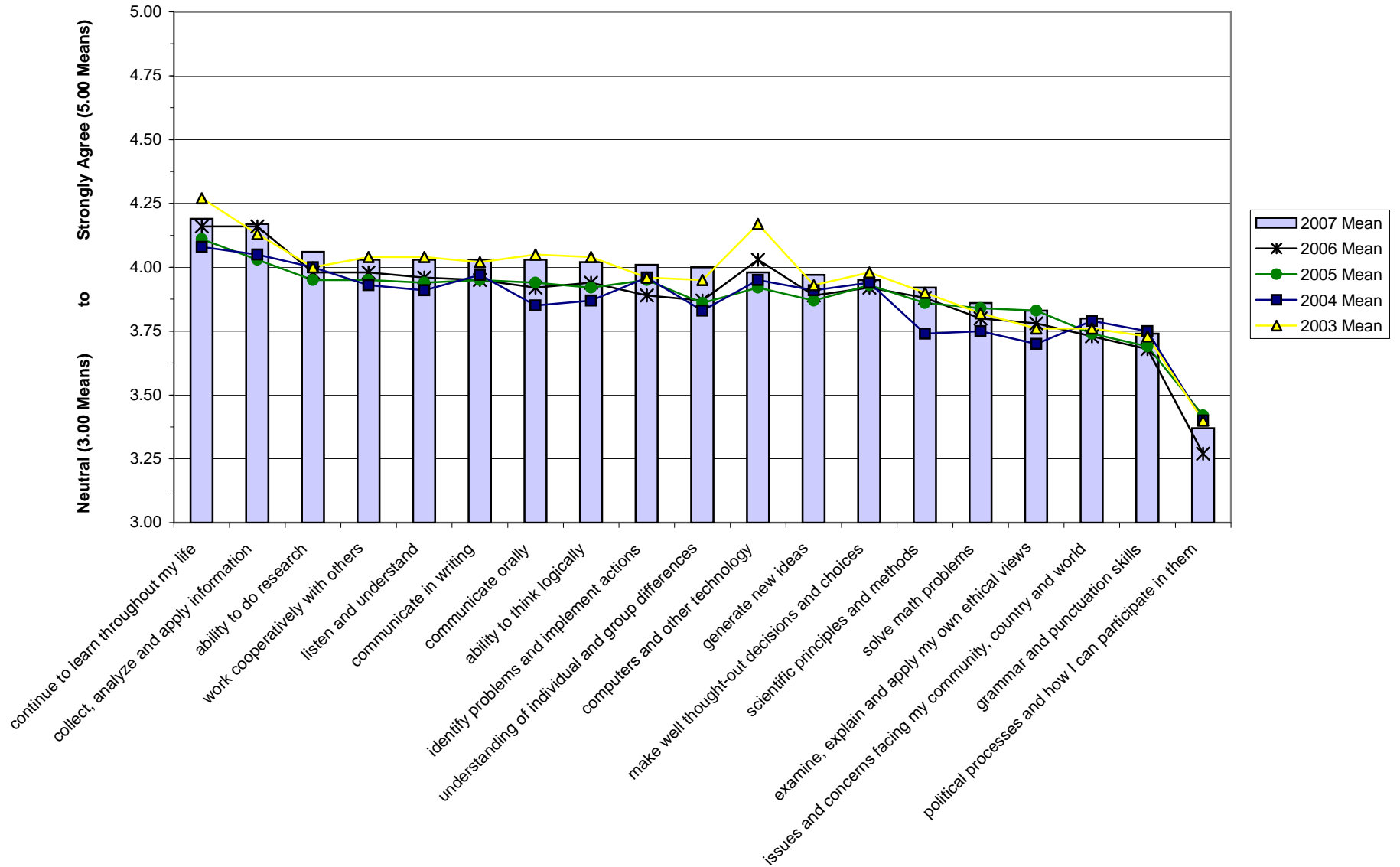


Table 3
Itasca Community College - General Education Student Survey - Spring 2007
Sorted by Agree/Strongly Agree Percent

| | Disagree | | Neutral | | Agree | | Total Count | 2007 Mean | 2006 Mean | 2005 Mean | 2004 Mean | 2003 Mean |
|--|-------------------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | Strongly Disagree | Count | Percent | Count | Percent | Count | | | | | | |
| Improved my ability to collect, analyze and apply information | 4 | 1.2% | 27 | 8.4% | 292 | 90.4% | 323 | 4.17 | 4.16 | 4.03 | 4.05 | 4.13 |
| Improved my ability to communicate in writing | 7 | 2.2% | 35 | 10.8% | 281 | 87.0% | 323 | 4.03 | 3.95 | 3.95 | 3.97 | 4.02 |
| Increased my desire to continue to learn throughout my life | 5 | 1.6% | 39 | 12.1% | 278 | 86.3% | 322 | 4.19 | 4.16 | 4.11 | 4.08 | 4.27 |
| Improved my ability to think logically | 4 | 1.2% | 45 | 14.0% | 273 | 84.8% | 322 | 4.02 | 3.94 | 3.92 | 3.87 | 4.04 |
| Improved my ability to do research | 7 | 2.2% | 43 | 13.4% | 272 | 84.5% | 322 | 4.06 | 3.98 | 3.95 | 4.00 | 4.00 |
| Improved my ability to communicate orally | 4 | 1.2% | 47 | 14.6% | 272 | 84.2% | 323 | 4.03 | 3.92 | 3.94 | 3.85 | 4.05 |
| Improved my ability to listen and understand | 4 | 1.2% | 48 | 14.9% | 271 | 83.9% | 323 | 4.03 | 3.96 | 3.94 | 3.91 | 4.04 |
| Improved my ability to identify problems and implement actions | 7 | 2.2% | 49 | 15.2% | 266 | 82.6% | 322 | 4.01 | 3.89 | 3.95 | 3.96 | 3.96 |
| Increased my ability to work cooperatively with others | 3 | 0.9% | 55 | 17.1% | 264 | 82.0% | 322 | 4.03 | 3.98 | 3.95 | 3.93 | 4.04 |
| Improved my ability to generate new ideas | 7 | 2.2% | 51 | 15.8% | 264 | 82.0% | 322 | 3.97 | 3.89 | 3.87 | 3.91 | 3.93 |
| Increased my understanding of individual and group differences | 1 | 0.3% | 63 | 19.5% | 259 | 80.2% | 323 | 4.00 | 3.87 | 3.86 | 3.83 | 3.95 |
| Improved my ability to make well thought-out decisions and choices | 5 | 1.5% | 60 | 18.6% | 258 | 79.9% | 323 | 3.95 | 3.92 | 3.93 | 3.94 | 3.98 |
| Improved my ability to use computers and other technology | 13 | 4.0% | 58 | 18.0% | 252 | 78.0% | 323 | 3.98 | 4.03 | 3.92 | 3.95 | 4.17 |
| Increased my understanding of scientific principles and methods | 10 | 3.1% | 79 | 24.5% | 233 | 72.4% | 322 | 3.92 | 3.88 | 3.86 | 3.74 | 3.90 |
| Increased my ability to examine, explain and apply my own ethical views | 11 | 3.4% | 79 | 24.5% | 233 | 72.1% | 323 | 3.83 | 3.78 | 3.83 | 3.70 | 3.76 |
| Improved my ability to solve math problems | 25 | 7.8% | 65 | 20.2% | 232 | 72.0% | 322 | 3.86 | 3.80 | 3.84 | 3.75 | 3.82 |
| Improved my grammar and punctuation skills | 13 | 4.0% | 87 | 26.9% | 223 | 69.0% | 323 | 3.74 | 3.68 | 3.69 | 3.75 | 3.73 |
| Increased my understanding of the issues and concerns facing my community, country and world | 16 | 5.0% | 85 | 26.3% | 222 | 68.7% | 323 | 3.80 | 3.73 | 3.74 | 3.79 | 3.76 |
| Increased my understanding of political processes and how I can participate in them | 40 | 12.4% | 138 | 42.7% | 145 | 44.9% | 323 | 3.37 | 3.27 | 3.42 | 3.40 | 3.40 |

Scale: 1-Strongly Disagree; 3-Neutral; 5-Strongly Agree
 Prepared by: Office of Institutional Research, 9/24/2007
 R:\ddata\general ed\icc gen ed Spring 07\it gen ed s07 results.xls/dis agree

Chart 1
General Education Survey - Ranked by 2007 Mean
Neutral (3.00) to Strongly Agree (5.00)



Scale: 1-Strongly Disagree; 3-Neutral; 5-Strongly Agree

Itasca Community College General Education Student Survey

We are interested in how you feel the General Education components of your experiences at ICC prepared you for life after ICC, including transfer to a baccalaureate granting institution or the world of work. Please fill in the appropriate circle to rate each of the following areas as to how well your educational experiences at ICC affected them:

Please fill in circles like this: . Do NOT use X's, /'s, etc.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1. In the year or two following my graduation from ICC, I plan to: (Choose one response only.)</p> <p>Continue my education 40%</p> <p>Work 8%</p> <p>Both of the above 46%</p> | <p>2. What is your age: 50% 20 years or younger</p> <p> 34% 21-35 years</p> <p> 7% 36-45 years</p> <p> 6% 46-60 years</p> <p> 0% 61 years or older</p> |
|--|--|

My classes and related experience at ICC:

| | % Strongly Disagree | % Disagree | % Neutral | % Agree | % Strongly Agree |
|--|---------------------------|---------------|--------------|------------|------------------------|
| 1. Improved my ability to communicate in writing | .3 | 1.9 | 10.8 | 68.1 | 18.9 |
| 2. Improved my grammar and punctuation skills | .6 | 3.4 | 26.9 | 59.1 | 9.9 |
| 3. Improved my ability to communicate orally | .3 | .9 | 14.6 | 64.1 | 20.1 |
| 4. Improved my ability to listen and understand | .6 | .6 | 14.9 | 63.2 | 20.7 |
| 5. Increased my ability to work cooperatively with others | .3 | .6 | 17.1 | 59.9 | 22 |
| 6. Improved my ability to collect, analyze and apply information | .3 | .9 | 8.4 | 62.5 | 27.9 |
| 7. Improved my ability to do research | .3 | 1.9 | 13.4 | 60.2 | 24.2 |
| 8. Improved my ability to identify problems and implement actions | .3 | 1.9 | 15.2 | 61.8 | 20.8 |
| 9. Improved my ability to make well thought-out decisions and choices | .3 | 1.2 | 18.6 | 62.5 | 17.3 |
| 10. Improved my ability to generate new ideas | .6 | 1.6 | 15.8 | 64.3 | 17.7 |
| 11. Improved my ability to think logically | .6 | .6 | 14 | 66.1 | 18.6 |
| 12. Improved my ability to solve math problems | .9 | 6.8 | 20.2 | 49.1 | 23 |
| 13. Increased my understanding of scientific principles and methods | .9 | 2.2 | 24.5 | 49.1 | 23.3 |
| 14. Improved my ability to use computers and other technology | .9 | 3.1 | 18 | 53.3 | 24.8 |
| 15. Increased my understanding of the issues and concerns facing my community, country and world | .3 | 4.6 | 26.3 | 52.3 | 16.4 |
| 16. Increased my understanding of political processes and how I can participate in them | 2.2 | 10.2 | 42.7 | 38.1 | 6.8 |
| 17. Increased my ability to examine, explain and apply my own ethical views | .6 | 2.8 | 24.5 | 57.3 | 14.9 |
| 18. Increased my understanding of individual and group differences | .3 | | 19.5 | 60.1 | 20.1 |
| 19. Increased my desire to continue to learn throughout my life | .3 | 1.2 | 12.1 | 51.6 | 34.8 |