



Southeastern Illinois College  
COVID-19 Institutional Follow-up Study  
November 5, 2020

### ***Report Prepared for the Board of Trustees***

In May 2020, the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Research along with the Executive Dean of Student Services thought it necessary to begin tracking SIC's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, its effect on our students, and our ability to plan ahead. Our offices launched a survey and conducted two focus group interviews with our students. The results from that study were reported in June 2020. Continuing with our efforts at tracking student engagement as well as our response efforts, a follow-up survey was conducted this fall semester.

#### **Method**

The follow-up survey was an electronic survey consisting of 25 questions designed using the Higher Education Data Sharing Consortium (HEDS) template. Adaptions were made to the template to meet the unique environment of SIC. Prior Informed consent was given by all participants. A link to the survey was placed online in the student learning platform visible when a student logged-in remotely to their courses. A direct link to the survey was also emailed to every registered student. The survey was conducted online October 5-21, 2020. Survey responses totaled 213 (n=213).

#### **Results**

Similar to the Spring 20 survey, students again gave the College high marks for its response to the COVID-19 crisis. Data from the follow-up survey clearly indicated students were aware of the great strides made by the college and numerous times noted the care demonstrated by faculty and staff for their safety and welfare. Yet, again, the survey clearly established students continue to feel a great amount of apprehension about the technology required for online learning, and uncertainty about the future.

- **89% Agree-Strongly Agree** the staff and administration at SIC have done a good job protecting students from COVID-19.
- **83% Agree-Strongly Agree** the staff and administration have done a good job helping students adapt to the changes forced by COVID-19.
- **80% Satisfied-Very Satisfied** with the communication they are receiving from SIC about its ongoing response to COVID-19.

- **80% Agree-Strongly Agree** SIC made all the mitigation efforts necessary to ensure a safe return to campus this fall semester.
- **69% Sometimes-Very Often** worry about doing well in their courses with most of them being online.
- **65% report feeling Some-Great Deal more stress.**

During this ongoing pandemic, impact on student learning will continue to be our most vital statistic. As we approach the end of this semester and prepare for spring 2021, SIC will continue to monitor student engagement and perceptions. Please consider the work already done a continuing project that will help us better understand our current reality and how we can better prepare for the future of student learning.

Chris Barr  
Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness

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Dr. Chad Flannery, Executive Dean of Student Services, for the many reviews of the survey questions and his dedication to student services.

The full report along with copies of the survey questions (edited for privacy) will be posted online, <http://www.sic.edu/accountability/office-of-institutional-research>