About 25% of first-year students leave college before their sophomore year. Knowing the experiences of your students and the impact of first-year programs is key to creating positive change.

**Understanding Expectations is Important.**

- 12% of students thought they might switch majors
- 35% actually did
- 70% of students thought they would probably socialize with someone from another racial/ethnic group
- 95% actually did

**College Can Be Demanding. Academics Are One Source of Student Stress.**

- 33% of students had difficulty adjusting to the demands of coursework
- 33% of students had a hard time developing effective study skills
- 47% of students struggled with effective time management
- 43% of students witnessed academic dishonesty or cheating

**Another Important Aspect for Students is Adjusting.**

- 81% felt a sense of belonging on campus
- 47% had difficulty getting along with their roommate
- 66% felt lonely or homesick
- 42% of students worried about their health
- 47% felt isolated from campus life

**Being Involved in Coursework is Key.**

- 45% frequently discussed course content with other students outside of class
- 37% frequently felt bored in class
- 36% had fallen asleep in class

So, the more you get to know your students, the better you can understand their needs. With insight from CIRP’s Your First College Year Survey, the most comprehensive tool addressing first-year programming and retention strategies, you’ll be one step closer to providing the best environment for student learning.