

RESEARCH

Office of Institutional Research

BRIEF

VOLUME 16 NUMBER 3

Community College Survey of Student Engagement 2004 General Education Assessment

The 2004 CCSSE was administered to randomly selected classes during Spring 2004 session. This brief will describe the benchmarks created from the 38 engagement items and will present the performance of St. Petersburg College students on these benchmarks and in comparison to the other community colleges within Florida (Florida Consortium), in comparison to other extra large colleges (more than 15,000 students, 24 colleges total) and in comparison to 152 participating colleges from 38 states across the United States.

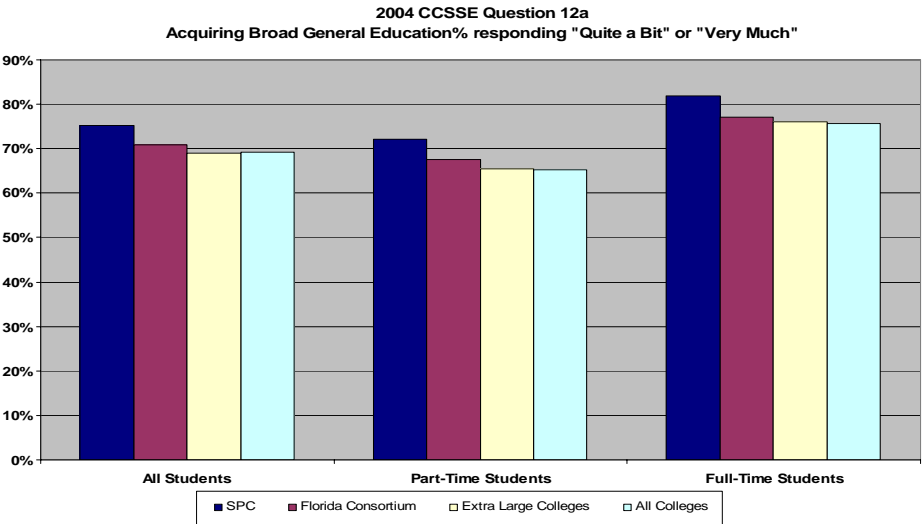
Question 12 on the CCSSE specifically addresses the student's experience at the institution. The specific questions are:

12. How much has YOUR EXPERIENCE AT THIS COLLEGE contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas:

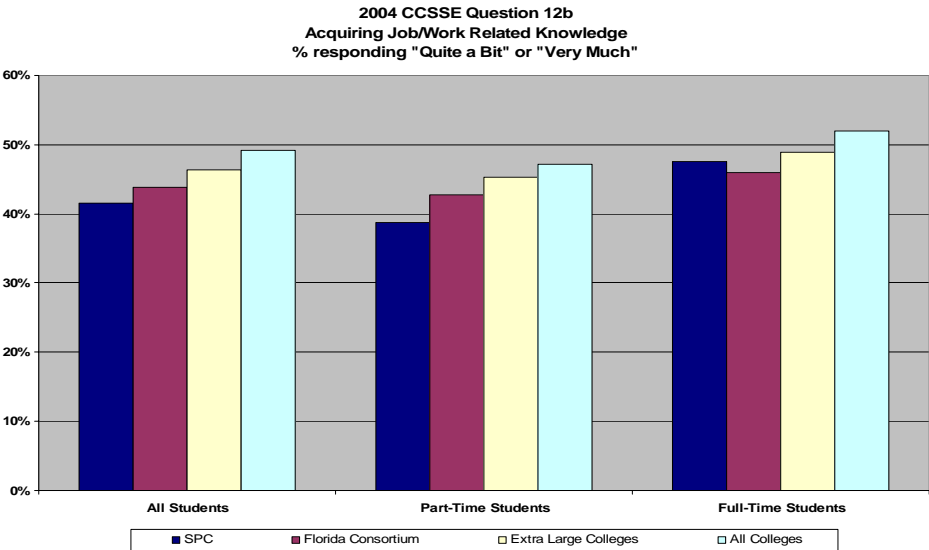
- (a) Acquiring a broad general education
- (b) Acquiring a job or work-related knowledge and skills
- (c) Writing clearly and effectively
- (d) Speaking clearly and effectively
- (e) Thinking critically and analytically
- (f) Solving numerical problems
- (g) Using computing and information technology
- (h) Working effectively with others
- (i) Learning effectively on your own
- (j) Understanding yourself
- (k) Understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds
- (l) Developing a personal code of values and ethics
- (m) Contributing to the welfare of your community
- (n) Developing clearer career goals
- (o) Gaining information about career opportunities

Many of these items correspond to SPC's goals relative to general education. Each of the CCSSE items is discussed below.

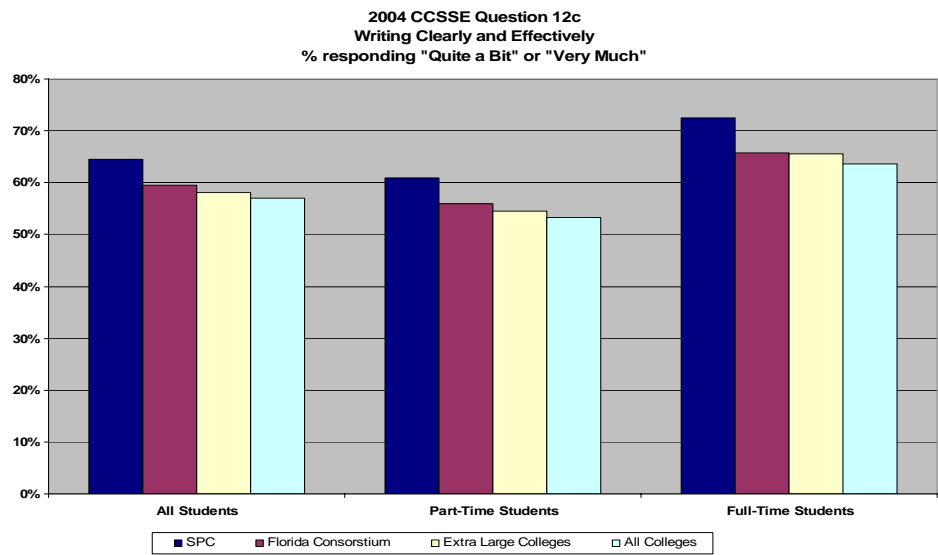
SPC students consistently felt that their experience at our college contributed to **acquiring a broad general education**. Combining the response of “quite a bit” and “very much”, the responses of SPC student exceeded those of students in the Florida community college consortium, extra-large colleges and all participating colleges. Overall, more than 75% of SPC students answered “quite a bit” or “very much.”



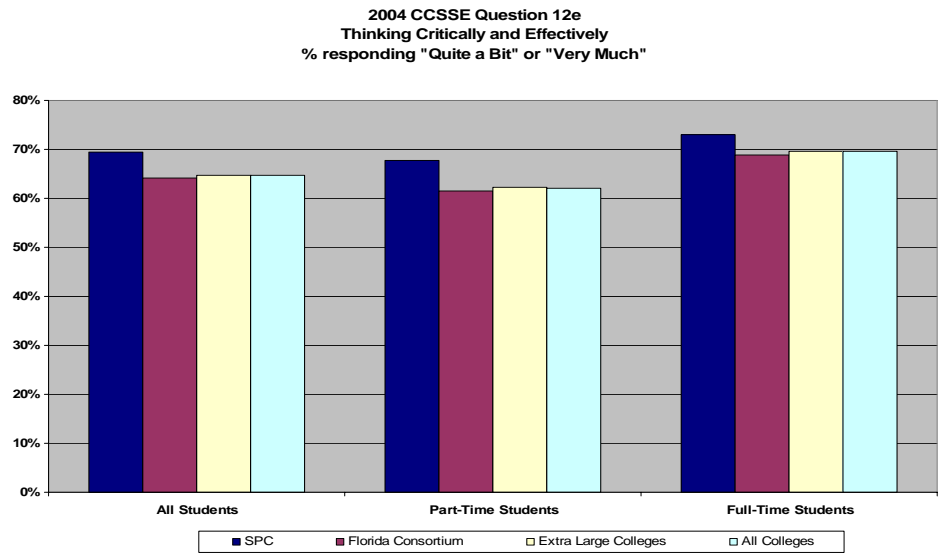
Relative to the question “**Acquiring a job or work-related knowledge and skills**”, SPC students did not rate their experience as highly as students in the other comparison groups. This result is not unexpected since the majority of SPC students are enrolled in the AA degree program which is designed to prepare students for transfer into baccalaureate degree programs at colleges or universities.



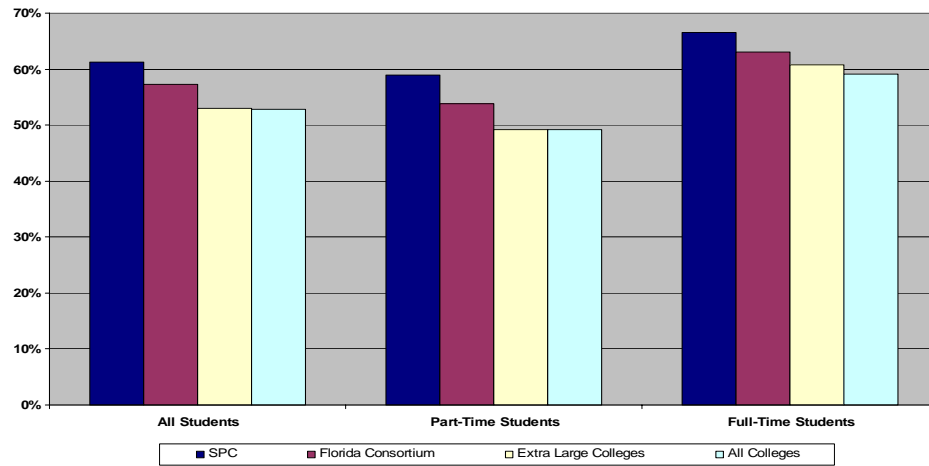
In the areas of **writing and speaking clearly and effectively**, SPC students consistently felt that their experience at the college contributed “quite a bit” or “very much” to their knowledge, skills and personal development. SPC students’ ratings were higher than those in any of the comparison groups.



Similar results were obtained in the areas of **thinking critically and analytically** and **solving numerical problems**. SPC students consistently rated higher than any comparison group.

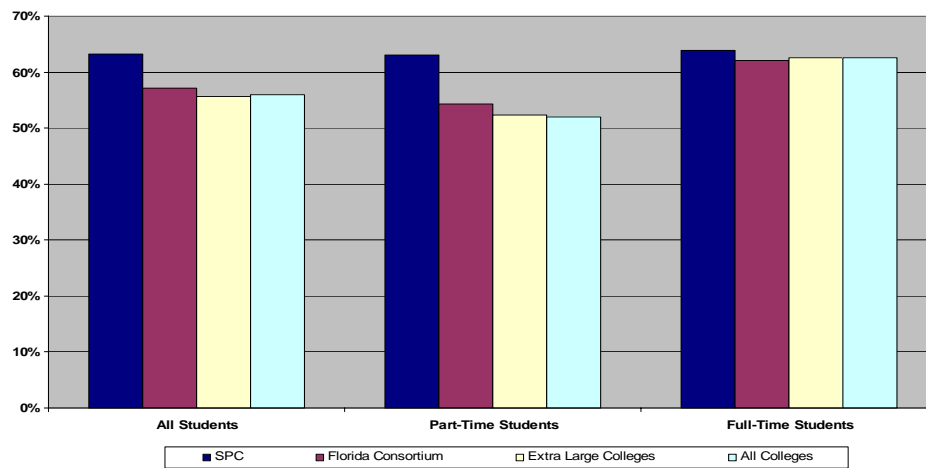


**2004 CCSSE Question 12f
Solving Numerical Problems
% responding "Quite a Bit" or "Very Much"**

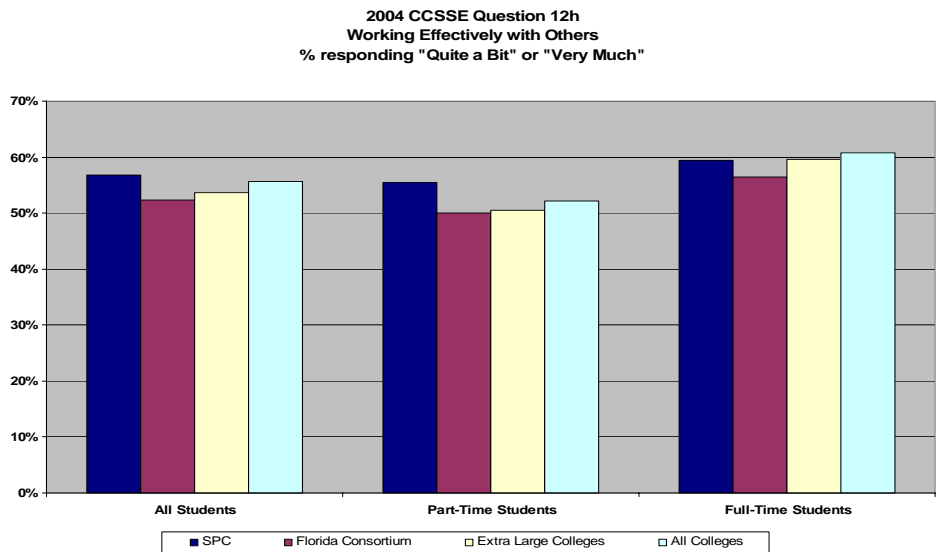


In the area of **Using computing and information technology**, SPC students' responses exceed those of all comparison groups.

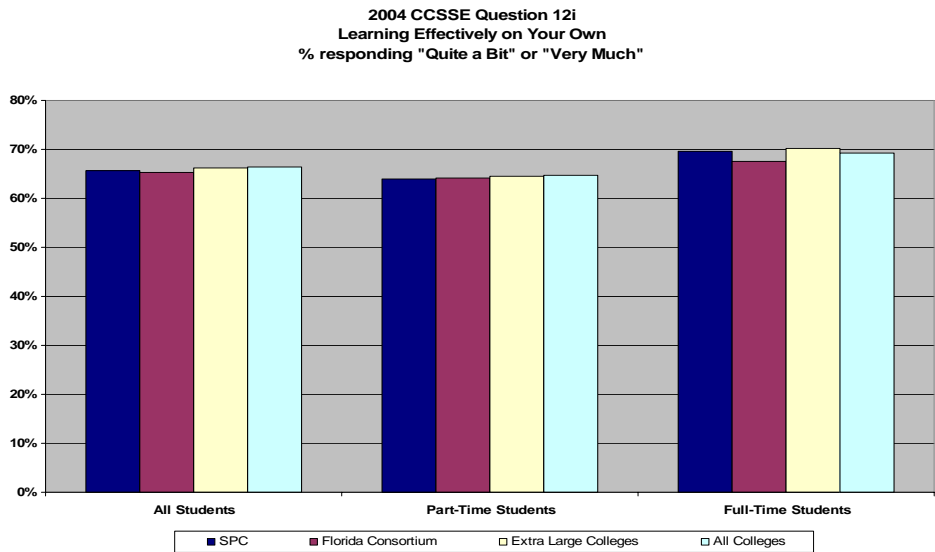
**2004 CCSSE Question 12g
Using Computing and Information
% responding "Quite a Bit" or "Very Much"**



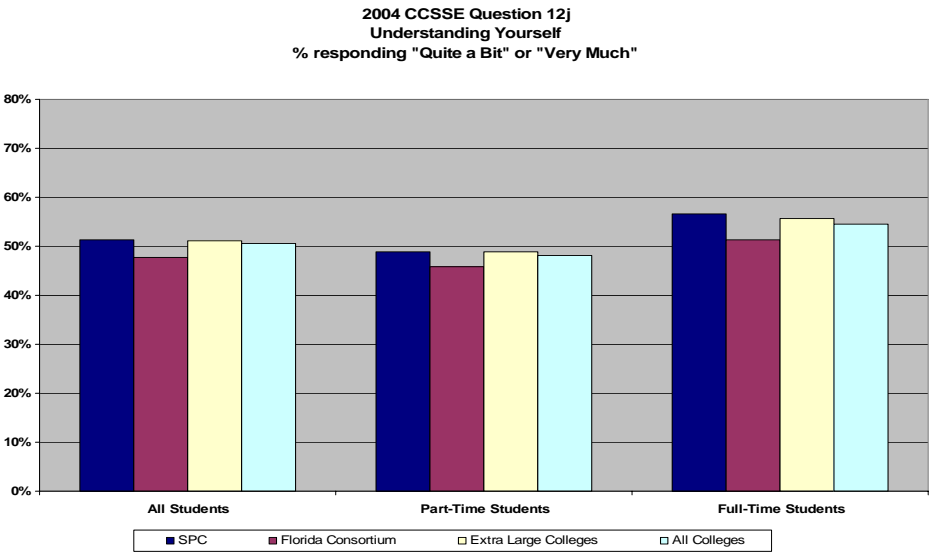
In the area of **Working effectively with others**, SPC students’ responses exceed those of the comparison groups for all students and part-time students.



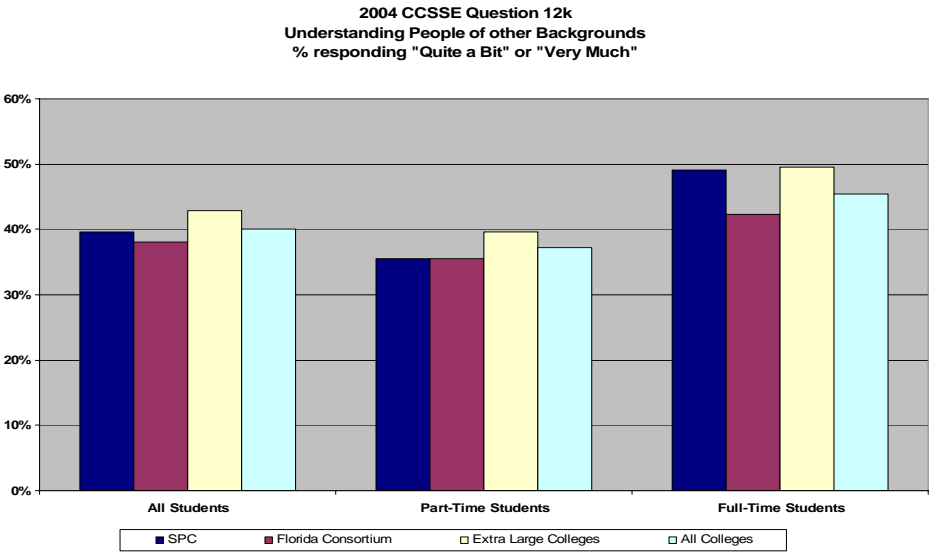
In the area of **Learning effectively on your own**, more than 60% of SPC students responded with “quite a bit” or “very much.” The SPC students’ responses were similar to those of the comparison groups.



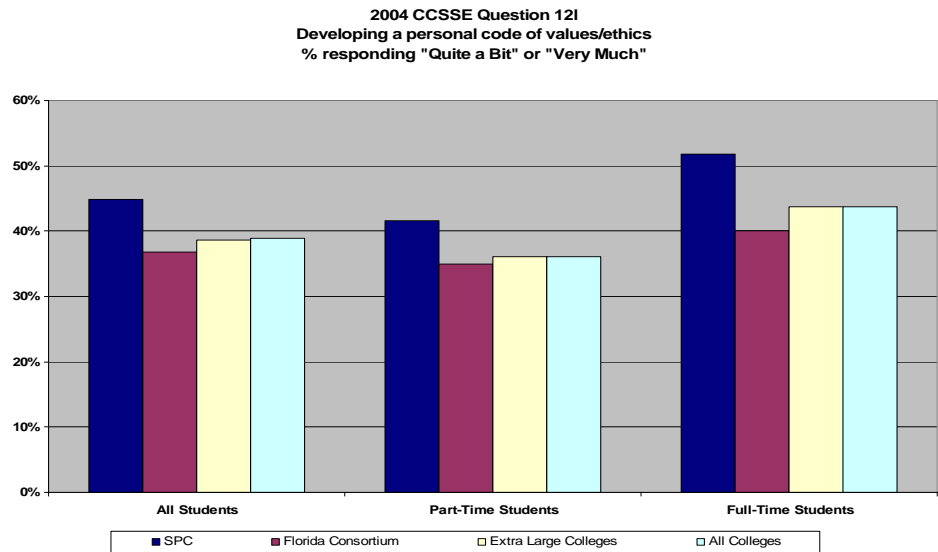
In the area of **Understanding yourself**, more SPC students responded with ‘quite a bit’ or ‘very much’ than students in the comparison groups.



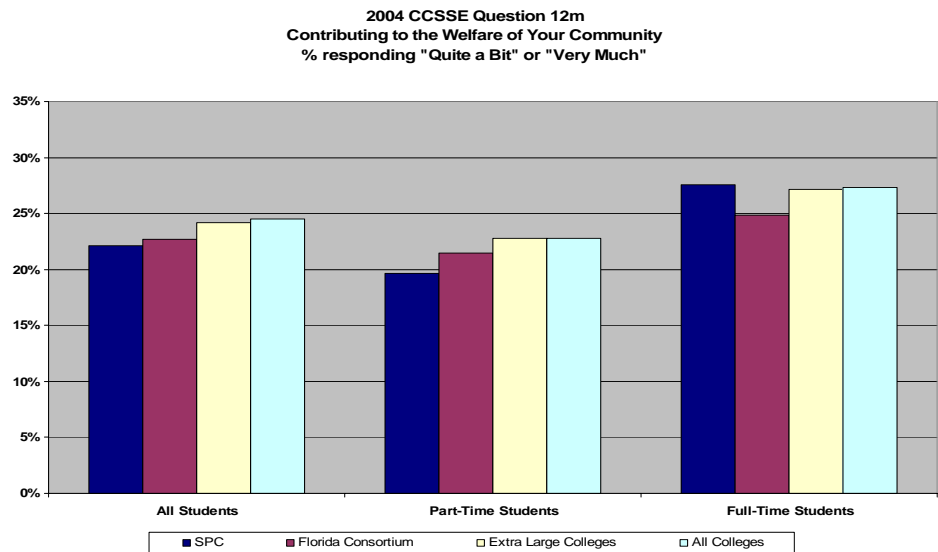
In the area of **Understanding people of other backgrounds**, full-time SPC students responded “quite a bit” or “very much” at a higher rate than part-time students.



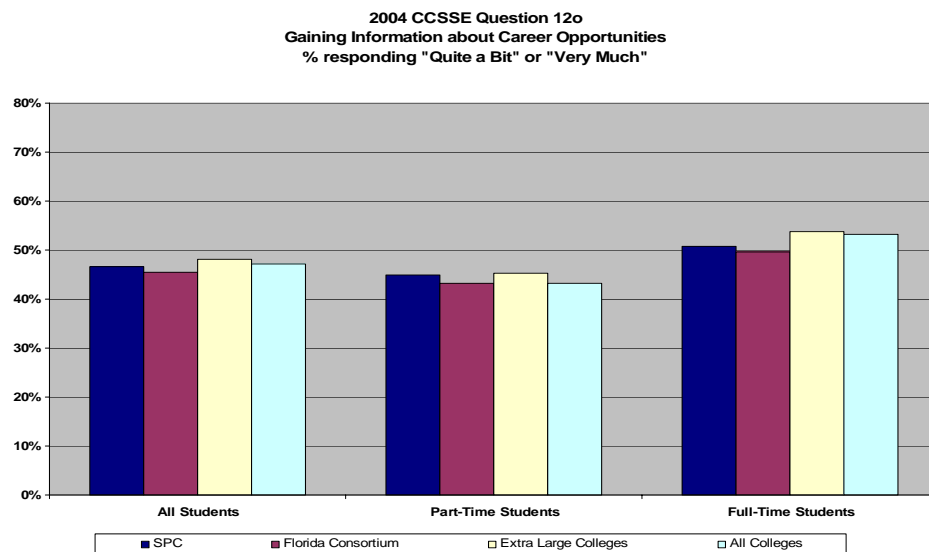
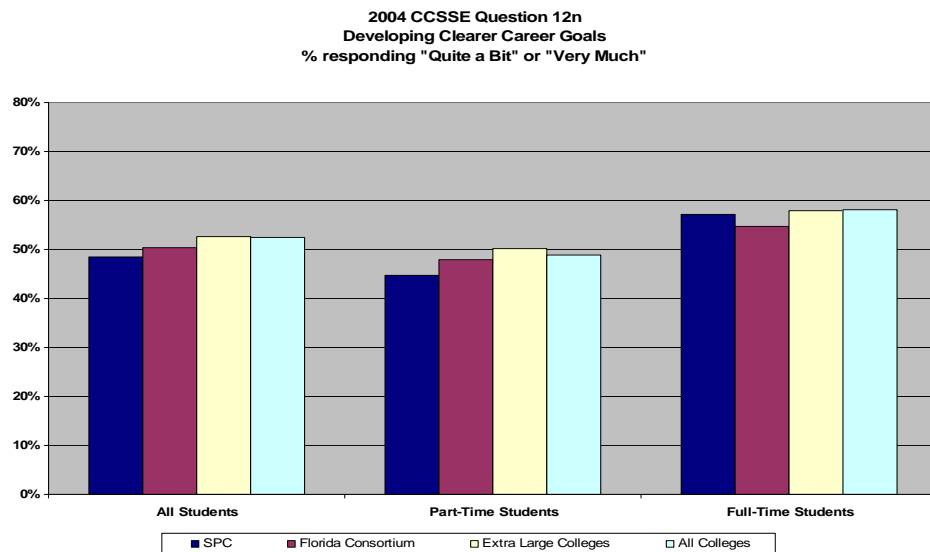
In the area of **Developing a personal code of values/ethics**, the ratings of SPC students consistently exceeded those of the comparison groups.



In the area of **Contributing to the welfare of your community**, most students participating in the CCSSE survey tended to rate themselves as ‘seldom’ or ‘never.’ More than 27% of SPC full-time students chose “quite a bit” or “very much” which is comparable to the full-time students at extra large colleges and all participating colleges.



The last two items in this area deal with **career goals** and **career opportunities**. Full-time students responded “quite a bit” or “very much” at a higher rate than part-time students.



Summary:

Based on the CCSSE, SPC students felt that their experience at SPC contributed ‘quite a bit’ or ‘very much’ to their knowledge, skills and personal development in general education. Specifically on those CCSSE items most closely aligned with SPC general education goals (items 12a, 12c, 12d, 12e, 12f, 12g, 12h, 12i), SPC students’ responses exceeded those of all comparison groups. On the majority of these items, SPC students responded “quite a bit” or “very much” more than 60% of the time.