Student Perceptions of the Quality of Academic Advising
NSSE Survey Results 2005-2016

The NSSE survey asks first-year students and seniors a series of questions about their educational experiences while in college. Because Oakland University has participated in NSSE for several years, the results provide not only comparisons to peer data, but also show how internal data has changed over time. OIRA can then mine this data in an effort to link it to policy or structural changes within the university.

The graph above shows how Oakland University student responses differ from national norms when asked to rate ‘the quality of your interactions with academic advisers’. (A positive number on the graph represents an above average response relative to national norms). The graph clearly shows a sharp improvement in first-year student perceptions of advising during winter 2013, the year that the FYAC was opened and first-year advising became mandatory.

Although Oakland University has been implementing changes to improve advising for all students (such as the Second Year Experience, Degree Works, & the EAB success collaborate), there has not yet been a similar improvement for senior students. We expect that many of these changes would naturally take time to show an improvement in student perceptions of advising. OIRA will continue to monitor this data.