This bibliography lists the reports of research studies conducted at the 23 colleges in the Virginia Community College System during the 1975-76 academic year. Over 110 studies are listed in the three sections of this document. The first section provides annotations for 47 of the studies, selected on the basis of anticipated interest, quality of study design, narrative sections on findings, and program innovation. Annotations are arranged by seven topics: follow-up studies, students, community, evaluation, research methods, administration, and enrollments. The second section presents all studies by topic and the third section lists all studies by college. The types of materials included vary considerably, from sophisticated experimental designs to casual descriptive studies, from routine reports to innovative proposals. This annual bibliography is intended to provide a means of improving and formalizing communication about research activities in the Virginia Community College System. (JDS)
RESEARCH IN THE VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM, 1975-76

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Introduction

As in 1974 and 1975, a document compiling the research studies and reports conducted during the previous year at the 23 colleges and the Department of the Virginia Community College System has been prepared. This annual bibliography provides a means of improving and formalizing communication about research activities in the VCCS.

The bibliography is divided into three sections. The first section contains annotations of research projects arranged by the topics follow-up studies, students, community, evaluation, research methods, administration, and enrollments. The second section lists all studies by topic, and the third lists all studies by college. A number of grade analysis reports are included in the second and third sections, although they are not annotated in the first.

From over 110 studies presented, 47 have been chosen for annotation. The selection process was a simple one. The writers reviewed all of the materials and annotated those which: (1) seemed to have the widest interest; (2) were attempts at program innovation; (3) contained a narrative section on findings; and/or (4) reported well-designed studies. It is possible that the reviewers' biases may have affected the selection process.

Anyone desiring a copy of an individual report listed in the bibliography should contact the Office of Institutional Research or the Office of Student Services at the college where the study was conducted. Copies of this bibliography can be obtained from the Office of Research and Evaluation, Department of Community Colleges.
Section 1

Annotations of Selected Reports Arranged by Topic
A. Follow-Up Studies


This study was conducted to determine graduates' evaluations of the college's degree and certificate programs. Information on 1971 and 1972 graduates was obtained from questionnaires mailed to 361 former students. The response rate was 57%.

The results of the study revealed that 73% of the graduates were employed full-time, while 11% were continuing college full-time. A total of 77% of the respondents indicated that their education was related to their jobs. From the time of graduation to that of the survey, almost 15% moved from an initially low salary range, under $8,000, to the $8,000-$10,999 range, and an additional 12% moved into salaries of $11,000 or better. The majority listed a good degree of job satisfaction with their present employment. Over 76% indicated that they had not changed their curriculum while at JTCC, and almost 92% indicated that they had achieved their educational goal. More than half the graduates reported plans for returning to a community college for additional work, and 93% indicated that they would recommend the college to persons with the same program interests.


This study sought to describe former occupational-technical students at Virginia community colleges, assess students' post college activities and achievements, and obtain students' evaluations of their college experience and current employment. Patterns of student retention and withdrawal, and differences between graduates and non-graduates, and among groups of graduates were also studied. The study population consisted of all former students enrolled in Virginia community college occupational curricula from fall, 1966 to fall, 1969. Of 11,623 former students who were surveyed, 61% returned usable questionnaires, with a 73% response rate of graduates and a 56% response rate for non-graduates.

The study results suggested that a former VCCS occupational student would be represented, in composite, as a Virginia resident, 23 years of age, white, and male. Graduates reported having been enrolled in 99 separate occupational-technical curricula, with slightly more than 80% enrolled in either a business or an engineering curriculum. In general, the grade point average of graduates was higher than non-graduates, although most of the graduates did require a longer period of time to earn their awards than was specified for those awards. Almost three quarters of the respondents indicated that they were working in full-time jobs related to their college curricula, with the vast majority working in
the state of Virginia. The former students surveyed rated the quality of their college preparation superior or good in most areas, and indicated satisfaction with their programs of study.


This study was undertaken to determine the reasons for non-enrollment of students who had pre-registered or applied for admission during Fall, 1974. A questionnaire was mailed to all students who applied for admission but did not register, and to all students who pre-registered and did not enroll for fall quarter classes. Responses were received from 95 students, or 57% of the study population.

Almost three-fourths of students who did not enroll for the fall quarter reported that they were working either part-time or full-time. The three major reasons given for non-enrollment were finances, transportation problems, and choice of another college. More than half indicated that they planned to attend NKCC in the future, and of these, one-fourth stated that they would need financial assistance. Choice of program seemed to have little influence on non-enrollment. Since financial considerations seemed to influence non-enrollment in the majority of cases reported, the authors recommended that the college disseminate more information on its financial aids program to prospective students.


This study analyzed and reported data concerning the success of 1974-1975 graduates in securing employment and transferring to four-year colleges and universities, and the graduates' degree of satisfaction with PVCC's instructional and student service programs. The data were based on 110 responses to a questionnaire mailed to December, 1974 and June, 1975 graduates, representing a return rate of 83%.

The majority of graduates reported that they found employment related to their educational programs, and that their education at PVCC aided them in securing employment or in upgrading job skills. Graduates of several programs, however, reported difficulty in finding related employment. Slightly over 80% of those respondents employed full-time worked within the geographic region served by the college. Virtually all the transfer respondents indicated that they had transferred to their first-choice college or university, that they had experienced no loss of credit in transferring and that their PVCC curriculum coincided adequately with that of their four-year college.
Based on information provided by senior institutions, a total of 104 SVCC transferees were found to have entered senior institutions in the fall of 1974. Of those, 59 students had completed SVCC degrees in June and August, 1974. The percentage of SVCC transferees entering out-of-state institutions increased from 24% in 1973 to 36% in 1974. While the mean GPA of the transferees was 3.29 at SVCC, the mean GPA for their first term attendance at senior institutions was 2.87. Twelve of the transferees achieved dean's list status their first term; none were ineligible to return.


This study surveyed 1975 graduates of GCC with regard to student characteristics, student perceptions of GCC and various services offered, and the present status of the graduates. Data were obtained from a questionnaire mailed to all 1975 June graduates. Responses were received from 86 of 104 graduates, a response rate of 83%.

Fifty-six percent of the respondents entered Germanna straight from high school, while 23% entered after working. The major reasons graduates initially selected Germanna were closeness to home and low tuition or cost. Respondents indicated the greatest satisfaction with instructional aspects of the college, and the least satisfaction with food services, social programs, and school spirit. Among occupational graduates, the majority reported that Germanna did not help them obtain their job, but that it did open new career fields for them. Among transfer graduates, the majority indicated they found themselves adequately prepared for transfer, and that they considered Germanna the right choice for post-high school education.


This study sought to determine the post-graduation activities of 1975 LFCC graduates. Data were obtained from 83% of the 120 graduates surveyed. The report presented no narrative summary, but provided survey results and graduate comments for 1975 graduates by curricular program. In addition, overall comparisons were made to 1972, 1973 and 1974 graduate survey results.

This study provided information about employment and/or college placement, salaries, colleges attended, and graduate comments for the 1975, 1972 and 1970 graduating classes of TNCC. Data were obtained through the use of three questionnaire mailings and telephone contact which resulted in response rates of 74% (216 respondents), 66% (131 respondents), and 46% (36 respondents) for the 1975, 1972 and 1970 graduating classes, respectively. Although no narrative summaries or comparisons were included in the report, specific information for each class of graduates was presented.


This study examined the factors leading to nursing student withdrawal from PHCC, and the difference in CGP test scores between nursing graduates and nursing dropouts. Data were collected from PHCC records, exit interviews, and a questionnaire. An 84% response rate was obtained from the 32 dropouts surveyed. The author noted that data analysis was limited by the small number of both graduates and dropouts from PHCC's four-year old nursing program.

Academic difficulty was by far the major reason given for withdrawal, with personal problems ranking second. The first three quarters of the program accounted for 78% of the attrition. Demographically, there was little difference between graduates and dropouts. The mean CGP subtest scores of the graduates were higher than the scores of the dropouts in every case except one.


This study identified and compared the distance from campus and means of transportation of students attending the two campuses of JSRCC. Through the use of a survey conducted on both campuses in December 1975, 300 Parham Road students and 200 Downtown students were sampled.

The results indicated that Downtown students generally lived closer to campus than Parham Road students, and more walked or rode a bicycle. The vast majority of Downtown students had access to public transporta-
tion and 40% utilized it, while only 9% of the Parham Road students had accessibility. While 82% of the Parham Road students drove a car to campus, only 30% of the Downtown students did so. A limited number of both Downtown and Parham Road students utilized the shuttle. Half of the Downtown students experienced parking problems downtown, and two-thirds reported a willingness to pay a nominal parking fee.

Printouts for all survey questions and day and evening student breakouts were included, as was a sample survey form.


This study involved a survey of unclassified students at NVCC and an assessment of their educational objectives. The survey population consisted of all students listed as unclassified in the Student Master File who had accumulated 24 or more credit hours. A survey sample of 481 was selected from the population of 2,985. A response rate of 31% was obtained from this sample; thus no extrapolations to the larger population could be made.

The results indicated that the majority of the unclassified students surveyed could be divided into four basic categories: (1) those who could fit into the present classification structure if so inclined; (2) those who intend to transfer without obtaining a community college award; (3) those who are interested in obtaining job related skills without degree aspirations; and (4) those who are attending for self-enrichment. It was recommended that the Student Master File be updated with regard to the current curriculum code for all students.


This study was designed to provide a statistical view of the 27,198 students enrolled at NVCC for the Fall Quarter of 1975. Information was based on existing research reports and Student Master File data.

It was found that the NVCC enrollment comprised 32% of the total VCCS enrollment. Over 70% of the students were enrolled part-time. The mean age of students was 27.7 years. More than 80% of the students were Virginia residents, and NVCC enrolled 2% of its service area residents in credit courses. Almost three quarters of the students remained unclassified, and slightly over one-third were new students. Campus-by-campus data breakdowns were included.

The purpose of this study was to determine whether students who are given incomplete grades actually follow through by making up the required work during the next quarter.

Of a total of 152 students receiving the I grade for the fall quarter 1974, only 81 students or 61% completed work during the next quarter. The greatest number of incomplete grades was given in the Division of Business and Public Service, and the Division of Humanities and Social Science, while the largest percentage of students failing to complete the work was in the Division of Industrial and Engineering Technologies. The percentage of veterans failing to complete work was much higher than the overall student body. The study results indicated that where incomplete grades were given for the reason stated in the catalog (absence at the end of the term due to verifiable, unavoidable sickness or injury), students made up the grades much more readily.


The purpose of this study was to determine the reasons for non-enrollment of students who applied for admission but did not enroll for the fall quarter 1975. A total of 91 questionnaires were mailed to students applying for admission but not registering, and 60 responses were obtained.

The three major reasons given for not enrolling in classes for fall quarter 1975 were: (1) finances; (2) choice of another college; and (3) lack of courses needed or desired. Although two-thirds of the respondents indicated that they were working full-time or part-time, only 10% of those employed reported that working conditions influenced non-attendance. Almost three-fourths of the respondents reported that they planned to attend NRCC in the future, though over 40% indicated that they would need financial assistance. One third of the respondents indicated they would attend if a more flexible schedule were available. It was recommended that the college advertise its financial aids program more extensively and pursue the feasibility of a more flexible scheduling system.

This study was undertaken to determine the characteristics of the students enrolled during JSRCC's second year of full operation. Basic enrollment information was tabulated to form the core of the study. The results indicated that 96% of the total college enrollment was non-white, that 76% of all persons served by the college were first generation college students, that the majority of graduates received degrees in technical fields, that the median age of students increased to 20 years of age, and that approximately 60% of the students attended less than full-time.


This study sought to identify a period of time when career selection is made in terms of education by surveying a group of students concerning their occupational career decisions. The response rate was 57% for the 500 sampled first-time students.

Survey data indicated that part-time night students were more sure of their career goals than full-time day students, and that full-time day students represented the largest number without a career decision. All respondents wanted 100% additional career information. The majority of students had made career selections without related job experience and most students had changed selections two or more times. The author concluded that a need exists for additional emphasis on career development related services.


The major purpose of this study was to describe VCCS graduates in terms of their demographic characteristics, types of awards granted, curricula upon graduation, credits earned, and length of time to earn awards. Data were obtained from each of the 23 community colleges on all students graduating between July 1, 1974 and June 30, 1975.

Analysis indicates that the number of students graduating rose 16% from the previous year. Of the graduates, 58% were men and 42% were women, while minority students comprised 13% of the graduates. The median age of the graduates was found to be 23.5. The AAS degree was awarded to 49% of the graduates, the AS to 29%, the AA to 4%, Certificates to 16%, and Diplomas to 2% of the graduates. Two-thirds of the total graduates were in occupational-technical programs, although male/female and white/minority differences could be seen within curricular areas.

This study was undertaken to obtain opinions on curriculum choice of presently unclassified evening students, examine the implications of remaining unclassified, identify those unclassified students who wish to select a program, and collect opinions concerning activities for the evening student. Data were obtained through the use of a survey of each evening class, fall term. The response rate of 34% of the 414 unclassified students was considered to be an adequate representation.

Results indicated that a large majority of unclassified students wished to retain their present status, one of three unclassified students would feel pressured if asked to select and pursue a program, very few unclassified evening students felt the need for student activities and twenty-two unclassified students wished to enter a program.


The purpose of this study was to describe the demographic characteristics of 1973-74 VWCC graduates, and to compare these graduates with all 1973-74 VCCS graduates. The VWCC graduates were found to be very similar to those of all VCCS schools, with these exceptions: (1) VWCC graduated significantly fewer minority students, though this could be attributed to the larger white population of its service area; (2) proportionally more VWCC students completed graduation requirements in less than one year, or more than five years; (3) the median age of VWCC graduates was slightly younger than VCCS graduates in general; and (4) VWCC graduated proportionally more students in health services than the system as a whole.


The primary purpose of this study was to describe important demographic characteristics of the VWCC student body from fall 1973 to fall 1975. A secondary purpose was to identify trends and make fall 1976 projections. Data were obtained from "Statistical Breakout by Student/Populations" printouts for Fall Quarters 1973, 1974 and 1975 and Winter Quarter 1975, and from an earlier study by J. Andrew Archer.
The number of women enrollees was found to be increasing at twice the rate of men, though men still outnumbered women within the student body. Proportionally more part-time students, veterans, and minority students were enrolling at VWCC. The ratio of FTE to headcount continued to decrease while the ratio of day-to-evening students continued to increase.


Based on the results of a sample of 30 currently enrolled students, the composite black student attending TCC is 17-22 years of age, and a full-time student enrolled in a two-year occupational-technical program or a one-year certificate program. He/she learned about TCC through friends, and attended because of its relatively low cost and its proximity to home. He/she had never voted in a student election, occasionally studied in the library and on at least one occasion argued with a teacher in class. The composite student reported being under great pressure, but had visited the counseling center only on a sporadic basis.

C. Community


This survey was undertaken in order to describe levels of citizen awareness of the mission and operation of Thomas Nelson Community College, to identify barriers to potential students, and to assess the educational goals of citizens who might be interested in enrolling at TNCC. A response rate of 38% was obtained for the mail survey of 1,000 randomly selected adult citizens of the TNCC service area. Nonrespondent bias was checked through the use of comparable census data.

The results indicated that the level of community awareness of TNCC was high, although the interest and/or potential for enrolling at the college to be somewhat limited. Most of the respondents described their educational goals as "personal-interest" or "job-related", and indicated interest in non-traditional instructional alternatives. The respondent bias demonstrated the need to obtain a more representative community sample.

For the academic years 1972-73 and 1973-74, this study examined the number of graduates from each public high school in the VWCC service area, the number and percent whose immediate plans included a two or four-year college, the number and percent intending to go immediately to a two-year college, and the number and percent actually enrolling in VWCC the following fall quarter. Names of graduates were obtained from high school annuals, commencement exercise programs, or the schools themselves. Data were obtained by post-graduation survey information provided by the State Department of Education.

Analysis indicated that those students coming to VWCC represented 15% of the total graduates, one-third of those indicating college plans, and three-fourths of those indicating two-year college plans. Geographic and individual school comparisons were also included.

D. Evaluation


This study was undertaken to compare CLEP policy at VWCC and other VCCS colleges, to review the relationship between local cut-off points and national CLEP norms, to analyze the content validity of CLEP examinations, to study the transferability of academic credit awarded by CLEP examinations, to establish local CLEP norms, and to develop local measures of correlation between CLEP scores and course grades.

It was found that over 50% of the undergraduate schools in Virginia now award academic credit on the basis of CLEP scores, although there is no state policy governing the awarding of CLEP credit. Four-year institutions in Virginia are less likely to award CLEP credit than two-year institutions, causing credit transfer problems. Transfer problems are compounded by the fact that four-year institutions utilize a higher cut-off point. The data also indicated that at least three CLEP examinations lack content validity with respect to VWCC courses and that VWCC's cut-off point at the national 25th percentile is too low.
The authors recommended that a statewide VCCS conference be called for the purpose of adopting a uniform policy for the use of General CLEF Examinations, that in the interim individual VCCS colleges utilize a 50th percentile cut-off point, and that upon implementation of a state-wide policy, articulation proceedings with four-year undergraduate institutions begin to alleviate credit transfer difficulties.


This study attempted to discern certain basic student information needed to develop strategies for programs in cooperative education. Student questionnaires were distributed during Spring Quarter 1975, and usable questionnaires were received from approximately 90% of the 3,000 students eligible for cooperative education.

The results indicated that the needs of certain students could be served by programs in cooperative education. Aspects of the program could include expanded work-related experiences for career-oriented students and real-world work experiences for transfer students. Since only one in ten new students knew about cooperative education, the need for continued program promotion in high schools was confirmed.


This study was undertaken to measure the participation of women, veterans, minority and handicapped students in post-secondary cooperative education programs, and to provide a descriptive and comparative analysis of selected policies and practices of co-op programs, highlighting features which were uniquely responsive to women, veterans, and minority and handicapped students. Quantitative materials were drawn from a questionnaire sent to 600 colleges and universities. Qualitative materials were gathered from field observations, open-ended schedules, and written or telephone communications.

Three important findings emerged: (1) cooperative programs are experiencing an increase in minority and women student participation; (2) increasing numbers of women, blacks and other minority students seem to be entering non-traditional curricula; and (3) of the total headcount enrollment reported by 150 co-op programs, 26% were women, 0.8% were handicapped, 13% were veterans, and 15% were minority male students.

As an aid to future VWCC decision-making, this study examined the characteristics, opinions, and attitudes of students enrolled in the instructional radio courses offered at VWCC. A response rate of 51% was obtained from 104 students enrolled in instructional radio courses who were surveyed by questionnaire. Non-response bias was also checked.

The majority of the respondents indicated that they were married, lived within 20 miles of the college, had attended college previously, and had degree aspirations. Most respondents listened to the broadcasts at home and indicated that repeat broadcasts were helpful. A significant number taped the lecture at home and/or supplemented the broadcast by utilizing VWCC's Learning Laboratory.


This study examined selected demographic and personal characteristics of CLDC users, CLDC services utilized, users' attitudes and opinions towards aspects of the center and users' comments. A response rate of 54% was obtained from the 272 users surveyed.

Results indicated that the majority of the users were under 30, white, high school or college graduates, and presently enrolled at VWCC. Slightly over half were female and 44% listed themselves as unemployed. The CLDC services most utilized were testing, occupational information, and career counseling. The survey indicated strong user support for all aspects of CLDC services.


This report examined the persistence, academic performance, and opinions of students enrolled in Project Step-Up, a federally-funded program to provide special attention and services to students whose academic progress was impeded due to certain external barriers imposed by deficiencies and handicaps largely beyond their control. Opinions of faculty, counselors, and peer-tutors were also presented.

Analysis indicated an 81% retention rate and average gains in both vocabulary/comprehension and words read per minute as measured by pre- and post-program scores on the Nelson Denny Reading Test. Questionnaires received from all groups indicated support for program goals and objectives.

This study was undertaken to evaluate the success of the 1974-75 developmental reading course at PVCC. Data received from 78 enrollees were processed through SPSS to obtain a frequency distribution and a chi square analysis. Though much of the information proved inconclusive, several observations were made:

a. Ninety-two percent of the students scored below the 30th percentile on the Comparative Guidance and Placement Test.

b. Seventy-four percent of the students scored below grade nine on the Nelson-Denny Reading Test, while only 58% of the students subsequently scored below grade nine.

c. Only 55% of the students satisfactorily completed the course.

d. Sixty-five percent of those not completing the course had a GPA less than 1.9 at year's end.

e. White students tended to complete the course sooner than black students.

f. There was a larger proportion of black students in developmental reading courses than in content courses.


The major purpose of this study was to determine the percentage of students satisfactorily completing all or part of the PREP program, a program to prepare active duty military personnel for post-secondary education. The study also examined the near-term success of PREP program students in regular college work. The sample for the study included 931 students registered for PREP math and English courses, and a self-selected sample of 32 students who continued at TCC.

The author found that the majority of students undertaking PREP work satisfactorily completed one or more courses in the program, though the scant number of those enrolling in regular college courses may indicate that PREP succeeded in showing some students that they were not candidates for post-secondary education.

9. Starnes, John; Houston, Charles A.; and Wilson, Rodger. *A Faculty Survey of Learning Resources Center at Virginia Western Community College.* Virginia Western Community College. April 1976.

This study examined which LRC services the VWCC faculty were using, how the faculty rated these services, what additional services were needed or desired, and how the faculty thought LRC could improve its services. A satisfactory 69% of the initial 475 faculty surveyed returned the questionnaire.
Only seven of the 22 services were used by half the faculty within the previous year, and only two services were used by three-fourths of the faculty. The respondents were, in general, pleased with the services they received, though suggestions for improvement were made. It was recommended that a special effort be made to inform the VWCC faculty of the range of LRC services available.


This study was undertaken to test four hypotheses: (1) students with higher GPAs would have higher Comparative Guidance and Placement (CGP) test scores in certain areas; (2) students with higher GPAs would have higher CGP interest scores in certain areas; (3) age would have an influence on GPA; and (4) high school performance would have an effect on college GPA. Data gathered for the report included year of birth, high school math and science grades, high school rank in class, college GPA and CGP interest and aptitude scores for those 90 students enrolled in programs within CVCC's allied health curricula with sufficient data to be included.

Although the number of individuals per cell was not large enough to make statistical comparisons with reliability, several trends could be noted. Students in Medical Laboratory Technology, Medical Records Technology and Radiologic Therapy scored above the national average on almost all CGP subtests, while students in Respiratory Therapy scored slightly below the national average in English skills. Students in all four programs had high interest scores in Biology, Health and Home Economics, with those in Medical Records Technology also scoring high in Secretarial Science and Business, and those in Radiologic Technology scoring high in Physical Science. In both Medical Records Technology and Medical Laboratory Technology programs, those in the lowest GPA category tended to score highest in Academic Motivation. Older students in Medical Laboratory Technology and Respiratory Therapy tended to do better in college than in high school.

E. Research Methods


This study attempted to reduce the number of items on the newly constructed NRCC faculty evaluation form. Five factor analysis techniques were utilized for the study: (1) principal components - full extraction; (2) principal components - truncated extraction; (3) common factor; (4) common factor using oblique rotation; and (5) variants of the common factor - including alpha, image and rao.
From this study, it appeared that the common factor solution using varimax rotation probably yields the most satisfactory information for interpreting the data. The results of the study were in agreement with this statement in Gorsuch Factor Analysis: "when the communalities are 1.0 the principal component, axes and alpha are virtually identical." It was also found that the image analysis allows a quick test of the validity of factor analytic assumptions.


This study examined the feasibility of developing local regression equations for predicting overall GPAs and Nursing GPAs for students enrolled in VWCC's Nursing Program. The study employed the technique of stepwise (forward) multiple linear regression using the RLOG program of SPSS.

The findings supported the feasibility of developing formulas for predicting both overall and nursing GPAs since approximately 99.6% of the variation of overall GPA was "explained" by the independent variables and approximately 99.8% of the variation of nursing GPA was "explained" by the independent variables.


This study examined several nonparametric statistical tests which can effectively measure the amount of subjectivity involved in certain decision-making processes at the community colleges. The author reported that these tests have the advantages of being easily computed by beginning researchers and easily explained to statistical newcomers, and being "distribution free" in not requiring sampling.

Three examples were given: The McNemar Test for Significance Change was used to examine and "explain" the low percentage of graduates per total enrollments; the Kruskal-Wallis Test was used to examine why students from particular high schools are mathematically more able than students from other high schools; and the Chi-Square Analysis was used to test the independence of students' curricular choices and the high schools they attended. The author concluded that certain nonparametric statistical tests may be more appropriate than the well-known statistical tests. References for the nonparametric tests were cited.
4. Lawrence, Martha H. The Effectiveness of the Comparative Guidance and Placement Test as a Screening Device and Predictor of Success on the State Nursing Examination for Students Applying to the Associate Degree Program in Nursing at Patrick Henry Community College, Martinsville, Virginia. Patrick Henry Community College. December 1975.

The purpose of this study was to determine if the Comparative Guidance and Placement Test (CGP) administered to applicants to the nursing program at PHCC is an effective screening device and predictor of success on the State Nursing Exam (SNE). The sample consisted of 38 nursing graduates, whose CGP subtest scores were correlated with their GPA and SNE scores. Stepwise regression was used in correlating subtest scores and GPAs to determine which were the most influential variables on the SNE scores.

Analysis identified the most important variables as GPA, and Verbal, Academic Motivation and Mathematics scores. Verbal ability, taken along with biological interest and GPA in nursing, resulted in 87% accurate predictions of success on the State Nursing Exam. These findings should enable the faculty at PHCC to make probability statements about the academic potential of students admitted to the ADN program and success levels on the SNE.

F. Administration


This survey was undertaken to establish the priority of needs of student services personnel and instructional personnel, and to facilitate internal communication within the college as a whole. The survey instrument addressed itself to three broad areas: (1) role clarification of instruction and student services; (2) effective vertical and horizontal communication of procedure and policy; and (3) development of an overall working policy. A response rate of 42% was obtained from the survey of 266 permanent college employees.

The findings revealed that college personnel believe the most urgent communications problems to be those related to the advising-registration process. There were significant differences between college communications needs as perceived by counselors and as perceived by all other personnel, suggesting a need for increased communication between these groups.

The purpose of this study was to examine the utilization of classroom and laboratory facilities for fall 1975, for both day and evening class periods. Weekly classroom and laboratory utilizations were reported as 80% and 64% respectively. Evening classroom utilization was 93% with several lecture classes offered in specialized laboratories. From the data presented, the author concluded that: (1) there can be little flexibility in assigning both day and evening class schedules; (2) there is little or no time for laboratory class preparation due to high utilization factors; and (3) there can be little or no expansion of offerings without additional space.


This study was undertaken in order to determine the characteristics of JSRCC's faculty. Approximately 95% more full-time faculty were employed by the college in 1974-75 than during the previous year. While half of the full-time faculty were 32 years of age or younger, 14% were 50 years of age or older. Sixteen percent of the faculty were found to have a doctorate, and 74% were found to hold a master's degree. It was also determined that over 350 part-time persons taught JSRCC classes during 1974-75.


The purpose of this study was to assess opinions of JSRCC faculty and staff concerning the desirable future reputation of the institution. In the summer of 1975 a questionnaire was developed and administered to tap these opinions; four possible responses were set forth, with a fifth possibility left open-ended for individual response. Eighty-three persons responded to the questionnaire. By far the greatest number of respondents preferred that JSRCC be known in the future as the "Best in Teaching and Learning," while the least number of respondents preferred a future reputation as "A Creative and Noteworthy Urban/Metropolitan Institution."

This study was undertaken to develop a long-range, strategic information systems plan to support administrative decision-making and, in turn, to carry out the educational programs of the college. The study was guided by a Business Systems Planning (BSP) methodology developed by IBM for information systems planning.

It was found that, historically, the college has not followed a data processing master plan. Since management decisions and the ability to conduct college business are dependent upon comprehensive, responsible student information, and since the image and accountability of the college are contingent upon the quality of the information disseminated to various agencies and the community, it was recommended that the college develop integrated data bases and a comprehensive network of information systems designed to fill the unique needs of the college. It was further recommended that the data then be used in the development or refinement of college needs assessment, institutional planning, research and evaluation, budgeting, the processing of learning resource materials, and management techniques.


This study examined present and projected parking utilization as a constraining factor to student enrollments. Data were obtained by an hourly examination of parking lot capacity on each of the five weekdays. Highest parking utilization was found to be between 9 a.m. and noon each day with overflow situations occurring especially on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. It was recommended that 157 additional spaces be made available for Fall 1976. It was also indicated that any growth in enrollments will produce a need for 23 additional spaces per 100 new students.
G. Enrollments


This study was undertaken in order to compare enrollment figures for summer session 1976 with the two previous summer sessions. Enrollment data were tabulated and analyzed. The preliminary analysis revealed a 25% increase in enrollments over summer session 1975, while a comparison of FTE students revealed a decrease of 21%. Decreases in headcount enrollment by program area were significant in AAS, degree, certificate and special student groups. The number of males in day and evening programs decreased by large percentages. Enrollment in evening programs gradually declined over the three years encompassed by the study. It also appeared from the high percentage of decrease in special students that students were not enrolling for one or two courses as they had in previous years.


This report was not designed to be an elaborate study, but to provide a closer examination of the pattern of black student enrollment at PVCC. Figures used were based on an enrollment figure of 2,030 as of October 29, 1975. Though the percentage (17%) of black students attending PVCC on a full-time basis was more reflective of the 18% black population of the colleges' service area, the figures raised a question as to why black students accounted for only 6% of the college's unclassified students. The findings suggested that black students were more likely to: (1) be full-time, degree seeking students; (2) enroll in occupational-technical rather than transfer programs; and (3) need developmental studies.


This study examined a four-year departmental summary of the number of classes, total enrollments, and average class size for the Business Division at VWCC. Data for the study were obtained from previous reports and from the computer printouts of the instructor workloads from VWCC's Computer Department. Enrollment trends indicated expanded student enrollments for the Business Division. Average class sizes, however, remained relatively stable throughout the period of the study.
Editors' Note: During 1975, researchers at VWCC also conducted enrollment studies for the Engineering/Industrial and Health Technologies Division, Humanities Division, Mathematics and Science Division, and Social Science Division.


This study assessed enrollment trends in credit and non-credit courses offered by VWCC's Division of Continuing Education. Data for the study were supplied from the official files compiled by the Division of Continuing Education. The most significant yearly increases occurred in the non-credit programs for spring quarters 1974 and 1975 and summer quarters 1972 and 1973. It was recommended that enrollments by program be examined, with particular emphasis on these two successful quarters, in order to plan future programs.
Section II

All Reports Arranged by Topic
A. Follow-Up Studies


16. Tidewater Community College, Virginia Beach Campus. A Survey of Students Withdrawing During Summer Quarter 1974-75. Tidewater Community College, Virginia Beach Campus, 1974-75.

17. Tidewater Community College, Virginia Beach Campus. A Survey of Students Withdrawing During Fall Quarter 1975-76. Tidewater Community College, Virginia Beach Campus, 1975-76.

18. Tidewater Community College, Virginia Beach Campus. A Survey of Students Withdrawing During Winter Quarter 1975-76. Tidewater Community College, Virginia Beach Campus, 1975-76.


B. Students


C. Community


D. Evaluation


2. Bowling, Chip; Thomason, Paul; and Houston, Charles A. *A Study of the Educational Needs for Cooperative Education at Virginia Western Community College.* Virginia Western Community College. May 1975.

3. Buchanan, E. T., III, and Sunnucks, George M. *Postsecondary Co-operative Education Programs and Minority Student Participation: Enrollment Patterns for Women, Veteran, Minority and Handicapped Students; Selected Program Characteristics; and Exemplary Programs Serving Populations with Special Needs.* Tidewater Community College, Virginia Beach Campus. November 1975.


E. Research Methods


4. Lawrence, Martha H. The Effectiveness of the Comparative Guidance and Placement Test as a Screening Device and Predictor of Success on the State Nursing Examination for Students Applying to the Associate Degree Program in Nursing at Patrick Henry Community College, Martinsville, Virginia. Patrick Henry Community College. December 1975.
F. Administration


7. Houston, Charles A. Average Credit Hours for Part-time Students. Virginia Western Community College. May 1975.


11. Houston, Charles A. A Study of the Utilization of Instructional Spaces at Virginia Western Community College. Virginia Western Community College. Fall 1975.


G. Enrollments


10. Houston, Charles A. A Comparative Analysis of Enrollments from
Summer '74 Through Summer '75. Virginia Western Community College.
August 1975.

11. Houston, Charles A. A Comparison of Selected Characteristics of
Students Enrolled in Summer '74 and Fall '75. Virginia Western
Community College. May 1975.

12. Houston, Charles A. A Four-Year Departmental Study of Enrollment
Trends in the Business Science Division at Virginia Western

13. Houston, Charles A. A Four-Year Departmental Study of Enrollment
Trends in the Engineering/Industrial & Health Technologies Division
at Virginia Western Community College. Virginia Western Community
College. May 1975.

14. Houston, Charles A. A Four-Year Departmental Study of Enrollment
Trends in the Humanities Division at Virginia Western Community

15. Houston, Charles A. A Four-Year Departmental Study of Enrollment
Trends in the Mathematics and Science Division at Virginia Western

16. Houston, Charles A. A Four-Year Departmental Study of Enrollment
Trends in the Social Science Division at Virginia Western Community

17. Houston, Charles A. and Starnes, John N. Predicted Enrollment for

Western Community College. March 1976.

19. Houston, Charles A. A Study of Saturday Enrollments and Course

20. Houston, Charles A. VVCC Quantitative Evaluation of Enrollment
and Degree Production. Virginia Western Community College.
February 1976.

October 1975.

22. Office of Institutional Research. Enrollment Statistics Report,

23. Office of Institutional Research. Enrollment Statistics Report,


H. Grades


Section III
All Reports Arranged by College
Central Virginia Community College


Dubney S. Lancaster Community College

1. A Survey of Unclassified Evening Students

Germanna Community College

1. Follow-Up Study of 1975 Graduates
2. Off-Campus and Evening Class Enrollments

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College

1. 1974-75 Faculty Profile
2. 1974-75 Student Profile
3. "If You Could Choose a Reputation for J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College"
4. A Report of Racial and Sex Composition for the College and By Campus, Division and Curriculum
5. Results of Transportation and Parking Survey: Conducted on the Parham Road Campus and the Downtown Campus

John Tyler Community College

1. Credit Hour Contribution
2. Enrollment Trends
3. Follow-up Survey

Lord Fairfax Community College

1. Follow-up Study of 1975 Graduates
Mountain Empire Community College

1. Follow-up Study of MECC Graduates

New River Community College


3. Analysis of Graduates: August 1974 and June 1975

4. Analysis of New River Community College Faculty

5. Analysis of Non-High School Graduates Enrolled Fall Quarter 1974 and Fall Quarter 1975

6. An Analysis of Students Who Applied for Admission But Did Not Enroll for Fall Quarter 1975

7. Characteristics of Students Enrolled at New River Community College for the 1974-75 School Year

8. Comparison of Enrollment for Part-Time and Full-Time Students By Service Area for Fall and Spring Quarters 1975-76 and Local Funding Formulas for Five Community Colleges

9. Cost Analysis Study for Part-time Faculty: Spring Quarter 1976

10. Enrollment Analysis: Summer Quarter 1975

11. Enrollment Analysis: Fall Quarter 1975


13. Enrollment Analysis: Spring Quarter 1976

14. Faculty Workshop Evaluation: Fall 1974

15. Faculty Workshop Evaluation: Fall 1975

16. A Follow-Up Study of Former Occupational-Technical Students at Virginia Community Colleges

17. Follow-Up Survey of New River Community College Applicants for Fall Quarter 1974

18. Grade Study: Spring Quarter 1975

19. Grade Study: Fall Quarter 1975

20. Grade Study: Winter Quarter 1976
21. A Preliminary Analysis of Summer Enrollment 1976 as Compared with Previous Summer Sessions

22. A Study of Incomplete Grades Given for Fall Quarter 1974

23. A Study of the New River Community College Faculty Evaluation By Students Using Several Factor Analysis Techniques

24. Summary Analysis: Staff Development Survey

Northern Virginia Community College

1. Enrollment Statistics Report, Summer 1975
2. Enrollment Statistics Report, Fall 1975
4. Grade Distribution Analysis, Spring 1975
5. Grade Distribution Analysis, Summer 1975
6. Grade Distribution Analysis, Fall 1975
7. Grade Distribution Analysis, Winter 1976
8. Fall 1975 Faculty and Staff Personnel Analysis
9. Fall 1975 Faculty and Staff Race/Sex Analysis
10. Fall 1975 Student Profile Report
11. Information Systems Planning Study
13. Unclassified Student Survey

Patrick Henry Community College

1. The Effectiveness of the Comparative Guidance and Placement Test as a Screening Device and Predictor of Success on the State Nursing Examination for Students Applying to the Associate Degree Program in Nursing at Patrick Henry Community College, Martinsville, Virginia
2. A Study of Patrick Henry Community College Nursing Dropouts
Plodmont Virginia Community College

1. Analysis of Black Enrollment at Plodmont Virginia Community College: Fall Quarter 1975

2. A Study of Developmental Reading Students for the Academic Year 1974-75

3. Survey of Graduates 1974-75

Southwest Virginia Community College

1. 1974 Transfer Students' Follow-up Report

Thomas Nelson Community College

1. Community Awareness of Thomas Nelson Community College and Accessibility of Educational Programs: A Survey of the Adult Population and the Virginia Peninsula


3. Staff Development (ACCTion) Committee Survey

4. Student Enrollment by Zip Code Area

Tidewater Community College

1. 1975-76 Fall and Winter Quarter Career Development/Placement Survey

2. Characteristics and Attitudes of Black Students Attending Tidewater Community College - Virginia Beach.

3. Comparative Results of English COI - English 99 Follow-up Studies

4. Counseling Center Graduation Survey Results: 1975 Tidewater Community College Graduates

5. Follow-up Study of 1974 Graduates of Tidewater Community College, Frederick Campus

6. Postsecondary Co-operative Education Programs and Minority Student Participation: Enrollment Patterns for Women, Veteran, Minority and Handicapped Students; Selected Program Characteristics, and Exemplary Programs Serving Populations with Special Needs
7. PREP at TCC: A Preliminary Examination
8. Summary of Graduates: Virginia Beach Campus - 1975
9. Survey of Students Withdrawing During Summer Quarter 1974-75
10. Survey of Students Withdrawing During Fall Quarter 1975-76
11. Survey of Students Withdrawing During Winter Quarter 1975-76

Virginia Western Community College

1. Average Credit Hours for Part-time Students
2. A Comparative Analysis of Enrollments from Summer '74 through Summer '75
3. A Comparison of Selected Characteristics of Students Enrolled in Summer '74 and Fall '75
4. A Comparison of Virginia Western Graduates with the Virginia Community College System: 1973-74
5. Continuing Education Credit and Noncredit Enrollments: 1971-75
6. Credit by CLEP: A Disconcerting Look at a Good Idea
7. A Demographic Profile of VWCC Students: Fall 1973 - Fall 1975 and Projected 1976
8. A Descriptive Summary of Selected Characteristics of Students Enrolled in Nursing for Fall 1972 and 1973
9. Determining the Effect of Reading Ability for Success in Mathematics at Virginia Western Community College
10. An Evaluation of Instructional Radio Courses at Virginia Western Community College
11. An Examination of Selected Characteristics of Students Enrolled for Summer 1975
12. A Faculty Survey of Learning Resources Center at Virginia Western Community College
13. A Follow-up of 1973 Transfer Graduates
14. A Follow-up Study of Former VWCC Students Enrolled at Senior Colleges and Universities
15. A Follow-up Study of the 1975 June and August Graduates in the Associate in Arts and Associate in Science Degree Programs
16. A Four-Year Departmental Study of Enrollment Trends in the
Business Science Division at Virginia Western Community College

17. A Four-Year Departmental Study of Enrollment Trends in the Engineering/Industrial & Health Technologies Division at Virginia Western Community College

18. A Four-Year Departmental Study of Enrollment Trends in the Humanities Division at Virginia Western Community College

19. A Four-Year Departmental Study of Enrollment Trends in the Mathematics and Science Division at Virginia Western Community College

20. A Four-Year Departmental Study of Enrollment Trends in the Social Science Division at Virginia Western Community College

21. FTE Faculty and FTE Students for Summer '74

22. An Interim Evaluation of the Career Life Development Center at Virginia Western Community College

23. Predicted Enrollment for Fall 1976 - 1980

24. Predicting Academic Success in Nursing: A Feasibility Study

25. Preliminary Spring Enrollments


27. A Study of Class Scheduling for Summer Sessions


29. A Study of the Educational Needs for Cooperative Education at Virginia Western Community College

30. A Study of the Present and Projected Parking Facilities Utilizations at Virginia Western Community College

31. A Study of the Proposed Schedule for Fall 1975

32. A Study of the Utilization of Instructional Spaces at Virginia Western Community College

33. A Study to Determine the College Selection of 1974 William Byrd High School Seniors
34. Summary of Franklin County Enrollments Fall Quarters (1968 - 1975)

35. Tendency Toward College for High School Graduates in the Virginia Western Community College Service Area


37. VWCC Quantitative Evaluation of Enrollment and Degree Production

Virginia Department of Community Colleges

1. A Profile of Graduates of the Virginia Community College System, 1974-75.