

NAEP Goes to College

Gary W. Phillips

Vice President and Institute Fellow
American Institutes for Research

National Assessment Governing Board

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NAEP's Previous Attempt to Go to College

- NCES initiative 20 years ago
- Report (NCES, 1995)
 - National Assessment of College Student Learning: Identifying College Graduates' Essential Skills in Writing, Speech, Listening and Critical Thinking

NAEP's Previous Attempt to Go to College

- In the winter 1990, president Clinton and state governors announced six education goals for the nation.

NAEP's Previous Attempt to go to College

- **By the year 2000:**
 - 1. Every child will start school ready to learn.**
 - 2. The high school graduation rate will increase to at least 90 percent.**
 - 3. American students will leave grades 4, 8, and 12 having demonstrated competency over challenging subject matter**
 - 4. The nation's teaching force will have access to programs for the continued improvement.**
 - 5. U.S. students will be first in the world in science and mathematics achievement.**
 - 6. Every adult American will be literate and will possess the knowledge and skills necessary to compete in a global economy and exercise rights and responsibilities of citizenship.**

NAEP's Previous Attempt to go to College

- One objective of goal 6 was to substantially increase “the proportion of college graduates who demonstrate an advanced ability to think critically, communicate effectively, and solve problem”

NAEP's Previous Attempt to go to College

- In the fall 1991 and 1992, NCES sponsored 2 study design workshops with national experts
- Workshop participants
 - Assessment experts, institutional researchers, faculty and administrators, policy makers
- Position papers
 - General skills related to critical thinking, problem solving and communication skills
- Four public hearings
- Conducted survey of over 600 participants
 - Specific set of skills that might be assessed

Why This is A good Time for a NAEP Collegiate Assessment

- Validity of College and Career Ready standards in high schools
- A natural extension of NAEP's preparedness initiative

Why This is A good Time for a NAEP Collegiate Assessment

- PISA (Program for International Student Assessment) 2011 college graduation rates
 - United States slipped from rank 2 to rank 13 between 1995 and 2008, not because its college graduation rates declined, but because they rose so much faster in many other OECD countries.
 - These developments will be amplified over the coming decades as countries such as China and India raise their educational output at an ever-increasing pace.

(see Strong Performers and Successful Reformers in Education: Lessons from PISA for the United States, OECD, 2011)

Why This is A good Time for a NAEP Collegiate Assessment

- PIAAC (Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies), 2012, in 23 countries, 16-65 year olds in Literacy, Numeracy and Problem Solving in Technology Rich Environments
- Age 16-14 year olds in U.S.
 - Literacy - below international average, ranked lower than older adults
 - Numeracy - below international average, ranked lower than older adults
 - Problem Solving Technology - below international average
(see Literacy, Numeracy, and Problem Solving Technology Rich Environment Among U.S. Adults: First Look, USDOE/IES/NCES, 2012)

What would a NAEP Collegiate Assessment look like?

- NAEP Collegiate *Trial* Assessment
- Administered at the end of college year 2 and year 4
- Would be computer adaptive
- Generic content similar to Grade 12 reading, mathematics and science
- Vertically linked to Grade 12 NAEP
- Longitudinal component of NAEP
- Different college groups
 - Community college vs 4-year college
 - Ivy League versus non Ivy League
 - Liberal arts vs specialized colleges

How can the Government go about creating a NAEP Collegiate Assessment

- Since its inception in 1969 there have been two large design changes in NAEP.
 - **1983 New Design for a New Era** - NAEP shifted from a research project to reporting on the condition of education in America.
 - **1987 Alexander/James Report** - NAEP expanded to include
 - Trial state-by state assessments
 - Private schools
 - Links to international assessments
 - National Assessment Governing Board
- Something similar to the Alexander/James panel could help create a NAEP collegiate Assessment.