

Memo

To: University Community
From: Robyn Dickinson, Director Institutional Research
Date: February 16, 2018
Re: Strategic Planning Survey Results

This memo accompanies the presentation of the 2017 Strategic Planning Survey Results. The Strategic Planning Survey was conducted in the fall 2017 semester as part of a mid-cycle evaluation of progress on the University's [2015-2020 Strategic Plan](#) and our planning processes. Faculty, staff, administrators, and members of Student Government were invited to respond to the online survey. I want to thank those who took the time to complete the survey; we received responses from 188 (11%) individuals.

Overall highlights of the results include:

- The majority of respondents are familiar with the University's Mission and Strategic Plan, and feel they are closely aligned.
- The majority also believe that strategic planning does impact broad decision-making and resource allocation at the University; they were less likely to indicate that planning impacts resource decisions in their college, division, or department.
- Most respondents, over half, also indicated that the majority of the [Strategic Planning Principles](#) are guiding planning and decision-making processes to a "great or moderate extent."
- Over half of respondents believe we are making excellent or good progress on the three themes of the plan — Engaged, Integrated, Global — however, about one quarter of respondents indicated they "don't know" about progress on each of these themes. Throughout the survey, respondents were least likely to indicate there was opportunity or progress on items related to the Global theme of the Plan.
- In thinking about the plan's specific goals, respondents feel that we have made the most progress on topics like student service and community-based learning experiences, student leadership development, assessment, assurance of student learning, and experiential learning opportunities. Less progress is perceived related to goals including affordability for students and their families, globalization in teaching and learning, and cross-disciplinary learning opportunities.
- Respondents selected "affordability" as a topic that we should continue to prioritize in the remaining years of the current plan and in future planning activities, along with creation of new academic programs, keeping the Jesuit ideals and mission, and becoming more diverse and inclusive.

The results of this survey were presented to the University Planning Committee at its February meeting and have been shared with the Self Study Working Groups for inclusion in their analyses. I am pleased to share them with you for our continued reflection on progress with our plan and planning process.

Encl.



Strategic Planning Survey Results

University Planning Committee

February 2018

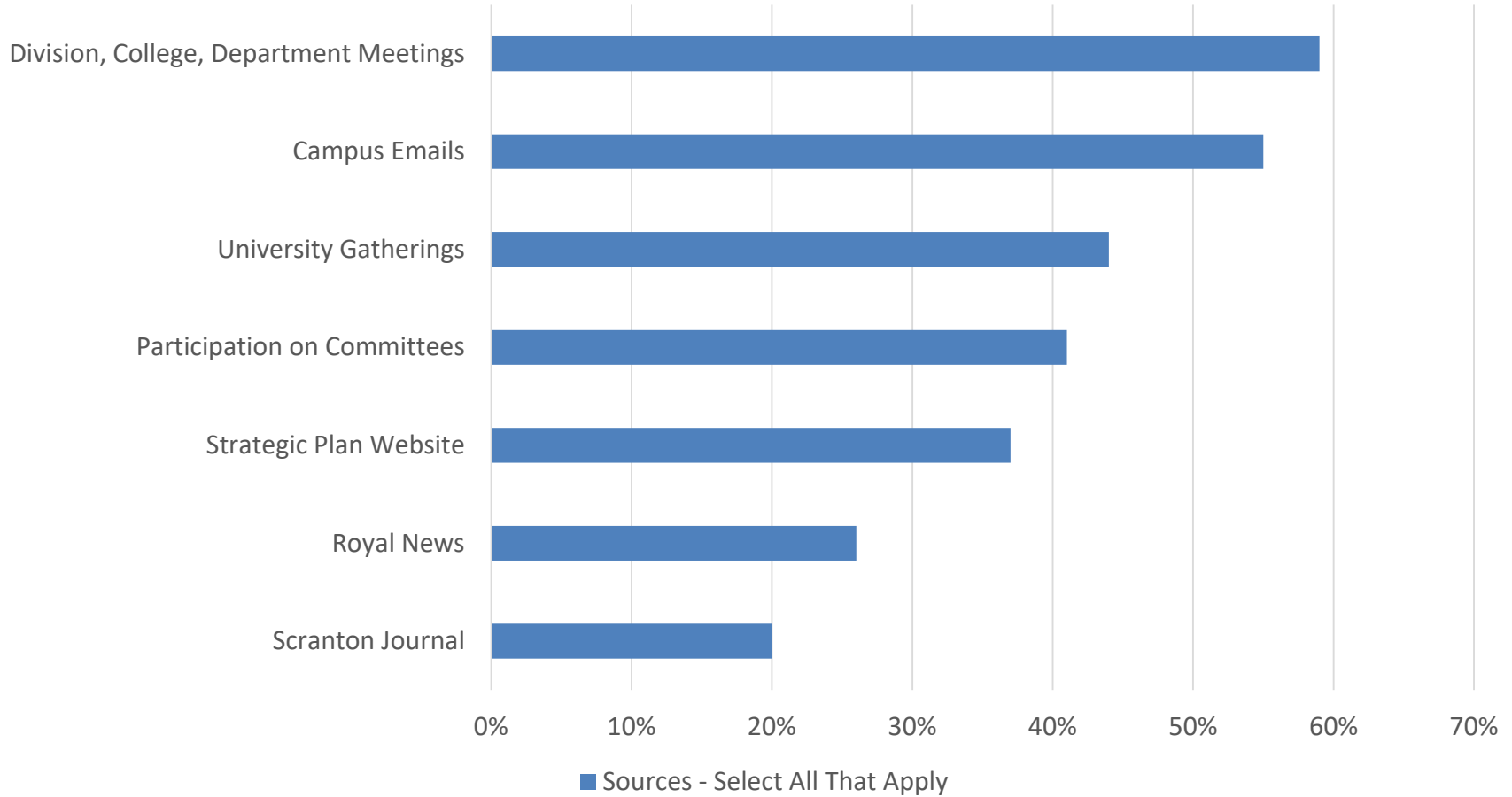


Background

- Administered to faculty, staff, and student government members in October – November 2017
- 11% response rate overall (n = 188)
 - Faculty 41%
 - Staff, Administrators 48%
 - Students 11%
- 78% are “very” familiar with the University’s Mission
- 34% are “very” familiar with the Strategic Plan (45% somewhat)
- 55% feel the Strategic Plan is “closely” aligned with the University’s Mission
- 12% feel “very” informed about the overall progress of the Strategic Plan (50% somewhat)

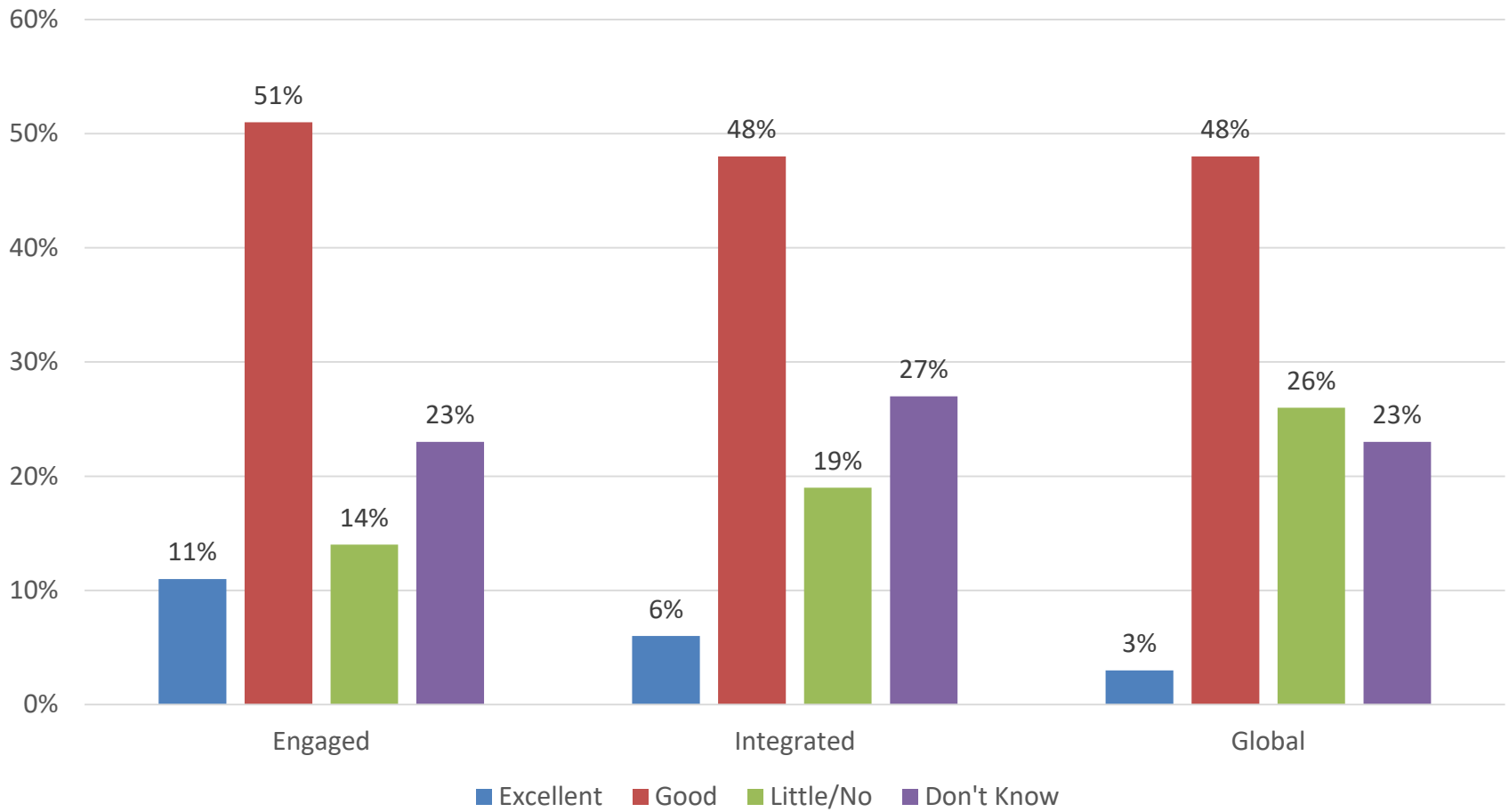


Sources of Information About the Strategic Plan



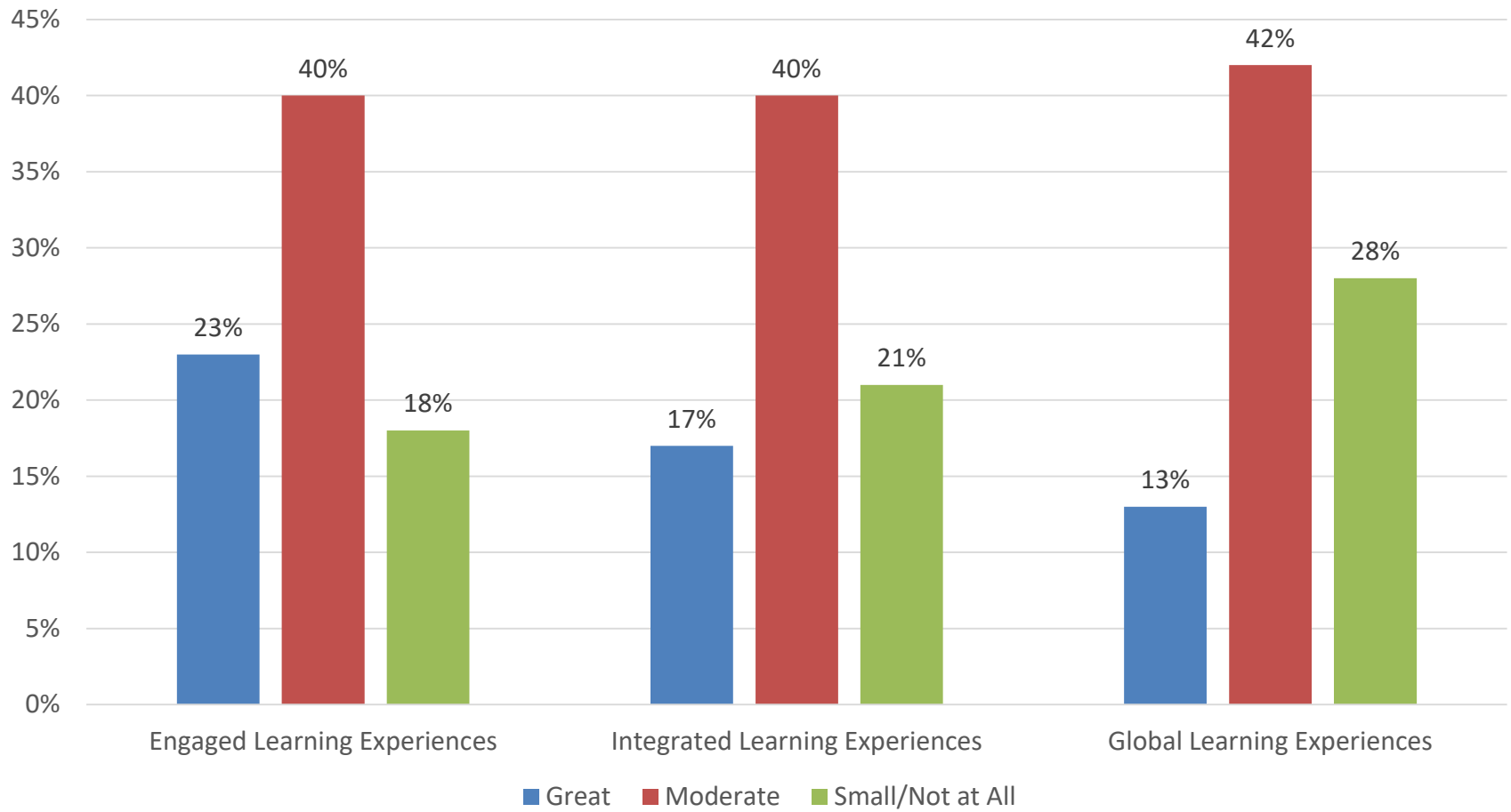


Progress on Plan Themes



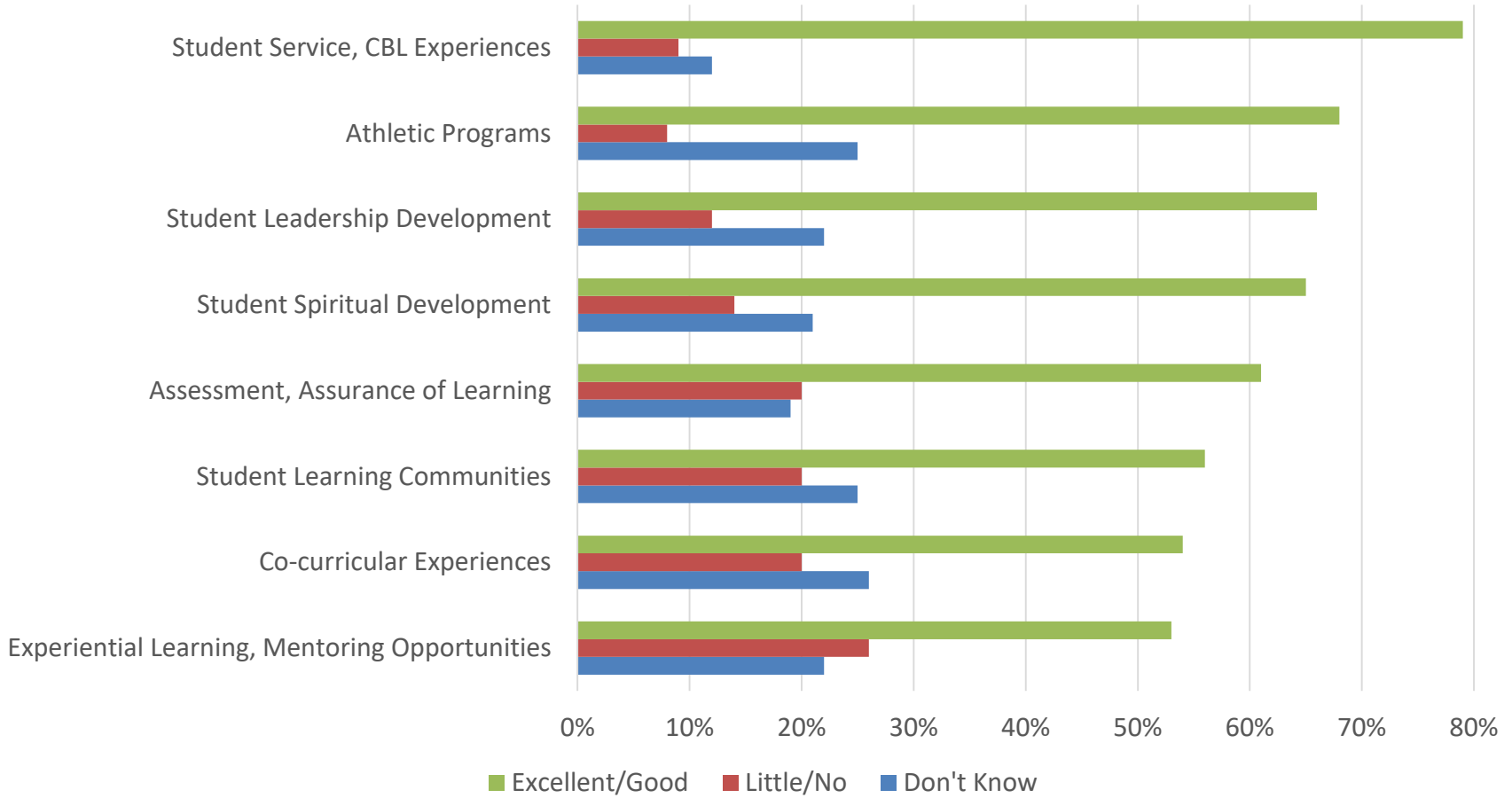


Extent University has Created Opportunities in its Programs and Operations for...



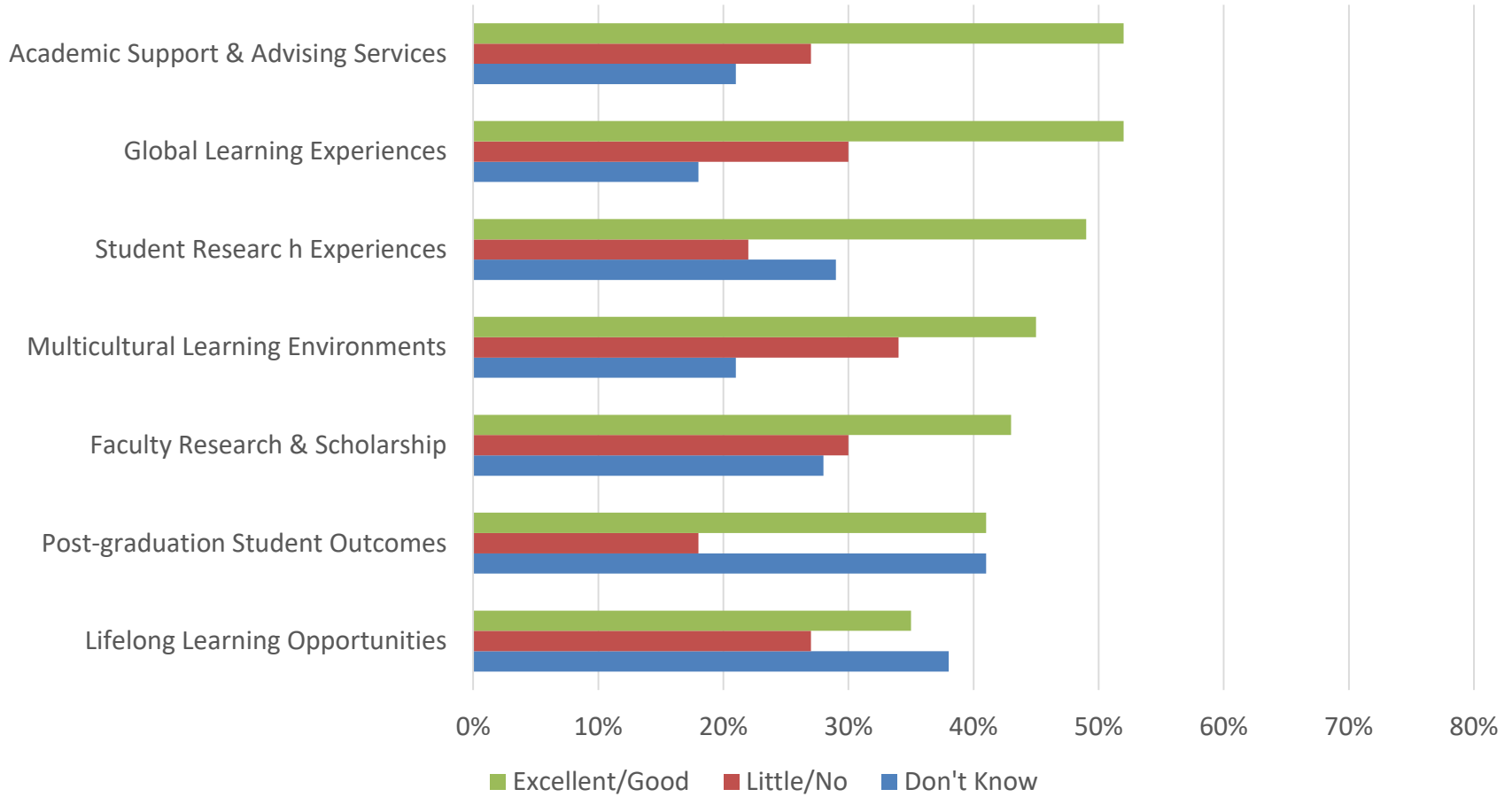


Progress on Plan Goals (Most)



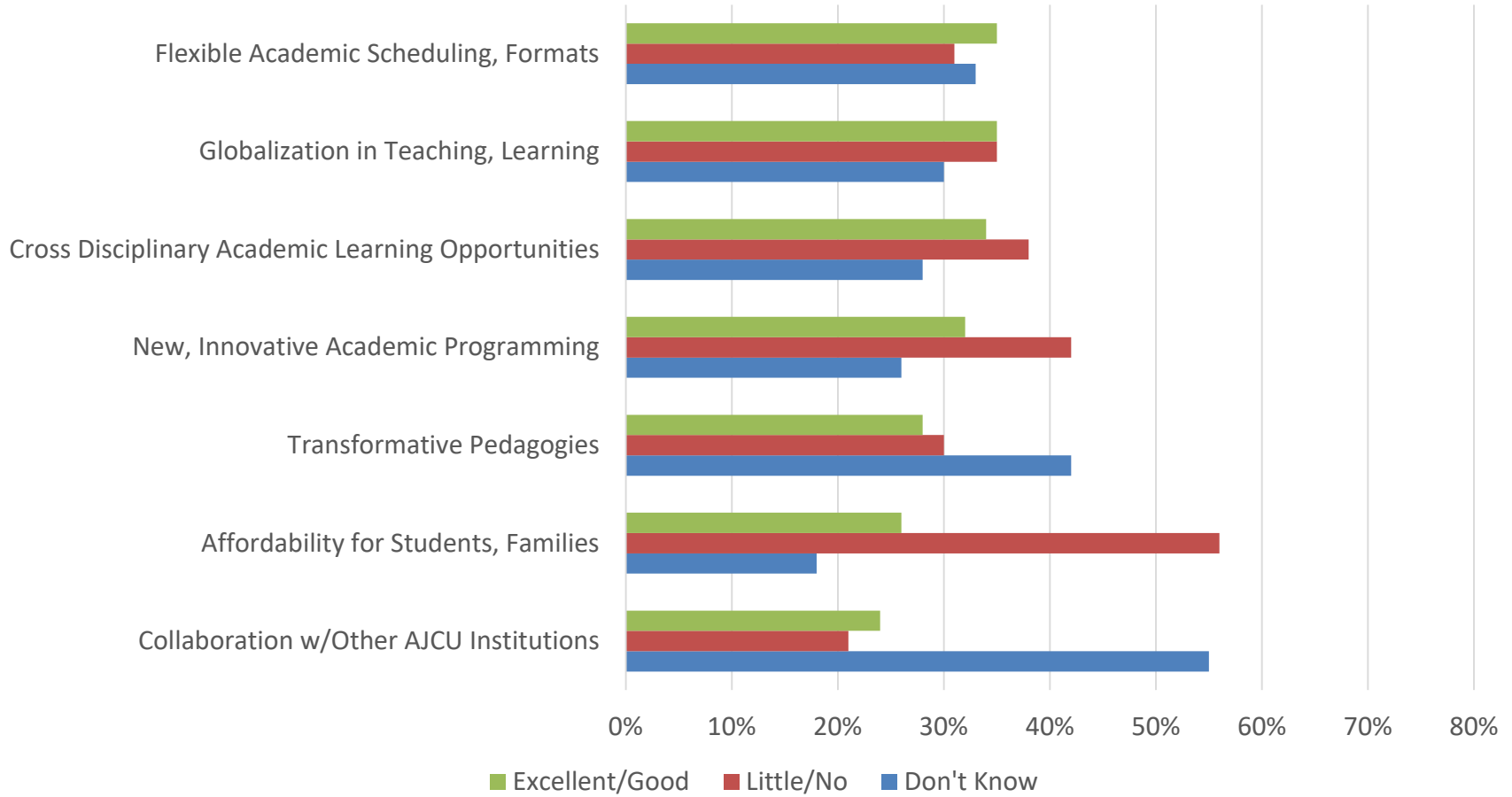


Progress on Plan Goals (Mid)





Progress on Plan Goals (Least)



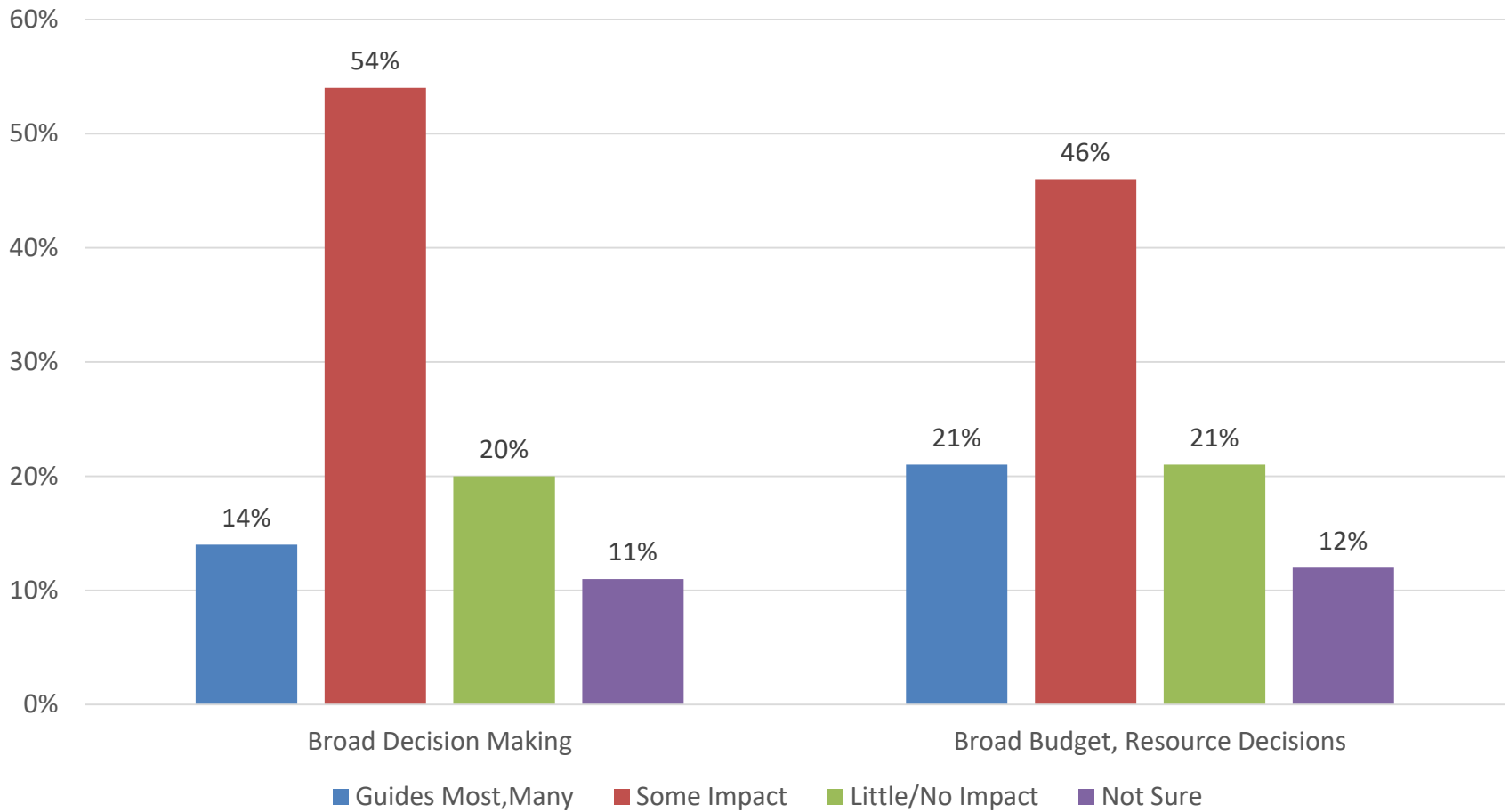


Plan Topics to Prioritize in Next Years

- Affordability for Students, Families (68%)
- Student Research Experiences (43%)
- Experiential Learning, Mentoring (41%)
- Multicultural Learning Environments (38%)
- Academic Support, Advising Services (38%)
- Faculty Research, Scholarship (36%)
- New, Innovative Academic Programming (35%)
- Student Leadership Development (33%)
- Student Service, CBL Experiences (32%)
- Global Learning Experiences (31%)



What Impact Does Strategic Planning Have On Decision-making





Planning Within Your Area

College, Division, Department Planning Impact on Budget, Resource Decisions

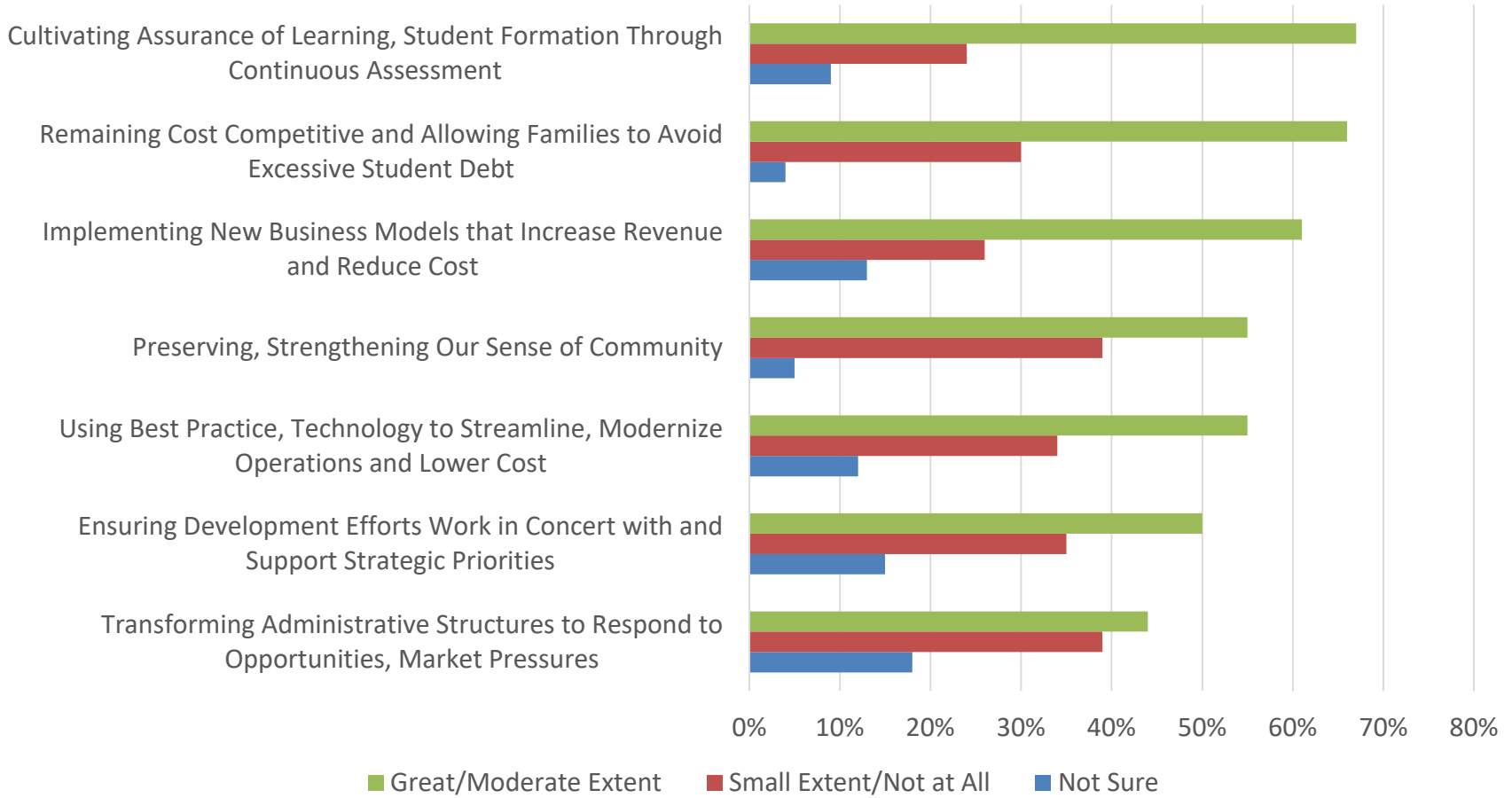
Guides Many	22%
Guides Some	35%
Little/No Impact	28%
Not Sure	15%

Resource Allocation Decisions Are Communicated

Very Well	11%
Moderately Well	29%
Not Very Well	55%
Not Sure	5%

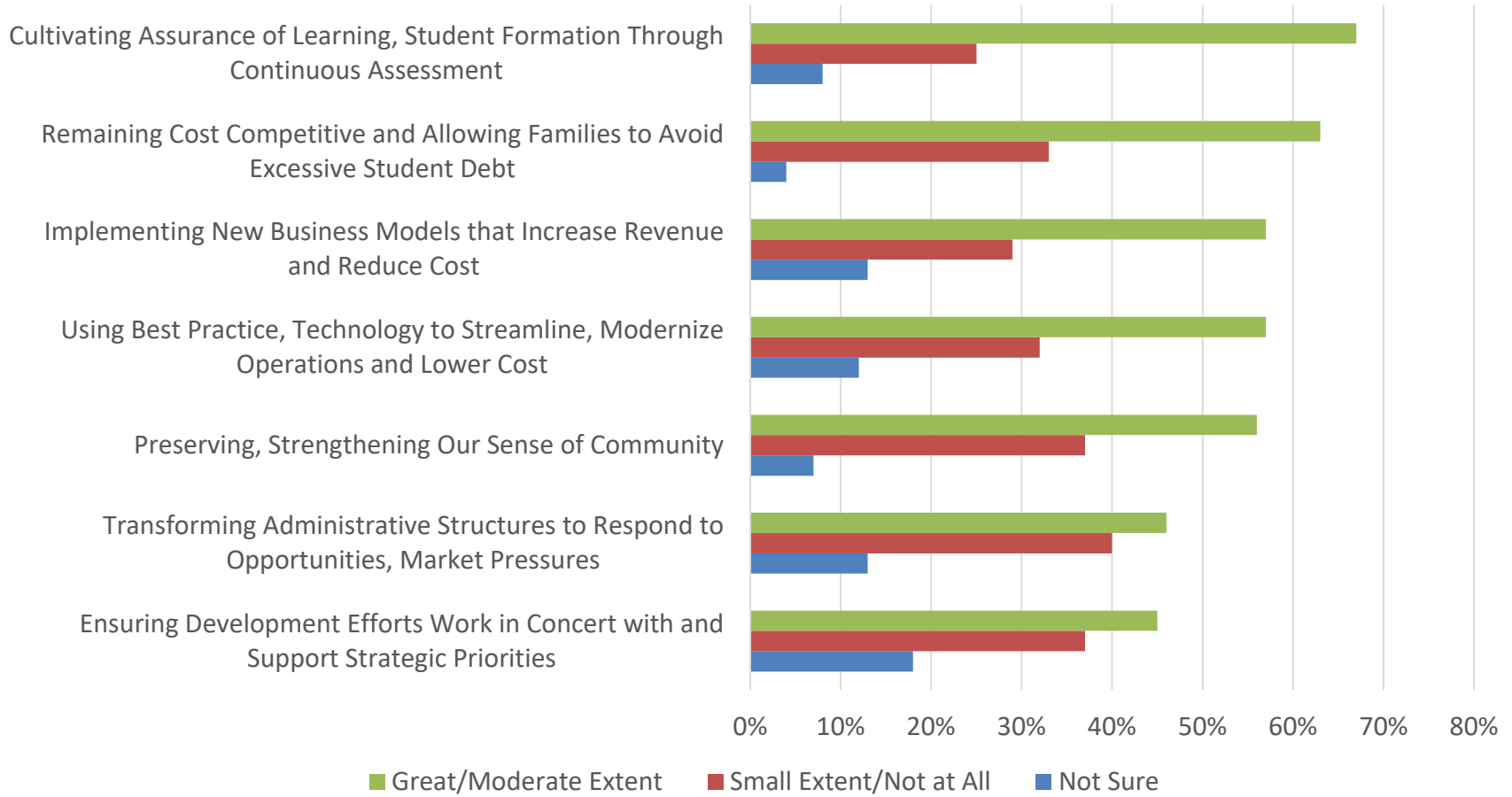


Extent University Planning is Guided by Principles





Extent University Decision-making Processes are Guided by Principles





Issues Important to Explore through Planning Activities

- Remaining affordable, accessible (87%)
- Devoting resources to Student Success, Completion (54%)
- Monitoring Student Success, Completion, and Outcomes (53%)
- Changing Demographics of Students (53%)
- Seeking to be More Diverse and Inclusive (48%)
- Partnering with Other Colleges, Universities (33%)
- Changing Public Perceptions about the Value of College (33%)
- Increased Expectations and Use of Technology (32%)
- Alternative Types of Programming, such as credentials (30%)
- Opportunities to Re-think Learning, Working Spaces (27%)
- Increasing Internationalization (18%)



Themes from Open-ended Questions

- Issues planning should address in the future:
 - Creation of new, innovative academic programs based on market demands; also eliminating obsolete programs
 - Keep Jesuit faith, ideals, mission at the forefront of all we do including decision-making
 - Become more diverse, inclusive for students faculty, and staff; address changing demographics
 - Tuition cost-containment, affordability and accessibility



Themes from Open-ended Questions

- General comments on strategic plan, planning processes:
 - Concerns with Global emphasis of the plan – seems aspirational, is it realistic?
 - Better communications of the plan and its outcomes presented by leadership
 - Strategic planning is meaningful and necessary; we are doing a good job



Next Steps

- Assessment Scholars spring focus groups with students
- Planning Office reviewing survey, focus group data



Improvements & Priorities

- What parts of our process does this data suggest we might improve?
- What goals, objectives in the plan does this data suggest we might focus on?