The 2007 Entering Freshmen Student Survey was developed as a web-based survey open to enrolled UW Tacoma students. It was designed to provide an overall profile of the population. 142 students responded.

**Academic Expectations and Goals**

Entering freshmen were asked to list the top three institutions to which they applied. UW Tacoma scored 45% as the first choice, 25% as the second, and 13% as the third. Many other colleges and universities were represented but no non-UW school scored more than 6%.

Eighty-two percent of respondents felt “UW Tacoma’s academic reputation” was “Important or very important.” Additionally, the “interdisciplinary curriculum” was “important” (55%) and “the “core curriculum/cohort model” was also important (37%).

For entering freshmen, the primary reason for attending college was “Receiving an education” (56%), while “To get a good job” (21%) was also deemed important. Obtaining an education, gaining employment and earning money consistently scored high as second and third choices for attending college.

When asked “In which area would you like to pursue a bachelor’s degree?” Business was the top choice for area of study (32%), followed by “Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences” (21%). However 24% of respondents were “undecided.” Most respondents (58%) were highly certain of their intended major area of study. Though 38% indicated they hoped to receive a BA at UW Tacoma, 48% responded they planned to transfer to another school after one or two years.

Students were optimistic about their expectations for grade point average (GPA) at the end of the first quarter of study; 3.5 – 4.0 (49%), 3.0 – 3.49 (46%). Many students will be employed between 16 and 30 hours per week (50%) while attending classes. Students plan to spend 5 to 10 hours per week studying (44%) while some plan to spend 16 hours or more (22%).

Entering freshmen saw “group discussions” as a first choice (20%) for support their learning at UW Tacoma, with “Study groups” (17%) following. Group discussions, internships also scored high for second and third choices.

**Personal Profile**

46% of parent/guardians, 53% did not attend a Parent Orientation. 76% of parent/guardians and 82% of siblings did not attend any UW campus.

While most will live with parent/guardian (79%), many will live independent in rental housing (20%). However, “If UW Tacoma were to offer residential housing in the future...” by far, “Traditional dorm on-campus with a meal plan” was most favored option (49%), but 21% of respondent were not interested in housing options.
Not surprisingly, 62% of students live in households were English alone is spoken. However, Korean (15%) was the leader among other languages, followed by Spanish (6%).

Politically, students identified themselves as both “Liberal” (23%) and “Conservative” (25%), but many view themselves as “Moderate” (36%). Of those of voting age, 43% are not registered to vote.

24% felt that parents would pay 90 to 100% of their educations costs, while grants and scholarships were not seen as contributing (53%).

For respondents, television is the most frequent source for news (43%) followed by the Internet (31%).

**Community Involvement**

Most students (43%) when asked about staying in the Puget Sound area after graduation said they have made no plans, while 34% do plan to stay or work in the area. Students were asked about service, charity, and volunteer work during the past year. Tutoring had a high participation result (37%) followed closely by community cleanup/homeless shelter support (35%), but “Religious church activities” scored highest (50%).

**Survey Statistics**

Detailed results of the survey are available by request to:

*UW Tacoma*
*Office of Academic Affairs*
*Survey Administration*