2007 Graduate Student Survey

Survey Profile

The 2007 Graduate 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 and gain insight into their general attitudes and satisfaction with UW Tacoma. 37 students responded.

Academic Expectations and Goals

Among the factors most important in selecting UW Tacoma “UW Tacoma offered the major/program I wanted” ranked highest as “very important” (81%), while campus life was deemed “not important” (64%). Reputation of UW Tacoma scored 46% as “very important.”

First choice reason for pursuing graduate studies was to “specialize in an area of expertise” (38%) and the second choice was “career development” (24%). 50% of graduate student respondents estimate it will require three years to complete their Masters study. Graduate students do not anticipate studying abroad (89%).

When asked about learning styles, “Lectures” and “group discussions” scored evenly (24%) as a first choice with “Internships” scoring second as a first choice (16%).

Graduate students feel they have a moderate to high understanding of graduation requirements (72%).

Personal Profile

Graduate students feel that “becoming a better person” is “very” or “extremely” important (95%), and that “clarifying my views” (42%) and “thinking in new ways” (39%) are “extremely” important.

“Balancing my social life with my studies” fostered “very” or “extremely” responses to this issue (38%), while 62% felt this to be only a moderate, slightly, or no issues at all. However financing an education was considered an extreme concern (43%). 16% of graduate students expect to pay 100% of their educational expenses. 40% anticipate that 80% or more of the expense will be paid through loans.

When asked about their political views, there was a reported even distribution (28%) between “liberal”, “Moderate” and “Conservative” political views. 92% of graduate students are registered voters.
54% of students will work more than 30 hours per week, while 19% will not be employed. Study hours were reported as between five and 15 hours a week by 56% of graduate students. 39% will spend 16 hours or more.

English is the spoken language at home (84%), while 5% report Spanish also spoken. 97% report they have “frequent” or “sometimes” contact with person of another race or ethnicity.

**Community Involvement**

Graduate respondents reported performing service, charity, and volunteer work in their community in the last year. “Tutoring” and “Religious/church” activities were rated highly (39%) respectively. Conservation activities garnered the highest responses (42%).

Graduate students report living in a home they own (62%). 54% of respondents plan to stay in the area “no matter what.”

**Survey Statistics**

Detailed results of the survey are available by request to:

_UW Tacoma_
_Office of Academic Affairs_
_Survey Administration_