Executive Summary

2007 Undergraduate Student Survey

Survey Profile

The 2007 Undergraduate 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. 185 students responded.

Academic Expectations and Goals

Many undergraduates learned about UW Tacoma from family and friends (37%) followed closely by UW Tacoma current students (34%) and a UW Tacoma representative (33%).

Students responded that IAS (34%) was their intended major area of study. Education with 25% and Computing and Software Systems 14% were second and third as intended majors. 72% of students are “Very certain” of their choice of major. Undergraduates expect to complete their BA at UW Tacoma (72%) with 17% expecting to complete an MA as well.

When offered a list of proposed new majors (B.A./B.S.), 31% of students responded that Psychology would be of interest as a major. “Computer Information Technology and Information Science” at (22%) was closely followed by “Education” (21%).

By far, undergraduates selected lectures (42%) as the first choice for learning style, followed by group discussion.

Undergraduate students do not expect to study abroad (48%), though 17% have made plans to do so.

Personal Profile

When asked to select items from a list that were personally important to them, “Becoming a better person” scored highest (62%) as “extremely” important, followed by “becoming an authority in my field” (41%) and “influencing social values” (32%)

A large segment of the undergraduate population (67%) report they have “frequent” interactions with students of a different race or ethnicity. Undergraduates see themselves as politically “moderate” (36%) to “liberal” (27%) or “strongly liberal” (11%). Only 16% have self-identified as “conservative.” Most are registered voters (81%), and only 21% did not vote in the last election while 67% did.

Respondents stated they were “not interested in housing” (56%). Undergraduates prefer living independently in rental housing as the most favored option (41%) though many (30%) live with a parent/guardian or other relative. Students, who were interested in living options in cooperation with UW Tacoma, were evenly divided between “apartments near campus with a meal plan” (14%) and “apartments near campus without a meal plan (15%).

29% responded that television is their source for news, followed by the Internet (27%).
Community Involvement

30% of respondents are strongly committed to staying in the area “no matter what”, and 42% say they hope to have a career in the area.

33% replied that “conservation” were activities they performed as part of community and volunteer work over the last year, with “tutoring” a close second activity (32%) followed by “religious and church activities” (30%).

Survey Statistics

Detailed results of the survey are available by request to:

UW Tacoma
Office of Academic Affairs
Survey Administration