



REPORT OF 2012 GRADUATING STUDENT SURVEY (GSS) For School of Education

I. INTRODUCTION

In an effort to obtain outcomes and contact information from as many of our graduating students as possible, in Spring 2009 a brief 15-item Graduating Student Survey (GSS) was developed by the Office of Institutional Research with input from St. John's community. It was incorporated into the BANNER online process used by students - excluding School of Law - to register for participation in commencement exercises. The survey was revised in 2010, 2011, and 2012. In 2012, the survey has 22 items, but the same procedure has been followed since 2009.

In 2012, 111 undergraduates (74% of graduating student population) and 189 graduate students (37%) from the School of Education (EDU) participated in the GSS survey. The survey participants were quite representative of the graduating student population in student gender and ethnicity.

This report, prepared by the Office of Institutional Research, presents the GSS 2012 survey results for the School of Education. The report provides highlights of the survey results first, followed by more detailed findings. The appendix to this report provides detailed results for individual survey items for both undergraduate and graduate students.

The GSS 2012 reports for St. John's University and by college are available online at: <http://www.stjohns.edu/about/ir/surveys>

II. HIGHLIGHTS

For EDU students, overall satisfaction with their St. John's experience remained high: 97% of undergraduates and 94% of graduate students in 2012 were *satisfied / very satisfied* with their overall experience at St. John's.

Student ratings on the quality of instruction also remained high: 90% of undergraduates and 92% of graduate students in 2012 rated it as *excellent / good*.

In 2011, 66% of undergraduates *agreed / strongly agreed* that tuition paid was a worthwhile investment, and it increased to 70% in 2012. For graduate students, the percentage dropped from 83% to 77%.

About four-fifths of undergraduates and three-fifths of graduate students in 2012 perceived that the Catholic and Vincentian Mission had a *positive / very positive* impact on their experience.

When asked whether they were satisfied with the University's support of internship programs, 96% of undergraduates and 87% of graduate students were *satisfied / very satisfied*.

About four-fifths of undergraduates and slightly over one half of graduate students had internships (including student teaching and clinical rotation).

When asked about their plans after graduation, 33% of undergraduates indicated that they would keep their current jobs or had accepted a job offer, and 44% of them planned to further their education. The corresponding figures for graduate students were 52% and 8%.

When asked how well St. John's did at providing course work and academic experiences that prepared students for their career and job placement, 87% of undergraduates and 84% of graduate students rated it as *good / excellent*.

When asked how well St. John's provided a global experience through studying abroad, in the classroom, or student activities, 33% of undergraduates and 58% of graduate students indicated that they had no exposure to global experience. For the students who had such experience, 72% of undergraduates and 81% of graduate students rated it as *good / excellent*.

When asked how well St. John's integrated technology into the learning experience, 80% of undergraduates and 81% of graduate students rated it as *good / excellent*.

Regarding the quality of academic advising, 76% of undergraduates and 77% of graduate students rated it as *good / excellent*.

When asked to what extent their experience at St. John's allowed for the development of a faith dimension in their life, 69% of undergraduates and 52% of graduate students indicated "to some or a great extent."

III. DETAILED SURVEY RESULTS

This section covers detailed survey results. It consists of five parts: 1) Student overall perceptions, 2) Internships, job status, and further education for undergraduates, 3) Internships, job status, and further education for graduate students, 4) Global experience, technology, and academic advising, and 5) St. John's Catholic and Vincentian Mission, services, activities, and alumni relations.

1. Student Overall Perceptions

As shown in the following table, student overall satisfaction remained high in 2012: 97% of undergraduates and 94% of graduate students in EDU were *satisfied / very satisfied* with their overall St. John's experience. (Please note that the combined *satisfied / very satisfied* percentage is the sum of the two percentages for *satisfied* and *very satisfied*. Therefore, the combined percentage may be one point higher or lower than the figures in the appendix due to decimal rounding.)

	Undergraduates		Graduate Students	
	2011	2012	2011	2012
Overall satisfaction with St. John's	99%	97%	94%	94%
Very satisfied	50%	44%	45%	40%
Satisfied	49%	53%	49%	54%
Quality of instruction	89%	90%	91%	92%
Excellent	35%	33%	53%	48%
Good	54%	57%	38%	44%
Tuition paid as a worthwhile investment	66%	70%	83%	77%
Strongly agree	7%	13%	18%	19%
Agree	59%	57%	65%	58%
Impact of Catholic and Vincentian Mission	78%	79%	68%	62%
Very positive	28%	23%	18%	15%
Positive	50%	56%	50%	47%
Satisfaction with University's support of internship	94%	96%	92%	87%
Very satisfied	41%	39%	40%	27%
Satisfied	53%	57%	52%	60%

Student ratings on the quality of instruction also remained high in 2012: 90% of undergraduates and 92% of graduate students rated it as *good / excellent*.

Student ratings on tuition paid as a worthwhile investment increased for undergraduates from 66% in 2011 to 70% in 2012. For graduate students, it dropped from 83% to 77%.

Regarding the impact of the Catholic and Vincentian Mission, 78% of undergraduates perceived that it had a *positive / very positive* impact on their experience at St. John's in 2011 and the percentage increased to 79% in 2012. For graduate students, the percentage dropped from 68% to 62%.

When asked whether they were satisfied with the University's support of internship programs, 94% of undergraduates were *satisfied / very satisfied* in 2011, and it increased to 96% in 2012. For graduate students, the percentage dropped from 92% to 87%.

Table 1 in the Appendix provides the GSS 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012 trend data for each survey item. The following results mainly concentrate on the 2012 data.

2. Undergraduate Students: Internships, Job Status, and Further Education

The GSS 2012 data indicate that 64% of EDU undergraduates were planning to pursue further studies in Fall 2012 or Spring 2013: 3% planned to pursue a bachelor's degree, and 61% for master's. (Question 1, Table 1).

When asked about their employment plans, 24% indicated that they would keep their current jobs, 9% had accepted a job offer, 23% were still looking, and the remaining 44% were planning to further their education. (Q3, Table 1).

When asked how well St. John's did at providing course work and academic experiences that prepared students for their career and job placement, 38% of undergraduates rated it as *excellent*, 49% *good*, 11% *fair*, and 2% *poor*. (Q9, Table 1).

When asked how well the Career Center did at providing them with career preparation for job placement, 21% of undergraduates rated it as *excellent*, 44% *good*, 26% *fair*, and 9% *poor*. (Q10, Table 1).

The data indicate that 82% of undergraduates had internships. Regarding the type of internships that students completed, 8% had academic internships for credit, 3% experienced paid internships, 3% had unpaid internships (non-credit), and 77% completed student teaching. (Q6, Table 1)

For the remaining 18% of undergraduates who didn't have any internship, 1% wanted to participate but were unable to secure one, 3% were not eligible, 7% were not interested, and 6% indicated that they couldn't afford to take one. (Q5, Table 1)

For undergraduates who had internships, 77% of them found an internship through an academic department, 21% on their own, 3% through the Career Center, and 12% through other channels (This is a check-all-that-apply question. The total percentage may add up to more than 100%). (Q7, Table 1)

When asked to rate their satisfaction with the University's support of internship programs, 39% of undergraduates were *very satisfied*, 57% *satisfied*, 3% *dissatisfied*, and 1% *very dissatisfied*. (Q8, Table 1)

3. Graduate Students: Internships, Job Status, and Further Education

The GSS 2012 data reveal that 16% of EDU graduate students were planning to pursue further studies in Fall 2012 or Spring 2013: 4% for master's, 11% for doctorate, and 2% for professional (MD, JD, etc.). (Q1, Table 1).

When asked about their employment plans, 48% of them indicated that they would keep their current jobs, 4% had accepted an offer, 40% were still looking, and 8% were planning to further their education. (Q3, Table 1).

When asked how well St. John's did at providing course work and academic experiences that prepared students for their career and job placement, 37% of graduate students rated it as *excellent*, 47% *good*, 13% *fair*, and 3% *poor*. (Q9, Table 1).

When asked how well the Career Center did at providing them with career preparation for job placement, 15% of them rated it as *excellent*, 32% *good*, 35% *fair*, and 18% *poor*. (Q10, Table 1).

The data indicate that 54% of graduate students had internships. Regarding the type of internships that students completed, 32% had academic internships for credit, 5% experienced paid internships, 3% had unpaid internships (non-credit), and 19% participated in student teaching. (Q6, Table 1)

For the remaining 46% of graduate students who didn't have any internship, 6% were unable to secure an internship, 12% were not eligible, 18% were not interested, and 10% indicated that they couldn't afford to take one. (Q5, Table 1)

For graduate students who had internships, 72% of them found an internship on their own, 25% through an academic department, 1% through the Career Center, and 12% through other channels (This is a check-all-that-apply question. The total percentage may add up to more than 100%). (Q7, Table 1)

When asked to rate their satisfaction with the University's support of internship programs, 27% of graduate students were *very satisfied*, 60% *satisfied*, 10% *dissatisfied*, and 4% *very dissatisfied*. (Q8, Table 1)

4. Global Experience, Technology, and Academic Advising

When asked how well St. John's provided a global experience through studying abroad, in the classroom, or student activities, 33% of undergraduates and 58% of graduate students indicated that they had no exposure to global experience. For the students who had such experience, 45% of undergraduates rated it as *excellent*, 27% *good*, 22% *fair*, and 7% *poor*. The corresponding figures for graduate students were 29%, 52%, 19%, and 0%. (Q.14, Table 1)

When asked how well St. John's integrated technology into the learning experience, 35% of undergraduates rated it as *excellent*, 45% *good*, 16% *fair*, and 3% *poor*. The corresponding figures for graduate students were 31%, 50%, 16%, and 3%. (Q.15, Table 1)

Regarding the quality of academic advising, 31% of undergraduates rated it as *excellent*, 45% *good*, 20% *fair*, and 3% *poor*. The corresponding figures for graduate students were 39%, 38%, 16%, and 7%. (Q.12, Table 1)

5. St. John's Catholic and Vincentian Mission, Service, Activities, and Alumni Relations

When asked how St. John's Catholic and Vincentian Mission impacted their experience at St. John's, 23% of undergraduates rated it as *very positively*, 56% *positively*, 20% *no impact*, 1% *negatively*, and 0% *very negatively*. The corresponding figures for graduate students were 15%, 47%, 39%, 0%, and 0%. (Q.16, Table 1)

When asked to what extent their experience at St. John's allowed for the development of a faith dimension in their life, 19% of undergraduates indicated "to a great extent," 50% "to some extent," and 31% "not at all." The corresponding figures for graduate students were 15%, 37%, and 48%. (Q.17, Table 1)

When asked whether they were affiliated with any of the student clubs, organizations, or societies during their years at St. John's, 77% of undergraduates and 35% of graduate students indicated that they were affiliated with one or more clubs, organizations, or societies. For undergraduate students, 56% belonged to Honor societies, 26% the Academic category, 15% Cultural, 10% the Special Interests category, and 37% other. For graduate students, 19% belonged to Honor societies, 4% the Academic category, 2% the Special Interests category, 2% Cultural, and 13% other. (Q.18, Table 1)

When asked whether they wanted to be involved in service after graduation, 23% of undergraduates said YES and 77% indicated NO. For graduate students, 15% said YES and 85% indicated NO. (Q.22, Table 1)

When asked whether they would like to be contacted for certain activities in the future, 64% of undergraduates indicated YES for alumni relations events, 27% for mentoring roles with students, 35% for recruitment events with the Office of Admissions, and 48% for leadership roles in organizing alumni functions. The corresponding figures for graduate students were 35%, 9%, 20%, and 34%. (Q.21, Table 1)

The results of this GSS survey are the perceptions of EDU students who have successfully completed their programs at St. John's. The data are very useful, and can be used with other data for action plans to improve student engagement and experience. Please share any initiatives you develop to respond to these results, with Dr. Yuxiang Liu in the Office of Institutional Research at LiuY@stjohns.edu.

This is the fourth administration of the GSS survey. We will continue to administer it annually along with other student surveys in order to develop a more comprehensive

picture of our students, make continuous improvement in student learning, and ensure success for all.