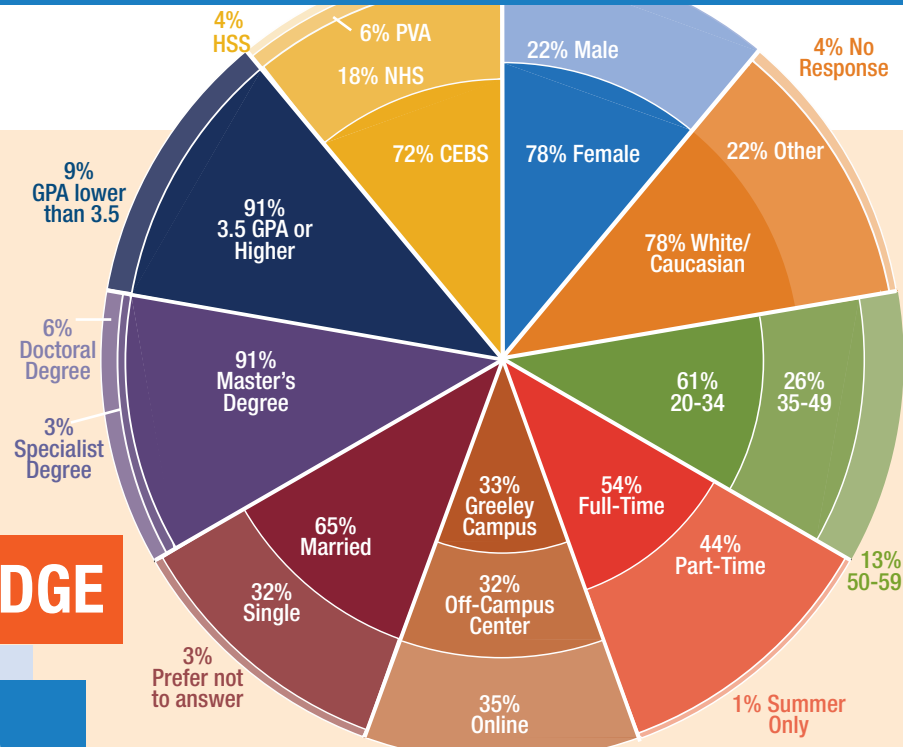


Fall 2011 Graduate Students Exit Survey

The Graduate School & International Admissions

Methods

The Graduate Student Exit Survey was completed by UNC's master's, specialist, and doctoral students who graduated in Fall 2011. The survey was developed to assess students' opinions about their experiences at the University. The results will guide improvements in Graduate School services in order to provide the best graduate education possible. This executive summary provides 1) students' satisfaction and knowledge, 2) employment expectations, and 3) areas for improvement. An action plan is included. Of the 183 individuals receiving a graduate degree in Fall 2011, 79 graduate students completed the survey for a response rate of 43%.



SATISFACTION & KNOWLEDGE

- 99%** of respondents surveyed were satisfied at some level with their overall graduate experience
- 98%** reported that they were satisfied at some level with the academic rigor
- 96%** of graduates were satisfied at some level with the degree to which their program prepared them for their profession
- 96%** of respondents were satisfied at some level with their program faculty
- 34%** of respondent indicated that they were satisfied at some level with the amount of funding

EMPLOYMENT EXPECTATIONS

Employed Respondents **68 PERCENT**

Respondents Seeking Employment **29 PERCENT**

3% of respondents were considering several job offers

KNOWLEDGE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

30% of respondents were not knowledgeable at all about graduate funding opportunities

Exit Survey data suggest the following four areas for improvement.

THESIS/DISSERTATION PROCESS

- Provide more information about the thesis and dissertation process (transparency of process)
- Be clear about thesis/dissertation deadlines
- Be clear about formatting expectations
- Develop communication plan for the thesis and dissertation process
- Collaborate with graduate coordinators to disseminate thesis/capstone/dissertation materials
- Serve as a consultant for any faculty with questions

COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT

- Involve graduate students more around campus
- Stronger contact with the graduate school especially those at off-campus centers
- Encouraged networking with alumni
- Launched Quality of Life Survey
- Collaborate with campus departments to develop engagement opportunities for graduate students

FUNDING

- Provide more funding to graduate students
- Clarify scholarships/assistantships processes
- Increase funding information (through e-mails, advisors, Center visit, seminar)
- Provide funding information at time of enrollment
- Increase education about funding opportunities through e-mail and social media outlets for enrolled students
- Increase funding information for:
 - prospective students and applicants
 - online and off-campus center students
 - faculty and coordinators

CAREER HELP

- Assistance with job placement/internship
- Provide access to job fair information
- Collaborate with Career Services to develop a plan for students prior to graduation
 - Services may include: professional job fairs, resume/cover letter workshops, job search help, and interviewing