
Office of Survey Research

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2014 Exit Survey of Graduate Students Completing Degrees Fall 2013 Through Summer 2014

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EXIT SURVEY OF GRADUATE STUDENTS
COMPLETING DEGREES FALL 2013 THROUGH
SUMMER 2014

Descriptive Statistics

Report 2015-01

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January, 2015

OFFICE OF SURVEY RESEARCH
WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY



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2014 EXIT SURVEY OF GRADUATE STUDENTS COMPLETING DEGREES FALL 2013 THROUGH SUMMER 2014

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2014 Exit Survey of Graduate Students Completing Degrees continues the Office of Survey Research's (OSR) survey of graduate students first initiated in 2009. The current survey was administered at the end of each quarter to students completing their graduate degree. This report summarizes responses from students who graduated in Fall 2013, Winter 2014, Spring 2014, and Summer 2014. Of the 290 recipients of this degree during this time, OSR received valid responses from 212, a response rate of 73.1%.

With the help of the Assistant Dean of the Graduate School, this survey was designed to elicit information on program satisfaction, the frequency and scope of academic interaction on and off campus, barriers to success, and plans for the future. OSR uses a mixture of online and telephone survey methodologies and links survey results with Western's student records thus expanding their usefulness to researchers and university decision makers. The survey was launched with an e-mail invitation to potential respondents about four weeks prior to the end of each quarter. Follow up e-mail reminders were sent approximately every four days for the subsequent two weeks. Phone call reminders were placed to all non-respondents. The survey was closed immediately prior to commencement exercises.

As with any survey, readers should be concerned with sample selection bias; that is bias which arises because survey respondents are not a random selection of the population of survey recipients. While sample selection bias for Western's graduate exit survey is mitigated through proper survey techniques and limited by a high response rate, its presence should continually be kept in mind when evaluating results. Section A of this document presents basic descriptive statistics that compare all graduates with those who responded to the survey. At the university level, these comparisons reveal that the average respondent is nearly identical to the average graduate. For instance, 16% of respondents are minorities, exactly the identical percentage as all graduates. Similar results occur for average age (31.3 years for respondents, 30.9 years for graduates), the number of credit hours attempted (67.3 for respondents and 67.9 for graduates), the average graduate GPA (3.79 for respondents and 3.78 for graduates), and the quarter of graduation.

Section B of this report presents all questions asked. Section C presents these questions broken down by college. Section D presents results from questions submitted by the University Library. In the past, these reports decomposed questions to the department level. OSR has ceased this practice and will replace them with a searchable electronic database posted on our website.

While we leave it to the reader to determine what is interesting in the survey, here we highlight some of the findings. The first set of questions is geared to understanding students' background and general satisfaction with their Western graduate school experience. Immediately prior to beginning their Western graduate program 32% of students were in an undergraduate program, 40% were employed in a field related to their graduate program, and 22% were employed in a field different than their program. Relative to the prior year, this is a decrease in students from undergraduate programs and an increase in students formerly employed in a field related to their program.

Seventy-four percent of students claimed that, if given the opportunity, they would “probably” or “definitely” select Western again for graduate study, an increase by five percentage points relative to the prior year. Seventy-eight percent would “probably” or “definitely” recommend Western to someone considering graduate school, an increase of eight percentage points relative to the prior year and inline with those from 2011 and 2012 surveys.

Survey questions also relate to a student’s academic program. For instance, 86% of students reported that the level of academic challenge was “very” or “extremely” important to them and 74% of students claimed they were “satisfied” or “very satisfied” with the level of academic challenge. Perhaps the largest disparity occurred among the 64% of students who claimed that the “quality of instruction” was “extremely important” to them but only 27% of students said they were “very satisfied” with the quality of instruction.

Working as a teaching assistant remains an important component of Western’s graduate program. Forty-seven percent of respondents reported working as a TA in some capacity while pursuing their graduate degree. In their most recent TA position, respondents reported working an average of 16.3 hours per week. Eleven percent of graduate students taught an independent section of an undergraduate class; among these the median graduate student repeated this experience 6 times while in Western’s graduate program.

The average graduate accumulates just over \$16,480 in debt from their graduate program, about a 15% decrease over the past year. This average obscures the nearly forty percent of students who leave Western without incurring any additional academic debt from their graduate studies. The average debt incurred for graduate students who do borrow is slightly over \$27,000. There is large variation in amounts of student debt incurred between colleges. Graduates of CHSS almost twice the debt that those of CBE who, in turn, accumulate about twice as much debt as students in CST.

Among all graduate students, almost two-fifths hope to work in a school or community college and about two-fifths hope to work in business or industry. The remainder is fairly evenly split between non-profit employment, government employment, and pursuing further graduate study. Among those pursuing employment, at the time our survey was conducted, 45% had already received an offer of employment and 83% of those had accepted an offer. One-hundred percent of these had jobs in their field of study.

As with all of OSR’s surveys of Western students, the data from this survey is available to campus researchers upon request.

A. Comparison of all Graduates and Respondents

A.1. Graduate Characteristics

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N	54	90	77	34	33	290
% Male	56%	27%	17%	15%	61%	32%
% Minority*	22%	20%	13%	12%	3%	16%
% Graduated Fall 2013	19%	9%	6%	24%	30%	14%
% Graduated Winter 2014	2%	4%	6%	32%	18%	10%
% Graduated Spring 2014	72%	43%	69%	29%	36%	53%
% Graduated Summer 2014	7%	43%	18%	15%	15%	23%
Mean Age, Quarter of Graduation	31.5	35.8	28.1	28.9	28.3	30.9
Median Age, Quarter of Graduation	30	29	26	26	27	28
Graduate Hours Attempted	68.4	72.3	74.2	54.3	54.5	67.9
Graduate Hours Completed	67.9	70.7	72.6	53.1	53.0	66.6
Graduate GPA	3.61	3.89	3.79	3.83	3.73	3.78

A.2. Sample Characteristics

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N	37	58	61	28	27	212
% Male	54%	26%	18%	14%	59%	31%
% Minority*	24%	19%	15%	11%	4%	16%
% Graduated Fall 2013	19%	10%	7%	25%	26%	15%
% Graduated Winter 2014		5%	7%	29%	22%	10%
% Graduated Spring 2014	76%	47%	72%	29%	33%	55%
% Graduated Summer 2014	5%	38%	15%	18%	19%	20%
Mean Age, Quarter of Graduation	32.1	36.9	28.0	28.7	27.9	31.3
Median Age, Quarter of Graduation	31	35	26	26	27	28
Graduate Hours Attempted	67.9	70.9	75.0	53.6	55.4	67.3
Graduate Hours Completed	67.4	69.1	73.5	52.5	53.7	65.9
Graduate GPA	3.63	3.89	3.79	3.84	3.73	3.79

* Includes students identified as black, Hispanic/Latino, Asian/Pacific Islander, Native American. Does not include caucasian, other/unknown, or international.

B. University-Level Responses

Attending Graduate School

B.1. Please indicate your response to the following.

	N	Definitely not	Probably not	Maybe	Probably	Definitely
If you were to start your graduate career again, would you select WWU?	212	3%	7%	17%	42%	32%
If you were to start your graduate career again, would you select the same field of study?	210	1%	5%	10%	30%	54%
Would you recommend Western to someone considering your program?	210	3%	4%	15%	31%	47%

B.2. What was your primary activity immediately prior to enrolling in your program at Western?

N	211
Undergraduate student	32%
Employed in a field related to your program	40%
Employed in a field unrelated to your program	22%
Other	6%

B.2.a. What was your primary activity immediately prior to enrolling in your program at Western? (Asked of respondents who answered "other" in B.2.) (N =13) (Responses included: Barista, employed in unrelated field; unemployed (5); WWU Post-Bac, Post-Bac, self-employed (2), volunteering in area of study, graduate school.) (Text responses available on request.)

Academic Program

B.3. For each of the following, please rate both the importance of, as well as your satisfaction with that aspect of your program.

B.3.a. Importance

	N	Not important	A little important	Somewhat important	Very important	Extremely important
Level of academic challenge	201			13%	54%	32%
Keeping pace with recent trends and developments in the field	201		1%	10%	37%	52%
Professional training opportunities	200	2%	3%	10%	38%	48%
Research opportunities	199	6%	14%	27%	31%	24%
Quality of research conducted	198	5%	8%	26%	37%	24%
Quality of instruction	202	1%		6%	30%	64%
Quality of advising	202	1%	1%	14%	33%	51%
Adequacy of space, facilities and/or equipment	202		7%	29%	40%	23%
Overall quality of the degree program	201		1%	2%	36%	61%

B.3.b. Satisfaction

	N	Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very satisfied
Level of academic challenge	205		6%	10%	59%	25%
Keeping pace with recent trends and developments in the field	205	0%	7%	13%	51%	28%
Professional training opportunities	202	1%	19%	26%	36%	19%
Research opportunities	203	1%	6%	42%	33%	18%
Quality of research conducted	203	1%	4%	38%	44%	12%
Quality of instruction	205	1%	4%	13%	54%	27%
Quality of advising	203	3%	11%	19%	36%	30%
Adequacy of space, facilities and/or equipment	205	2%	8%	16%	47%	27%
Overall quality of the degree program	206	1%	4%	13%	54%	28%

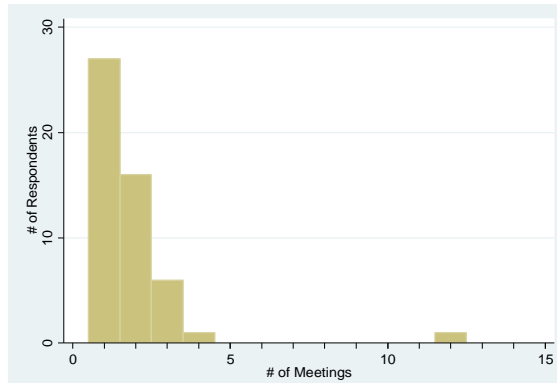
B.3.b.1. Why are you (very dissatisfied) (dissatisfied) with the overall quality of your degree program? (Asked of respondents who answered "very dissatisfied" or "dissatisfied" in B.3.b.) (N=6) (Responses included: misleading timelines, poor advising, dated instruction technique and subject mater, too many WWU employees enrolled in program, very little practical skills and knowledge, lack of quality supervision) (Text responses available on request.)

Professional Development

B.4. Have you done any of the following during your graduate study at Western? (A technical difficulty invalidated responses from graduates of Winter, 2014 and Summer, 2014. These responses were eliminated from this report.)

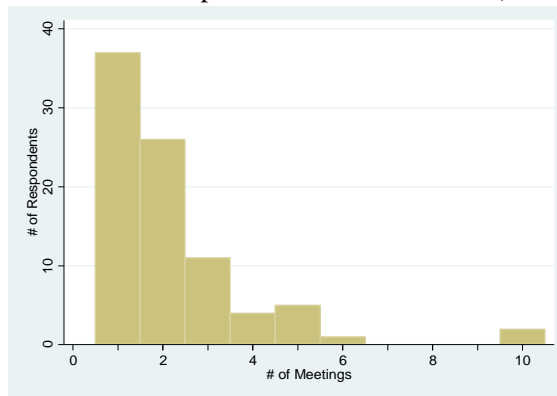
	N	Yes	No
Attended a national or regional meeting associated with your discipline?	145	37%	63%
Attended an academic or professional conference?	145	61%	39%
Presented research at a seminar or conference?	144	26%	74%
Co-authored an article in a refereed journal with a program faculty?	144	3%	97%
Published as the sole or first author in a refereed journal?	143	4%	97%

B.4.a. How many national or regional meetings associated with your discipline have you attended? (Asked of respondents who answered "yes" in B.4., "attended a national or regional meeting.")



N	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation
51	1.82	1	1	12	1.64

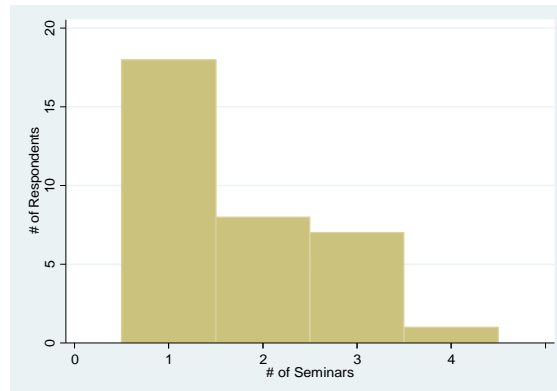
B.4.b. How many academic or professional conferences have you attended? (Asked of respondents who answered "yes" in B.4., "attended an academic or professional conference.")



N	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation
86	2.19	2	1	10	1.71

Professional Development (cont.)

B.4.c. At how many seminars or conferences have you presented research? (Asked of respondents who answered "yes" in B.4., "presented research at a seminar or conference.")



N	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation
34	1.73	1	1	4	0.89

B.4.d. How many articles have you published in refereed journals as a co-author? (Asked of respondents who answered "yes" in B.4., "co-authored an article in a refereed journal.")

N	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation
4	1.25	1	1	2	0.50

B.4.e. How many articles have you published in refereed journals as the sole or first author? (Asked of respondents who answered "yes" in B.4., "published as the sole or first author in a refereed journal.")

N	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation
5	1.00	1	1	1	0.00

B.5. Have you written, or do you plan to write a paper for publication based on your thesis?

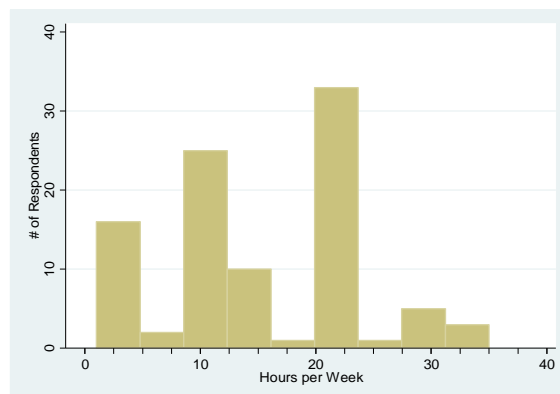
N	180
Yes, I have written a paper for publication	14%
Yes, I plan to write a paper for publication	23%
No	18%
I did not write a thesis	44%

Graduate Study at Western

B.6. During your graduate studies at Western, did you hold a teaching assistantship position, and if so, were you ever the instructor of a course or discussion section?

N	208
Yes, I was a TA and the primary instructor for one or more courses	12%
Yes, I was a TA, and the instructor for one or more discussion sections or labs, but never the primary instructor of a course	23%
Yes, I was a TA, but never taught a discussion section or lab, or served as the primary instructor for a course	12%
No, I was not a TA	53%

B.6.a. In your most recent TA assignment, how many hours per week did you work? (Asked of respondents who indicated in B.6 that they held a TA position at Western).



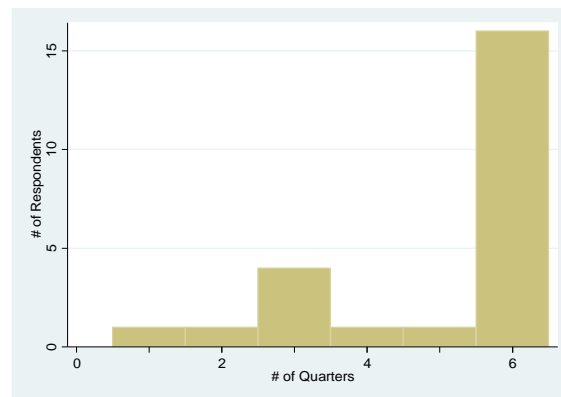
	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation
N	16.29	15	1	80	12.58

B.6.b. In your most recent TA assignment, did you work more or fewer hours per week than you expected? (Asked of respondents who indicated in B.6 that they held a TA position at Western).

N	98
Fewer by 5 or more hours	2%
Fewer by 2 to 4 hours	10%
As many as expected	59%
More by 2 to 4 hours	12%
More by 5 or more hours	16%

Graduate Study at Western (cont.)

B.6.c. How many quarters were you the primary instructor for one or more courses? (Asked of respondents who indicated in B.6. that they were the primary instructor for one or more courses.)



N	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation
24	5.00	6	1	6	1.58

B.7. Rate the extent to which the following factors were an obstacle to your academic progress and/or time to degree.

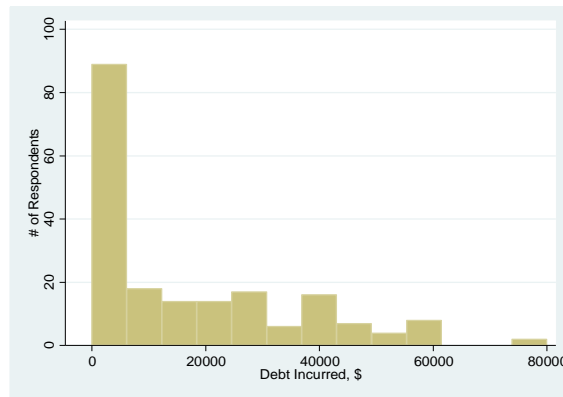
	N	N/A	No impact	Minor impact	Major impact
Family obligations	209	6%	38%	35%	21%
Availability of faculty	207	1%	59%	29%	10%
Course scheduling/availability	208	2%	57%	31%	10%
Thesis research	208	43%	27%	14%	15%
Other (please specify below)	146	60%	12%	8%	21%

B.7.a. Other obstacles (Asked of respondents who answered "other" in B.7.) (N =48) (Responses available upon request.)

Graduate Study at Western (cont.)

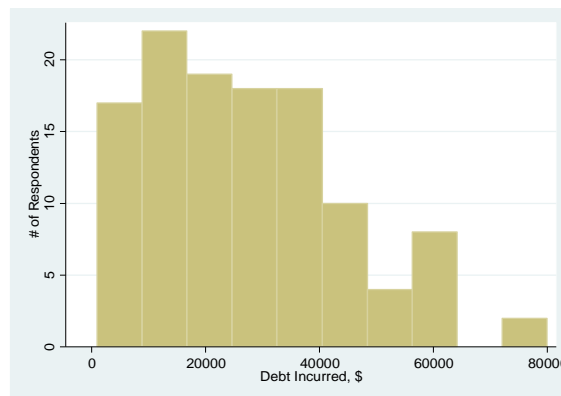
B.8. Approximately how much debt did you incur to finance your graduate education at Western?
 (B.8.a. includes all respondents.) (B.8.b. includes only respondents who reported more than \$0 of debt.)

B.8.a. All respondents



N	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation
195	\$16,480	\$10,000	\$0	\$80,000	\$19,157

B.8.b. Respondents who incurred debt



N	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation
118	\$27,234	\$25,000	\$1,000	\$80,000	\$17,696

Plans for the Future

B.9. For each of the following activities, please rate both the likelihood you will engage in the activity, as well as your satisfaction with the level of preparation offered in your program.

B.9.a. Likelihood

	N	Very unlikely	Somewhat unlikely	Neutral	Somewhat likely	Very likely
Teaching at a higher-ed institution	200	18%	18%	21%	27%	18%
Teaching at the K-12 level	198	38%	17%	13%	11%	21%
Conducting independent research	198	15%	17%	13%	34%	20%
Formulating a research topic	198	14%	18%	15%	33%	20%
Collaborating on research with faculty members	200	16%	21%	21%	27%	17%
Writing a grant proposal	200	14%	17%	19%	31%	21%

B.9.b. Satisfaction

	N	Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very satisfied
Teaching at a higher-ed institution	194	2%	8%	51%	24%	15%
Teaching at the K-12 level	191	3%	5%	53%	21%	18%
Conducting independent research	194	1%	3%	37%	45%	14%
Formulating a research topic	195	1%	3%	35%	40%	22%
Collaborating on research with faculty members	193	3%	8%	39%	35%	16%
Writing a grant proposal	195	10%	16%	46%	21%	7%

Plans for the Future (cont.)

B.10. What are your immediate post-graduate plans?

N	209
Further graduate study	5%
Employment in a school or community college	32%
Employment in a business or industry	29%
Employment in a non-profit organization	10%
Employment with a government or government agency	13%
Self-employment	2%
Volunteer service	1%
Other	9%

B.10.a. What are your immediate post-graduate plans? (Asked of respondents who answered "other" in B.10.) (N=17) (Responses included: travel, seasonal work, receive a promotion based upon educational attainment, job search.) (Text responses available on request.)

B.10.b. Which of the following degrees do you plan to pursue? (Asked of respondents who answered "further graduate study" in B.10.)

N	Masters	Ph.D.	Professional (J.D., M.D., etc.)
10		100%	

B.10.b.1. Have you already been admitted for further graduate study? (Asked of respondents who answered "further graduate study" in B.10.)

N	Yes	No
10	60%	40%

Plans for the Future (cont.)

B.10.b.1.a. To which schools have you been accepted? (Asked of respondents who answered "yes" in B.10.b.1.) (N=6) (Responses included: Purdue, UN-Reno, Universities of New Mexico, North Carolina, Washington, and Rennes.) (Text responses available on request.)

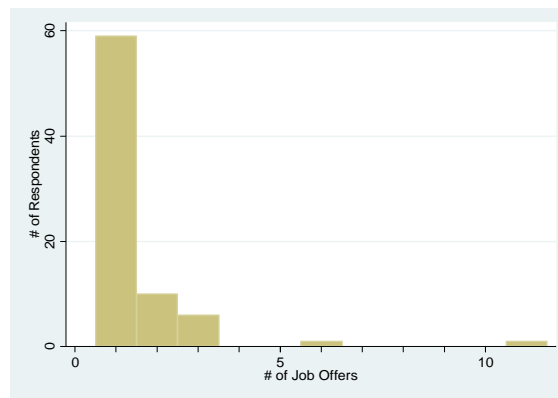
B.10.b.1.b. Which school will you attend? (Asked of respondents who answered "yes" in B.10.b.1.) (N=6) (Responses included: Purdue, UN-Reno, Universities of New Mexico, North Carolina, Washington, and Rennes.) (Text responses available on request.)

B.10.b.1.c. What is your program of study? (Asked of respondents who answered "yes" in B.10.b.1.) (N=6) (Responses included: Chemistry, Educational Linguistics, English, Experimental Psychology, Rhetoric and Composition, Marine Science.) (Text responses available on request.)

B.11. Have you received any offers of post-graduation employment? (Asked of respondents who indicated in B.10. that they plan to be employed, options 2 - 5.)

N	Yes	No
174	45%	55%

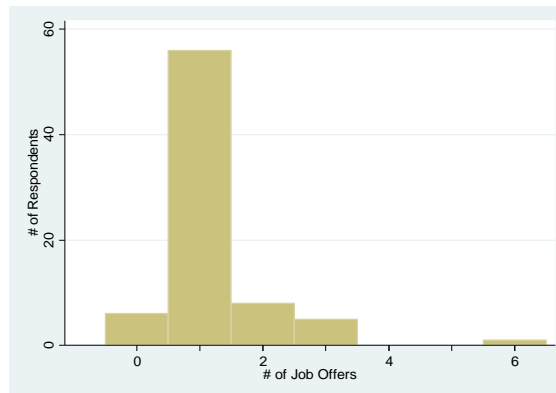
B.11.a. How many job offers have you received? (Asked of respondents who answered "yes" in B.11.)



N	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation
77	1.48	1	1	11	1.36

Plans for the Future (cont.)

B.11.b. Of those offers, how many are related to your field of study? (Asked of respondents who answered "yes" in B.11.)



N	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation
76	1.22	1	0	6	0.85

B.12. Have you accepted a job offer? (Asked of respondents who indicated they had received one or more offers of employment in B.11.a.)

N	Yes	No
77	83%	17%

B.12.a. What is the name of the employer you plan to work for after graduation? (Asked of respondents who answered "yes" in B.12.) (N=59) (Text responses available on request.)

B.12.b. In what city will you work? (Asked of respondents who answered "yes" in B.12.) (N=59) (Text responses available on request.)

B.12.c. What type of position have you accepted? (Asked of respondents who answered "yes" in B.12.) (N=60) (Text responses available on request.)

B.12.d. Is the position you accepted related to your field of study? (Asked of respondents who answered "yes" in B.12.)

N	Yes	No
58	95%	5%

C. College-Level Responses

Attending Graduate School

C.1.a. If you were to start your graduate career again, would you select WWU?

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N	37	58	61	28	27	212
Definitely not	3%	2%	3%		7%	3%
Probably not	3%	7%	8%		19%	7%
Maybe	24%	5%	18%	14%	30%	17%
Probably	51%	38%	41%	54%	26%	42%
Definitely	19%	48%	30%	32%	19%	32%

C.1.b. If you were to start your graduate career again, would you select the same field of study?

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N	37	57	60	28	27	210
Definitely not	3%	4%				1%
Probably not	5%	2%	7%	4%	4%	5%
Maybe	16%	7%	10%	7%	7%	10%
Probably	35%	35%	23%	36%	26%	30%
Definitely	41%	53%	60%	54%	63%	54%

C.1.c. Would you recommend Western to someone considering your program?

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N	37	57	60	28	27	210
Definitely not	3%		5%		7%	3%
Probably not	3%	5%	2%		11%	4%
Maybe	19%	11%	17%	18%	15%	15%
Probably	38%	26%	35%	29%	30%	31%
Definitely	38%	58%	42%	54%	37%	47%

C.2. What was your primary activity immediately prior to enrolling in your program at Western?

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N	37	57	61	28	27	211
Undergraduate student	35%	16%	39%	21%	56%	32%
Employed in a field related to your program	49%	58%	20%	54%	22%	40%
Employed in a field unrelated to your program	16%	19%	31%	21%	15%	22%
Other		7%	10%	4%	7%	6%

Academic Program

C.3. For each of the following, please rate both the importance of, as well as your satisfaction with that aspect of your program.

C.3.a. Importance

(Scale of 1 - 5, "not at all important" to "extremely important") (Means are reported)

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N	36	55	57	26	26	201
Level of academic challenge	4.1	4.1	4.5	4.0	4.0	4.2
Keeping pace with recent trends and developments in the field	4.4	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.0	4.4
Professional training opportunities	4.3	4.3	4.5	4.2	3.5	4.3
Research opportunities	2.8	3.4	3.5	4.1	4.3	3.5
Quality of research conducted	2.9	3.5	3.8	4.2	4.3	3.7
Quality of instruction	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.3	4.3	4.6
Quality of advising	4.1	4.2	4.6	4.4	4.3	4.3
Adequacy of space, facilities and/or equipment	3.6	3.6	3.9	3.9	4.0	3.8
Overall quality of the degree program	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.5	4.4	4.6

C.3.b. Satisfaction

(Scale of 1 - 5, "very dissatisfied" to "very satisfied") (Means are reported)

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N	36	55	60	26	27	205
Level of academic challenge	3.7	4.1	4.3	4.0	3.9	4.0
Keeping pace with recent trends and developments in the field	3.3	4.2	4.0	4.2	4.0	4.0
Professional training opportunities	3.3	3.9	3.5	3.5	3.2	3.5
Research opportunities	3.2	3.6	3.5	3.9	4.0	3.6
Quality of research conducted	3.3	3.6	3.6	4.0	3.8	3.6
Quality of instruction	3.4	4.3	4.0	4.2	3.9	4.0
Quality of advising	3.4	3.7	3.8	4.1	3.7	3.7
Adequacy of space, facilities and/or equipment	3.7	4.1	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.9
Overall quality of the degree program	3.8	4.3	4.0	4.1	3.6	4.0

Professional Development

C.4. Have you done any of the following during your graduate study at Western? % of respondents answering "yes" to each question is reported. (A technical difficulty invalidated responses from graduates of Winter, 2014 and Summer, 2014. These responses were eliminated from this report.)

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N	35	31	47	15	16	145
Attended a national or regional meeting associated with your discipline?	25%	19%	43%	67%	44%	37%
Attended an academic or professional conference?	51%	55%	73%	80%	38%	61%
Presented research at a seminar or conference?		13%	36%	60%	50%	26%
Co-authored an article in a refereed journal with a program faculty?	4%	2%	4%		4%	3%
Published as the sole or first author in a refereed journal?		6%	2%		12%	2%

C.4.a. Professional development questions asked of respondents who responded "yes" in C.6. (Means are reported.)

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N	9	6	21	9	7	52
How many national or regional meetings associated with your discipline have you attended?	2.7	1.5	1.5	2.3	1.3	1.8
N	17	17	36	12	6	89
How many academic or professional conferences have you attended?	2.4	2.6	1.7	2.8	2.0	2.2
N		4	14	9	8	38
At how many seminars or conferences have you presented research?		1.5	1.4	2.4	1.6	1.6
N		1	1		2	4
How many articles have you published in refereed journals as a co-author?		1.0	1.0		1.5	1.3
N		2	1		2	5
How many articles have you published in refereed journals as the sole or first author?		1.0	1.0		1.0	1.0

C.5. Have you written, or do you plan to write a paper for publication based on your thesis?

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N	37	45	53	22	22	180
Yes, I have written a paper for publication	5%	31%	9%	59%	23%	14%
Yes, I plan to write a paper for publication	3%	16%	26%	9%	27%	23%
No	16%	16%	21%		27%	18%
I did not write a thesis	76%	38%	43%	32%	23%	44%

Graduate Study at Western

C.6. During your graduate studies at Western, did you hold a teaching assistantship position, and if so, were you ever the instructor of a course or discussion section?

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N	37	55	61	27	27	208
Yes, I was a TA and the primary instructor for one or more courses	3%	4%	16%	4%	41%	12%
Yes, I was a TA, and the instructor for one or more discussion sections or labs, but never the primary instructor of a course	5%	7%	28%	41%	52%	23%
Yes, I was a TA, but never taught a discussion section or lab, or served as the primary instructor for a course	22%	2%	13%	30%		12%
No, I was not a TA	70%	87%	43%	26%	7%	53%

C.6.a. In your most recent TA assignment, how many hours per week did you work? (Asked of respondents who indicated in C.8. that they were a TA.) (Means are reported.)

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N	11	8	35	20	25	99
Mean	15.2	20.6	18.2	12.7	15.5	16.3

C.6.b. In your most recent TA assignment, did you work more or fewer hours per week than you expected?

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N	11	7	35	20	25	98
Fewer by 5 or more hours			3%		4%	2%
Fewer by 2 to 4 hours	18%		11%	15%	4%	10%
As many as expected	73%	86%	37%	60%	76%	59%
More by 2 to 4 hours	9%		23%	15%		12%
More by 5 or more hours		14%	26%	10%	16%	16%

C.6.c. How many quarters were you the primary instructor for one or more courses? (Asked of respondents who indicated in C.8. that they were the primary instructor for one or more courses.) (Means are reported.)

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N	1	2	10	1	10	24
Mean	3.0	2.0	5.9	2.0	5.2	5

Graduate Study at Western (cont.)

C.7. Rate the extent to which the following factors were an obstacle to your academic progress and/or time to degree. (Scale of 1 - 3, "no impact" to "major impact.") (OSR excluded "not applicable" responses.) (Means are reported.)

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N	35	51	58	25	26	196
Family obligations	2.0	2.0	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.8
N	36	53	61	26	27	204
Availability of faculty	2.4	1.3	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.5
N	35	55	60	25	27	203
Course scheduling/availability	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.7	1.4	1.5
N	5	24	41	21	26	118
Thesis research	1.0	1.3	1.9	1.8	2.2	1.8
N	9	11	20	10	8	59
Other	2.2	2.0	2.5	2.2	1.9	2.2

C.8. Approximately how much debt did you incur to finance your graduate education at Western?

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
All respondents	36	52	58	24	24	195
Mean	\$13,264	\$15,259	\$25,965	\$9,541	\$6,155	\$16,480
Respondents who incurred debt	17	29	46	14	11	118
Mean (if debt >0)	\$28,087	\$27,362	\$32,379	\$16,357	\$13,429	\$27,234

Plans for the Future

C.9. For each of the following activities, please rate both the likelihood you will engage in the activity, as well as your satisfaction with the level of preparation offered in your program.

C.9.a. Likelihood

(Scale of 1 - 5, "very unlikely" to "very likely") (Means are reported)

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N	37	54	59	23	26	200
Teaching at a higher-ed institution	2.5	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.1
Teaching at the K-12 level	1.6	3.5	2.6	2.7	2.2	2.6
Conducting independent research	2.6	3.2	3.5	3.7	3.6	3.3
Formulating a research topic	2.5	3.3	3.5	3.7	3.4	3.3
Collaborating on research with faculty members	2.2	3.2	3.2	3.5	3.4	3.1
Writing a grant proposal	2.4	3.5	3.6	4.1	3.0	3.3

C.9.b. Satisfaction

(Scale of 1 - 5, "very dissatisfied" to "very satisfied") (Means are reported)

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N	34	52	56	24	27	194
Teaching at a higher-ed institution	3.1	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.9	3.4
Teaching at the K-12 level	3.1	3.9	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.5
Conducting independent research	3.2	3.9	3.7	3.8	4.0	3.7
Formulating a research topic	3.2	4.1	3.9	3.9	3.7	3.8
Collaborating on research with faculty members	3.0	3.8	3.4	3.8	3.9	3.5
Writing a grant proposal	2.8	3.1	2.5	3.6	3.4	3.0

C.10. What are your immediate post-graduate plans?

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N	37	56	61	27	27	209
Further graduate study		4%	8%	4%	7%	5%
Employment in a school or community college	8%	63%	27%	11%	34%	32%
Employment in a business or industry	65%	7%	25%	18%	45%	29%
Employment in a non-profit organization	11%	7%	11%	14%	3%	10%
Employment with a government or government agency	5%	7%	17%	36%	3%	13%
Self-employment	5%	2%	2%			2%
Volunteer service			3%	4%		1%
Other	5%	11%	6%	14%	7%	9%

Plans for the Future (cont.)

C.10.a. Which of the following degrees do you plan to pursue? (Asked of respondents who answered "further graduate study" in C.10.)

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N		2	5	1	2	10
Masters						
Ph.D.		100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Professional (JD, MD, etc.)						

C.10.b. Have you already been admitted for further graduate study? (Asked of respondents who answered "further graduate study" in C.10.)

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N		2	5	1	2	10
Yes		50%	60%	100%	50%	60%
No		50%	40%		50%	40%

C.11. Have you received any offers of post-graduation employment? (Asked of respondents who indicated in C.10. that they plan to be employed, options 2 - 5.)

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N	33	46	49	22	23	174
Yes	48%	41%	49%	41%	43%	45%
No	52%	59%	51%	59%	57%	55%

C.11.a. How many job offers have you received? (Asked of respondents who indicated in C.13. that they received offers of post-graduation employment.) (OSR recoded if respondent gave conflicting answers.) (Means are reported.)

		CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
Of all respondents seeking employment (chose options 2 - 5 in C.10.)	N	33	48	51	22	25	180
	Mean	0.7	0.4	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.6
Of respondents receiving at least one offer	N	15	18	24	9	10	77
	Mean	1.5	1.1	1.9	1.6	1.0	1.5

C.11.b. Of those offers, how many are related to your field of study? (Asked of respondents who answered "yes" in C.13.) (Means are reported.)

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N	15	17	24	9	11	77
Mean	1.4	1.1	1.3	1.4	0.9	1.2

Plans for the Future (cont.)

C.12. Have you accepted a job offer? (Asked of respondents who indicated they have received an offer of employment in C.11.)

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N	15	18	24	9	10	77
Yes	87%	83%	71%	89%	100%	83%
No	13%	17%	29%	11%		17%

C.12.a. Is the position you accepted related to your field of study? (Asked of respondents who answered "yes" in C.12.)

	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	Huxley	CST	WWU
N	11	14	15	8	9	58
Yes	100%	100%	93%	88%	100%	95%
No			7%	13%		5%

D. Items Requested by Administrative Units

Library

D.1. How often did you visit the Western Library's Haggard-Wilson complex this quarter? (Asked of students graduating in Fall, 2013 or Spring, 2014)

N	145
Never	37%
Once	20%
Monthly	22%
Weekly	18%
Daily	3%

D.1.a Why did you not visit the Library complex more often this quarter? (Option "I don't know where it is" was asked of respondents answering "Never" in D.1. All other options asked of respondents answering "Never" or "Once" in D.1.)

N	83
I don't know where it is	1%
None of my classes required research	12%
Visited once and could not find resources/support I needed	
I do all research online	71%
I use a different library	2%
The atmosphere is not conducive to study and research	2%
Inadequate hours	4%
I did not need or want to visit more often	40%
Other	18%

Items Submitted by Administrative Units (Cont.)

D.2 When you visited the library this quarter, how frequently were you able to find space in the library to effectively... (Asked of students graduating in Fall, 2013 or Spring, 2014)

	N	N/A	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Usually	Always
work alone?	89	27.0%		5.6%	9.0%	28.1%	30.3%
work in a group?	88	50.0%	2.3%	9.1%	10.2%	17.1%	11.4%

D.3 Have you used any of the following Learning Commons services located at the Western Libraries? (Asked of students graduating in Fall, 2013 or Spring, 2014)

	N	I have used this service	aware of, but have not used this service	I was not aware of this service
Student Technology Center	90	58%	38%	4%
Writing Center	90	13%	86%	1%
Tutoring Center	89	4%	88%	8%
Self-checkout machines	90	37%	47%	17%
Course reserve materials	90	52%	41%	7%
Group study rooms	90	31%	64%	4%
Copmuter labs (HH 234 or 245)	89	51%	44%	6%
Zoe's Bookside Bagels Café	89	74%	24%	2%
Consulted with my professor during Learning Commons Office hours	89	9%	39%	52%

D.4 Have any of your classes at Western included the following? (Asked of students graduating in Fall, 2013 or Spring, 2014)

	N	Yes	No
An organized tour of the library led by library staff	145	23.5%	76.6%
A bibliographic/library instruction session taught by library staff	145	40.7%	59.3%

Items Submitted by Administrative Units (Cont.)

D.4.a What is the department and course number of your most recent class that participated in an organized tour of the library? (Asked of those responding "yes" to "An organized tour of the library" in D.4.) (N = 32)

	N
ART 390	1
CCE 588	1
CSD	7
CSD 501	1
CSD 589	2
DNC	1
ELED	3
ELED 587	4
ENG 101	1
ESCI	2
ESCI 501	3
HIST	1
HIST 530	1
HLED	1
LIBR	1
MBA	1
RC	1

D.4.b How useful was the organized tour? (Asked of those responding "yes" to "An organized tour of the library" in D.4.)

N	Not at all useful	A little bit useful	Somewhat useful	Very useful	Extremely useful
30		23%	30%	37%	10%

Items Submitted by Administrative Units (Cont.)

D.4.c What is the department and course number of your most recent class that participated in bibliographic/library instruction session? (Asked of those responding "yes" to "A bibliographic/library instruction session taught by library staff" in D.4.) (N = 56)

	N
101	1
390	1
BIOL	2
CCE	2
CCE 588	1
CSD	8
CSD 501	1
CSD 589	2
EDAD	1
EGEO	1
ELED	2
ELED 587	4
ENG	9
ESCI	3
ESCI 501	3
HLED	1
IT	3
KIN	1
MBA	7
MGMT	1
SEC	1

D.4.d How useful was the bibliographic/library instruction session? (Asked of those responding "yes" to "An organized tour of the library" in D.4.)

N	Not at all useful	A little bit useful	Somewhat useful	Very useful	Extremely useful
55	2%	22%	33%	29%	15%

D.5 How could Western improve students' experience with the Western Libraries and Learning Commons? (Open Ended Question. Answers available from OSR upon request. N = 43)