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The Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) Survey of Western Washington University Freshmen for the 1991 In-coming Class

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Report 1992-06: The Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) Survey of Western Washington University Freshmen for the 1991 Incoming Class

This report provides a tabular summary of student responses to the Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) survey for Western Washington University's 1991 incoming freshmen class.

The CIRP was developed in 1966 by the American Council on Education (ACE) and the Graduate School of Education at the University of California, Los Angeles. The CIRP survey is used nationwide to gather normative data on the characteristics of first-time freshmen at American universities and colleges. In order to keep current with the changing interests and concerns of the academic community, the survey items are updated annually. In the 25 years of its existence, the CIRP has generated a substantial number of research studies concerned with a wide variety of issues in higher education.

Administration of the CIRP survey to freshmen at Western began in 1971. Subsequent administrations were done at five-, four-, and two-year intervals. Presently, because of the rapidly changing demographic nature of Western's incoming freshmen classes, it is anticipated that the CIRP will be administered annually. A twenty-year study of the six CIRP administrations done between 1971 and 1991 is currently in the works.

The CIRP survey provides a wealth of information about students' backgrounds, interests, and goals, including detailed tabulations of:

- * general demographic information
- * familial demographics
- * high school demographics and activities
- * pre-college issues, concerns, and attitudes
- * political viewpoints and opinions on issues

* aspirations and anticipated behaviors