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Exit Survey of Graduate Students Completing Degrees in the Spring or Summer of 2009: Descriptive Statistics

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EXIT SURVEY OF GRADUATE STUDENTS COMPLETING
DEGREES IN THE SPRING OR SUMMER OF 2009:

Descriptive Statistics

Report 2009-01

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September, 2009

OFFICE OF SURVEY RESEARCH
WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

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EXIT SURVEY OF GRADUATE STUDENTS COMPLETING DEGREES IN THE SPRING OR SUMMER OF 2009

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2009 EXIT SURVEY OF GRADUATE STUDENTS COMPLETING DEGREES IN THE SPRING OR SUMMER OF 2009 holds particular importance as it is the first formal exit survey of graduating masters degree recipients at Western Washington University. The 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 then, when applicable, links survey results with Western's student records, thus expanding their usefulness to researchers. Individual survey results may be shared with interested campus parties.

This exit survey was administered to graduate students earning their masters degrees at the conclusion of either the spring or summer quarters of 2009. Of the 280 recipients of this degree, OSR received valid responses from 188 (a response rate of 67.1%). The survey was launched with an e-mail invitation to potential respondents approximately four weeks prior to spring graduation. Follow up e-mail reminders were sent approximately every four days for the subsequent two weeks. Phone call reminders were then placed to all non-respondents. Subsequent to spring graduation this process was repeated for summer graduates.

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 from 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 relatively high response rate, its presence should always be considered when evaluating data. Section A of this document presents basic statistics that allows comparison between all 2009 spring and summer graduates and those who responded to the survey. At the university level, these comparisons reveal that survey respondents are similar to the population of graduates. For instance, 46.1% of graduates are male as are 46.3% of survey respondents. Similar results occur for minorities (6.1% of all graduates and 8.5% of respondents), the average age (29.8 years for graduates and 30.3 for respondents), and average graduate school GPA (3.77 for graduates and 3.78 for respondents).

Section B presents results from every question asked on the survey. While we have reported questions that can be encapsulated in a numerical fashion in this report, many interesting questions were purposely made open-ended. We list those questions but do not report each open ended response. OSR will be happy to provide these responses to program administrators upon request.

Section C divides the responses to a subset of questions by all colleges except Huxley and Fine and Performing Arts. Huxley was excluded from this section because only ten graduates responded to this survey; Fine and Performing Arts was excluded because only two students responded. The subset of questions was chosen based upon OSR's evaluation of those that we believed would be most interesting to program administrators. Again, OSR can provide responses to other questions by college or program upon request.

While the data may provide more compelling clues relative to strengths and weaknesses at the program level, in general terms this survey demonstrates that graduating masters degree recipients found their Western education valuable. For example, 82.3% of students said they were satisfied or very satisfied with the overall quality of their program and 84.7% say they are satisfied or very satisfied with the level of academic challenge. Additionally, 74.5% of students said they would probably or definitely choose Western if given the chance to start their graduate career again. Also, 77.7% indicated they would probably or definitely recommend someone to Western who was considering their program.

We appear to be graduating students with a comparatively low debt load. 74.2% of our students indicate a debt load under \$19,000, whereas the National Center for Education Statistics 2006 study found the average cumulative debt for masters students nationally was \$29,997.

The data also indicate some areas in which Western can improve, such as providing professional training opportunities and stronger advising, with 15.7% and 13.5% responding dissatisfied or very dissatisfied respectively. Additionally, the number of students who co-authored an article in a refereed journal with a faculty member was just 8.4%, and only 2.8% of students indicate they were published as the sole or first author in a refereed journal.

THE OFFICE OF SURVEY RESEARCH

The Office of Survey Research provides high quality survey research and other applied social science research that supports the mission of Western Washington University. In particular, OSR surveys students, alumni, graduates, employers, and the campus community to provide valuable assessment data and analysis of reports which can be used for improvement of programs, instruction, faculty scholarship, and information services. OSR is responsible for developing and administering the Western Educational Longitudinal Study (WELS), Western's Alumni Surveys, and Western's exit surveys of graduating students.

<http://www.wvu.edu/socad/osr/>

A. Comparison of All Graduates and Respondents

A.1. Graduate Characteristics

	WWU	CBE	Woodring	Fine Arts	CHSS	Huxley	CST
N	280	43	95	2	86	17	37
% Male	46.1%	60.4%	43.1%		33.7%	41.1%	70.2%
% Minority	6.1%	6.9%	8.4%		5.8%	0.0%	2.7%
Mean Age	29.8	26.6	32.7		28.6	33.0	27.8
Median Age	27	24	29		27	29	26
% Summer Graduates	40.3%	4.6%	67.4%		23.2%	47.0%	51.4%
Graduate Hours Attempted	66.1	60.7	72.2		70.8	63.4	47.3
Graduate Hours Completed	62.8	60.3	70.3		67.5	48.6	41.9
Graduate GPA	3.77	3.64	3.84		3.76	3.78	3.74

A.2. Sample Characteristics

	WWU	CBE	Woodring	Fine Arts	CHSS	Huxley	CST
N	188	30	64	2	58	10	23
% Male	46.3%	63.3%	39.0%		36.2%	60.0%	69.5%
% Minority	8.5%	10.0%	10.9%		8.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Mean Age	30.3	26.3	33.7		29.5	32.6	27.6
Median Age	27	25	31		28	30	26
% Summer Graduates	38.8%	6.7%	62.5%		25.8%	50.0%	47.8%
Graduate Hours Attempted	66.2	59.9	71.9		72.4	64.3	43.6
Graduate Hours Completed	63.2	59.5	70.2		68.7	51.1	39.4
Graduate GPA	3.78	3.62	3.85		3.78	3.83	3.8

B. University-Level Responses to All Questions

Graduate Study at Western

B.1. Please indicate your response to the following (N = 188)

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

	Definitely Not	Probably Not	Maybe	Probably	Definitely
	2.7%	5.9%	17.0%	38.3%	36.2%

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

	Definitely Not	Probably Not	Maybe	Probably	Definitely
	-	4.3%	8.0%	26.1%	61.7%

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

	Definitely Not	Probably Not	Maybe	Probably	Definitely
	4.3%	2.1%	16.0%	27.7%	50.0%

Attending Graduate School

B.2. What was your primary activity immediately prior to enrolling in your program at Western? (N=188)

Undergraduate Student	39.9%
Employed in a field related to your program	27.7%
Employed in a field unrelated to your program	23.9%
Travel	1.6%
Graduate student at another institutions	1.1%
Volunteer / community service	2.1%
Caring for children or family members	1.6%
Other	2.1%

(Other included: lab manager at local community college; community college student; dealing with MS; and WWU post-Bac student)

B. University-Level Responses to All Questions (cont.)

Academic Program

B.3. Please rate the importance to you of each of the following aspects of your academic program. (N varied between 176 and 180.)

	Not important	A little important	Somewhat important	Very important	Extremely important
Level of Academic Challenge	-	0.6%	11.9%	56.8%	30.7%
Keeping pace with recent trends and developments in the field	-	0.6%	9.6%	40.4%	49.4%
Professional training opportunities	1.7%	3.9%	8.4%	36.3%	49.7%
Research opportunities	6.7%	13.4%	28.5%	27.4%	24.0%
Quality of research conducted	6.2%	7.9%	27.0%	32.0%	27.0%
Quality of instruction	-	-	1.7%	24.9%	73.4%
Quality of advising	0.6%	2.2%	14.0%	32.4%	50.8%
Adequacy of space, facilities, and/or equipment	3.3%	4.4%	31.1%	35.0%	26.1%
Overall quality of the degree program	-	-	1.1%	32.4%	66.5%

B.4. Please rate the level of satisfaction of each of the following aspects of your program. (N varied between 183 to 186.)

	Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very satisfied
Level of Academic Challenge	0.5%	2.7%	12.0%	64.5%	20.2%
Keeping pace with recent trends and developments in the field	1.6%	2.2%	19.0%	54.9%	22.3%
Professional training opportunities	1.6%	14.1%	28.1%	32.4%	23.8%
Research opportunities	1.6%	8.6%	34.4%	37.6%	17.7%
Quality of research conducted	1.1%	3.3%	37.0%	43.5%	15.2%
Quality of instruction	1.1%	5.9%	12.4%	51.9%	28.6%
Quality of advising	4.3%	9.2%	16.2%	40.0%	30.3%
Adequacy of space, facilities, and/or equipment	3.3%	8.7%	16.9%	54.6%	16.4%
Overall quality of the degree program	1.1%	3.2%	13.4%	58.6%	23.7%

B. University-Level Responses to All Questions (cont.)

B. 5. Why are you [very dissatisfied, dissatisfied, neutral, satisfied, very satisfied] with the overall quality of your degree program? (Open-ended question, N=30. Text responses available on request.)

B.6. Rate the extent to which the following factors were an obstacle to your academic progress and/or time to degree. (N varies from 181 to 183.)

	Not applicable	No impact	Minor impact	Major impact
Family Obligations	8.2%	36.6%	32.8%	22.4%
Availability of Faculty	2.2%	64.5%	27.3%	6.0%
Course scheduling/ availability	2.8%	51.4%	33.7%	12.2%
Thesis research	42.9%	25.8%	21.4%	9.9%
Other	33.5%	5.3%	1.6%	9.6%

B.7. 31 respondents who answered “other” to question B.6 provided text responses explaining the other factors that presented obstacles to their academic progress and/or time to degree. Text responses are available upon request.

Professional Development

B.8. Have you done any of the following during your graduate study at Western? (N varies from 178 to 182.)

	Yes	No
a. Attended a national or regional meeting associated with your discipline	48.6%	51.4%
b. Attended an academic or professional conference	64.8%	35.2%
c. Presented research at a seminar or conference	33.0%	67.0%
d. Co-authored an article in a refereed journal with a program faculty	8.4%	91.6%
e. Published as the sole or first author in a refereed journal	2.8%	97.2%

B. University-Level Responses to All Questions (cont.)

B.9. If respondent answered yes to B.6a, how many national or regional meetings associated with your discipline have you attended? (N=86)

1	2	3	4	5	6	10	15
46.0%	25.3%	6.9%	8.0%	5.7%	2.3%	1.1%	3.4%

B.10. If respondent answered yes to B.6b, how many academic or professional conferences have you attended? (N=116)

1	2	3	4	5	6	14	15
42.7%	29.1%	12.8%	7.7%	3.4%	17.7%	0.9%	0.9%

B.11. If respondent answered yes to B.6c, at how many seminars or conferences have you presented research? (N=56)

1	2	3	4
50.8%	23.7%	11.9%	8.5%

B.12. If respondent answered yes to B.6d, how many articles have you published in refereed journals as a co-author? (N=14)

1	2
85.7%	14.3%

B.13. If respondent answered yes to B.6e, how many articles have you published in refereed journals as the sole or first author? (N=4)

1	3
50.0%	50.0%

B.14. Have you written, or do you plan to write a paper for publication based upon your thesis? (N=176)

Yes, I have written a paper for publication	5.1%
Yes, I plan to write a paper for publication	25.0%
No	21.0%
I did not write a thesis	48.9%

B.15. While at Western, did you hold a Graduate Teaching Assistantship position? (N=183)

Yes	No
42.1%	57.9%

B. University-Level Responses to All Questions (cont.)

B.16. If respondent answered yes to B.13, how many quarters have you held a Teaching Assistantship position? (N=65)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13.0%	5.2%	28.6%	5.2%	10.4%	18.2%	2.6%	1.3%

B.17. If respondent answered yes to B.13, how many quarters have you been the primary course instructor yourself? (N=76)

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
59.2%	6.6%	3.9%	10.5%	1.3%	7.9%	10.5%

Plans for the Future

B.18. For each of the following activities, please rate the likelihood that you will engage in the activity. (N varies from 176 to 181)

	Very unlikely	Somewhat unlikely	Neutral	Somewhat likely	Very likely
Teaching at a higher-ed institution	19.3%	16.5%	15.9%	29.0%	19.3%
Teaching at the K-12 level	33.7%	14.9%	11.0%	13.3%	27.1%
Conducting independent research	13.5%	10.1%	19.1%	29.8%	27.5%
Formulating a research topic	11.2%	12.9%	18.5%	28.1%	29.2%
Collaborating on research with faculty members	10.6%	16.2%	24.6%	27.4%	21.2%
Writing a grant proposal	10.6%	11.1%	15.6%	33.9%	28.9%

B.19. For each of the following activities, please rate your satisfaction with the level of preparation offered in your program. (N varies from 174 to 177)

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Teaching at a higher-ed institution	1.1%	4.5%	44.9%	35.2%	14.2%
Teaching at the K-12 level	1.7%	2.3%	47.7%	29.9%	18.4%
Conducting independent research	1.1%	4.0%	31.2%	42.6%	21.0%
Formulating a research topic	2.3%	3.4%	28.4%	40.9%	25.0%
Collaborating on research with faculty members	1.7%	4.5%	36.2%	35.6%	22.0%
Writing a grant proposal	7.9%	17.5%	44.6%	23.2%	6.8%

B. University-Level Responses to All Questions (cont.)

B.20. What are your immediate post-graduate plans? (N=182)

a. Further graduate study	12.6%
b. Employment in a school or community college	44.0%
c. Employment in a business or industry	23.1%
d. Employment with a government or government agency	8.8%
e. Employment in a non-profit organization	4.4%
f. Self-employment	3.8%
g. Volunteer service (e.g. Peace Corps, Teach for America, etc.)	-
h. Military Service	-
i. Other	3.3%

B.21. Five of the six respondents who answered “other” to B.20 provided text descriptions of their immediate post-graduation plans. These included: chair a committee on veterinary acupuncture; continue in current position; stay at home with daughter; working a minimum wage job; and reconsider future plans.

B.22. If answered yes to B.20a, which of the following degrees do you plan to pursue? (N=23)

Masters	Ph.D.	Professional
8.7%	87.0%	4.3%

B.23. If answered yes to B. 20a, have you been admitted for further graduate study? (N=23)

Yes	No
43.5%	56.5%

B.24. If answered yes to B.23, to which schools have you been accepted? (N=10). Text answers available upon request.

B.25. If answered yes to B.23, which school will you attend? (N=10). Text answers available upon request

B.26. If answered yes to B.23, what is your program of study? (N=10). Text answers available upon request.

B. University-Level Responses to All Questions (cont.)

B.27. If answered yes to B.20b, B.20c, B.20d, or B.20e, have you already secured employment? (N=146)

Yes	No
33.6%	66.4%

B.28. If answered yes to B.27, how many job offers did you receive? (N=43)

0	1	2	3	4	5
14.0%	62.8%	11.6%	7.0%	2.3%	2.3%

B.29. If answered yes to B.27, of the job offers you have received, how many are related to your field of study? (N=41)

0	1	2	3	4	5
14.6%	63.4%	12.2%	4.9%	2.4%	2.4%

B.30. If answered yes to B.27, is the position you accepted related to your field of study? (N=47)

Yes	No
91.5%	8.5%

B.31. If yes to B.27, what is the name of the employer you plan to work for after graduation? (N=45) Text answers available upon request.

B.32. If yes to B.27, in what city will you work? (N=45) Text answers available upon request.

B.33. If yes to B.27, what type of position have you accepted? (N=46) Text answers available upon request.

Educational Debt

B.34. Please indicate the level of debt you incurred to finance your graduate education at Western. (N=182)

None	Under \$5000	\$5000-\$9999	\$10000-\$19000	\$20,000+
30.2%	10.4%	7.7%	25.8%	25.8%

B.35. Please indicate an e-mail address below where Western can contact you in the future. (N=152)

C. College-Level Responses

Graduate Study at Western

C.1 Please indicate your response to the following.

	WWU	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	CST
N=	188	30	64	58	23

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

Definitely Not	2.7%	-	1.6%	1.7%	13.0%
Probably Not	5.9%	6.7%	3.1%	6.9%	13.0%
Maybe	17.0%	16.7%	17.2%	22.4%	4.3%
Probably	38.3%	40.0%	39.1%	37.9%	39.1%
Definitely	36.2%	36.7%	39.1%	31.0%	30.4%

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

Definitely Not	-	-	-	-	-
Probably Not	4.3%	-	6.2%	5.2%	-
Maybe	8.0%	10.0%	4.7%	13.8%	4.3%
Probably	26.1%	26.7%	28.1%	22.4%	30.4%
Definitely	61.7%	63.3%	60.9%	58.6%	65.2%

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

Definitely Not	4.3%	3.3%	1.6%	5.2%	13.0%
Probably Not	2.1%	3.3%	-	5.2%	-
Maybe	16.0%	20.0%	17.2%	15.5%	17.4%
Probably	27.7%	36.7%	18.8%	24.1%	30.4%
Definitely	50.0%	36.7%	62.5%	50.0%	39.1%

C. College-Level Responses (cont.)

Attending Graduate School

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

	WWU	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	CST
N=	188	30	64	58	23
Undergraduate student	39.9%	53.3%	25.0%	46.6%	47.8%
Employed in field related to program	27.7%	20.0%	35.9%	15.5%	39.1%
Employed in field unrelated to program	27.3%	26.7%	31.2%	25.9%	4.3%
Other	5.1%	0.0%	7.9%	12.0%	8.8%

Academic Program

C.3. Please rate the importance to you of each of the following aspects of your academic program.

	WWU	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	CST
N=	188	30	62	55	22

a. Level of Academic Challenge

Not important	-	-	-	-	-
A little important	0.6%	-	-	1.9%	-
Somewhat important	11.9%	10.3%	16.7%	11.1%	4.5%
Very important	56.8%	46.5%	53.3%	55.6%	59.1%
Extremely important	30.7%	14.0%	30.0%	31.5%	36.4%

b. Keeping pace with recent trends and developments in the field

Not important	-	-	-	-	-
A little important	0.6%	3.4%	-	-	-
Somewhat important	9.6%	6.9%	5.0%	10.9%	13.6%
Very important	40.4%	41.4%	50.0%	40.0%	22.7%
Extremely important	49.4%	48.3%	45.0%	49.1%	63.6%

c. Professional training opportunities

Not important	1.7%	-	-	-	13.6%
A little important	3.9%	-	4.9%	-	18.2%
Somewhat important	8.4%	17.2%	4.9%	5.5%	9.1%
Very important	36.3%	44.8%	34.4%	40.0%	27.3%
Extremely important	49.7%	37.9%	55.7%	54.5%	31.8%

d. Research Opportunities

Not important	6.7%	13.8%	6.6%	7.3%	-
A little important	13.4%	27.8%	11.5%	14.5%	4.5%
Somewhat important	28.5%	31.0%	37.7%	25.5%	13.6%
Very important	27.4%	27.6%	27.9%	29.1%	27.3%
Extremely important	24.0%	-	16.4%	23.6%	54.5%

C. College-Level Responses (cont.)

C.4. Please rate the level of satisfaction of each of the following aspects of your program.

	WWU	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	CST
N=	188	30	63	57	23
a. Level of Academic Challenge					
Very dissatisfied	0.5%	-	1.6%	-	-
Dissatisfied	2.7%	3.3%	1.6%	1.8%	8.7%
Neutral	12.0%	10.0%	14.5%	10.7%	8.7%
Satisfied	64.5%	80.0%	56.5%	66.1%	60.9%
Very satisfied	20.2%	6.7%	25.8%	21.4%	21.7%
b. Keeping pace with recent trends and developments in the field					
Very dissatisfied	1.6%	-	-	-	13.0%
Dissatisfied	2.2%	3.3%	1.6%	1.8%	4.3%
Neutral	19.0%	20.0%	11.3%	26.8%	17.4%
Satisfied	54.9%	70.0%	54.8%	51.8%	39.1%
Very satisfied	22.3%	6.7%	32.3%	19.6%	26.1%
c. Professional training opportunities					
Very dissatisfied	1.6%	-	1.6%	1.8%	4.3%
Dissatisfied	14.1%	23.3%	11.3%	12.3%	8.7%
Neutral	28.1%	43.3%	21.0%	19.3%	47.8%
Satisfied	32.4%	23.3%	33.9%	40.4%	17.4%
Very satisfied	23.8%	10.0%	32.3%	26.3%	21.7%
d. Research Opportunities					
Very dissatisfied	1.6%	6.7%	-	1.8%	-
Dissatisfied	8.6%	3.3%	6.3%	10.5%	17.4%
Neutral	34.4%	53.3%	33.3%	38.6%	13.0%
Satisfied	37.6%	20.0%	41.3%	36.8%	47.8%
Very satisfied	17.7%	16.7%	19.0%	12.3%	21.7%
e. Quality of research conducted					
Very dissatisfied	1.1%	3.3%	1.6%	-	-
Dissatisfied	3.3%	-	3.2%	3.6%	8.7%
Neutral	37.0%	63.3%	30.6%	41.1%	17.4%
Satisfied	43.5%	30.0%	43.5%	46.4%	52.2%
Very satisfied	15.2%	3.3%	21.0%	8.9%	21.7%

C. College-Level Responses (cont.)

C.4. Please rate the level of satisfaction of each of the following aspects of your program (cont.).

	WWU	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	CST
N=	188	30	63	57	23
f. Quality of instruction					
Very dissatisfied	1.1%	-	1.6%	-	4.3%
Dissatisfied	5.9%	13.3%	1.6%	8.8%	4.3%
Neutral	12.4%	20.0%	11.3%	8.8%	13.0%
Satisfied	51.9%	53.3%	46.8%	57.9%	47.8%
Very satisfied	28.6%	13.3%	38.7%	24.6%	30.4%
g. Quality of advising					
Very dissatisfied	4.3%	-	1.6%	10.7%	4.3%
Dissatisfied	9.2%	26.7%	6.3%	7.1%	-
Neutral	16.2%	26.7%	19.0%	12.5%	8.7%
Satisfied	40.0%	33.3%	42.9%	44.6%	26.1%
Very satisfied	30.3%	13.3%	30.2%	25.0%	60.9%
h. Adequacy of space, facilities, and/or equipment					
Very dissatisfied	3.3%	3.3%	4.8%	1.8%	4.5%
Dissatisfied	8.7%	20.0%	6.3%	7.1%	4.5%
Neutral	16.9%	23.3%	14.3%	16.1%	13.6%
Satisfied	54.6%	40.0%	55.6%	62.5%	45.5%
Very satisfied	16.4%	13.3%	19.0%	12.5%	31.8%
i. Overall quality of the degree program					
Very dissatisfied	1.1%	-	-	-	8.7%
Dissatisfied	3.2%	3.3%	1.6%	5.3%	4.3%
Neutral	13.4%	20.0%	12.7%	14.0%	8.7%
Satisfied	58.6%	60.0%	55.6%	57.9%	56.5%
Very satisfied	23.7%	16.7%	30.2%	22.8%	21.7%

C. College-Level Responses (cont.)

C.5 Have you done any of the following during your graduate study at Western?

	WWU	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	CST
N=	188	30	61	55	21

a. Attend a national or regional meeting associated with your discipline?

Yes	48.6%	26.7%	47.5%	53.6%	47.6%
No	51.4%	73.3%	52.5%	46.4%	52.4%

b. Attended an academic or professional conference

Yes	64.8%	40.0%	65.6%	77.2%	57.1%
No	35.2%	60.0%	34.4%	22.8%	42.9%

c. Presented research at a seminar or conference

Yes	33.0%	6.7%	27.9%	40.4%	38.1%
No	67.0%	93.3%	72.1%	59.6%	61.9%

d. Co-authored an article in a refereed journal with a program faculty

Yes	8.4%	10.0%	6.7%	3.6%	19.0%
No	91.6%	90.0%	93.3%	96.4%	81.0%

e. Published as the sole or first author in a refereed journal

Yes	2.8%	-	1.6%	1.8%	4.8%
No	97.2%	100.0%	98.4%	98.2%	95.2%

C.6. While at Western, did you hold a Graduate Teaching Assistantship position?

	WWU	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	CST
N=	188	30	62	57	21
Yes	42.1%	13.3%	24.2%	57.9%	66.7%
No	57.9%	86.7%	75.8%	42.1%	33.3%

C. College-Level Responses (cont.)

C.7. For each of the following activities, please rate your satisfaction with the level of preparation offered in your program.

	WWU	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	CST
N=	188	28	61	56	21
a. Teaching at a higher-ed institution					
Very dissatisfied	1.1%	3.6%	-	1.8%	-
Dissatisfied	-	-	-	-	-
Neutral	44.9%	64.3%	39.7%	44.6%	28.6%
Satisfied	35.2%	25.0%	39.7%	28.6%	47.6%
Very satisfied	14.2%	7.1%	17.2%	16.1%	19.0%
b. Teaching at the K-12 level					
Very dissatisfied	1.7%	3.6%	-	-	4.8%
Dissatisfied	2.3%	3.6%	3.3%	-	4.8%
Neutral	47.7%	67.9%	26.2%	64.2%	42.9%
Satisfied	29.9%	17.9%	37.7%	30.2%	23.8%
Very satisfied	18.4%	7.1%	32.8%	5.7%	23.8%
c. Conducting independent research					
Very dissatisfied	1.1%	3.7%	-	1.9%	-
Dissatisfied	4.0%	3.7%	1.6%	9.3%	-
Neutral	31.2%	48.1%	41.0%	20.4%	19.0%
Satisfied	42.6%	33.3%	41.0%	46.3%	52.4%
Very satisfied	21.0%	11.1%	16.4%	22.2%	28.6%
d. Formulating a research topic					
Very dissatisfied	2.3%	7.4%	-	3.6%	-
Dissatisfied	3.4%	3.7%	1.7%	7.1%	-
Neutral	28.4%	59.3%	28.3%	16.1%	30.0%
Satisfied	40.9%	22.2%	48.3%	42.9%	30.0%
Very satisfied	25.0%	7.4%	21.7%	30.4%	40.0%
e. Collaborating on research with faculty members					
Very dissatisfied	1.7%	7.1%	-	1.8%	-
Dissatisfied	4.5%	3.6%	1.7%	10.7%	-
Neutral	36.2%	60.7%	42.4%	32.1%	14.3%
Satisfied	35.6%	17.9%	33.9%	41.1%	42.9%
Very satisfied	22.0%	10.7%	22.0%	14.3%	42.9%
f. Writing a grant proposal					
Very dissatisfied	7.9%	17.9%	5.1%	7.1%	9.5%
Dissatisfied	17.5%	7.1%	22.0%	21.4%	14.3%
Neutral	44.6%	53.6%	44.1%	41.1%	47.6%
Satisfied	23.2%	17.9%	25.4%	16.1%	23.8%
Very satisfied	6.8%	3.6%	3.4%	14.3%	4.8%

C. College-Level Responses (cont.)

Plans for the Future

C.8. What are your immediate post-graduate plans?

	WWU	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	CST
N=	182	30	62	56	21
Further graduate study	12.6%	6.7%	4.8%	21.4%	19.0%
Employment in a school or community college	44.0%	-	80.6%	32.1%	38.1%
Employment in a business or industry	23.1%	66.7%	3.2%	19.6%	38.1%
Employment with a government or government agency	8.8%	13.3%	3.2%	8.9%	4.8%
Employment in a non-profit organization	4.4%	3.3%	1.6%	10.7%	-
Self-employment	3.8%	10.0%	1.6%	1.8%	-
Volunteer service	-	-	-	-	-
Military Service	-	-	-	-	-
Other	3.3%		4.8%	5.4%	-

Educational Debt

C.9. Please indicate the level of debt you incurred to finance your graduate education at Western.

	WWU	CBE	Woodring	CHSS	CST
N=	188	30	62	56	21
None	30.2%	36.7%	29.0%	19.6%	61.9%
Under \$5,000	10.4%	10.0%	8.1%	12.5%	9.5%
\$5,000 to \$9,999	7.7%	3.3%	8.1%	8.9%	4.8%
\$10,000 to \$19,000	25.8%	40.0%	24.2%	23.2%	19.0%
\$20,000+	25.8%	10.0%	30.6%	35.7%	4.8%