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Western Educational Longitudinal Study (WELS): Spring 2005, Follow-up of Freshmen Entering Fall, 2003

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WESTERN EDUCATIONAL
LONGITUDINAL STUDY (WELS):
SPRING 2005 FOLLOW-UP OF
FRESHMEN ENTERING FALL, 2003

(REPORT 2006-01)

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April, 2006

INTRODUCTION

The Western Educational Longitudinal Study (WELS) was conceived as a process to obtain data more relevant to Western and its mission than survey data had been able to obtain previously. Rather than continuing to rely on outside survey forms, researchers developed a Western-specific survey form. Development of this survey took about three years, with researchers soliciting input from dozens of individuals, departments and offices. Along the way, WELS researchers also noted where data was already being collected so that doubling up on survey questions was minimized.

The final survey form was considered by all participants to be as thorough and Western-specific as it could be. In the inaugural WELS survey, 1580 in-coming 2003 freshmen participated. These respondents became the baseline cohort. From this baseline—and also from the general population of Western students—samples have been and will continue to be drawn for subsequent WELS surveys.

The sample for the spring, 2005, WELS consisted of a random sample of 1489 sophomores who were new freshman in Fall 03. The 1489 included students who did not take the 2003 baseline and students who did. The survey was designed as telephone only. Of the 1489 sophomores in the sample, 206 did not have valid phone numbers in the University data base. Ultimately, 814 sophomores completed the survey out of the 1283 students who were called, resulting in a 63.4% response rate.

Topics covered in the spring, 2005, survey included: registering process, major, advising, academic activities, GURs, work, experiences, difficulties, and uses of academic and library technologies.

Other principle WELS frequency surveys to date include:

- Baseline (summer, 2003): *Western Educational Longitudinal Study* (OIART Report 2003-02).
- First quarter transitions (late fall, 2003): *Fall 2003 Freshmen Transition* (OIART Focus Summary, Issue 8, Volume 4).
- End of first year follow-up (spring, 2004): *Follow-up of Freshmen Entering Fall, 2003* (OIART Report 2004-01).

All OIART reports can be accessed in pdf form at <http://www.wvu.edu/depts/assess>. For hard copies, please contact Gary McKinney. E-mail: gary.mckinney@wvu.edu. Telephone: 360-650-3409.

WELS Spring, 2005, Survey of Sophomores who,
in 2003, were first-time, in-coming Freshmen

Findings

Registering Process

How well informed were you about when and how to register for Spring Quarter?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Completely | 309 | 38.4 |
| Very | 315 | 39.1 |
| Somewhat | 129 | 16.0 |
| A little | 37 | 4.6 |
| Not at all | 15 | 1.9 |
| Total | 805 | 100.0 |

Thinking back to registration for Spring Quarter, how many of the courses that you wanted were you unable because they were full?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-------|-----------|---------------|
| 0 | 256 | 32.0 |
| 1 | 146 | 18.2 |
| 2 | 210 | 26.2 |
| 3 | 116 | 14.5 |
| 4 | 38 | 4.7 |
| 5 | 20 | 2.5 |
| 6 | 5 | 0.6 |
| 7 | 4 | 0.5 |
| 8 | 3 | 0.4 |
| 10 | 3 | 0.4 |
| Total | 801 | 100.0 |

How many courses are you currently taking that you didn't really want to take when you registered?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-------|-----------|---------------|
| 0 | 426 | 52.9 |
| 1 | 228 | 28.3 |
| 2 | 110 | 13.6 |
| 3 | 34 | 4.2 |
| 4 | 7 | 0.9 |
| 5 | 1 | 0.1 |
| Total | 806 | 100.0 |

How often this year have you been unable to take courses you needed in order to get into your major because they were full?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| Always | 47 | 5.9 |
| Often | 162 | 20.5 |
| Sometimes | 234 | 29.6 |
| Rarely | 186 | 23.5 |
| Never | 162 | 20.5 |
| Total | 791 | 100.0 |

How often this year were you unable to take courses required for your GURs because they were full?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| Always | 37 | 4.6 |
| Often | 173 | 21.7 |
| Sometimes | 227 | 28.5 |
| Rarely | 150 | 18.8 |
| Never | 209 | 26.3 |
| Total | 796 | 100.0 |

Students' Major

How certain are you of what your major will be?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 302 | 37.6 |
| Very | 289 | 36.0 |
| Somewhat | 151 | 18.8 |
| A little | 31 | 3.9 |
| Not at all | 30 | 3.7 |
| Total | 803 | 100.0 |

During this school year, have you changed your mind about your major?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|----------------|-----------|---------------|
| Yes (continue) | 303 | 37.8 |
| No | 499 | 62.2 |
| Total | 802 | 100.0 |

(IF YES TO ABOVE) What are the reasons why you changed your mind?

Grades weren't good enough.

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|---------|-----------|---------------|
| Yes | 12 | 100.0 |
| Missing | 801 | |

Couldn't get into courses.

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|---------|-----------|---------------|
| Yes | 16 | 100.0 |
| Missing | 797 | |

Requirements for previous major were too demanding.

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|---------|-----------|---------------|
| Yes | 24 | 100.0 |
| Missing | 789 | |

A course drew interest more than previous major interest.

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|---------|-----------|---------------|
| Yes | 66 | 100.0 |
| Missing | 747 | |

A course or professor in previous major turned you off the major.

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|---------|-----------|---------------|
| Yes | 50 | 100.0 |
| Missing | 763 | |

The requirements current major interest are less demanding.

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|---------|-----------|---------------|
| Yes | 7 | 100.0 |
| Missing | 806 | |

Other.

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|---------|-----------|---------------|
| Yes | 164 | 100.0 |
| Missing | 649 | |

Have you completed the paperwork to declare your major yet?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-------|-----------|---------------|
| Yes | 325 | 40.7 |
| No | 474 | 59.3 |
| Total | 799 | 100.0 |

Have you contacted the department of your major interest about your interest?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-------|-----------|---------------|
| Yes | 229 | 47.1 |
| No | 257 | 52.9 |
| Total | 486 | 100.0 |

Have you talked with an advisor in the department about declaring your major?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-------|-----------|---------------|
| Yes | 190 | 39.2 |
| No | 295 | 60.8 |
| Total | 485 | 100.0 |

When do you plan to do the paperwork to declare your major?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Spring '05 | 163 | 33.9 |
| Summer '05 | 42 | 8.7 |
| Fall '05 | 188 | 39.1 |
| Other quarter | 29 | 6.0 |
| I didn't know I had to do paperwork | 3 | 0.6 |
| I don't qualify yet because | 11 | 2.3 |
| There is a waiting list for entry to the major | 4 | 0.8 |
| Other reason for delay | 41 | 8.5 |
| Total | 481 | 100.0 |

Advising and Advisors

Is your academic advisor in the Academic Advising Center or a faculty member from one of Western's departments?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|----------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Academic Advising | 166 | 20.6 |
| Faculty Member | 467 | 57.9 |
| Don't know | 148 | 18.4 |
| Not applicable - Don't have an advisor | 25 | 3.1 |
| Total | 806 | 100.0 |

IF DON'T KNOW: Do you know who your academic advisor is?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-------|-----------|---------------|
| Yes | 49 | 30.4 |
| No | 112 | 69.6 |
| Total | 161 | 100.0 |

How many times have you had contact with your academic advisor this year, if at all?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| 0 | 213 | 44.3 |
| 1 | 95 | 19.8 |
| 2 | 96 | 20.0 |
| 3-5 | 48 | 10.0 |
| 6-10 | 17 | 3.5 |
| 10 or more | 12 | 2.5 |
| Total | 481 | 100.0 |

Overall, how satisfied are you with the advising you have received so far at Western?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 84 | 11.2 |
| Very | 261 | 34.8 |
| Somewhat | 247 | 32.9 |
| A little | 95 | 12.7 |
| Not at all | 63 | 8.4 |
| Total | 750 | 100.0 |

Students' Academic Activities

Contributed to a classroom discussion?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-----------------|-----------|---------------|
| Never | 8 | 2.1 |
| Once | 9 | 2.3 |
| 2 to 3 times | 63 | 16.4 |
| 4 to 5 times | 55 | 14.3 |
| 5 or more times | 249 | 64.8 |
| Total | 384 | 100.0 |

Used multimedia software such as Photoshop or PowerPoint for your assignments?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-----------------|-----------|---------------|
| Never | 169 | 44.1 |
| Once | 65 | 17.0 |
| 2 to 3 times | 76 | 19.8 |
| 4 to 5 times | 16 | 4.2 |
| 5 or more times | 57 | 14.9 |
| Total | 383 | 100.0 |

Written a substantial scientific or other research paper of 5 pages or more?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-----------------|-----------|---------------|
| Never | 121 | 31.6 |
| Once | 78 | 20.4 |
| 2 to 3 times | 133 | 34.7 |
| 4 to 5 times | 21 | 5.5 |
| 5 or more times | 30 | 7.8 |
| Total | 383 | 100.0 |

Written any other type of substantial paper of 5 pages or more?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-----------------|-----------|---------------|
| Never | 132 | 34.6 |
| Once | 73 | 19.2 |
| 2 to 3 times | 107 | 28.1 |
| 4 to 5 times | 32 | 8.4 |
| 5 or more times | 37 | 9.7 |
| Total | 381 | 100.0 |

Turned in a draft of a paper to a professor for feedback?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-----------------|-----------|---------------|
| Never | 195 | 51.0 |
| Once | 65 | 17.0 |
| 2 to 3 times | 82 | 21.5 |
| 4 to 5 times | 17 | 4.5 |
| 5 or more times | 23 | 6.0 |
| Total | 382 | 100.0 |

Volunteered in the community as a part of coursework in a class?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-----------------|-----------|---------------|
| Never | 287 | 74.7 |
| Once | 59 | 15.4 |
| 2 to 3 times | 24 | 6.3 |
| 4 to 5 times | 2 | 0.5 |
| 5 or more times | 12 | 3.1 |
| Total | 384 | 100.0 |

Formally collaborated with others to complete coursework (group projects)?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-----------------|-----------|---------------|
| Never | 37 | 9.6 |
| Once | 58 | 15.1 |
| 2 to 3 times | 136 | 35.4 |
| 4 to 5 times | 53 | 13.8 |
| 5 or more times | 100 | 26.0 |
| Total | 384 | 100.0 |

Presented information in front of your class?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-----------------|-----------|---------------|
| Never | 95 | 24.8 |
| Once | 68 | 17.8 |
| 2 to 3 times | 125 | 32.6 |
| 4 to 5 times | 39 | 10.2 |
| 5 or more times | 56 | 14.6 |
| Total | 383 | 100.0 |

Talked to an advisor about your courses?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-----------------|-----------|---------------|
| Never | 128 | 33.4 |
| Once | 112 | 29.2 |
| 2 to 3 times | 94 | 24.5 |
| 4 to 5 times | 18 | 4.7 |
| 5 or more times | 31 | 8.1 |
| Total | 383 | 100.0 |

Talked to a professor outside of class?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-----------------|-----------|---------------|
| Never | 26 | 6.8 |
| Once | 27 | 7.0 |
| 2 to 3 times | 114 | 29.8 |
| 4 to 5 times | 60 | 15.7 |
| 5 or more times | 156 | 40.7 |
| Total | 383 | 100.0 |

GUR Issues

Taking GUR courses gives me useful skills and ideas

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Strongly Agree | 55 | 14.6 |
| Somewhat Agree | 213 | 56.6 |
| Neither | 39 | 10.4 |
| Somewhat Disagree | 50 | 13.3 |
| Strongly Disagree | 19 | 5.1 |
| Total | 376 | 100.0 |

GUR course requirements interfere with my taking courses that really interest me

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Strongly Agree | 88 | 23.5 |
| Somewhat Agree | 160 | 42.7 |
| Neither | 42 | 11.2 |
| Somewhat Disagree | 66 | 17.6 |
| Strongly Disagree | 19 | 5.1 |
| Total | 375 | 100.0 |

I use GURs as a key source for exploring potential majors

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Strongly Agree | 55 | 14.6 |
| Somewhat Agree | 130 | 34.5 |
| Neither | 35 | 9.3 |
| Somewhat Disagree | 99 | 26.3 |
| Strongly Disagree | 58 | 15.4 |
| Total | 377 | 100.0 |

Completing courses in a broad range of disciplines is something I would choose for myself even if not required

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Strongly Agree | 100 | 26.6 |
| Somewhat Agree | 154 | 41.0 |
| Neither | 40 | 10.6 |
| Somewhat Disagree | 55 | 14.6 |
| Strongly Disagree | 27 | 7.2 |
| Total | 376 | 100.0 |

My GUR courses have really broadened my perspective on the world

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Strongly Agree | 68 | 18.0 |
| Somewhat Agree | 175 | 46.4 |
| Neither | 53 | 14.1 |
| Somewhat Disagree | 57 | 15.1 |
| Strongly Disagree | 24 | 6.4 |
| Total | 377 | 100.0 |

My GUR courses are teaching me a lot about cultural diversity.

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Strongly Agree | 57 | 15.3 |
| Somewhat Agree | 165 | 44.2 |
| Neither | 54 | 14.5 |
| Somewhat Disagree | 74 | 19.8 |
| Strongly Disagree | 23 | 6.2 |
| Total | 373 | 100.0 |

Overall, how satisfied are you with your GUR program?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 19 | 5.1 |
| Very | 84 | 22.6 |
| Somewhat | 180 | 48.5 |
| A little | 60 | 16.2 |
| Not at all | 28 | 7.5 |
| Total | 371 | 100.0 |

Students' at Work

Have you worked at a job on a regular basis for pay or work study since the start of this quarter?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|----------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Yes: work study | 26 | 3.2 |
| Yes: regular job | 373 | 46.3 |
| Yes: both a regular job and work study | 10 | 1.2 |
| No | 397 | 49.3 |
| Total | 806 | 100.0 |

Have you worked on campus, off campus or both for your job(s)?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-----------------|-----------|---------------|
| On campus only | 141 | 34.6 |
| Off campus only | 224 | 55.0 |
| Both | 42 | 10.3 |
| Total | 407 | 100.0 |

How many hours a week have you typically worked on campus this quarter, if any?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-------|-----------|---------------|
| 2-10 | 81 | 50.6 |
| 11-20 | 68 | 42.5 |
| 21-40 | 11 | 6.9 |
| Total | 160 | 100.0 |

How many hours a week have you typically worked off campus this quarter, if any?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-------|-----------|---------------|
| 3-10 | 58 | 25.2 |
| 11-20 | 110 | 47.8 |
| 21-25 | 37 | 16.1 |
| 26-40 | 25 | 10.9 |
| Total | 230 | 100.0 |

Students' Experiences

I feel I am a part of the university community.

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Strongly Agree | 213 | 26.5 |
| Somewhat Agree | 396 | 49.2 |
| Neither | 128 | 15.9 |
| Somewhat Disagree | 57 | 7.1 |
| Strongly Disagree | 11 | 1.4 |
| Total | 805 | 100.0 |

I have important, new friendships with other Western students

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Strongly Agree | 555 | 69.1 |
| Somewhat Agree | 190 | 23.7 |
| Neither | 24 | 3.0 |
| Somewhat Disagree | 28 | 3.5 |
| Strongly Disagree | 6 | 0.7 |
| Total | 803 | 100.0 |

Concern for my family has interfered with my academic work

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Strongly Agree | 45 | 5.6 |
| Somewhat Agree | 128 | 16.0 |
| Neither | 61 | 7.6 |
| Somewhat Disagree | 188 | 23.4 |
| Strongly Disagree | 380 | 47.4 |
| Total | 802 | 100.0 |

Students' Difficulties

Managing your time effectively

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 52 | 6.5 |
| Very | 133 | 16.5 |
| Somewhat | 363 | 45.0 |
| A little | 177 | 22.0 |
| Not at all | 81 | 10.0 |
| Total | 806 | 100.0 |

Getting to class consistently

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 25 | 3.1 |
| Very | 63 | 7.8 |
| Somewhat | 166 | 20.6 |
| A little | 140 | 17.4 |
| Not at all | 410 | 51.0 |
| Total | 804 | 100.0 |

Balancing your coursework with family or community obligations

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 23 | 2.9 |
| Very | 68 | 8.4 |
| Somewhat | 262 | 32.5 |
| A little | 181 | 22.5 |
| Not at all | 271 | 33.7 |
| Total | 805 | 100.0 |

Getting access to courses you need to prepare for your major

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 35 | 4.4 |
| Very | 92 | 11.6 |
| Somewhat | 300 | 37.7 |
| A little | 152 | 19.1 |
| Not at all | 216 | 27.2 |
| Total | 795 | 100.0 |

Balancing coursework with social life

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 37 | 4.6 |
| Very | 113 | 14.0 |
| Somewhat | 335 | 41.6 |
| A little | 154 | 19.1 |
| Not at all | 166 | 20.6 |
| Total | 805 | 100.0 |

Balancing coursework with activities such as clubs and teams

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 23 | 2.9 |
| Very | 67 | 8.3 |
| Somewhat | 177 | 22.0 |
| A little | 149 | 18.5 |
| Not at all | 389 | 48.3 |
| Total | 805 | 100.0 |

Balancing coursework with a job

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 31 | 3.9 |
| Very | 76 | 9.5 |
| Somewhat | 196 | 24.5 |
| A little | 74 | 9.2 |
| Not at all | 424 | 52.9 |
| Total | 801 | 100.0 |

Managing your finances

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 26 | 3.2 |
| Very | 107 | 13.3 |
| Somewhat | 271 | 33.6 |
| A little | 125 | 15.5 |
| Not at all | 277 | 34.4 |
| Total | 806 | 100.0 |

Managing your physical and emotional health

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 15 | 1.9 |
| Very | 69 | 8.6 |
| Somewhat | 262 | 32.5 |
| A little | 167 | 20.7 |
| Not at all | 292 | 36.3 |
| Total | 805 | 100.0 |

Getting the emotional support you need to do well in school

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 14 | 1.7 |
| Very | 27 | 3.4 |
| Somewhat | 121 | 15.0 |
| A little | 132 | 16.4 |
| Not at all | 511 | 63.5 |
| Total | 805 | 100.0 |

Dealing with homesickness

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 4 | 0.5 |
| Very | 17 | 2.1 |
| Somewhat | 54 | 6.7 |
| A little | 97 | 12.0 |
| Not at all | 633 | 78.6 |
| Total | 805 | 100.0 |

Managing stress

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 22 | 2.7 |
| Very | 82 | 10.2 |
| Somewhat | 321 | 39.9 |
| A little | 175 | 21.8 |
| Not at all | 204 | 25.4 |
| Total | 804 | 100.0 |

Getting enough sleep

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 67 | 8.3 |
| Very | 172 | 21.4 |
| Somewhat | 299 | 37.2 |
| A little | 135 | 16.8 |
| Not at all | 131 | 16.3 |
| Total | 804 | 100.0 |

Handling the use of alcohol and drugs

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 6 | 0.7 |
| Very | 12 | 1.5 |
| Somewhat | 93 | 11.6 |
| A little | 90 | 11.2 |
| Not at all | 601 | 74.9 |
| Total | 802 | 100.0 |

Fitting in with others at Western

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 9 | 1.1 |
| Very | 10 | 1.2 |
| Somewhat | 78 | 9.7 |
| A little | 116 | 14.4 |
| Not at all | 591 | 73.5 |
| Total | 804 | 100.0 |

Meeting your family's expectations

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 7 | 0.9 |
| Very | 34 | 4.2 |
| Somewhat | 161 | 20.1 |
| A little | 116 | 14.5 |
| Not at all | 484 | 60.3 |
| Total | 802 | 100.0 |

Getting the financial support you need

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 25 | 3.1 |
| Very | 56 | 7.1 |
| Somewhat | 198 | 24.9 |
| A little | 107 | 13.5 |
| Not at all | 408 | 51.4 |
| Total | 794 | 100.0 |

Students' Use of E-mail and Academic Technologies

How often, if at all, have you used your My Western WWU email account to send or receive email this year?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Never | 41 | 9.7 |
| One to three time a quarter | 26 | 6.2 |
| Two to three times a month | 33 | 7.8 |
| Once a week | 31 | 7.4 |
| More than once a week, but not every day | 78 | 18.5 |
| Every day | 212 | 50.4 |

Do you have a non-Western email account that you use in addition to or instead of your Western email?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-------|-----------|---------------|
| Yes | 344 | 80.9 |
| No | 77 | 18.1 |
| Total | 425 | 99.1 |

Have you set up your Western account to automatically forward email to a non-Western account?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|---------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Yes | 92 | 22.6 |
| No | 311 | 76.4 |
| Total | 407 | 100.0 |
| Didn't know I could | 18 | |

Have you heard or read about Western's policy requiring all students to read official email sent to their My Western

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-------|-----------|---------------|
| Yes | 206 | 48.9 |
| No | 215 | 51.1 |
| Total | 421 | 100.0 |

To what degree, if at all, have you used the services of the Student Technology Center this year?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| A great deal | 15 | 3.6 |
| Quite a bit | 36 | 8.6 |
| Some | 135 | 32.2 |
| None | 191 | 45.6 |
| Didn't know there was a Student Tech Center | 42 | 10.0 |
| Total | 419 | 100.0 |

In the past month, how many times have you tried to use one of Western's computer labs outside of class time and it was full?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| 0 | 113 | 43.7 |
| 1-2 | 75 | 29.1 |
| 3-4 | 36 | 14.0 |
| 5-6 | 17 | 6.6 |
| 7 or more | 17 | 6.6 |
| Total | 258 | 100.0 |

In the past month, how many times have you tried to use one of the labs outside of class time

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| 0 | 21 | 8.2 |
| 1-5 | 84 | 32.8 |
| 6-10 | 59 | 23.0 |
| 11-15 | 42 | 16.4 |
| 16-25 | 29 | 11.3 |
| 25 or more | 20 | 7.8 |
| Total | 256 | 100.0 |

In the past year, how many times, if at all, have you used Western's wireless computer network?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Every day | 16 | 3.8 |
| More than once a week but not daily | 27 | 6.4 |
| Once a week | 20 | 4.8 |
| Two to three times a month | 39 | 9.3 |
| One to three times a quarter | 116 | 27.6 |
| Never | 202 | 48.1 |
| Total | 420 | 100.0 |

Students' Comfort Levels with Academic Processes

Using computers

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 130 | 30.9 |
| Very | 214 | 50.8 |
| Somewhat | 65 | 15.4 |
| A little | 11 | 2.6 |
| Not at all | 1 | 0.2 |
| Total | 421 | 100.0 |

Planning, implementing and organizing research

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 51 | 12.1 |
| Very | 168 | 40.0 |
| Somewhat | 166 | 39.5 |
| A little | 29 | 6.9 |
| Not at all | 6 | 1.4 |
| Total | 420 | 100.0 |

Using library resources for research

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 26 | 6.2 |
| Very | 149 | 35.4 |
| Somewhat | 192 | 45.6 |
| A little | 43 | 10.2 |
| Not at all | 11 | 2.6 |
| Total | 421 | 100.0 |

Citing references for research papers, for example, creating a bibliography

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 73 | 17.4 |
| Very | 186 | 44.4 |
| Somewhat | 127 | 30.3 |
| A little | 29 | 6.9 |
| Not at all | 4 | 1.0 |
| Total | 419 | 100.0 |

Understanding how to avoid plagiarism in your writing

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Extremely | 137 | 32.5 |
| Very | 223 | 53.0 |
| Somewhat | 54 | 12.8 |
| A little | 6 | 1.4 |
| Not at all | 1 | 0.2 |
| Total | 421 | 100.0 |

Students' Use and Comfort Levels with the Library and Library Technologies

Email General Question: How much experience do you have using computers for EMAIL

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|--------------|-----------|---------------|
| A Great Deal | 328 | 77.9 |
| Quite a bit | 79 | 18.8 |
| Some | 13 | 3.1 |
| A little | 1 | 0.2 |
| Total | 421 | 100.0 |

How about finding information on the Internet

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|--------------|-----------|---------------|
| A Great Deal | 313 | 74.3 |
| Quite a bit | 80 | 19.0 |
| Some | 21 | 5.0 |
| A little | 6 | 1.4 |
| Not at all | 1 | 0.2 |
| Total | 421 | 100.0 |

Finding information using library databases like Proquest or Ebsco

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|--------------|-----------|---------------|
| A Great Deal | 76 | 18.1 |
| Quite a bit | 102 | 24.3 |
| Some | 145 | 34.5 |
| A little | 65 | 15.5 |
| Not at all | 32 | 7.6 |
| Total | 420 | 100.0 |

Creating documents

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|--------------|-----------|---------------|
| A Great Deal | 239 | 57.0 |
| Quite a bit | 109 | 26.0 |
| Some | 52 | 12.4 |
| A little | 11 | 2.6 |
| Not at all | 8 | 1.9 |
| Total | 419 | 100.0 |

How often, if at all, have you used the campus library's facilities?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Never | 20 | 4.8 |
| Rarely | 74 | 17.6 |
| Sometimes | 145 | 34.5 |
| Often | 133 | 31.7 |
| Very Often | 48 | 11.4 |
| Total | 420 | 100.0 |

Future Plans

Over the next few years, how likely are you to transfer to another university or college?

| | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Definitely will | 50 | 6.3 |
| Probably will | 50 | 6.3 |
| Probably won't | 285 | 35.8 |
| Definitely won't | 410 | 51.6 |
| Total | 795 | 100.0 |

How likely are you to graduate from Western?

| | | |
|------------------|-----|-------|
| Definitely will | 492 | 61.8 |
| Probably will | 243 | 30.6 |
| Probably won't | 30 | 3.8 |
| Definitely won't | 30 | 3.8 |
| Total | 795 | 100.0 |

How long do you think it will take for you to finish your Bachelors degree?

| | | |
|------------------------|-----|------|
| less than 4 years | 63 | 7.8 |
| 4 years | 260 | 32.3 |
| 4-5 years | 430 | 53.3 |
| More than 5 years | 47 | 5.8 |
| Don't expect to finish | 3 | 0.2 |
| Total | 803 | 99.4 |

So far, how satisfied are you with Western?

| | | |
|------------|-----|-------|
| Extremely | 162 | 20.2 |
| Very | 474 | 59.0 |
| Somewhat | 139 | 17.3 |
| A little | 25 | 3.1 |
| Not at all | 3 | 0.4 |
| Total | 803 | 100.0 |

WELS Spring, 2005, Survey of Sophomores who,
in 2003, were first-time, in-coming Freshmen

Telephone Survey Form

I. Access to Courses: My first questions have to do with how registration has been for you.

| | |
|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| qA1 | A1. How well informed were you about when and how to register for Spring Quarter? Would you say: <u>completely, very, somewhat, a little, not at all, (don't know)</u> |
| qA2 | A2. Thinking back to registration for Spring Quarter, how many of the courses that you <u>wanted</u> were you <u>unable</u> to take because they were full? (enter #; enter 99 if not answered; 98 if don't know) |
| qA3 | A3. How many courses are you currently taking that you didn't really want to take when you registered? (enter #; enter 99 if not answered; 98 if don't know) |
| | Thinking about this entire past academic year: |
| qA4a | A4a. How often this year have you been unable to take courses you needed in order to get into your major because they were full? Would you say... <u>always, often, sometimes, rarely, or never (or don't know)</u> ... |
| qA4b | A4b. How often this year were you unable to take courses required for your GURs because they were full? <u>Always, often, sometimes, rarely, never, don't know</u> |

II. Major Access/Decisions

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| qB1 | B1. How certain are you of what your major will be? <u>Extremely, very, somewhat, a little, not at all, don't know</u> |
| qB2 | B2. During this school year, have you changed your mind about your major? <u>Yes</u> (continue) <u>No</u> (skip to qB4) <u>DK</u> (skip to qB4) |
| qB3 | B3. (IF YES TO Q2) What are the reasons why you changed your mind? (DO NOT PROMPT. CHECK ALL THAT APPLY) |
| | Grades weren't good enough |
| | Couldn't get into courses |
| | Requirements for previous major were too demanding |
| | A course drew interest more than previous major interest |
| | A course or professor in previous major turned you off the major |
| | The requirements current major interest are less demanding |
| Other | |
| qB4 | B4. Have you completed the paperwork to declare your major yet? <u>Yes</u> (skip to section III) <u>No</u> (continue) <u>Don't know</u> (continue) |
| qB4a | B4a. (If 4 = no or DK) Have you contacted the department of your major interest about your interest? (Yes, No) |
| qB4b | B4b. Have you talked with an advisor in the department about declaring your major? (Yes, No) |
| qB4c | B4c. When do you plan to do the paperwork to declare your major? (Read first three options of response scale, then say "or something else") |
| | Spring '05 |
| | Summer '05 |
| | Fall '05 |
| | Other quarter (open) |
| | I didn't know I had to do paperwork |
| | I don't qualify yet because (open) |
| | There is a waiting list for entry to the major |
| Other reason for delay | |

III. Academic Advising

| | |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| qC1 | C1. Is your academic advisor in the Academic Advising Center or a faculty member from one of Western's departments? a. <u>Academic Advising Center</u> (Skip to qC3) b. <u>Faculty Member</u> (Skip to qC3) c. <u>DON'T KNOW</u> d. <u>NOT APPLICABLE - DON'T HAVE AN ADVISOR</u> (skip to Section IV) |
| qC2 | C2. IF DON'T KNOW: Do you know who your academic advisor is? <u>Yes</u> <u>No</u> (SKIP TO 7) |
| qC3 | C3. How many times have you had contact with your academic advisor this year, if at all? # times (open); ENTER 99 IF NOT ANSWERED; 98 IF DON'T KNOW |
| qC4 | C4. Overall, how satisfied are you with the advising you have received so far at Western? Would you say... extremely, very, somewhat, a little, not at all , (OR DON'T KNOW) |
| WELSS05 | IV. ATUS/ATL this section given to 1/2 of sample Spring05 ; second 1/2 given to: IV Academic experiences/engagement version |
| qAT1 | AT1. 8. How often, if at all, have you used your <i>My Western WWU</i> email account to send or receive email this year? DO NOT PROMPT BUT VERIFY (<u>Every day, More than once a week but not daily, Once a week, Two to three times a month, One to three times a quarter, Never</u>) |
| qAT2 | AT2. Do you have a non-Western email account that you use in addition to or instead of your Western email? <u>Yes, No, DON'T KNOW</u> |
| qAT3 | AT3. Have you set up your Western account to automatically forward email to a non-Western account? <u>Yes, No, Didn't know I could, DON'T KNOW</u> |
| qAT4 | AT4. Have you heard or read about Western's policy requiring all students to read official email sent to their <i>My Western WWU</i> email account? <u>Yes, No</u> |

| | |
|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| qAT5 | AT5. To what degree, if at all, have you used the services of the Student Technology Center this year? Would you say... <u>A great deal, Quite a bit, Some, None, Didn't know there was a Student Tech Center</u> INFO: THE STC IS ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF HAGGARD HALL AND PROVIDES SOFTWARE TUTORING AND WORKSHOPS FOR STUDENTS |
| qAT6 | AT6. In the past month, how many times have you tried to use one of Western's computer labs outside of class time, but it was full? # times (open) ENTER 99 IF NOT ANSWERED; 98 IF DON'T KNOW |
| qAT6a | AT6a. In the past month, how many times have you tried to use one of the labs outside of class time, and you were successful? # times (open) ENTER 99 IF NOT ANSWERED; 98 IF DON'T KNOW |
| qAT7 | AT7. In the past year, how many times, if at all, have you used Western's wireless computer network? (Every day, More than once a week but not daily, Once a week, Two to three times a month, One to three times a quarter, Never) |
| qAT8 | AT8. Next, I'm going to read you a list of items. For each item please tell me if you are <i>extremely, very, somewhat, a little or not at all comfortable</i> with your ability in that area. The first area is...using computers. |
| a. | a. Using computers |
| b. | b. Planning, implementing and organizing research |
| c. | c. Using library resources for research |
| d. | d. Citing references for research papers (creating a bibliography) |
| e. | e. Understanding how to avoid plagiarism in your writing |
| qAT9 | AT9. How much experience do you have using computers for EMAIL...Would you say ... 1. <u>A great deal</u> 2. <u>Quite a bit</u> 3. <u>Some</u> 4. <u>A little</u> 5. <u>Don't know</u> |
| a. | a. Email |
| b. | b. Finding information on the internet |
| c. | c. Finding information using library databases (i.e. Proquest, Ebsco) |
| d. | d. Creating documents |
| qAT10 | AT10. 20. How often, if at all, have you used the campus library's facilities -- that is, their materials and services either online or in person for coursework and not just for study space? Would you say... <u>Very often, often, sometimes, rarely, never, DON'T KNOW.</u> |

**IV. Academic Experiences/Engagement this section given to 1/2 sample
Spring05**

| | |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | AE1. Now I'm going to read you a list of activities. For each one, I'd like to know how many times this year, if at all, you have spent engaged in the activity. During this academic year, how many times have you: <i>contributed to a classroom discussion? Would you say...more than 5 times, 4 or 5 times, 2 or 3 times, once, or never?</i> |
| AE1_a | a. Contributed to a classroom discussion |
| AE1_b | b. Used multimedia software such as Photoshop or PowerPoint for your assignments |
| AE1_c | c. Written a substantial scientific or other research paper of 5 pages or more |
| AE1_d | d. Written any other type of substantial paper of 5 pages or more |
| AE1_e | e. Turned in a draft of a paper to a professor for feedback |
| AE1_f | f. Volunteered in the community as a part of coursework in a class |
| AE1_g | g. Formally collaborated with others to complete coursework (group projects) |
| AE1_h | h. Presented information in front of your class |
| AE1_i | i. Talked to an advisor about your courses |
| AE1_j | j. Talked to a professor outside of class |
| | AE2. Please state your level of agreement with the following statements about General University Requirements, or GURs. The first statement is...Taking GUR courses gives me useful skills and ideas. Do you: strongly agree, somewhat agree, neither agree nor disagree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree? |
| AE2_a | a. Taking GUR courses gives me useful skills and ideas |
| AE2_b | b. GUR course requirements interferes with my taking courses that really interest me |
| AE2_c | c. I use GURs as a key source for exploring potential majors |
| AE2_d | d. Completing courses in a broad range of disciplines is something I would choose for myself even if not required |
| AE2_e | e. My GUR courses have really broadened my perspective on the world |
| AE2_f | f. My GUR courses are teaching me a lot about cultural diversity |
| AE3 | AE3. Overall, how satisfied are you with your GUR program? <u>Extremely, very somewhat, a little, Not at all, DON'T KNOW</u> |

V. Work *The next set of questions has to do with work.*

| | |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| qE1 | E1. Have you worked at a job on a regular basis for pay or work study since the start of this quarter? Yes-work study (go on to E1a); Yes-regular job (go on to E1a); Yes-Both a regular job and work study (go on to E1a); No |
| qE1a | E1a. If YES to E1: Have you worked <u>on</u> campus, <u>off</u> campus or <u>both</u> for your job(s)? On campus only (go on to E1); Off campus only (skip to E3); Both (ask both E2 and E3) |
| qE2 | E2. How many hours a week have you typically worked <u>on campus</u> this quarter, if any? DO NOT PROMPT (# open) |
| qE3 | E3. How many hours a week have you typically worked <u>off campus</u> this quarter, if any? DO NOT PROMPT (# open) |

VI. Health and Wellness/Difficulty Items

| | |
|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | F1. Now please tell me to what degree you agree with each of these statements. The first statement is: <i>I feel I am a part of the university community.</i> Would you say <u>strongly agree, somewhat agree, neither agree nor disagree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree?</u> |
| F1a | a. I feel I am a part of the university community |
| F1b | b. I have important, new friendships with other Western students. |
| F2c | c. Concern for my family has interfered with my academic work |
| | F2. My next set of questions has to do with your academic experiences this year. Please tell me how difficult each item has been for you this past academic year. The first one is.. <i>managing your time effectively.</i> Would you say <u>extremely, very, somewhat, a little, or, not at all?</u> |
| F2a | a. Managing your time effectively |
| F2b | b. Getting to class consistently |
| F2c | c. Balancing your coursework with family or community obligations |
| F2d | d. Getting access to courses you need to prepare for your major |
| F2e | e. Balancing your coursework with social life |
| F2f | f. Balancing coursework with activities such as clubs and teams |
| F2g | g. Balancing coursework with a job |

| | |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | F3. And how difficult, if at all, has each of the following personal experiences been for you this year?... 1. <u>Extremely difficult</u> 2. <u>Very difficult</u> 3. <u>Somewhat difficult</u> 4. <u>A little difficult</u> 5. <u>Easy</u> 6. <u>Don't know</u> |
| qF3a | a. Managing your finances |
| qF3b | b. Managing your physical and emotional health |
| qF3c | c. Getting the emotional support you need to do well in school |
| qF3d | d. Dealing with homesickness |
| qF3e | e. Managing stress |
| qF3f | f. Getting enough sleep |
| qF3g | g. Handling the use of alcohol and drugs |
| qF3h | h. Fitting in with others at WWU |
| qF3i | i. Meeting your family's expectations |
| qF3j | j. Getting the financial support you need |

VII. Transfer to another university/college

| | |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| G1 | G1. Over the next few years, how likely are you to transfer to another university or college? Would you say: <u>Definitely will</u> (go to G2), <u>Probably will</u> (go to G2), <u>Probably won't</u> (skip to G3), <u>Definitely won't</u> (skip to G3); <u>DON'T KNOW</u> |
| G2 | G2. (If might transfer) What is the main reason you would transfer? (open) |
| | G3. How likely are you to graduate from Western? 1. <u>Definitely will</u> 2. <u>Probably will</u> 3. <u>Probably won't</u> 4. <u>Definitely won't</u> 5. <u>Don't know</u> |

VIII. Projected Graduation, and Satisfaction

| | |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| H1 | H1. How long do you think it will take for you to finish your bachelor's degree? 1. <u>Less than 4 years</u> 2. <u>4 years</u> 3. <u>4-5 years</u> 4. <u>More than 5 years</u> 6. <u>DON'T EXPECT TO FINISH</u> 7. <u>DON'T KNOW</u> |
| H2 | H2. Q11. So far, how satisfied are you with Western? 1. <u>Extremely</u> 2. <u>Very</u> 3. <u>Somewhat</u> 4. <u>A little</u> 5. <u>Not at all</u> 6. <u>Can't say</u> |
| H3 | H3. Comments (Is there anything else you'd like to add to the information you've given me in this questionnaire?) (open) |