

## w. Key findings from the 2015-2016 Graduating Student Survey

Last year's graduating student responses were separated into graduating undergraduate responses and graduating graduate student responses. The key findings for undergraduate students are:

- Undergraduate respondents were in strong agreement that their UNT education brought them closer to achieving their goals.
- Respondents identified *Community* as UNT's greatest asset followed by *Faculty*.
- Respondents overwhelmingly identified *parking* as the area for improving UNT.
- Graduating seniors reported understanding literature and understanding/applying math and statistical concepts as areas of least growth in knowledge.
- Respondents found UNT Programs and Services to be very beneficial. However, there are several programs/services that have low recognition.
- 46% (n=466) of the respondents participated in community services while at UNT.
- 85% (n=869) of the respondents took one or more online or blended course, ranging from 1 to 11 courses with an average of 2.33 per student, and were very satisfied with their online experience.
- 69% (n= 699) of the respondents self-reported their current earnings with a mean of \$28,819, ranging from \$281 to \$200,000 (upward bound of range choices). 48% (N=484) said they would be seeking employment upon graduation.
- 80% (n= 818) respondents self-reported expected earnings with an average of \$46,548 ranging from \$281 to \$200,000.
- 573 respondents (56%) self-reported a mean educational debt for only UNT at \$24,106 ranging from \$533 to \$80,000 (upward bound of range choices).
- 565 respondents (55.5%) self-reported a mean for total educational debt at \$28,557 ranging from \$533 to \$100,000 (upward bound of range choices).
- The survey was emailed to 3414 graduating undergraduates and a total of 1018 students completed the survey resulting in a confidence interval of +/-2.57.



Photo courtesy of Madison Gostkowski, UNT Photo Department

Key findings from graduating graduate students are:



Photo courtesy of Madison Gostkowski, UNT Photo Department

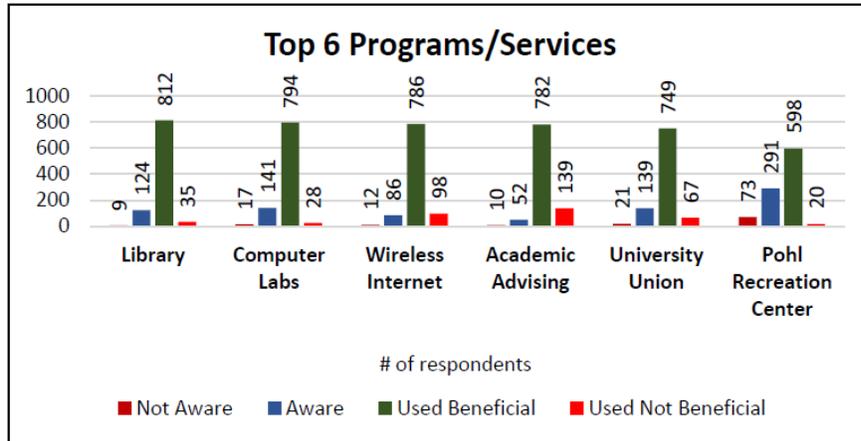
- Respondents were in strong agreement that their UNT Graduate education brought them closer to achieving their goals.
- Respondents expressed concerns regarding UNT support for finding employment and internships. These items were the lowest performing items on the survey.
- Respondents identified faculty (including instructors, adjunct professors, etc.) as UNT's greatest asset.
- Ninety-two percent of graduating doctoral students participated in research and 73% of that research was published or accepted for publication.
- Respondents who participated in online courses reported high satisfaction with course flexibility, delivery and instruction but expressed a need for greater engagement with the UNT community and online peers.
- Respondents found UNT Programs and Services to be beneficial. However, there are several programs/services that have low recognition.
- 72% (n=230) of the respondents reported they were currently employed. Of these, 82% reported their current income at an average of \$43,940. Ninety-nine (31%) said they would be seeking employment upon graduation. The average expected income reported is \$58,154 (n=206).
- Current and expected earnings for graduating masters were \$43,963 and \$56,628 respectively.

A few other findings from the graduating undergraduates:

### Programs and Services

Graduating seniors were asked to identify program level of awareness, use and benefit for UNT programs and services such as the Library, Multicultural Center and Campus Security. The graph below illustrates the top six programs/services reported as beneficial compared to program/services reported as not beneficial along with awareness levels.

**Chart 3: Top 6 Beneficial Programs/Services Compared with Program/Service Awareness**



### Word Cloud 3: How could we make UNT a better university?



Student perceptions that Services/Programs could be improved are shown through the third ranked comments to “How could we make UNT a better University? Students asked that academics be connected to career opportunities, that UNT “be more helpful with finding jobs, and assist with “better career opportunities.” It was also suggested that “providing more mental health services or integrating it into some of the classes” would benefit student lives “along with their education.” Also, it was asked that extracurricular activities be funded (start a UNT baseball team), and “increase alumni engagement, campus pride, and traditions.” These comments catch the crux of comments pointed to services and programs.

To see the full undergraduate graduating student report, click the link below:

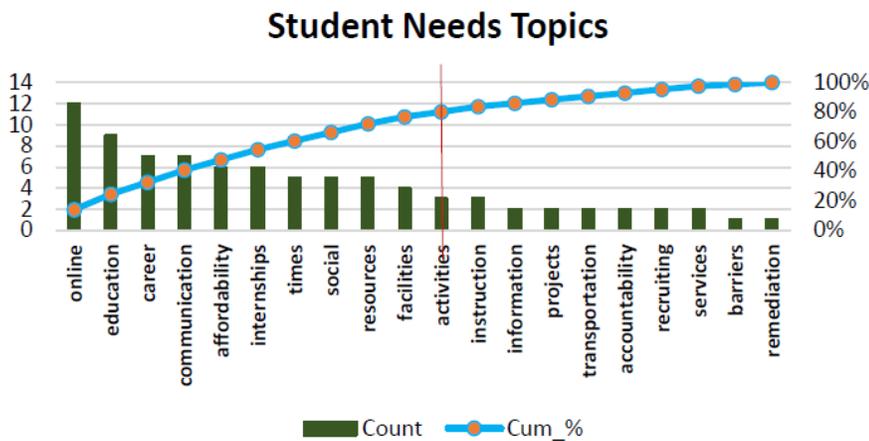
[UGSS 2016 Report Summary](#)

A few other findings from the graduating graduates:

Respondents report programs as a top UNT asset second only to faculty. References to programs focused on the flexibility, high quality, accessibility and cost of programs. The high quality of online programming was also a focal point regarding programs. There are, however, some concerns. Some respondents wished they had known more details about the curriculum and faculty. Still others expressed concern over the lack of opportunities for field work, internships, teaching and research experience, as well as course availability.



Chart 7: Top Topics Relative to Student Needs



The **Pareto** chart to the left identifies ten items, marked at the 80% point on the curve (red vertical line) and falling to the left of the cut-point, as the areas receiving the greatest emphasis in graduate comments concerning graduate student needs.

To see the full graduate graduating student report, click the link below:

[GGSS 2016 Report Summary](#)