

Graduating Students' Reflections on the Miami Experience

The Graduation Survey is an online survey given to degree candidates prior to graduation. This survey asks students about their experiences while at Miami and their post-graduation plans. Participating students were May 2010 bachelor's degree candidates on all campuses (N=603). Participants completed the survey between mid-April and mid-May. 65.0% of respondents were female, and 35.0% were male. The participants represented all five divisions proportionally, with 44.6% majoring in the College of Arts and Science, 24.4% majoring in the Farmer School of Business, 18.7% majoring in the School of Education, Health and Society, 6.6% majoring in the School of Engineering and Applied Science, and 4.8% majoring in the School of Fine Arts.

Experiences at Miami

Participating students at Miami report having a good educational experience and engaging in activities that encourage critical thinking and collaboration with peers. The majority of Miami students rated their overall educational experience as excellent (56.0%) or good (39.9%). 90.6% of students reported that they frequently worked on assignments that required them to build understanding of course concepts on their own. 91.8% say they learned how to support their ideas and beliefs with data and evidence. 93.4% report frequently working on papers or projects that require integrating ideas from different sources, while 90.0% frequently worked on projects involving collaboration with other students outside the classroom.

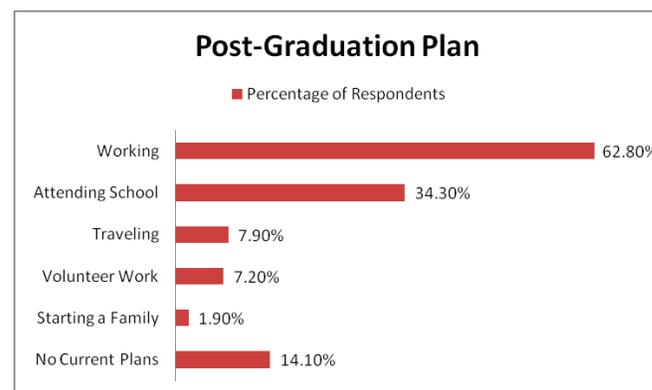
Students also report having a variety of experiences at Miami, both academic and extracurricular. Students engaged in activities to benefit their career exploration; 55.8% of students utilized the services of Career Services, while 47.4% participated in an internship. Students were also engaged in service, with 62.6% participating in volunteer work with a student organization and 44.2% doing volunteer work on their own. 35.3% of responding students

participated in a leadership program, while 40.8% joined a fraternity or sorority.

Post-Graduation Plans

The majority of students plan to work after graduation, with 62.8% planning on working either part-time or full-time. Of these students who had begun job searching, 50.4% had received at least one job offer by the time of survey completion.

A large percentage of students also plan to attend school after graduation; 26.6% of students plan to attend graduate school, and 7.2% plan to attend professional school. Of the students planning to attend school, 51.7% plan to work towards a master's degree and 60.9% had received at least one offer of admission.



Most students (89.8%) plan to live in the U.S. after graduation. 48.1% plan to live in Ohio while 41.7% plan to live in another U.S. state. Of the remaining students, 3.0% plan to live abroad and 7.2% are unsure of where they will live.

Continuing to Provide Excellence

This survey suggests that Miami students have a fulfilling academic and extracurricular experience which prepares them for a future in the work field or in post-graduate studies. Continued use of this survey will allow us to track trends in the experiences of Miami graduates and to ensure their continued success.