



REPORT OF 2012 GRADUATING STUDENT SURVEY (GSS) For College of Professional Studies (CPS)

I. INTRODUCTION

In an effort to obtain outcomes and contact information from as many of our graduating students as possible, in Spring 2009 a brief 15-item Graduating Student Survey (GSS) was developed by the Office of Institutional Research with input from St. John's community. It was incorporated into the BANNER online process used by students - excluding School of Law - to register for participation in commencement exercises. The survey was revised in 2010, 2011, and 2012. In 2012, the survey has 22 items, but the same procedure has been followed since 2009.

In 2012, 604 undergraduates (64% of graduating student population) and 18 graduate students (29%) from the College of Professional Studies (CPS) participated in the GSS survey. The survey participants were quite representative of the graduating student population in student gender and ethnicity.

This report, prepared by the Office of Institutional Research, focuses on undergraduate students only as the number of responses from graduate students is very small. The report provides highlights of the survey results first, followed by more detailed findings. The appendix to this report provides detailed results for individual survey items for both undergraduate and graduate students. Please use caution when interpreting the data for graduate students as the number of responses was quite small.

The GSS 2012 reports for St. John's University and by college are available online at: <http://www.stjohns.edu/about/ir/surveys>

II. HIGHLIGHTS

The overall satisfaction with their St. John's experience remained high: the percentage of CPS undergraduates who were *satisfied / very satisfied* was 94% in 2011 and it increased to 97% in 2012.

Student ratings on the quality of instruction also increased: 83% of them rated the quality of instruction at St. John's as *good / excellent* in 2011, and it increased to 86% in 2012.

Student perceptions on tuition paid as a worthwhile investment also improved: 66% of them *agreed / strongly agreed* that tuition paid was a worthwhile investment in 2011, and it increased to 69% in 2012.

In 2011, 72% of undergraduate students perceived that the Catholic and Vincentian Mission had a *positive / very positive* impact on their experience, and the corresponding figure in 2012 was 71%.

Student ratings on the University's support of internship programs dropped: the percentage of students who were *satisfied / very satisfied* decreased from 88% in 2011 to 83% in 2012.

The percentage of undergraduates with internships (not including student teaching or clinical rotation) was 59% in 2010, 63% in 2011, and it dropped to 58% in 2012.

From 2011 to 2012, the job placement rate increased: from 15% (8% keeping current jobs; 7% accepted an offer) to 33% (21%; 12%).

The percentage of undergraduates who were planning to further their education was 25% in 2011, and it increased to 28% in 2012.

In 2011, 73% of undergraduates indicated that St. John's did a *good / excellent* job at providing students with course work and academic experience that prepared them for career and job placement, and it increased to 77% in 2012.

For undergraduates, 76% in 2011 and 74% in 2012 indicated that the quality of academic advising was *good / excellent*.

The data reveal that 44% of undergraduates in 2011 and 47% in 2012 indicated that they had no exposure to a global experience while at St. John's.

III. DETAILED SURVEY RESULTS

This section covers detailed survey results for undergraduate students. It consists of four parts: 1) Student overall perceptions, 2) Internships, job status, and further education for undergraduates, 3) Global experience, technology, and academic advising, and 4) St. John's Catholic and Vincentian Mission, services, activities, and alumni relations.

1. Student Overall Perceptions

As shown in the following table, student overall satisfaction remained high in 2012: 97% of CPS undergraduates were *satisfied / very satisfied* with their overall St. John's experience. (Please note that the combined *satisfied / very satisfied* percentage is the sum of the two percentages for *satisfied* and *very satisfied*. Therefore, the combined percentage may be one point higher or lower than the figures in the appendix due to decimal rounding.)

	Undergraduates	
	2011	2012
Overall satisfaction with St. John's	94%	97%
Very satisfied	37%	39%
Satisfied	57%	58%
Quality of instruction	83%	86%
Excellent	29%	32%
Good	54%	54%
Tuition paid as a worthwhile investment	66%	69%
Strongly agree	11%	14%
Agree	55%	55%
Impact of Catholic and Vincentian Mission	72%	71%
Very positive	17%	22%
Positive	55%	49%
Satisfaction with University's support of internship	88%	83%
Very satisfied	32%	25%
Satisfied	56%	58%

Student ratings on the quality of instruction at St. John's increased slightly for undergraduates from 2011 to 2012: 83% of them rated it as *good / excellent* in 2011 and 86% did in 2012.

In 2011, 66% of undergraduates perceived that tuition paid was a worthwhile investment, and the percentage increased to 69% in 2012.

Regarding the impact of the Catholic and Vincentian Mission, 72% of undergraduates perceived that it had a *positive / very positive* impact on their experience in 2011, and 71% did in 2012.

When asked whether they were satisfied with the University's support of internship programs, 88% of undergraduates were *satisfied / very satisfied* in 2011, and it dropped to 83% in 2012. (Table 1 in the Appendix provides the GSS 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 trend data for each survey item. The following results mainly concentrate on the 2012 data.)

2. Internships, Job Status, and Further Education

The GSS 2012 data indicate that 37% of CPS undergraduates were planning to pursue further studies in Fall 2012 or Spring 2013: 6% planned to pursue a bachelor's degree, 21% for master's, and 10% for professional (MD, JD, etc.). (Question 1, Table 1).

When asked about their employment plans, 21% indicated that they would keep their current jobs, 12% had accepted a job offer, 39% were still looking, and 28% were planning to further their education. (Q3, Table 1).

When asked how well St. John's did at providing course work and academic experiences that prepared students for their career and job placement, 25% of undergraduates rated it as *excellent*, 52% *good*, 20% *fair*, and 3% *poor*. (Q9, Table 1).

When asked how well the Career Center did at providing them with career preparation for job placement, 13% of undergraduates rated it as *excellent*, 39% *good*, 32% *fair*, and 15% *poor*. (Q10, Table 1).

The data indicate that 58% of undergraduates had internships. Regarding the type of internships that students completed, 43% had academic internships for credit, 12% experienced paid internships, and 20% had unpaid internships (non-credit). (This is a check-all-that-apply question. The total percentage may add up to more than 58%.) (Q6, Table 1)

For the remaining 42% of undergraduates who didn't have any internship, 10% wanted to participate but were unable to secure one, 2% were not eligible, 12% were not interested, and 16% indicated that they couldn't afford to take one. (Q5, Table 1)

For undergraduates who had internships, 19% of them found an internship through the Career Center, 18% through an academic department, 65% on their own, and 19% through other channels. (This is a check-all-that-apply question. The total percentage may add up to more than 100%.) (Q7, Table 1)

When asked to rate their satisfaction with the University's support of internship programs, 25% of undergraduates were *very satisfied*, 58% *satisfied*, 12% *dissatisfied*, and 4% *very dissatisfied*. (Q8, Table 1)

3. Global Experience, Technology, and Academic Advising

When asked how well St. John's provided a global experience through studying abroad, in the classroom or student activities, 44% of undergraduates in 2011 and 47% in 2012 indicated that they had no exposure to global experience. For the students who had such experience, in 2011, 34% of undergraduates rated it as *excellent*, 40% *good*, 23% *fair*, and 3% *poor*. The corresponding figures in 2012 were 43%, 33%, 21%, and 3%. (Q14, Table 1)

When asked how well St. John's University integrated technology into the learning experience, in 2011, 30% of undergraduates rated it as *excellent*, 51% *good*, 17% *fair*, and 2% *poor*. The corresponding figures in 2012 were 34%, 48%, 14%, and 3%. (Q.15, Table 1)

Regarding the quality of academic advising, in 2011 35% of undergraduates rated it as *excellent*, 41% *good*, 18% *fair*, and 6% *poor*. The corresponding figures in 2012 were 35%, 39%, 19%, and 7%. (Q12, Table 1)

4. St. John's Catholic and Vincentian Mission, Service, Activities, and Alumni Relations

When asked how St. John's Catholic and Vincentian Mission impacted their experience at St. John's, in 2011 17% of undergraduates rated it as *very positively*, 55% *positively*, 28% *no impact*, 1% *negatively*, and 0% *very negatively*. The corresponding figures in 2012 were 22%, 49%, 28%, 1%, and 0%. (Q16, Table 1)

When asked to what extent their experience at St. John's allowed for the development of a faith dimension in their life, in 2011, 17% of undergraduates indicated "to a great extent", 52% "to some extent", and 31% "not at all". The corresponding figures in 2012 were 19%, 48%, and 33%. (Q17, Table 1)

When asked whether they were affiliated with any of the student clubs, organizations, or societies during their years at St. John's, 49% of undergraduates in 2011 and 65% in 2012 indicated that they were affiliated with one or more clubs, organizations, or societies. In 2011, 26% of them belonged to Special Interests category, 25% Academic, 16% Cultural, and 12% Honor societies. In 2012, 18% belonged to Special Interests, 25% Academic, 15% Cultural, 26% Honor societies, and 22% other. (Q18, Table 1)

When asked whether they wanted to be involved in service after graduation, in 2011, 24% of undergraduates said *YES* and 76% indicated *NO*. In 2012, 27% said *YES* and 73% indicated *NO*. (Q22, Table 1)

When asked whether they would like to be contacted for certain activities in the future, in 2011, 59% of undergraduates indicated YES for alumni relations events, 25% for mentoring roles with students, 29% for recruitment events with the Office of Admissions, and 35% for leadership roles in organizing alumni functions. The corresponding figures in 2012 were 61%, 25%, 25%, and 32%. (Q21, Table 1)

The results of this GSS survey are the perceptions of CPS students who have successfully completed their programs at St. John's. The data are very useful, and can be used with other data for action plans to improve student engagement and experience. Please share any initiatives you develop to respond to these results, with Dr. Yuxiang Liu in the Office of Institutional Research at LiuY@stjohns.edu.

This is the fourth administration of the GSS survey. We will continue to administer it annually along with other student surveys in order to develop a more comprehensive picture of our students, make continuous improvement in student learning, and ensure success for all.