

NEW MEXICO'S UNIVERSITIES 2000 SURVEY OF ALUMNI ASSESSMENT OF UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATIONAL PREPARATION

Alumni are a critical source of evaluative information on the quality of a university's academic programs and support services for students. Alumni can offer their perceptions of the quality of the programs and services in place while they were at the university. Alumni also have the advantage of knowing now what would have been useful university preparation for their current employment or educational pursuits. During the 1999-2000 academic year, New Mexico's six universities surveyed alumni who were in the graduating class of 1995-96. At the time they received the survey, these alumni had been employed and/or enrolled in further education for three years. The universities developed a common set of questions to be asked of all alumni surveyed in order to have comparable information relating to their alumni's satisfaction with their undergraduate educational preparation.

The alumni survey provided feedback to each university on what its alumni are doing three years after receiving their baccalaureate degrees. This information on alumni employment and further education contributes to a more complete picture of our students' progress and success. Each university has provided the placement data on its alumni. Also included with the data for each institution in this PEP report is a summary of alumni responses regarding their satisfaction with their undergraduate curriculum and instruction, academic support available to them, and their overall assessment of how well their undergraduate programs developed their skills and prepared them for work and further education. The specific set of questions asked in this alumni survey is provided below. Anyone seeking additional information related to the results of these alumni surveys is encouraged to contact the specific university for a complete report.

1999-2000 Alumni Survey of 1995-1996 Academic Year Graduates

Employment and Further Education

- Which of the following best describes what you are currently doing? (Choose only one.)

Employed	Continuing my education
Employed and continuing my education	Unemployed
Caring for home/family	Military

- What is your occupation?

- If employed, which category best describes your employer? (Choose only one.)

Private	Education	Military	Does Not Apply
Government	Self-Employed	Other	

- What is your position?

- If employed, are you employed in New Mexico or outside the state?

- If employed outside of New Mexico, please indicate the state/country where you are employed.

- What is your (individual) annual salary/income? (Select income ranges.)

- If employed, how satisfied (*Very Satisfied, Satisfied, Dissatisfied, Very Dissatisfied, Does Not Apply*) are you with the following aspects of your job?

Intellectual and personal challenge
Advancement potential
Salary
Location

- Have you continued your education since graduating from this university?

Your Experience While at This University

- Please rate your satisfaction (*Very Satisfied, Satisfied, Dissatisfied, Very Dissatisfied, Does Not Apply*) with the quality of your undergraduate education in the following aspects:

Curriculum

- Quality of instruction in your major
- Quality of instruction outside your major
- Quality of academic advising
- Availability of courses in your major
- Appropriateness of courses in your major

Support

- Quality of career advisement
- Contact with faculty outside of class
- Adequacy of facilities (labs, library, computers, equipment)

Overall Assessment

- Your preparation to communicate effectively (oral and written)
- Your preparation to think analytically and logically
- Your preparation to define and solve problems
- Your preparation for your current job
- Your preparation for graduate study
- Your satisfaction with your college experience

- If you had to do it over again, would you attend this university?
- If you had to do it over again, would you choose the same major?

Comments and Suggestions

- Please comment about your experience at this university or list suggestions for program and university improvement.
- If you were able to make one significant change in the programs, services or environment for students at this university, what would it be?