# University of Idaho

**A SURVEY OF GRADUATE ALUMNI - 2011**

**Classes of 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **College of Graduate Studies** | **UI %** | **College %** |
| **Number of respondents** | n = 474 | n = 19 |
| **Response Rate** | 22% | 70% |
| **PART I. GENERAL UNIVERSITY** |
| Q-1 In general, how satisfied are you with the quality of the following aspects of your life and education at UI? |
|  | **Very Satisfied** | **Satisfied** | **Dissatisfied** | **Very Dissatisfied** | **Not Applicable** | **Very Satisfied** | **Satisfied** | **Dissatisfied** | **Very Dissatisfied** | **Not Applicable** |
|  Overall graduate education | 39 | 56 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 26 | 74 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  Graduate education in my major field | 42 | 51 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 37 | 63 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  Education in my minor/cognate field(s) | 14 | 25 | 1 | 1 | 58 | 6 | 33 | 0 | 0 | 61 |
|  Campus life, social interactions | 21 | 46 | 5 | 1 | 27 | 17 | 56 | 0 | 0 | 28 |
|  Cost of UI (relative to other options) | 44 | 50 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 42 | 47 | 10 | 0 | 0 |
|  Convenience of university location I attended | 51 | 40 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 53 | 42 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
|  Academic reputation of the UI | 28 | 61 | 10 | 2 | 1 | 10 | 90 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  Research reputation of the UI | 24 | 54 | 10 | 1 | 10 | 16 | 79 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
|  Graduate admissions process | 36 | 60 | 2 | 1 | <1 | 16 | 84 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  Career development opportunities | 17 | 43 | 21 | 6 | 12 | 5 | 53 | 37 | 0 | 5 |
|  Quality of curriculum | 32 | 59 | 7 | 2 | <1 | 5 | 84 | 10 | 0 | 0 |
|  Quality of instruction | 37 | 56 | 5 | 2 | <1 | 21 | 74 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
|  |
| **Q-2 Which of the following best describes your current occupation? (Indicate one only.)** |
|  Employed full-time (35 or more hrs/week) | 85 | 90 |
|  Self-employed | 4 | 5 |
|  In military service | <1 | 0 |
|  Employed part-time (less than 35 hrs/week) | 5 | 5 |
|  Employed more than 50%, also continuing my education | <1 | 0 |
|  Primarily studying in advanced program | 2 | 0 |
|  Caring for home/family/dependents | 2 | 0 |
|  Unemployed | 2 | 0 |
|  |
| **Q-3A** **How closely related are the knowledge and skills developed at UI to your current employment?** |
|  Highly related | 62 | 72 |
|  Moderately related | 22 | 11 |
|  Slightly related | 8 | 11 |
|  Not related at all | 5 | 6 |
|  N/A, I am not currently employed  | 3 | 0 |
|  |
| **Q-3B** **How long did it take you to find employment upon graduation?** |
|  Had job at time of graduation | 58 | 47 |
|  Had a job offer at time of graduation | 9 | 5 |
|  0-6 months | 18 | 26 |
|  7-12 months | 8 | 5 |
|  More than one year | 7 | 16 |
|  |
|  Q-3C How many jobs have you held since graduation? |
|  0 | 2 | 0 |
|  1-2 | 77 | 58 |
|  3-4 | 17 | 37 |
|  5 or more | 4 | 5 |

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **UI %** | **College %** |
| **Q-4** **What was your *primary* purpose in seeking the degree? (Please indicate one only.)** |
|  Extend my expertise in general | 14 | 21 |
|  Prepare for scholarly research | 5 | 5 |
|  Prepare for college/university teaching | 10 | 5 |
|  Prepare for further graduate study | 2 | 0 |
|  Obtain a professional license or certification | 17 | 5 |
|  Update and improve professional and technical skills | 10 | 16 |
|  Qualify for higher pay or job advancement | 24 | 21 |
|  Personal enrichment, interest in subject/field | 10 | 16 |
|  Unable to find employment with previous degree | 2 | 10 |
|  Requirement to retain current position | 1 | 0 |
|  Career change | 4 | 0 |
|  |
| **Q-5** **Please estimate the amount of debt you incurred during your studies for this degree at UI.** |
| $0 | 37 | 42 |
| $1 – 5,000 | 11 | 10 |
| $5,001 – 10,000 | 11 | 16 |
| $10,001 – 15,000 | 8 | 10 |
| $15,001 – 20,000 | 5 | 0 |
| $20,001 – 25,000 | 7 | 5 |
| More than $25,000 | 21 | 16 |
|  |
| **Q-6** **In your opinion, how does the debt you incurred compare to the education you received?** |
| Debt was greater than the value of education received | 14 | 17 |
| Debt was worth the education received | 35 | 22 |
| The value of the education exceeded the cost | 17 | 22 |
| No debt incurred | 34 | 39 |
|  |
| Q-7 How was your graduate study supported financially? |
|  | Primary Source | Lesser Source or Not Used | Primary Source | Lesser Source or Not Used |
|  Student loans | 38 | 62 | 26 | 74 |
|  Scholarships | 14 | 86 | 10 | 90 |
|  Personal savings | 27 | 73 | 10 | 90 |
|  Summer job earnings | 11 | 89 | 16 | 84 |
|  Academic year job used for summer or part-time study | 7 | 93 | 0 | 100 |
|  Teaching assistantship | 16 | 84 | 26 | 74 |
|  Research assistantship | 18 | 82 | 26 | 74 |
|  Parents/guardians | 6 | 94 | 0 | 100 |
|  Spouse | 8 | 92 | 16 | 84 |
|  On-campus employment while at UI | 8 | 92 | 16 | 84 |
|  Off-campus employment while at UI | 10 | 90 | 5 | 95 |
|  Veterans’ benefits | 2 | 98 | 0 | 100 |
|  Disability benefits | <1 | 100 | 0 | 100 |
|  Employer | 17 | 83 | 26 | 74 |
|  Other | 7 | 93 | 0 | 100 |

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **UI %** | **College %** |
| **Q-8 We would like to ask you about some general resources for UI students. Please indicate the quality of the resource(s) you accessed.**  |
|  | **Excellent**  | **Good**  | **Fair** | **Poor** | **NA/DK** | **Excellent**  | **Good**  | **Fair** | **Poor** | **NA/DK** |
| Main UI Library, holdings (books, periodicals, etc.) | 28 | 38 | 9 | 2 | 24 | 39 | 28 | 11 | 0 | 22 |
| College of Graduate Studies Information (print, web) | 14 | 42 | 18 | 3 | 24 | 18 | 47 | 6 | 6 | 24 |
| Recreational resources | 27 | 26 | 8 | 1 | 38 | 44 | 11 | 6 | 0 | 39 |
| UI Computer Labs: Access | 23 | 33 | 11 | 4 | 29 | 33 | 28 | 6 | 6 | 28 |
| Hardware and softwareFinancial aid, funds available | 18 | 35 | 11 | 3 | 33 | 18 | 29 | 12 | 6 | 35 |
| Cooperative Extension | 13 | 14 | 5 | 1 | 67 | 17 | 17 | 22 | 0 | 44 |
| Study space on campus I attended | 22 | 37 | 11 | 4 | 27 | 28 | 28 | 33 | 0 | 11 |
| Student Financial Aid: Funds available | 14 | 27 | 11 | 4 | 44 | 17 | 28 | 6 | 6 | 44 |
| Programs for international students | 4 | 8 | 3 | <1 | 85 | 11 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 78 |
| Programs for minority students | 1 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 90 | 6 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 89 |
| Major department office | 27 | 41 | 14 | 3 | 16 | 39 | 33 | 17 | 0 | 11 |
| College graduate/Dean’s office | 17 | 38 | 13 | 4 | 28 | 17 | 50 | 17 | 0 | 17 |
| Off-campus center office | 11 | 12 | 5 | 1 | 71 | 6 | 22 | 11 | 0 | 61 |
| Registrar’s Office | 18 | 43 | 17 | 3 | 19 | 11 | 50 | 33 | 0 | 6 |
| UI Bookstore: Price | 4 | 28 | 41 | 14 | 13 | 0 | 28 | 33 | 33 | 6 |
| Computer store | 3 | 13 | 17 | 5 | 63 | 0 | 17 | 17 | 6 | 61 |
| Campus social activities  | 8 | 24 | 14 | 3 | 51 | 11 | 33 | 6 | 0 | 50 |
| Campus cultural events (theatre, music, dance) | 12 | 27 | 14 | 3 | 44 | 11 | 56 | 0 | 0 | 33 |
| Career & Professional Planning: Career fairs | 4 | 14 | 18 | 15 | 50 | 6 | 28 | 22 | 11 | 33 |
| Career development events & presentations  | 5 | 13 | 16 | 16 | 50 | 6 | 17 | 33 | 11 | 33 |
| Internships & job postings | 5 | 14 | 17 | 17 | 46 | 6 | 28 | 39 | 6 | 22 |
|  |
| **Q-9 Following are some general services for UI students. Please indicate the quality of the service(s) you received.**  |
|  | **Excellent**  | **Good**  | **Fair** | **Poor** | **NA/DK** | **Excellent**  | **Good**  | **Fair** | **Poor** | **NA/DK** |
| Main UI Library Services | 33 | 36 | 5 | 1 | 25 | 22 | 50 | 6 | 0 | 22 |
| College of Graduate Studies Services | 19 | 38 | 14 | 4 | 25 | 21 | 53 | 10 | 0 | 16 |
| Student Health Services  | 12 | 21 | 14 | 4 | 50 | 17 | 28 | 17 | 0 | 39 |
| UI Computer Labs: Help Desk support services | 14 | 34 | 14 | 2 | 35 | 17 | 50 | 11 | 0 | 22 |
| Student Financial Aid: Services provided | 12 | 28 | 11 | 3 | 46 | 6 | 33 | 11 | 6 | 44 |
| Business & Accounting: Cashier | 13 | 39 | 12 | 2 | 33 | 6 | 44 | 28 | 6 | 17 |
| UI Bookstore: Services | 13 | 45 | 15 | 3 | 24 | 6 | 50 | 28 | 6 | 11 |
| Career & Professional Planning: Internships & job postings | 5 | 15 | 17 | 15 | 47 | 6 | 28 | 22 | 17 | 28 |

|  | **UI %** | **College %** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| PART II. DEPARTMENTAL/ACADEMIC EXPERIENCES |
| **Q-10** **Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statements:** |
|  | **Strongly Agree** | **Agree** | **Disagree** | **Strongly Disagree** | **DK/Can’t Recall/NA** | **Strongly Agree** | **Agree** | **Disagree** | **Strongly Disagree** | **DK/Can’t Recall/NA** |
| UI has a positive academic environment for graduate study.  | 39 | 52 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 16 | 32 | 21 | 10 | 21 |
| The overall quality of instruction in UI courses was good. | 38 | 56 | 4 | 2 | <1 | 26 | 74 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| My UI experience increased my awareness of cultural diversity. | 17 | 35 | 21 | 8 | 19 | 16 | 32 | 21 | 10 | 21 |
| Any necessary technical and computer assistance was available at UI. | 19 | 52 | 9 | 1 | 18 | 10 | 58 | 5 | 0 | 26 |
| Most UI faculty supported my progress as a graduate student. | 45 | 47 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 42 | 53 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Goals and objectives of my program and its courses were made clear. | 39 | 50 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 26 | 63 | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| I received the theoretical background I needed through courses taken. | 37 | 50 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 16 | 79 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| My program of study prepared me well for employment. | 31 | 48 | 13 | 4 | 4 | 21 | 53 | 16 | 0 | 10 |
| My program of study prepared me well for further advanced study. | 26 | 46 | 7 | 3 | 18 | 21 | 63 | 5 | 0 | 10 |
| My program’s objectives were clearly stated. | 32 | 56 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 26 | 68 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Degree requirements corresponded well with the stated objectives of the program. | 35 | 55 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 32 | 63 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| The program attracts and admits high-quality graduate students. | 25 | 50 | 15 | 3 | 7 | 21 | 74 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| My ability to collaborate with others was enhanced through my program. | 29 | 51 | 10 | 3 | 7 | 16 | 68 | 5 | 0 | 10 |
| Professors in my department expect high-quality graduate work. | 42 | 49 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 42 | 53 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| I developed a close professional relationship with at least one faculty member. | 48 | 32 | 15 | 3 | 2 | 39 | 50 | 11 | 0 | 0 |
| UI professors are well-connected with practitioners in business/industry/government/education. | 25 | 44 | 15 | 5 | 11 | 10 | 58 | 10 | 5 | 16 |
| Critiques on thesis/dissertation and major projects were timely enough to be useful | 34 | 45 | 6 | 3 | 12 | 26 | 58 | 5 | 0 | 10 |
| Critiques on thesis/dissertation and major projects were pertinent and constructive. | 35 | 44 | 6 | 2 | 12 | 22 | 61 | 11 | 0 | 6 |
| I would advise a prospective graduate student with similar interests to study in this department.  | 42 | 42 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 42 | 47 | 0 | 0 | 10 |

|  | **UI %** | **College %** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Q-11A Please rate the quality of the following: |
|  | **Excellent** | **Good** | **Fair** | **Poor** | **Don’t know** | **Excellent** | **Good** | **Fair** | **Poor** | **Don’t know** |
|  Academic qualifications of department faculty | 49 | 44 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 42 | 47 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
|  Quality of teaching in my major field  | 43 | 48 | 7 | 3 | <1 | 32 | 63 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
|  Depth of content in graduate courses | 37 | 45 | 14 | 4 | 0 | 32 | 63 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
|  Standards of quality for student performance  | 30 | 50 | 15 | 3 | 1 | 10 | 74 | 16 | 0 | 0 |
|  Classroom space and facilities/equipment used for my major  field courses | 26 | 46 | 16 | 6 | 6 | 21 | 74 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
|  Specialized facilities such as laboratories, studios, and  equipment needed for research/creative activity in my major field | 18 | 34 | 17 | 7 | 24 | 26 | 53 | 10 | 0 | 32 |
|  Opportunities for collaborative research/scholarship | 19 | 32 | 17 | 9 | 22 | 10 | 53 | 16 | 0 | 21 |
|  Timely access to courses I needed for my program | 33 | 48 | 14 | 4 | 1 | 11 | 61 | 28 | 0 | 0 |
|  |
| Q-11B Please rate the quality of the following: |
|  | **Excellent** | **Good** | **Fair** | **Poor** | **Don’t know** | **Excellent** | **Good** | **Fair** | **Poor** | **Don’t know** |
|  Willingness of my advisor/major professor to help | 62 | 22 | 10 | 3 | 2 | 61 | 33 | 6 | 0 | 0 |
|  Availability of my advisor/major professor | 55 | 27 | 12 | 4 | 2 | 58 | 21 | 21 | 0 | 0 |
|  Intellectual climate of the department | 41 | 44 | 11 | 3 | 2 | 42 | 42 | 16 | 0 | 0 |
|  Opportunities for interaction with department faculty outside of  classes | 34 | 32 | 15 | 10 | 9 | 26 | 37 | 10 | 21 | 5 |
|  Library holdings (literature) in my program area | 23 | 35 | 15 | 5 | 22 | 16 | 32 | 10 | 21 | 21 |
|  Library service supporting my research area(s) | 26 | 34 | 14 | 4 | 22 | 16 | 37 | 16 | 5 | 26 |
|  TA office space/consulting area (for student assistance) | 10 | 22 | 13 | 7 | 48 | 5 | 21 | 21 | 5 | 47 |
|  Laboratory/work space and equipment for research assistants | 11 | 21 | 11 | 4 | 52 | 5 | 37 | 5 | 0 | 53 |
|  Overall adequacy of department resources supporting  graduate programs | 20 | 47 | 19 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 68 | 10 | 5 | 10 |
|  Availability of assistantship to support my studies | 17 | 19 | 11 | 11 | 42 | 16 | 16 | 21 | 5 | 42 |
|  Opportunity for practica, internships | 14 | 21 | 15 | 12 | 38 | 16 | 21 | 10 | 10 | 42 |
|  Overall quality of my graduate education  | 38 | 48 | 10 | 3 | <1 | 32 | 53 | 16 | 0 | 0 |
|  |
| Q-12 Please rate how satisfied you are with each of the following aspects of your graduate school experience: |
|  | **Very Satisfied** | **Satisfied** | **Neutral** | **Dissatisfied** | **Very Dissatisfied** | **Not Applicable** | **Very Satisfied** | **Satisfied** | **Neutral** | **Dissatisfied** | **Very Dissatisfied** | **Not Applicable** |
| Departmental advising/guidance | 39 | 38 | 14 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 42 | 42 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Major professor mentoring | 49 | 29 | 12 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 50 | 33 | 11 | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| Overall quality of graduate instruction | 39 | 49 | 6 | 4 | 2 | <1 | 32 | 68 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Professional relationship with graduate committee | 33 | 33 | 15 | 5 | 2 | 14 | 16 | 58 | 16 | 5 | 0 | 5 |
| Level of financial support | 20 | 26 | 21 | 7 | 4 | 21 | 10 | 26 | 16 | 10 | 0 | 37 |
| Resources available for a student research | 19 | 37 | 19 | 6 | 3 | 16 | 16 | 53 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 16 |
|  |
| **Q-13A Did you attend any relevant academic meetings or conferences while you were in graduate school?** |
| Yes | 57 | 68 |
| No | 43 | 32 |
| **Q-13B If you answered “Yes” to the above question, did you present any scholarly work at a professional academic meeting/conference as part of your graduate studies?** |
| Yes | 54 | 38 |
| No | 46 | 62 |
|  |
| Q-14 How many scholarly articles/creative works have you published/exhibited as a result of your most recent graduate studies at UI? |
| 0 | 52 | 44 |
| 1 | 21 | 22 |
| 2 | 10 | 6 |
| 3 | 5 | 6 |
| 4 or more  | 11 | 22 |
|  |
| Q-15 Where/how did you take *most* of the courses applied to your highest degree program? |
|  UI – Moscow campus | 64 | 63 |
|  UI – Boise campus | 13 | 10 |
|  UI - Coeur d’Alene campus | 5 | 0 |
|  UI - Idaho Falls campus | 7 | 21 |
|  Video Outreach | 8 | 5 |
|  Other UI location | 4 | 0 |
|  |
| Q-16 Current state of residence (two-letter abbreviation)  | College % |
| ID | 53 |
| WA | 26 |
| AZ | 5 |
| CA | 5 |
| MT | 5 |
| OR | 5 |
|  |
| Q-17 Your department | College % |
| Environmental Science | 84 |
| Interdisciplinary Studies | 16 |
|  |
| Q-18 Level of highest degree from UI |
|  Masters | 68 | 90 |
|  MFA | 4 | 0 |
|  JD | 13 | 0 |
|  Doctorate | 15 | 10 |
|  Specialist | <1 | 0 |
|  |
| Q-19A What is your ethnicity? |
| Hispanic or Latino | 3 | 5 |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 97 | 95 |
|  |
| Q-19B Race (please check all that you feel apply to you) |
|  Black or African American | 1 | 0 |
|  American Indian/Alaskan Native | <1 | 0 |
|  Asian | 5 | 0 |
|  Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | <1 | 0 |
|  White | 87 | 85 |
|  Mixed Race | 1 | 5 |
|  Unreported | 5 | 10 |
|  |
| Q-20 Gender |
|  Female | 49 | 47 |
|  Male | 51 | 53 |
|  |
| Q-21 Select the year you received your highest degree. |
|  2004 | 26 | 28 |
|  2005 | 30 | 17 |
|  2006 | 25 | 39 |
|  2007 | 19 | 17 |

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