

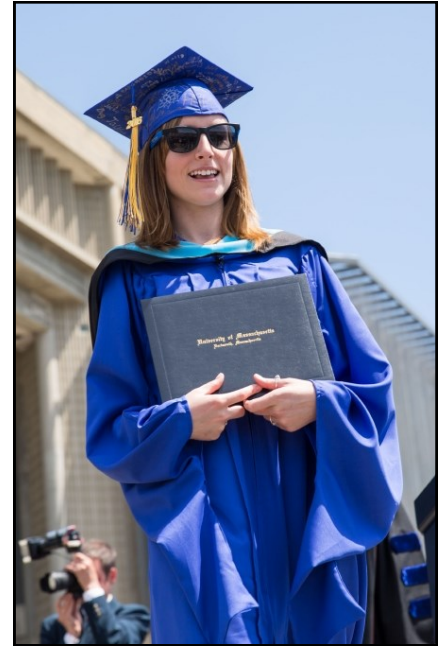
## 2015-2016 GRADUATE STUDENT EXIT SURVEY Data on Student Satisfaction and Co-curricular Participation

### Key Findings:

Graduate students who earned their degrees during the 2015-2016 academic year (AY):

- Indicated high levels of satisfaction with the overall quality of academic instruction (88% were very satisfied or satisfied) and their overall experience in their programs (84% were very satisfied or satisfied).
- Rated less highly their satisfaction with social life on campus (64% were very satisfied or satisfied), the frequency of class offerings in their program (65% were very satisfied or satisfied), and the availability of needed help or assistance (e.g., 72% strongly agreed or agreed that they received sufficient help with any personal or social issues; 56% were very satisfied or satisfied with the availability of financial assistance for graduate students).

Overall, 82% of AY 2015-2016 graduate degree earners were very satisfied or satisfied with their overall experience at UMass Dartmouth. Seventy-three percent strongly agreed or agreed that they would recommend UMass Dartmouth to future graduate students.



## THE SURVEY

As part of the online application for graduation, students are asked to complete an exit survey that asks about their satisfaction with their university experience and their participation in co-curricular activities. Overall, 364 AY 2015-2016 graduate degree earners responded to the graduate student exit survey (a response rate of approximately 74.6%)<sup>1</sup>. This brief details the principal findings from the survey (note: responses are based on the number of students responding to the relevant survey items).

## GENERAL SATISFACTION

- The percentage of AY 2015-2016 graduate degree earners who rated their level of satisfaction as “very satisfied” or “satisfied”<sup>2</sup> was:
  - 88% for the overall quality of academic instruction
  - 82% for the feeling of personal safety on campus
  - 75% for the overall quality of instructional spaces
  - 71% for the maintenance (upkeep) of campus buildings and grounds
  - 56% for the availability of financial support for graduate students

## CAMPUS SERVICES

- 72% of AY 2015-2016 graduate degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed”<sup>3</sup> that it was easy to get assistance when they had a problem or question that needed to be resolved.

### What Graduate Students Had to Say About Their UMassD Experience:

“It was great academic experience at UMass Dartmouth. This experience will definitely boost my career.”

“I feel proud and happy to tell everyone that I am a graduate student at UMass DARTMOUTH. Thank you for everything and all your support.”

“I’ve transformed into a different mindset since being at UMass Dartmouth. I believe that my education has opened my eyes to a lot of things that I was once blind too, which has made me a well-rounded and better person overall.”

1/ Response rate is approximate due to the inclusion of some students who had a degree confirm date outside of AY 2016 (about 9% of confirmed degree earners who took the survey).

2/ Satisfaction rating options were as follows: very dissatisfied, dissatisfied, neither dissatisfied nor satisfied, satisfied, and very satisfied.

3/ Agreement rating options were as follows: strongly disagree, disagree, neither disagree nor agree, agree, strongly agree.

## ACADEMICS

- 75% of AY 2015-2016 graduate degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that they felt like there was somewhere or someone they could turn to on campus if they were struggling academically.
- 76% of AY 2015-2016 graduate degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that UMass Dartmouth had prepared them to enter the work force or further their studies.
- 84% of AY 2015-2016 graduate degree earners were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with their overall experience in their program. Comparatively, 65% were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with the frequency of class offerings in their program.



- Among AY 2015-2016 graduate degree earners who completed or were in the process of completing a thesis or dissertation:
  - 84% were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with their understanding of how to complete a successful thesis or dissertation study.

### **What Graduate Students Had to Say About Their UMassD Experience:**

“The faculty at UMD offers an enriching experience making it all worthwhile.”

“It was a remarkable experience at UMassD.”

“UMD is a great University. It is full of culture and bright individuals. I am extremely thankful to have had the opportunity to pursue my MBA here. “

“The graduate programs at UMass Dartmouth were great for someone like me who worked full time and went to school full time as well - I would highly recommend UMD to anyone looking to further their education.”

## STUDENT LIFE

- 74% of AY 2016 graduate degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that they received sufficient help with any personal or social issues.
- 37% of AY 2016 graduate degree earners participated in student clubs/ organizations.
- 61% of AY 2016 graduate degree earners had an interest in attending campus events or activities.

## OVERALL RATING

- 82% of AY 2015-2016 graduate degree earners were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with their overall experience at UMass Dartmouth.
- 73% of AY 2015-2016 graduate degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that they would recommend UMass Dartmouth to future graduate students.

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