

## 2011-2012 LAW STUDENT EXIT SURVEY

### Data on Student Satisfaction and Co-curricular Participation

#### Key Findings:

*Law students who earned their degrees during the 2011-2012 academic year (AY):*

- Indicated *high* levels of satisfaction with their overall experience in their programs (90% very satisfied or satisfied) and largely agreed that it was easy to get assistance when needed (90% strongly agreed or agreed). Additionally, 85% were very satisfied or satisfied with the overall quality of academic instruction, the overall quality of instructional spaces, and the maintenance (upkeep) of campus buildings and grounds.
- Rated less highly their satisfaction with social life on campus (55% very satisfied or satisfied) and lacked strong agreement that they received sufficient help with any personal or social issues (e.g., 53% strongly agreed or agreed).

*Overall, 80% of AY 2011-2012 law degree earners were very satisfied or satisfied with their overall experience at UMass Dartmouth. Eighty-five percent strongly agreed or agreed that they would recommend UMass School of Law - Dartmouth to future law 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, 41 AY 2011-2012 law degree earners responded to the law student exit survey (a response rate of approximately 95.3%)<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 2012 law degree earners who rated their level of satisfaction as “very satisfied” or “satisfied”<sup>2</sup> was:
  - 85% for the overall quality of academic instruction
  - 85% for the overall quality of instructional spaces
  - 85% for the maintenance (upkeep) of campus buildings and grounds
  - 82% for the feeling of personal safety on campus
  - 78% for the availability of financial support for law students
  - 55% for social life on campus

#### **What Law Students Had to Say About Their UMD Experience:**

“I will say I have enjoyed the classroom experience with many of the professors.”

“The school has an atmosphere that is helpful to students because most strive to do well and assist others rather than be cut throat. The faculty/staff are very helpful in assuring students get the help they need as well.”

“I love the school.”

## CAMPUS SERVICES

- 90% of AY 2012 law 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.

<sup>1/</sup> Response rate is approximate due to the inclusion of some students who had a degree confirm date outside of AY 2012 (about 5% of confirmed degree earners who took the survey).

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

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

## ACADEMICS

- 68% of AY 2012 law 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.
- 73% of AY 2012 law degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that UMass Dartmouth had prepared them to enter the work force or further their studies.
- 90% of AY 2012 law degree earners were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with their overall experience in their program.



### ***What Law Students Had to Say About Their UMD Experience:***

“I feel like the rules have changed frequently in the midst of my education, which I find to be unfair, especially since I am paying for my education.”

“... in trying to sign up and prepare to take the actual Bar there has been no help at all.”

“I feel that UMass charged blanket fees which were not relevant to commuting law students (i.e., “athletic fee” etc.).”

## STUDENT LIFE

- 53% of AY 2012 law degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that they received sufficient help with any personal or social issues.
- 71% of AY 2012 law degree earners participated in student clubs/ organizations.
- 54% of AY 2012 law degree earners had an interest in attending campus events or activities.

## OVERALL RATING

- 80% of AY 2012 law degree earners were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with their overall experience at UMass Dartmouth.
- 85% of AY 2012 law degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that they would recommend UMass School of Law - Dartmouth to future law students.

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