

2012-2013 UNDERGRADUATE EXIT SURVEY

Data on Student Satisfaction and Co-curricular Participation

Key Findings:

Undergraduates who earned their degrees during the 2012-2013 academic year (AY):

- Indicated high levels of satisfaction with the overall quality of academic instruction (87% very satisfied or satisfied) and their overall experience in their majors (86% very satisfied or satisfied).
- Rated less highly their satisfaction with the upkeep of campus buildings and grounds (56% very satisfied or satisfied) and the ease with which they could get assistance to resolve problems or questions (55% strongly agreed or agreed that it was easy to get assistance when needed).

Overall, 76% of AY 2012-2013 undergraduate degree earners were very satisfied or satisfied with their overall experience at UMass Dartmouth. Sixty-eight percent strongly agreed or agreed that they would recommend UMass Dartmouth to future college 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, 1,120 AY 2012-2013 undergraduate degree earners responded to the undergraduate exit survey (a response rate of approximately 88.3%)¹. 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 2013 undergraduate degree earners who rated their level of satisfaction as “very satisfied” or “satisfied”² was:
 - 87% for the overall quality of academic instruction
 - 74% for the feeling of personal safety on campus
 - 66% for social life on campus
 - 67% for the overall quality of instructional spaces
 - 56% for the maintenance (upkeep) of campus buildings and grounds

CAMPUS SERVICES

- 55% of AY 2013 undergraduate degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed”³ that it was easy to get assistance when they had a problem or question that needed to be resolved.

What Students Had to Say About Their UMD Experience:

“Overall, I enjoyed the school and the people. There is a small town feel with all the amenities of a large school. World class within reach!”

“Offices in the school need to have [better] communication with each other and be on the same page.”

“Attending UMass Dartmouth greatly changed my view of public education. Not only was it affordable, but I was able to learn a great deal.”

“I would have hoped that some funds would have been allocated to the overall improvement of the education facilities.”

1/ Response rate is approximate due to the inclusion of some students who had a degree confirm date outside of AY 2013 (about 12% 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

- 57% of AY 2013 undergraduate 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.
- 63% of AY 2013 undergraduate degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that UMass Dartmouth had prepared them to enter the work force or further their studies.
- 86% of AY 2013 undergraduate degree earners were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with their overall experience in their major.
- The percentage of AY 2013 undergraduate degree earners who rated the extent to which certain skill areas were enhanced by their university experience as “medium” or “high” was:
 - 85% for Inquiry and Analysis
 - 85% for Communication Skills
 - 88% for Critical Thinking
- Students who took more than 12 semesters to earn a degree identified their top three reasons why as:
 1. Changed/added a major or minor
 2. Personal issues or responsibilities
 3. A job/employment commitments

STUDENT LIFE

- 52% of AY 2013 undergraduate degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that they received sufficient help with any personal or social issues.
- 70% of AY 2013 undergraduate degree earners worked for pay while a student at UMass Dartmouth.
- 44% of AY 2013 undergraduate degree earners participated in Greek life or other student clubs/organizations.
- 71% of AY 2013 undergraduate degree earners had an interest in attending campus events or activities.

What Students Had to Say About Their UMD Experience:

“I couldn't ask for a better college experience and education.”

“Improve advising to help students stay on track.”

“Please work on providing more options for students like concerts and comedians.”

“I feel prepared to continue on with my personal goals in life.”

OVERALL RATING

- 76% of AY 2013 undergraduate degree earners were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with their overall experience at UMass Dartmouth.
- 68% of AY 2013 undergraduate degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that they would recommend UMass Dartmouth to future college students.

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