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, 272 AY 2012-2013 graduate degree earners responded to the graduate student exit survey (a response rate of approximately 63.7%). This brief details the principal findings from the survey (note: responses are based on the number of students responding to the relevant survey items).

**Key Findings:**

Graduate students who earned their degree during the 2012-2013 academic year (AY):

- Indicated high levels of satisfaction with the overall quality of academic instruction (82% very satisfied or satisfied) and their overall experience in their programs (75% very satisfied or satisfied).
- Rated less highly their satisfaction with social life on campus (60% very satisfied or satisfied) and the availability of needed help or assistance (e.g., 58% strongly agreed or agreed that they received sufficient help with any personal or social issues; 63% very satisfied or satisfied with the availability of financial assistance for graduate students).

Overall, 74% of AY 2012-2013 graduate 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 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, 272 AY 2012-2013 graduate degree earners responded to the graduate student exit survey (a response rate of approximately 63.7%). 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 graduate degree earners who rated their level of satisfaction as “very satisfied” or “satisfied”\(^2\) was:
  - 82% for the overall quality of academic instruction
  - 81% for the feeling of personal safety on campus
  - 71% for the overall quality of instructional spaces
  - 71% for the maintenance (upkeep) of campus buildings and grounds
  - 63% for the availability of financial support for graduate students
  - 60% for social life on campus

**CAMPUS SERVICES**

- 65% of AY 2013 graduate 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.

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1/ Response rate is approximate due to the inclusion of some students who had a degree confirm date outside of AY 2013 (about 13% 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

- 58% of AY 2013 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.
- 68% of AY 2013 graduate degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that UMass Dartmouth had prepared them to enter the work force or further their studies.
- 75% of AY 2013 graduate degree earners were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with their overall experience in their program.
- Among AY 2013 graduate degree earners who completed or were in the process of completing a thesis or dissertation:
  - 79% were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with their understanding of how to complete a successful thesis or dissertation study.

STUDENT LIFE

- 58% of AY 2013 graduate degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that they received sufficient help with any personal or social issues.
- 24% of AY 2013 graduate degree earners participated in student clubs/organizations.
- 57% of AY 2013 graduate degree earners had an interest in attending campus events or activities.
- 58% of AY 2013 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.
- 68% of AY 2013 graduate degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that UMass Dartmouth had prepared them to enter the work force or further their studies.
- 75% of AY 2013 graduate degree earners were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with their overall experience in their program.

What Graduate Students Had to Say About Their UMD Experience:

“Classes were ... not offered frequently enough.”

“As a graduate commuter, I felt very disconnected from the University.”

“...members of [my] department have been very accommodating and helpful.”

OVERALL RATING

- 74% of AY 2013 graduate degree earners were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with their overall experience at UMass Dartmouth.
- 68% of AY 2013 graduate degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that they would recommend UMass Dartmouth to future graduate students.

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