

# UWSP Alumni Outcomes Survey, Summer 2000

This report is based on a UW System\*\* survey of UW undergraduate alumni who graduated in 1996, 1997 and 1998. The ACT Alumni Outcomes Survey was mailed to a stratified random sample of alumni June 2000. Of the approximately 13,000 surveys sent out, a total of 3,294 usable surveys were returned. UWSP alumni returned 293 of their 1,117 surveys for a response rate of 26.6%.

## Background Information—UWSP Alumni

- 76% of the respondents are 25 to 29 years of age; 30-39, 12.4%; 40+, 7.3%
- 96.6% are white; African American, .7%; Native American, .3%; Hispanic American, .3%
- 66% female; male, 34%
- 81.4% are employed full-time
- 10.8% are continuing their education either full- or part-time
- 39% have master's, specialist, or doctorate degrees
- 13.4% have majors in agriculture; business, 10.6%; communication, 8.6%; education, 18.8%; sciences, 13.4%; social sciences, 14.0%
- 26.4% report they had no student loan debt. 27.4% indicated their largest student loan debt was less than \$10,000; \$10,001-\$20,000, 28.8%; \$20,001 or more, 17.3%.
- 27.7% had an overall GPA of A- to A; B to A-, 43.9%; B- to B, 24.7%
- 45.9% did not attempt to transfer any credits to UWSP. 19% transferred 1-15 credits; 16-30, 10.3%; 31-60, 15.2%; over 60, 8.6%
- 49% report their first job was highly related to their major; moderately related, 23%; slightly related, 11%; not at all related, 17%
- 40.4% report the annual salary of their first full-time job after graduation was less than \$20,000; \$20,000-\$29,000, 43.6%; \$30,000-\$39,999, 11.7%; \$40,000 or more, 5.3%
- 58% report their current job is highly related to their most recent degree; slightly to moderately related, 31%; not at all related, 10.9%
- 13.9% report their experiences at UWSP prepared them exceptionally well for their current job; more than adequately, 27.4%; adequately, 45.3%; less than adequately, 13.4%
- 16.5% report an annual income/salary of less than \$20,000; \$20,001-\$29,999, 39.9%; \$30,000-\$39,999, 27.5%; \$40,000-\$49,999, 10.6%; \$50,000 or more, 5.5%

## Satisfaction with Current Job

(percent satisfied or very satisfied)

Indicate your level of satisfaction with each of the following aspects of your current job.	
1. Challenge	86
2. Opportunity to be creative	78
3. Job security	77
4. Quality of service or product provided/produced	76
5. Organization's ethical standards	75
6. Fringe benefits	66
7. Potential for career or professional advancement	58
8. Support for continuing education or in-service programs	58
9. Human diversity	57
10. Salary	51
11. Accessibility/proximity of childcare services	15

- UWSP alumni are generally satisfied with most aspects of their jobs. They tend to be more satisfied with challenge, opportunity to be creative, job security, quality of product, and the organization's ethical standards. They tend to be less satisfied with potential for career advancement, support for continuing education, salary, and accessibility/proximity of childcare services.

## Impact of College Experiences

Respondents were provided with “a list of abilities or skills one might expect to develop while pursuing a postsecondary education” and asked to “indicate the impact of your experiences at this school on your attainment of each skill.” The response categories are major, moderate, minor, or no impact.

### Impact of College Experiences on Development of Abilities and Skills

(percent indicating a major or moderate impact)

1. Working cooperatively in groups; working as a team member	90
2. Recognizing and using effective verbal communication skills	88
3. Accessing and using a variety of information sources	87
4. Recognizing and using effective written communication skills	86
5. Defining and solving problems	85
6. Making and exercising a lifelong commitment to learning	81
7. Analyzing and drawing conclusions from various types of data	81
8. Thinking objectively about beliefs, attitudes, and values	80
9. Developing original ideas and/or products	77
10. Getting along with people whose attitudes and opinions are different from mine	77
11. Developing and using effective leadership skills	73
12. Understanding the interaction of human beings and the environment	73
13. Getting along with people from various cultures, races, backgrounds, etc.	68
14. Living my personal and professional life according to my own standard/ethic	61
15. Understanding and appreciating cultural and ethnic differences between people	61
16. Understanding and appreciating art, music, literature, etc.	58
17. Learning about existing and emerging career options	54
18. Appreciating and exercising my rights, responsibilities, and privileges as a citizen	51
19. Understanding international issues (political, economic, etc.)	42

- UWSP alumni generally indicate their experience at UWSP had a moderate or major impact on their skill development. They indicate their experience at UWSP had the greatest impact on working cooperatively in groups; effective verbal and written communication; accessing and using information; problem solving; lifelong commitment to learning; analyzing data; and, thinking objectively. They report less impact on understanding and appreciating the arts; learning about career options; appreciating and exercising the rights and responsibilities of citizenship; and, understanding international issues.

## Educational Experiences

Alumni were asked to rate or express their agreement or satisfaction with a variety of items “in light of your overall experiences at this college.”

**Rating of College on Selected Factors**  
(percent rating the item positive or very positive)

1. Quality academic programs	83
2. Opportunities for student involvement in campus activities	79
3. Opportunities for student/faculty interaction	72
4. Sense of individual belonging on this campus	64
5. Computer system, services, equipment, labs, etc.	60
6. Number of cultural/fine arts/speaker programs	45
7. Flexibility of degree requirements	38
8. Cultural/ethnic diversity in student body	37
9. Cost for attendance	25

- UWSP alumni are most positive about the quality of academic programs; opportunities for student involvement; and, opportunities for student/faculty interaction. They are less positive about the flexibility of degree requirements, diversity, and cost for attendance.

### Satisfaction with Selected Aspects of College

	% Very Satisfied/ Satisfied	% Neutral	% Very Dissatisfied/ Dissatisfied
1. General condition of buildings and grounds	90	8	2
2. Class size relative to the type of course	87	10	3
3. Overall quality of instruction	85	9	6
4. Variety of course offered	83	12	5
5. Quality of the program in my major/field	83	6	11
6. Variety of instructional approaches used in the classroom	70	19	10
7. Preparation for further academic study	68	20	12
8. Transfer of course credits from other colleges to this college	65	24	10
9. Concern for me as an individual	63	25	12
10. Campus acceptance of individuals regardless of their sexual orientation	63	30	8
11. College response to older/nontraditional students	61	30	9
12. Campus response to needs of physically challenged	55	38	7
13. Multicultural content of courses	45	45	10

- UWSP alumni are generally satisfied with these aspects of college. They are most satisfied with the general condition of buildings and grounds; class size; quality of instruction; variety of courses; and, quality of programs. They are less satisfied with the multicultural content of courses (45% are neutral and 10% are dissatisfied).

### Agreement with Selected Statements about College

	% Strongly Agree/ Agree	% Neutral	% Strongly Disagree/ Disagree
1. There was a sense of personal safety/security on the campus	89	8	3
2. Academic success was encouraged and supported at this school	86	11	3
3. Most faculty were readily available to students outside of class time	80	12	8
4. Overall, the school had an intellectually stimulating atmosphere	77	16	6
5. The campus was, generally, free from harassment (e.g., sexual, racial, etc.)	77	16	6
6. Overall, there was a campus atmosphere of ethnic, political, and religious understanding and acceptance	66	25	8
7. I encountered few course scheduling or course availability problems	59	14	28
8. The General Education or core requirements at this school were a valuable component of my education	56	22	21
9. Administrators at the campus respected and were responsive to student input	55	37	9
10. The financial aid available to me was adequate for my needs	54	34	12
11. School policies and practices provided adequate and appropriate support for victims of harassment, crime, etc.	37	61	2

- UWSP alumni generally agree with these statements about college. They expressed their highest level of agreement with a sense of personal safety on campus; encouragement and support of academic success; and, the availability of faculty outside the classroom. They are less likely to agree that school policies and practices provided adequate and appropriate support for victims of harassment, crime, etc. (61% are neutral and 2 % disagree)

### Satisfaction with Student Services/Programs

	% Very Satisfied/ Satisfied	% Neutral	% Very Dissatisfied/ Dissatisfied
1. Library services and materials	89	6	6
2. Health and wellness programs/services for students	73	22	5
3. Registration procedures	67	18	15
4. Academic advising	59	14	26
5. Academic support services (e.g. tutoring, study skills)	54	41	4
6. Financial aid counseling and related services	53	33	14
7. Orientation to and instruction in use of campus computer system	49	28	23
8. Career planning and placement services	42	28	30
9. Personal counseling services	39	50	11

- UWSP alumni tend to be more satisfied with library services and materials and health and wellness programs/services. They tend to be less satisfied with advising; career planning and placement services; and, orientation and instruction in use of campus computer systems.

### Would Attend UWSP Again

(percent indicating each choice)

If you could begin again, would you attend this school?	
Definitely yes	44.5
Probably yes	35.6
Uncertain	10.6
Probably no	6.2
Definitely no	3.1

- The vast majority of UWSP alumni would attend UWSP if they could begin again.

### Overall Rating of UWSP

(percent indicating each choice)

Overall, how would you rate this school (for the time during which you were attending it)	
Excellent	46.6
Good	45.2
Average	6.8
Poor	1.4

- Alumni assign a very high rating to UWSP.

### Would Recommend UWSP to Friend

(percent indicating each choice)

Would you recommend this school to a friend or acquaintance who asked your opinion?	
Yes, without reservation	73.3
Yes, with some reservation	24.0
No	2.7

- Alumni are highly likely to recommend UWSP to a friend or acquaintance.

### Involvement in Activities and Organizations

(percent indicating average or high involvement)

1. Political	11
2. K-12 level schools (e.g., PTA)	16
3. Cultural	20
4. Religious	23
5. Youth-oriented (including sports)	23
6. Community	26
7. Environmental	29
8. Service	31
9. Sports/athletics (adult level)	41
10. Professional	43
11. Social	55

- UWSP alumni were most involved in social, professional, and sports/athletics activities and organizations. They were less involved in political and K-12 level schools.

\*\*UW System, Office of Policy Analysis and Research, "Post Baccalaureate Experience of UW Alumni".