2013 Alumni Survey
Arts and Sciences Report

Office of Assessment
February 2014
There were 291 responses for the department of Arts and Sciences.

Respondents stated that they 78% would definitely and 19% would probably choose Kansas State again if they could start over.

Respondents reported that 68% would definitely and 23% would probably recommend Kansas State University to a potential student.

64% of respondents were female, while 36% were male.

97% of respondents were U.S. citizens.

69% of respondents were residents of Kansas.

**Respondents that also graduated with any of the following:**

- None: 41.7%
- Undergraduate Minor: 33.1%
- Dual Major: 15.5%
- Secondary Major: 11.2%
- Undergraduate Certificate: 8.3%
- Concurrent B.S./M.S. program: 3.2%

**Amount of debt accumulated by respondents upon completion of Bachelor's degree:**

- None: 33.5%
- Less than $10,000: 12.9%
- $10,000 to $19,999: 15.1%
- $20,000 to $29,999: 17.6%
- $30,000 to $39,999: 10.3%
- $40,000 or more: 10.7%

**Respondents' current activities:**

- Employed 35 hours per week or more: 54.8%
- Graduate or professional school: 27.6%
- Employed and continuing education: 11.6%
- No paid employment: 11.6%
- Self-employed: 1.6%
K-State 2025 Thematic Goal II
Undergraduate Educational Experience

Emphasis respondents felt should have been placed on the following K-State 8 (general education) areas:

- Developing interpretive skills: 10.4% Less, 64.4% The Same, 25.2% More
- Ability to gather information: 66.0% Less, 33.2% More
- Developing the ability to make sound decisions: 61.6% Less, 34.4% More
- Making you aware of perspectives from around the world: 61.6% Less, 34.0% More
- Realized need to understand the past and consider the future: 68.0% Less, 29.2% More
- An awareness of multiple perspectives about U.S. society: 62.8% Less, 34.4% More
- Ability to evaluate scientific claims: 63.6% Less, 32.0% More
- Understand how individuals & groups influence the environment: 62.4% Less, 33.0% More

Amount respondents felt the Kansas State University college experienced contributed to growth in each area:

- Increasing knowledge in an academic field: 26.0% Somewhat, 69.8% Very much
- Gaining knowledge and skills required for a job/career: 45.3% Somewhat, 42.3% Very much
- Increasing your intellectual curiosity: 35.1% Somewhat, 64.0% Very much
- Becoming aware of world issues and pressing problems: 40.4% Somewhat, 40.0% Very much
- Organizing time effectively: 33.2% Somewhat, 50.2% Very much
- Becoming independent, self-reliant, and responsible: 21.9% Somewhat, 67.5% Very much
- Identifying a sense of values and priorities in life: 24.9% Somewhat, 61.5% Very much
- Handling personal/family finances and consumer issues: 44.5% Somewhat, 37.2% Very much
- Increasing a commitment to public services: 35.8% Somewhat, 30.9% Very much
- Developing satisfying leisure time activities: 34.0% Somewhat, 40.0% Very much
- Developing lasting friendships and personal ties: 21.5% Somewhat, 63.8% Very much
Emphasis respondents felt should have been placed on the following undergraduate learning outcomes:

- Gaining a broad general education: 14.4% Less, 62.8% The Same, 22.8% More
- Written communication skills: 55.6% More, 41.6% The Same, 2.8% Less
- Oral communication skills: 54.8% More, 41.6% The Same, 3.6% Less
- Technological communication skills: 52.4% More, 43.2% The Same, 4.4% Less
- Ability to think critically: 55.6% More, 44.9% The Same, 3.6% Less
- Developing your own values: 69.6% The Same, 22.8% More, 7.6% Less
- Understand ethical standards of your profession: 69.6% The Same, 31.6% More, 0.8% Less
- Interact positively with people different from you: 65.6% The Same, 31.6% More, 2.8% Less
- Understanding your abilities and personality: 69.6% The Same, 38.8% More, 1.6% Less
- Understanding other people's perspectives: 64.0% The Same, 34.8% More, 1.2% Less
- Participate as a team member: 6.8% More, 72.8% The Same, 22.4% Less

Degree to which undergraduate experiences motivated respondents to become involved in community activities:

- Slightly: 44.8%
- Quite a bit: 32.0%
- Very Much: 11.6%
- Not at all: 11.6%

Degree to which respondents felt overall quality of life has been enhanced by their undergraduate experience:

- None: 6.8%
- Little: 6.8%
- Somewhat: 26.0%
- Very Much: 64.8%
of respondents reported that during their undergraduate education they were involved in a research or creative endeavor in or outside of classwork.

- 50% of respondents reported that their mentor was an excellent contribution to their undergraduate endeavor.

- 36% of respondents reported that they were involved in a research/creative endeavor project for 2 or less semesters, for 3-4 semesters, for 5-6 semesters, for 7-8 semesters, and for 9 or more semesters.

Extent to which respondents felt their research/creative endeavor contributed to their undergraduate academic success:

- Very Much: 44.6%
- Somewhat: 36.5%
- Little: 12.2%
- None: 6.8%

Did respondents feel their research/creative endeavor contributed to their career choices?

- Definitely: 41.2%
- Somewhat: 37.8%
- No: 20.9%

Contribution of research/creative endeavor experience to success in respondents' current professions:

- None: 14.2%
- Little: 18.9%
- Somewhat: 37.2%
- Very Much: 29.7%

Types of dissemination of respondents' undergraduate research/creative endeavor successfully achieved:

- Class presentation: 64.2%
- Public exhibition on campus: 32.4%
- Research seminar presentation/poster: 32.4%
- Peer reviewed publication: 29.7%
- Other: 23.0%
- Oral presentation beyond campus: 16.2%
- Public exhibition beyond campus: 15.5%
- Poster at a conference beyond campus: 14.2%
• 28% of respondents reported that they were currently enrolled in graduate or professional school without being employed.
• 12% reported that they were both employed and pursuing further education.

Respondents' rating of quality of their undergraduate preparation for graduate or professional education:

- Good: 44.9%
- Excellent: 39.8%
- Fair: 12.2%
- Inadequate: 3.1%

Financial assistance that supported respondents' graduate study:

- Loan(s): 54.1%
- Institutional fellowship/scholarship: 31.6%
- Part-time employment: 31.6%
- Departmental graduate assistance: 29.6%
- Other: 15.3%
- Full-time employment: 15.3%
- Non-institutional fellowship/scholarship: 13.3%

Degree respondents are currently pursuing:

- M.A./M.S.: 36.7%
- Other: 35.7%
- Ph.D.: 9.2%
- M.D.: 9.2%
- M.B.A.: 6.1%
- D.V.M.: 3.1%
- 55% of respondents reported that they were employed 35 hours per week or more
- 12% of respondents reported that they were both employed and continuing their education
- 1% reported that they were self-employed
- 28% of respondents reported that their job or career was directly related to their undergraduate field of study. 35% reported it was somewhat related, and 37% reported that their career was not related at all to their undergraduate study.

**Current position of respondents:**

- Employment with definite long-term potential: 37.2%
- Employment with possible long-term potential: 34.1%
- Employment primarily to earn money: 12.2%
- Temporary employment while I look for something more suitable: 11.0%
- Temporary position that will last only for a limited time: 5.5%

**Respondents learned of job by:**

- Job lead from relative or friend: 35.9%
- Job listing on the internet: 33.5%
- Worked previously for employer: 14.4%
- Other: 9.6%
- Job lead from college internship: 7.8%
- Job lead from professor or advisor: 7.8%
- Government employment listing: 7.8%
- Applied without knowledge of opening: 7.8%
- K-State's CES: 7.8%
- Newspaper: 7.8%
- Employment agency: 7.8%
How close respondents' current jobs are to they type of job they desired:

- Very Close: 28.0%
- Fairly Close: 31.7%
- Not Very Close: 29.9%
- Had no clear expectation: 10.4%

Number of job interviews had before accepting current position:

- 2-5: 46.3%
- 0-1: 38.4%
- 6-9: 9.8%
- 10-14: 4.9%
- 15-19: 0.6%
- 20+: 0.0%

Skills required of respondents:

- Technology skills: 80.8%
- Conducting research: 36.5%
- Extensive training: 47.9%
- Math skills: 37.7%
- Problem solving/analytic reasoning: 84.4%
- Speaking to a group: 65.3%
- Use of specialized machinery: 28.1%
- Use of specialized software: 68.9%
- Working with a diverse group of people: 87.4%
- Writing reports, memos, papers, publications, etc.: 65.9%
Degree to which respondents felt prepared for their present job:

- Well: 39.6%
- Fairly Well: 33.5%
- Excellently: 19.5%
- Inadequately: 7.3%

Respondents felt that their K-State experience gave them an:

- Advantage: 54.3%
- Neither: 44.5%
- Disadvantage: 1.2%

Time taken for respondents to obtain current full-time job:

- Had a job at graduation: 25.0%
- 7 months or more: 23.8%
- 1 to 3 months: 20.1%
- Less than 1 month: 15.9%
- 4 to 6 months: 15.2%

Degree of difficulty in finding employment:

- Very Easy: 14.6%
- Fairly Easy: 35.4%
- Fairly Difficult: 35.4%
- Very Difficult: 14.6%
Unemployed Alumni

- 12 respondent(s) reported that they were not engaged in employment

**Primary reason respondents are not employed:**

- I have chosen not to be employed: 16.7%
- I was laid off by my employer: 16.7%
- My job search was limited to the same region as someone else: 16.7%
- I have been unable to find a satisfactory job since graduation: 16.7%
- Having/Expecting a child changed my employment plans: 16.7%
- Other: 33.3%

**Have respondents sought job placement assistance from the Office of Career and Employment Services?**

- Yes, it has been helpful: 8.3%
- Yes, but it has not been helpful: 16.7%
- No, I didn't register with the office: 66.7%
- No, I registered with the office, but didn't seek further assistance: 8.3%

**Respondents planning to seek paid employment:**

- Yes, within 12 months: 66.7%
- Yes, in 1 to 5 years: 33.3%

**Respondents' description of not being employed:**

- Serious Problem: 33.3%
- Minor Problem: 33.3%
- No Problem, My Choice: 33.3%