IR-4-U

News from the UND Office of Institutional Research

The purpose of IR-4-U is to inform students of the types of information available from the Office of Institutional Research (OIR) and to provide a brief summary of some of the projects we’re working on along with the findings. IR-4-U will be published two to three times a year and distributed to the student community as well as archived on our website.

What do we do in IR?

You are not alone if you wonder what we do in the Office of Institutional Research.

Officially, the Office serves as a resource to university decision makers by providing accurate, consistent, useful, timely, user-friendly, official data that can be used to assess the goals and objectives of the UND.

Primarily, the Office conducts studies, maintains and reports information on topics such as enrollment, retention, degree completion, productivity, and other areas of interest. IR provides support for assessment, program reviews, enrollment management, institutional grant applications, accreditations, strategic planning, as well as responds to a variety of ad-hoc reporting requests. The office also provides data to accreditation bodies such as the Higher Learning Commission, to external publishers such as Princeton Review, and US News and World Report.

The Office administers several institutional surveys each year and reports detailed, trend analysis on the findings. You most likely have received one or more surveys from our office. We appreciate your feedback! At the OIR Survey Website, descriptions and timelines are provided for institutional surveys. Click on the YES box to see a survey report. Did we mention, we SINCERELY APPRECIATE your responses and feedback on our surveys.

Announcements!

National Survey of Student Engagement

Planning for the administration of the 2011 National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) is now underway. NSSE is one of our most important national surveys. It measures the extent to which first-year students and seniors engage in practices linked to effective learning outcomes. Findings from this survey provide important information related to educational activities, personal growth, learning development, and satisfaction. UND participates in NSSE every two years. Check out more about NSSE at http://nsse.iub.edu/html/about.cfm or read about UND’s findings from the 2009 survey report at http://www.und.edu/dept/datacol/reports/subFolder/NSSE2009/NSSE2009.htm

Freshmen and seniors - watch for the NSSE announcement in your email in January 2011! U COUNT! WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK!

The faculty version of NSSE, called the Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (FSSE), will be administered this spring to faculty members teaching undergraduate courses. Comparing faculty responses (FSSE) can help contextualize student responses to NSSE. All the more reason to make your voice count! Watch for your NSSE email in January!
IR-4-U
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How well do you know UND?

1. US or Canadian Students: How many students enroll from your state or province?

2. International students: How many international students are enrolled at UND?

Check out the map found here:
http://www.und.edu/dept/datacol/Mapssurvey/index.htm

3. What percent of recent graduates report being either employed or furthering their studies?

4. True or False — On average, do participants of internship or cooperative education programs report higher average salaries than those who don’t participate in such programs?

5. What percent of recent graduates indicated that their current position is “directly related” or “somewhat related” to the education they received at UND?

Questions taken from the 2009-2010 Placement Survey — read more about this, including average salary by major at http://www.und.edu/dept/datacol/reports/subFolder/placement2010/placement2010.htm

(Answers to these questions found on the back of this Newsletter)

The Survey Says...
Results from the recent SSI/PSOL survey

In an effort to gauge the efficacy of the higher education system in North Dakota, state accountability measures require institutions to survey all students every two years with regard to their satisfaction with the education they are receiving. To facilitate this measure, institutions participate in the Noel-Levitz Student Satisfaction Inventory (SSI), which measures satisfaction of resident, on-campus students, and the Noel-Levitz Priorities Survey for Online Learners (PSOL), which measures satisfaction for students taking online courses.

In the spring of 2010, UND invited 10,471 resident students to participate in the SSI while 2,151 online students were invited to participate in the PSOL. Upon completion of the survey, 1,636 students completed the SSI for a response rate of 16%; 375 students completed the PSOL for a response rate of 17%.

UND’s top strengths with regard to resident students as indicated by the SSI include I am able to achieve my academic goals here, My academic advisor is knowledgeable about requirements in my major, Nearly all of the faculty are knowledgeable in their field, and My academic advisor is approachable. Challenges facing UND with regard to resident students include The instruction in my major field is excellent, The content of the courses within my major is valuable, The quality of instruction I receive in most of my classes is excellent, I am able to register for classes I need with few conflicts, and Tuition paid is a worthwhile investment.

Online programming strengths as indicated on the PSOL include I am able to achieve my educational goals at this institution, Registration for online courses is convenient, and Student assignments are clearly defined in the syllabus. Challenges facing online students include The quality of online instruction is excellent, Faculty are responsive to student needs, Tuition paid is a worthwhile investment, and There are sufficient offerings within my program of study.
More Results from the SSI/PSOL

When compared to other North Dakota 4-year institutions, UND students show higher levels of satisfaction in these areas:

- There is an adequate selection of food available in the cafeteria.
- The intercollegiate athletic programs contribute to a strong sense of school spirit.
- There is a variety of courses provided on this campus.
- A variety of intramural activities are offered.
- I feel a sense of pride about my campus.

On the other hand, UND students show significantly lower levels of satisfaction to their counterparts at North Dakota 4-year institutions in the areas of:

- The amount of student parking space on campus is adequate.
- Billing policies are reasonable.
- Financial aid awards are announced to students in time to be helpful in college planning.
- I seldom get the "run-around" when seeking information on this campus.

When asked about reasons for why they chose to enroll at UND, cost is rated the most important scoring a 6.05 on a 7-point scale.

"UND scores significantly higher than both national 4-year public universities and NDUS 4-year institutions on all 3 summary satisfaction questions" - From the 2010 SSI/PSOL Survey Report

To intern — or not?

As was asked in a "How well do you know UND" question on page 2, individuals who engage in intern or co-op type experiences, on average, report higher salaries in their careers than those who do not partake in these activities.

Recently, UND participated in the 2009 National Internship and Co-op Study, a nation-wide, survey based, research project conducted by Intern Bridge in partnership with Dr. Phil Gardner. The study investigates the reasons students participate in internship/co-op experiences, the program structure, and the interactions with various individuals with whom students interact while planning for, reporting on, and participating in intern/co-op programs.

For UND, 114 students participated in the study. According to these respondents, the top 5 most important factors (5-point Likert scale where 1=little or no importance and 5=extremely high importance) when deciding to participate in an internship/co-op are: to get hands on experience in my field (4.6), to learn new skills (4.5), to become better prepared for employment in my field (4.4), to gain a realistic preview of the workplace (4.3), and to make professional contacts (4.1).

A few top reasons students listed for not participating in an internship or co-op include: I do not have time because I have too much school work (3.6), I am unclear of the overall benefits of an internship or co-op (3.1), and it is too early in my college experience for an internship or co-op
Looking for data for a student project or class? Try some of our standard publications:

**Fact Book** – a publication of facts and figures about UND – categories include students, alumni, faculty/staff, finance/facilities, and others.

**Quick Facts Brochure** – a tri-fold brochure of “quick facts” about UND.

**Common Data Set (CDS)** – a collaborative effort among data providers in the higher education community that allows comparisons of this data among colleges and universities as well as utilized by publishers of guides.

**College Portrait** – another collaborative effort among higher education institutions to provide consistent, comparable, and transparent information on the characteristics of institutions and students; includes cost of attendance, success rates, and core educational outcomes. A clickable map is available for search purposes.

**Demographic Map** – a point and click map showing UND enrollment by ND counties, US states, and beyond.

**Student Profiles** – besides the overall student profile, a number of short facts about various groups of students (e.g. beginning freshmen, new transfers) as well as ACT Trends.

Not seeing what you need here? Visit our website or contact us directly!

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**Projects Underway**

2010-2011 Factbook
Employer Survey
Beginning College Survey of Student Engagement (BCSSE)  
Withdrawing/Non-returning student survey
Strategic National Arts Alumni Project (SNAAP) Survey
Campus Quality Survey
National Survey of Student Engagement
Alumni Outcomes Survey
2010 Transfer Survey
2010-2011 Placement Survey

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**Answers to Pg. 2 Q’s**

1. See map link on page 2.
2. See map link on page 2.
3. 95% of respondents of the 2009-2010 Placement Survey indicated being employed or currently a student.
4. Yes, internship/coop participants reported an average salary of $3,327 higher than those who did not participate in these programs.
5. 89% of respondents of the 2009-2010 Placement Survey indicated that their current position is “directly related” or “somewhat related” to the education they received at UND.

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**Recent projects now available online**

- 2010 Student Satisfaction Inventory (SSI) & Priorities Survey for Online Learners (PSOL)
- 2010 College Student Inventory
- 2010 Sophomore Satisfaction Survey
- 2009-2010 Placement Survey
- 2009 CIRP Freshman Survey
- Degrees awarded