

Survey of Graduates

2009-2010 Report

Pearl River Community College



Pearl River Community College is committed to providing a quality educational experience for all students. Therefore, graduating students' opinions and input are solicited concerning their educational experience at PRCC. For 2009-2010, the first online survey was piloted with a sample population of students planning to graduate in May 2010, and the results of that survey are summarized as follows:

Survey results indicated that 69.7 percent planned to continue their education beyond the community college, while 27.6 percent of students surveyed planned to enter the workforce after graduation. Approximately 68 percent of students surveyed responded that they either had been employed full-time or part-time while enrolled as a student at PRCC.

Students who were surveyed considered advisement to be important as evidenced by 88 percent of students' responses. In addition, 88 percent of students surveyed were satisfied or very satisfied with advisement provided at PRCC. Regarding methods of advisement that they would have preferred, 46.7 percent of graduating students surveyed indicated that they would have preferred an advisor assigned to them based upon their selected major, 18.7 percent would have preferred to select their own advisor based upon their selected major, and 13.3 percent would have preferred meeting with a counselor for advisement. Approximately 48 percent of students surveyed thought mandatory advisement would be best before scheduling of classes, while 48 percent thought advisement should be optional.

The majority of students surveyed (81.6 percent) thought that faculty members were concerned or very concerned with the personal and intellectual development of their students. Eighty-eight percent (88%) of graduating students surveyed indicated that faculty members were either mostly or always available for consultation during posted office hours. Students indicated that faculty members are appropriately using instructional technology in courses offered at PRCC, evidenced by 86.8 percent of students surveyed. Forty-five percent (45%) of students surveyed listed faculty members as being particularly helpful to them with their adjustment to campus life. Access to faculty members outside of class was an extremely important component of campus life as indicated by 85 percent of students surveyed, and 89 percent of students surveyed were satisfied or extremely satisfied with access to PRCC faculty members outside of class.

Eighty-five percent (85%) of the graduating students surveyed thought technological preparation to be an important part of their studies. Ninety-three percent (93%) of students surveyed indicated satisfaction with the technological preparation they received at PRCC.

Of the students surveyed, 86 percent indicated that a sense of belonging was important or extremely important to them, and 96 percent were satisfied or extremely satisfied with a sense of belonging at PRCC.

Ninety-five percent (95%) of students surveyed reflected that they were satisfied or very satisfied with the process of admission to PRCC. The majority of students surveyed (81%) were satisfied or very satisfied with the process of acquiring financial aid.

Graduates surveyed indicated 93 percent satisfaction with opportunities to interact with students from diverse backgrounds while attending PRCC.

Of graduates surveyed, 96 percent indicated that PRCC had prepared them more than adequately or exceptionally well to either continue their education or enter the workforce. Of the graduating students surveyed, 88 percent indicated that they would choose PRCC if they could start college again.