



Graduate Report 2011-2012

Graduate Report prepared by the Office of Institutional Research, July 2012

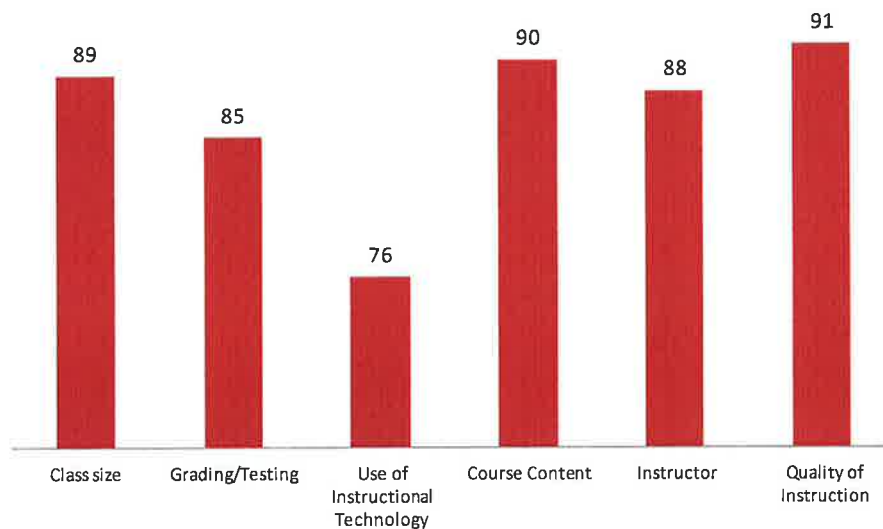
2011-2012 Survey of Graduates

Pearl River Community College is committed to providing a quality educational experience for all students, and an exit survey is given to graduating students in order to obtain information concerning the students' educational experience at PRCC.

An online survey was administered in December 2011 and April 2012 prior to graduation. An email with a link allowing access to the online survey was sent to students who had applied for graduation. In addition, career-technical students who had applied for graduation were asked to complete the online survey immediately before taking the CPAS examination. The response rate for 2011-2012 was 40 percent with 353 of 883 graduates responding to the survey. A summary of the results is provided below.

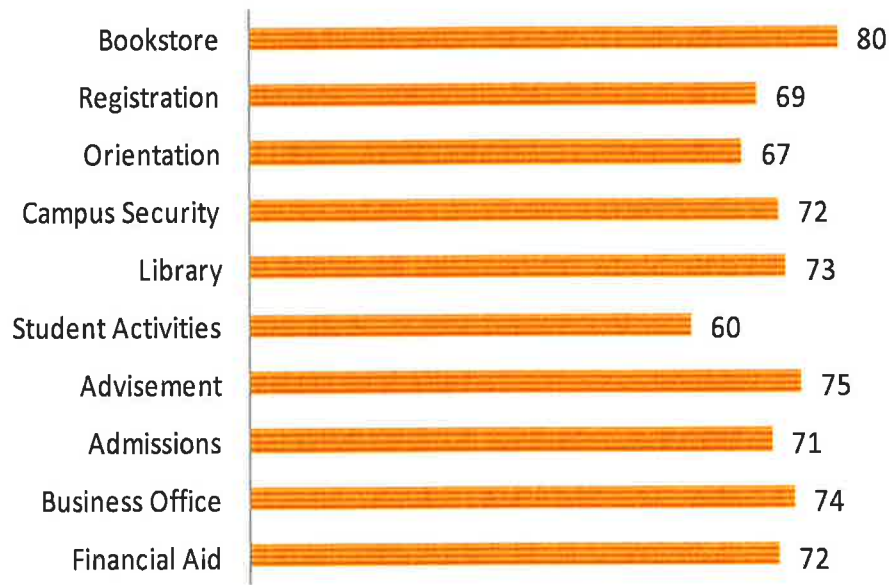
Survey results indicate that the three main reasons for selecting PRCC were due to its convenient locations, the selection of course offerings, and the good reputation of the institution. Ninety-seven (97) percent of students completing the survey indicated that they had established personal goals, and 96 percent of those students indicated that they had met either all or most of their personal goals while attending PRCC.

Several questions about faculty instruction, availability for consultation, and concern for students were asked. The majority of those surveyed (91 percent) indicated that PRCC faculty members were concerned about both the intellectual development and personal development of their students. While 78 percent of students indicated that having access to faculty outside of class was important to them, 80 percent of graduating students surveyed indicated satisfaction with availability of instructors outside class. The following illustration indicates the percentages of students who rated various aspect of instruction as **good** or **very good**:



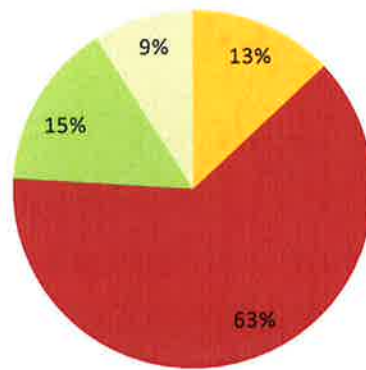
Preparation for a technological world is important to PRCC students as indicated by 90 percent of students surveyed, and the majority (84 percent) of graduating students surveyed were satisfied with the technological preparation they received as a student at PRCC.

The illustration below reflects the level of student satisfaction as **satisfied** or **very satisfied** with college services provided while they were attending PRCC:



Ninety-three percent of graduating students indicated that their experience at PRCC had prepared them for either entering the workforce, improving their skills, or continuing their education at an institution of higher learning. The chart below illustrates these results:

■ University transfer credit ■ Job preparation
■ Improvement of current job skills ■ Personal enrichment



(Note: Sixty percent (60%) of students who responded were pursuing a technical degree).

Students completing the survey indicated that 63 percent were employed while attending PRCC. Forty percent of students surveyed indicated that they had worked between 16 and 39 hours while enrolled at PRCC, and 14 percent worked 40 or more hours while attending.

Seventy-two percent of students surveyed indicated that they considered the opportunity to interact with students from diverse backgrounds an important aspect of their educational experience, and 74 percent of students surveyed indicated that they were satisfied with the diversity experienced at PRCC. Results of the survey indicated that a sense of belonging while attending PRCC was important to 70 percent of students surveyed, and 71 percent of graduating students who completed the survey indicated that they had felt a sense of belonging while attending PRCC. Of the graduating students surveyed, 79 percent indicated that they would choose to attend PRCC again.

Note: Results may be somewhat skewed due to the higher number of career-technical students responding. Strategies to improve response rates for academic graduates include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Enlist support of select faculty members, coaches, and head residents to encourage participation in the survey
- Post flyers in high traffic locations and computer/learning labs announcing the survey and requesting participation

Demographics of Survey Respondents

883 graduates*
 353 respondents
 70% - Age 25 or under
 43% - Female/57% - Male
 76% White/22% Black/2.3% Other

**Based upon Banner information—July 5, 2012*