

October 6, 2016

### Executive Summary: Spring 2016 Exit Survey for Graduating Seniors

The spring 2016 Exit Survey for graduating seniors was administered between the months of March and May of 2016 online to 3,699 individuals; of those 2,204 responded (59.58%). The survey was sent to individuals graduating from both our traditional on campus bachelor’s degree programs as well as our accelerated online programs. For academic year 2015-2016, the Exit Survey was administered in the spring semester only, as it was under review for revisions with input from all colleges/schools during the fall semester. Highlights from the spring 2016 university-wide responses follow.

The top three factors that influenced a student’s decision to attend UTA were cost of attendance (51.92%), the availability of major program in an area of their interest (42.67%), and the convenience of UTA’s location relative to their home or work (40.61%)\*. Though not included in the top three factors, given UTA’s expansive online program offerings, 28.02% of students who responded said the availability of online degree programs in their area of interest also influenced their decision to attend the university.

When asked if course content reflected current trends in their field, 90.9% of respondents strongly agreed or agreed. Similarly, 92.3% felt their major gave them a sense of competence in their field of study. UTA’s degree programs appear to meet the needs of the students it attracts.

Of those students who responded to the survey, a majority (65.6%) of graduating seniors transferred to UTA from another institution. Figure 1 provides additional information about the characteristics of UTA’s student population while they pursued their degree. Note that more than 80% of respondents would choose to attend UTA for their degree, if they had to do it all over again.

The average age of UTA’s spring 2016 graduating seniors was 31 years old. Over two-thirds of respondents were female. For a breakdown of respondent’s race/ethnicity\*\*, see page 19 of the *Spring 2016 Exit Survey Aggregate Data* report.

58.2%	finished their degree in 4 years or less
44.8%	lived outside Arlington more than 25 miles from campus
44.4%	were employed 31 or more hours per week
33.4%	used their own employment as their primary source of financial support
36.3%	took classes at UTA and another institution during the same semester (either on-line or on-campus)
34.3%	of courses offered for their degree were completely online

Figure 1

\* Note: Top 3 factors are reported as a percentage of respondents not percentage of responses.

\*\* Race and ethnicity is reported consistent with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board guidelines.

UTA’s Exit Survey also captures student’s overall satisfaction with various aspects of the institution, including student’s perception of their individual preparedness in a number of areas. A summary of the top five responses, respectively, are provided in Figures 2 and 3 (below).

A vast majority of respondents reported having plans to pursue employment (70.1%) or continue their education (23.0%) in undergraduate, graduate, or professional school upon graduation. When asked what best described their post-graduation employment plans, of those who responded, more than 35% said they had already secured either full-time or part-time employment. Furthermore, of students who chose to stay with their current employer, 64% responded that their UTA degree will improve the opportunity for advancement in their current position.

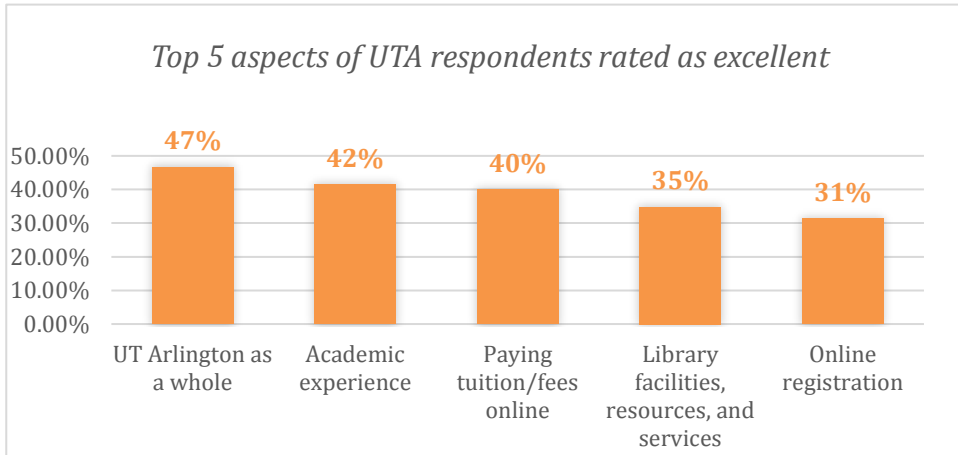


Figure 2

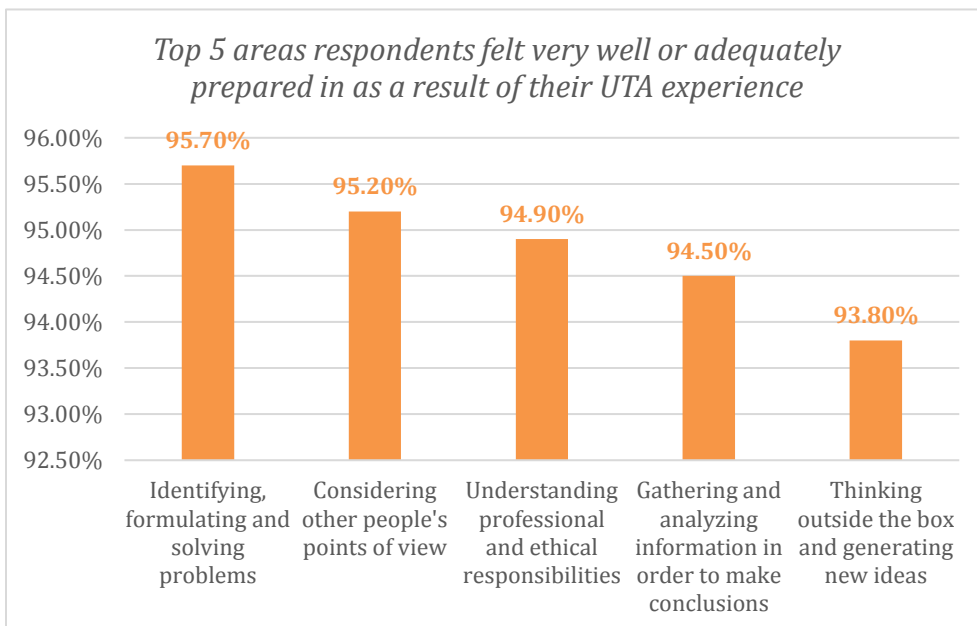


Figure 3