



2008-2009 Alumni Survey

Tulsa Community College
By John Bruce

Executive Summary

- ❖ 2,105 degrees and certificates were awarded to 2,059 graduates during the 2008-2009 academic year.
- ❖ Alumni surveys were mailed to all 2,059 graduates. Of the delivered surveys, 263 were returned completed, yielding a 13% response rate (does not account for surveys deemed to be undeliverable).
- ❖ Former students were asked about their current educational objectives.
 - 74% of the respondents are continuing their education.
 - 19% plan to continue, but are not yet enrolled.
- ❖ Former students were also asked about their current employment status.
 - 72% of all respondents indicate that they are employed. (Of those who indicate employment, 61% work full-time; 31% work part-time)
 - 87% of those are employed in the Tulsa area.
 - Among respondents who are employed, 44% are either working in their major field or in a discipline that is closely related to their area of study at TCC.
 - 34% of the employed respondents indicated annual incomes of \$30,000 or more per year.

- ❖ Detailed results and response distributions for each survey item are presented in this report.
- ❖ Comments from former students are included in an Appendix A.

Alumni Survey Report (2008-2009)

The purpose of this report is to present results from the 2008-2009 Tulsa Community College Alumni Survey. The Alumni Survey is an instrument that is administered annually to assess the current situation and perceptions of students who have completed either a certificate or a degree program at Tulsa Community College.

The Alumni Survey is a tool that can be used by individual offices (e.g., Associate Deans, Deans, Provosts, etc.) to help implement educational objectives and track the success of educational outcomes at Tulsa Community College. This survey allows one to assess student demographics on a variety of dimensions that are likely to be related to successful implementation of educational programs. These dimensions are indirectly related to the educational experiences at TCC (e.g., employment status, current educational objectives, and preparedness to continue education). This report provides feedback on survey responses.

The Office of Planning and Institutional Research administers the annual survey to students who have graduated after Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters of a given academic year. The survey is mailed to the graduates six months after the program completion date. This allows the TCC graduate to evaluate his/her educational experience in the context of daily life experiences (e.g., work, continuing education, or personal life) apart from the direct structure of the educational environment.

Subjects and Procedure

During the academic year 2008-2009, Tulsa Community College conferred degrees and certificates for 2,059 individuals. Table 1 contains selected characteristics of these graduates.

**Table 1: Demographic Characteristics of Tulsa Community College Graduates
2008-2009**

Demographic Characteristic	Percentage
<i>Gender</i>	
Female	69.0%
Male	30.9%
Total	100%
<i>Age</i>	
16-21 years	46.4%
22-31 years	29.4%
32-41 years	14.9%
42-51 years	7.5%
52-61 years	1.7%
Total	100%
<i>Race</i>	
African American	8.4%
Asian	2.5%
Caucasian	71.8%
Hispanic	3.7%
Native American	9.1%
No Response	1.4%
Other	3.0%
Total	100%
<i>Campus</i>	
Metro	34.0%
NEC	14.3%
SEC	39.6%
West	12.1%
Total	100%

Surveys were mailed to former students approximately six months after the program completion date.

Results

While 263 completed surveys were returned, some respondents did not complete various items; the figures reported below represent only the valid responses to each item of the survey.

167 respondents indicate that they are employed (72%), with 61% of those working full-time. When responses are grouped to look only at those employed, 40% indicate that they work in their major field, and another 23% work in a related field. Therefore, of those respondents who are employed, 63% are working in either their major field or in a discipline that is closely related to their area of study while at TCC. 74% of all respondents (regardless of employment status) indicate that they are continuing their education, while another 19% indicate that they plan to continue their education but had not yet enrolled at the time they were surveyed.

Responses to the survey are provided in greater detail in the table below. Please note that percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

Table 2: Summary of Alumni Survey Responses, 2008-2009

Gender	Percent	Employment Status	Percent	Major	Percent
Male	24%	Full-time	40%	University Parallel	59%
Female	70%	Part-time	21%	Workforce Dvlpmnt	24%
Sub-Total	93%	N/A	16%	Sub-Total	83%
No Response	7%	Sub-Total	77%	No Response	17%
Total	100%	No Response	23%	Total	100%
Total	100%	Total	100%		
Age	Percent	Employment Location	Percent	Race	Percent
Under 21	13%	In Tulsa Area	57%	Caucasian	73%
21-31	40%	In Northeast Oklahoma	5%	African American	10%
32-41	18%	Elsewhere in Oklahoma	3%	Asian	3%
42-51	17%	Outside Oklahoma	1%	Native American	11%
52-61	4%	Sub-Total	66%	Hispanic	2%
Over 61	1%	No Response	34%	Other	1%
Sub-Total	93%	Total	100%	Sub-Total	100%
No Response	7%			No Response	0%
Total	100%			Total	100%
Campus	Percent	Degrees/Certificates Conferred	Percent	How likely would you be to return to TCC?	Percent
Metro	29%	Degree	73%	Not at all likely	1%
Northeast	13%	Certificate	9%	Somewhat likely	7%
Southeast	35%	Sub-Total	82%	Moderately likely	9%
West	10%	No Response	18%	Very likely	68%
Sub-Total	87%	Total	100%	Sub-Total	85%
No Response	13%			No Response	15%
Total	100%			Total	100%
Salary Estimate	Percent	Current Situation	Percent	Continuing Education	Percent
Below \$15,000	23%	Employed in major field	25%	4-year institution in OK	58%
\$15,000-\$19,999	9%	Employed in closely related field	14%	4-year institution outside of OK	2%
\$20,000-\$24,999	8%	Employed in different field	24%	2-year institution in OK	8%
\$25,000-\$29,999	5%	Unemployed – looking	7%	2-year institutions outside of OK	1%
\$30,000-\$35,000	8%	Unemployed – not looking	18%	Plan to continue, but not enrolled	17%
Above \$35,000	15%	Sub-Total	89%	No plan to continue, not enrolled	7%
Sub-Total	69%	No Response	11%	Sub-Total	92%
No Response	31%	Total	100%	No Response	8%
Total	100%			Total	100%

The survey also measures the general satisfaction that former students have with their educational experiences while at TCC. One measure of a student's general satisfaction with his/her education is the extent to which he/she would attend the same school again if given the opportunity. 90% of those who responded indicate that they would be at least moderately likely to make the same decision if they had the opportunity to go to TCC again. 80% indicate that they would very likely make the same choice.

When asked to compare the quality of education at TCC to other colleges, of those who responded, 25% indicate that they are unable to judge comparable quality. However, 46% note that the quality of education at TCC is about the same as other institutions, while another 25% indicate that they thought the quality of education at TCC is better than that at other colleges. Finally, 29% report that they are prepared exceptionally well by TCC to continue their education, and another 35% indicate that they are more than adequately prepared.

Appendix A: Student comments from 2008-2009 graduates

Administration is absolutely terrible. The staffing system (excluding staff members) is the worst I've ever witnessed in my life.

After six months from my graduation (highest honors G.P.A. 4.0) Nobody is hiring me, and I am depressed. I am CMA (AAMA).

All of my instructors were prepared, professional, patient, knowledgeable and fair. The financial Aid department gave me the run around and lost my information two different semesters. I would get different answers depending on who I would speak to. Appeared unconcerned. Registration employees also came across disinterested. Sometimes made one feel as if they were disturbing the staff. If there was another school to attend for my prerequisites, I would have because of the registration/admission staff.

All of the instructors in the PTA program are wonderful & did a great job preparing us for the field.

At times I would have 2 or 3 out of 4 classes that needed me to do volunteer hours as a service learning and they had to be at different places. That made things hard so if a service learning is part of a grade the teacher should allow you to do so.

Both of my accounting teachers were at SE and I felt they did Not adequately prepare me

Brenna Bellovich was the best teacher I had at TCC. Her class prepared me for OSU more than any other class I took.

Currently major in Accounting at OSU – Tulsa

Enjoyed the TCC experience

Excellent recommend for people who desire education & recognition in academics & private sector.

Financial Aid & Enrollment lines are way too long!

Financial Aid needs to be better. They have never answered my phone calls ever. Teachers were good.

Financial aid is difficult to work with, minimal availability of staff, poor communication, and lack of understanding.

Gary Braswell was a wonderful mentor.

Good Job!

Great Job! I love TCC and had a great experience here. I especially made use of the Fast Track program. Thank you!

Have a degree in Radiology & now working as a receptionist. Can't find employment in degree field.

Having classes that were only available at one campus made completing my degree difficult. I had to attend classes on 3 separate campuses.

I actually enjoyed TCC more than my current school. TCC offers better technology & the instructors are more interested in helping you achieve your educational goals.

I am presently employed at TCC Child Development Center. My employment ends Dec 21, 2009. Hourly wage

for 20 hrs a week is \$10. I took the OSDE Early Childhood certification exam in early fall and promptly applied for the Master Teacher opening at CDC. No interview has been scheduled. However, professional positions have been vacated and young women have filled the classroom openings. Therefore, I have considered other professional teaching positions in early childhood facilities in Tulsa and Creek Counties. With my OSDE license, CDA, Mastery, and Association Applied Science degree I will continue to pursue employment after Jan. 2010. George Kaiser Foundation has made this degree possible. I look forward to beginning a new rewarding career. My advisor and mentor, Jenger Baker has taken her professional time and talent for my job placement. Also she has supported my CECPD Gold Director's Credentials (level 10), and Leadership Training through the University of Oklahoma. I will complete this training in Feb. 2010.

I attended both Metro and Northeast campuses, both facilities were eager and patient with students. In my mind I will recommend your facilities to anyone interested in furthering their education, Thanks

I believe TCC is a great school and I would recommend it to anyone in the Tulsa area.

I believe the Nursing division at metro, namely 4th level needs to be evaluated. Some of the instructors are less than helpful and quite hateful towards students. As a student that passed with mostly A's in TCC Nursing school. I feel that more discussion plus "Professor" time is important for students who will be working in a field that is all hands-on. Students need to talk about and discuss health issues these students will incur in their new fields of work. Videos and books are not helping to make competent, safe nurses. The level needs some revamping.

I enjoyed the TCC program I attended. The only reason I will probably not attend TCC again is because of the financial aid department. They were unorganized, unhelpful and not very knowledgeable. It was always a headache dealing with the SE Campus financial aid department.

I feel like I got a better education at TCC because of the student teacher ratio. I am a Biology major and I have to take lots of labs, the labs at TCC are so much better than OSU's

I found the class work challenging & exceptional, However the administrative staff seemed under educated in the systems in place and misinformed about degree program assistance!

I got an associate degree in Interior Design. I am currently in the Design program at OSU. The teachers in the Design program go above and beyond what is expected. I am "repeating" courses at OSU that I took at TCC. It is just a waste that Universities don't take more Design classes from TCC.

I had great English, Government and History teachers - poor counseling. About my Math - I did not have to take College Algebra! 4 counselors later and 3 years. I had two very good Spanish teachers - but not enough in class courses nor Advanced Spanish - which is what I needed. (subjunctive, literature and grammar) (I already spoke Spanish) All the online Spanish and Biology courses were a waste of my time and money. I learned next to nothing otherwise, I am grateful to have my degree even though I will have to take good grammar and sentence structure courses in Spanish elsewhere.

I had several excellent teachers at TCC: Julie Wood, Kathy Stotts, Gary Braswell, Greg Stone, Andre Willibey and Elaine Stith

I have been going to TCC West since May 2004 right out of high school. I have enjoyed being at this school and I highly recommend it. Thank you!

I have met some of the nicest professors at TCC, however, the staff in most offices is less than helpful if you go in with questions. i.e. Financial aid, career services have a bad attitude.

I liked the courses and learned a lot while attending TCC, but not once was I notified that continuing my education would require me to complete 60 hours from a 4 - year college or university to obtain a Bachelor's degree. Therefore, I wasted many semesters (and money) thinking that I would be able to apply those hours towards my Bachelor's degree. While I understand that I should have been more aware of my educational requirements, I wish someone would have given me the heads-up on what I needed to do. I do have to say that I

feel that I got a great education that allowed me to go on and pursue a Bachelor's degree.

I really enjoyed TCC. Ryan Paruch and Christa Voss were amazing teachers. I'm sure TCC Metro will miss Christa greatly. She was really amazing. Thank you!

I really enjoyed the education I received especially because I began at age 51 and went part-time for 4 years.

I thoroughly enjoyed my time spent at TCC. All of my teachers were very helpful and kind. I would consider taking extracurricular classes from TCC just to better myself personally.

I was a Tulsa Achieves student and I am very grateful that I was b/c I saved a lot of money and loved volunteering and giving back to the community

I was in the first group of Tulsa Achieves program. That was my main reason for going to TCC. It was truly a blessing. Keep it going as long as possible.

I wish TCC credits were the same as 4 year universities. Some classes don't match up so you end up taking more than what is needed.

I wish the teachers (not all but only a handful) would show a little more passion for their students as well as their subjects.

I'm not currently working in my degree field due to having very young children. So I stayed at my current job to work part-time evenings. When I do get a career in my degree field, I feel more than prepared thanks to the great education TCC gave me. I also love TCC's extra activities.

Jennifer Kneafsey, Janice O'Meilie and Chris Peeples are great assets to TCC. They are extremely knowledgeable and show a genuine interest in their students. They each did an amazing job of preparing me for the future.

Love the online classes!

Make requirements for transfer student more specific to the goals of the future school. i.e. APA writing instead of MLA.

Metro: Covered, elevated walk ways to south parking lot needed. Northeast: Sidewalk from student Union to Engineering building, better layout of picnic tables, vending machines, Healthy vending options, longer cafeteria hours., More computers in Cyber Café', Southeast: Faster access to Student Union from Math/Science building, C/C++ did not leave me ready for programming in my upper division classes, Engineering classes at Northeast too far to commute for me.

More internet classes would be nice. Also upper level classes should check other Oklahoma colleges for similar programs used in 4 - year college classes. Example: Statistics could use more EXCEL. EXCEL is a very important tool to know in statistics at OSU.

More parking, other than that, I enjoyed my experience at TCC.

Most of my teachers at TCC were very knowledgeable and inspiring!

Most teachers (including Mark Helstern at metro) go above and beyond to help their students! Only problem I ever had was with the speed and effectiveness of the financial aid department!

My experience at TCC was wonderful. The staff truly care about the students and their education. The best part though is the Tulsa Achieves program and how it provides the opportunity for so many students to attend.

Nice facility, quality teachers, and great education. A special shout out to Gen. Ed Wheeler, Prof. Jeff Holte, and Pam Imhoff. They are great!!

One major thing I was not taught at TCC was how to write in APA format. This has presented many difficulties for me, since all papers in my area have to be written in APA format, not MLA like at TCC. Also, the financial aid office and staff need to get a better system down and be more consistent on information given to students. The worst thing about TCC is the financial aid procedures, policies, staff, and records. There were many incidents during my two years attending TCC. I hope in the future this will not have to put someone else through the stress and torture I experienced on many occasions.

OSU-Tulsa requires a student to be more educational knowledge than what TCC prepares you for. Personally, I feel that TCC provides a better "learning" experience than NSU! My experience is that the 4 - year university is a more "Learn it on your own" education, opposed to TCC's instructors actually "teach" and explain the material. If TCC was a 4 year institution, I would definitely complete a Bachelors degree at TCC!

Please offer more honors classes in the evening. I could have graduated as an Honors scholar if this was made more convenient.

Quizzes and homework are very important for most engineering classes. I think instructors should obligate to provide quizzes in all engr. subject.

Should promote the reach higher program for working adults after done with TCC.

TCC employs some of the best teachers I have ever had, David Ellenberger, Wendy Eddy, Just to name a couple

TCC has great instructors as much as the universities do. Has a lot of different majors available which is a PLUS. Affordable tuition rates!

TCC helped me get back on track with my life. It was a God send for me! Thank you so much!

TCC is a great institution that in my case allowed me to start my degree at an affordable price while more importantly not having to commute to Stillwater or Norman. TCC has an exceptional staff that does prepare students for continuation at a 4 - year college. In many ways it is a better transition from high school into college because class sizes are closer to public schools. The education offered at TCC is excellent.

TCC is one of the best assets that N. E. Oklahoma possesses. With the move to OSU-Tulsa, It can be even better. I have a son attending TCC and he also enjoys the classes and campus. Your efforts to improve class offerings, especially the online ones, will be great assets!

TCC needs better course rotation and a financial aid dept that gives a ##. The graduation process needs to be fixed. I had to file for graduation twice.

TCC was a great experience for me. I am so glad that I did it. It saved me a ton of money. This is a great institution.

TCC was a wonderful place to start out for a college education

TCC was better (for me) than Syracuse University.

TCC was exceptional in teaching & support. I felt very prepared to take class at NSU. (I wish TCC was a 4 year college, I would have finished my degree with them.) Thank you!

TCC was very helpful in increasing my quality of life. The biggest drawback for me was the expense of having to purchase new books so often and getting next to nothing when I sold them back. Most of the faculty were great people.

TCC's classes need to be more theory based instead of definition based or help with theory based questions to better prepare for more college.

Thanks to Jerry Babb I am a top performer in my current studies at OSU (International Business) Great Fitness Facilities! Thank you.

Thanks to my teachers & TCC

The best instructors I had were Ivan Lurz and Dusti Sloan

The board really needs to reevaluate the useless classes that are "required". That would be huge!

The Facet center at Northeast was a huge resource for students. The tutors there were great. The Financial Aid office could never keep things current. I lost much time of enrollment due to them not processing my financial aid in time for several semesters.

The instructors at the West Campus - Conners division are caring and motivating. They continue to encourage and inspire us to be the best we can be. They don't ignore the challenges that we face but help us recognize them and seek ways to overcome or accommodate them. I am seeking to complete my associate of Science degree at TCC. There is one improvement that I could make. I believe the enrollment process needs to be done more sufficiently. There has been some improvements made this upcoming semester due to Ms. Ida Doyle's outstanding and diligent work. The enrollment went well so far for this spring enrollment.

The Music Department of TCC is phenomenal. The front office and advisors need to better know what is needed for each degree.

The teachers were willing to work with me and the office staff and councilors were wonderfully helpful.

This is one great addition to Tulsa and all who has a chance to attend here. Great!!

Very Good School! However needs to get some more good teachers and participate in Junior College Sports. JUCO football and basketball would be great! Pat Trusty is awesome!

When I entered TCC, I already had my BS & MS in a closely related field. I chose the COTA school so I could quickly retrain & be back in the workforce. Now, I am applying to Texas Women's University in Denton to bridge my COTA training to OT.

Your degree is worth about the same as the inside of a bagel. When I applied to a job at Dollar Thrifty, they laughed at me. They told me that the only thing that I could do with my diploma, was to make a paper airplane out of it. I applied to 12 different places and they all said no and this was before the economy went down the crapper. I wished that I would of went to a vocational school (like Tulsa Tech), because it would of at least cost less. Ya'll should be ashamed of ya'lls self for running such a horrendous school. Because of ya'll, I now work at McDonalds where I fry my ## off every day.

