

## **Executive Summary**

The purpose of this report is to present results from the 2013-2014 Tulsa Community College Exit Survey. The survey is administered to all students applying to graduate with a certificate or a degree at Tulsa Community College.

The Exit Survey is designed to be used by individual offices (e.g., Associate Deans, Deans, Provosts) to help implement educational objectives and track student success at Tulsa Community College. The survey was redesigned in 2006 to distinguish students' perceptions of their TCC experience and parallel TCC's general education learning goals. A factor analysis performed on preliminary results affirmed the two dimensions of the survey; the dimensions are defined as follows:

- Dimension 1: The extent to which TCC experience contributed to knowledge, skills, and personal development.
- ❖ Dimension 2: The extent to which TCC coursework emphasized critical thinking skills.

Student are also asked to indicate whether they participated in an internship, or taken developmental courses, English as a Second Language, study skills, Honors, or online courses. Further, students are asked to provide demographic information such as employment status, current salary, and parents' educational background.

- Of the 2,065 respondents:
  - o 31% indicated that they are first-generation students (neither parent attended college).
  - o Of those employed (71% of respondents), 51% indicated that they worked in their major field or a closely related field prior to graduation.
  - o 56% indicated that they are planning on continuing their education.
  - 93% selected "adequate," "more than adequate," or "exceptionally well" in response to the question, "How well did TCC prepare you for continuing your education?"
  - o 35% indicated that they have taken a developmental course at TCC.
  - o 53% indicated that they have taken an online course at TCC.
  - 81% of the respondents agreed or strongly agreed that the TCC experience has contributed to their knowledge, skills, and personal development.
  - o 85% of the respondents agreed or strongly agreed that TCC coursework emphasizes critical thinking skills.
  - The lowest percentage of agreement (68%) occurred in response to the question:
     "Contributing to the welfare of your community."
  - The highest percentage of agreement (91%) occurred in response to the question: "Acquiring a broad general education."

## **Participants and Procedure**

During the 2013-2014 academic year (Fall 2013, Spring 2014, and Summer 2014), Tulsa Community College conferred 2,552 degrees and certificates to 2,366 individuals. The Student Development Offices at each campus administered the Exit Survey to students applying for graduation during the Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters of the academic year. The survey was completed by 2,065 individuals.

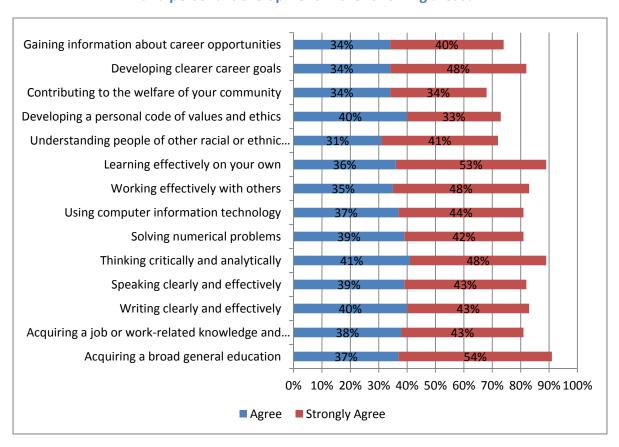
## **Results**

The Exit Survey consists of items measuring two distinct dimensions related to the TCC student experience. Results from these dimensions are reported in Figures 1 and 2. Additionally, results pertaining to particular types of courses completed are presented, followed by self-reported demographics and students' overall perceptions of TCC.

## Dimension 1:

Fourteen items were used to assess the extent to which the TCC experience contributed to students' knowledge, skills, and personal development; the vast majority of responses (81%) indicated agreement to these items. Results from each item are presented in Figure 1 below:

Figure 1: "To what extent has your experience at TCC contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?"



#### Dimension 2:

Six items were used to assess the extent to which students agree that TCC coursework emphasized critical thinking skills; a sizeable majority of responses (85%) indicated agreement to these items. Results from each item are presented in Figure 2 below.

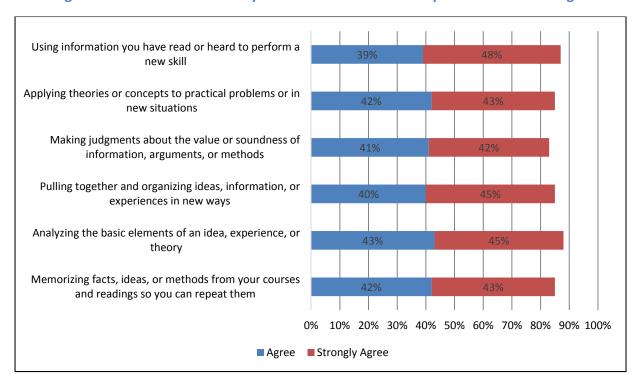


Figure 2: "To what extent did your coursework at TCC emphasize the following?"

# **Course-Type Comparisons**

Respondents also indicated whether they had taken the following specific types of courses during their TCC experience (percentage of respondents taking courses in parentheses): Online courses (53%), Developmental courses (35%), Honors courses (12%), Study Skills courses (8%), and English as a Second Language courses (1%). In addition, 19% of respondents reported that they participated in an Internship, Field Experience, Co-op Experience, or Clinical Assignment.

# Self-reported Demographics

Of the respondents, 31% indicated that they are the first generation in their family to attend college. 69% indicated the Associate degree is the highest academic credential they have earned. Of those indicating employment, 44% indicated part-time employment and 56% full-time employment. Of those respondents, 89% worked in Tulsa or Northeast Oklahoma, with 38% reporting annual salaries below \$15,000, 44% between \$15,000 and \$35,000, and 18% over \$35,000. Finally, 51% of employed respondents indicated that they were working in their major field or a closely related field.

# <u>Self-reported Educational Perceptions and Plans</u>

In addition to the two main dimensions of the survey, students were asked to respond to supplementary questions pertaining to their overall TCC experience and future educational objectives. As regards students' continuing educational objectives, 56% indicated they are continuing their education, while another 20% are not currently enrolled but plan to continue classes at some time. Moreover, when asked "How well did TCC prepare you for continuing your education?" 93% of respondents selected "adequate," "more than adequate," or "exceptionally well." Further, 88% indicated they would be "moderately likely" or "very likely" to repeat their TCC experience if given the opportunity.

See the Appendix to view the Exit Survey instrument.

# Appendix

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<ul><li>Metro</li><li>Southeast</li><li>Northeast</li><li>West</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Employed in my major field</li> <li>Employed in closely related field</li> <li>Employed in different field</li> <li>Unemployed - looking</li> <li>Unemployed - not looking</li> </ul> State: Zip:				
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Your Job Title:					
We periodically survey employers to help determine the effectiveness of training & ed your immediate supervisor for such a survey, please indicate the following:	lucation at TCC. If we may contact				
Supervisor's Name:					
Supervisor's Job Title:					
Employment Status: Estimate of Annual Salary: Employment Location	If you had it to do over, on: would you go to TCC again?				
① Full-time       ① Below \$15,000       ③ 25,000-29,999       ① In Tulsa Area         ② Part-time       ② 15,000-19,999       ⑤ 30,000-35,000       ② In Northeast Oklah         ③ N/A       ③ 20,000-24,999       ⑥ Above \$35,000       ③ Elsewhere in Okla         ④ Outside Oklahoma	homa ③ moderately likely				
How well did TCC prepare you for continuing your education? What is the highest	academic credential you have earned?				
<ul> <li>Very poorly</li> <li>Less than adequate</li> <li>Associate degree</li> <li>Exceptionally well</li> <li>Adequate</li> <li>Unable to judge</li> <li>Associate degree</li> <li>Bachelor's degree</li> <li>Master's/doctors</li> </ul>					
	response best describes its' educational background?				
<ul> <li>Continuing at 4-year institution outside Oklahoma</li> <li>Continuing at 2-year Oklahoma institution</li> <li>At least one par</li> <li>At least one par</li> </ul>					
Please use this space to provide any additional information about TCC:					

If you have questions regarding this survey, please contact the Office of Institutional Research at (918) 595-7925 or john.bruce@tulsacc.edu Os