Graduate Student Experience Survey
February 8th – 29th

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Overview of the Survey

- Georgia Tech’s first-ever comprehensive survey of the graduate student experience

**Topics Covered**
- Advising and mentoring
- Finances
- Qualify of academics, teaching, and qualifying exams
- Mandatory student fees
- Time spent on research, teaching, schoolwork, and sleep during typical week
- Sources of stress and support

**Demographics**
- Degree type
- School & program of Study
- Enrollment year
- Citizenship
- Gender
- Sexual orientation
- Number of dependents
- Post-graduate interests
Why should Deans, Chairs, and Faculty motivate students to take the survey?

• Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) had **concerns with our graduate student assessment** for which school chairs are responsible

• Will provide **metrics of performance** of the colleges and schools with **more fidelity and currency** than ever before

• Survey was **synthesized from well-established graduate student surveys** from Princeton¹ and Berkeley² and then **adapted to our campus** through the Survey Development Committee

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¹ [https://www.princeton.edu/provost/institutional-research/survey-information/survey-questionnaires/](https://www.princeton.edu/provost/institutional-research/survey-information/survey-questionnaires/)
² [http://ga.berkeley.edu/wellbeingreport/](http://ga.berkeley.edu/wellbeingreport/)
Why should students take the survey?

• Results will go to people who can **make a difference on campus:**
  • President Peterson; Provost Bras; Vice Provost of Graduate Education and Faculty Affairs, Dr. Cozzens; Deans and Chairs; etc.

• We are asking the questions **most relevant** to their lives:
  • Finances, work-life balance, stress, fees, advising and mentoring, quality of academics, and qualifying exams.

• There are multiple opportunities for **open comments**

• Total time of survey is approximately **15 minutes**

• The results will be **confidential**

• Summaries of the **results by school/program** will be provided to all students
Advertising, Marketing, and Incentives

• Advertising
  • Student-wide emails from President Peterson and others
  • Flyers @ Brown Bag Talks, Meetings, Student Center, GT Night at the Aquarium
  • Tabling at Student Center – daily during the survey
  • TV ads within buildings

• Incentives:
  • Food and Space:
    • Host survey-taking sessions within schools with food
      • Graduate Senators work with their schools and programs to reserve rooms and purchase food
  • $50 Amazon Gift Cards:
    • Weekly drawings for $50 Amazon Gift Cards for those who complete the survey
  • Results Summaries:
    • Summaries of results by school/program of study will be made available to students
What can you do to help?

• Set-up in-house/within-school survey with food
  • Graduate Senators will be contacting graduate advisory groups, Chairs, and Graduate Coordinators to set these up
  • Support the groups financially and logistically

• Advertise the survey and your school/program’s progress
  • We will send an emails with all the necessary advertisements
  • Advertise in your newsletters
  • Our website will have weekly progress updates of the % student completion
    • [http://sga.gatech.edu/g/gradsurvey/](http://sga.gatech.edu/g/gradsurvey/)

• Let us know if there’s more we can do to market/advertise
Survey Development Committee and Reviewers

• Students
  • Marc Canellas (President, Grad SGA & PhD Candidate in Aerospace Engineering)
  • Thomas Gable (VP for Academic Affairs, Grad SGA & PhD Candidate in Psychology)
  • Matthew Miller (Executive VP, Grad SGA & PhD Candidate in Aerospace Engineering)

• Staff
  • Marisa Atencio (Director of International Student and Scholar Services, Office of International Education)
  • James Black (Special Projects Coordinator, Office of Graduate Studies, & Former President, Grad SGA)
  • David Bamburowski (Director, Office of Graduate Studies)
  • Susan Cozzens (Vice Provost for Graduate Education and Faculty Affairs & Professor of Public Policy)
  • Joe Ludlum (Coordinator of Survey Research, Office of Assessment)
  • David Mills (Mills Consulting Group, Inc.)
  • Krystal Meares (Graduate Student Services Coordinator, Counseling Center)
  • Caroline Noyes (Interim Director, Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning)
  • Ruperto Perez (Director, Counseling Center)
  • Kathi Wallace (Director of Market Research, Institute Communications)

Jan. 26, 2016

On January 12, 2016, the 50 members of the Graduate Student Senate took the survey to ensure clarity and relevance of the questions. Edits were made based on their review.