

SENIOR SURVEY – SPRING 2016 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

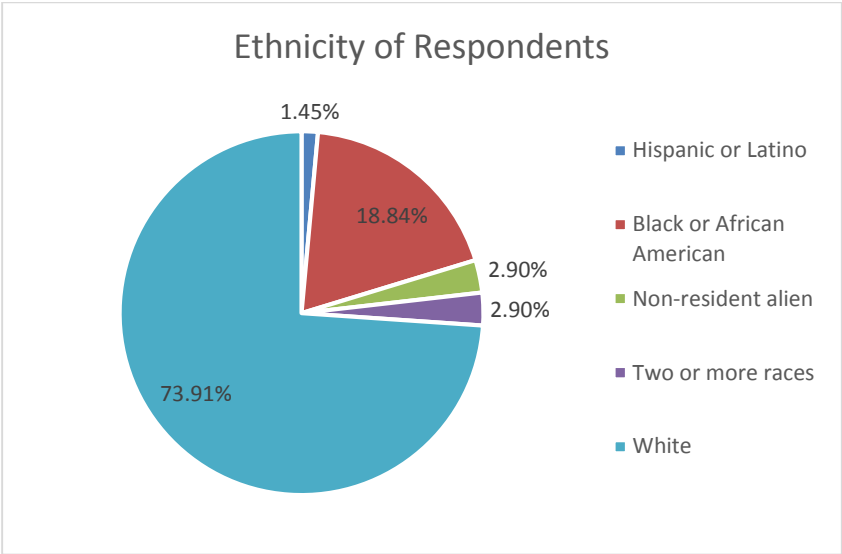
The Senior Survey is designed as an exit survey for graduating seniors. It focuses on a broad range of college outcomes and post-college goals and plans and it provides the college with a framework to make positive changes in the services and educational opportunities provided to our students.

All students who were scheduled to participate in the May graduation ceremony (December, May and August graduates) were sent the survey in an electronic format to their Barton College email address on April 27, 2016 (n=216) using Class Climate survey software. The solicitation email was sent by the Office of Institutional Research. One follow-up email was sent to students from the Office of Institutional Research if they had not filled out the survey (May 5, 2016). A total of 69 students responded to the survey resulting in a response rate of thirty-two percent, a drop from the Spring 2015 response rate of 47% but comparable to the Spring 2014 response rate of 30%. In the future, the Senior Survey should be sent in mid-March, with 3-4 reminder emails being scheduled.

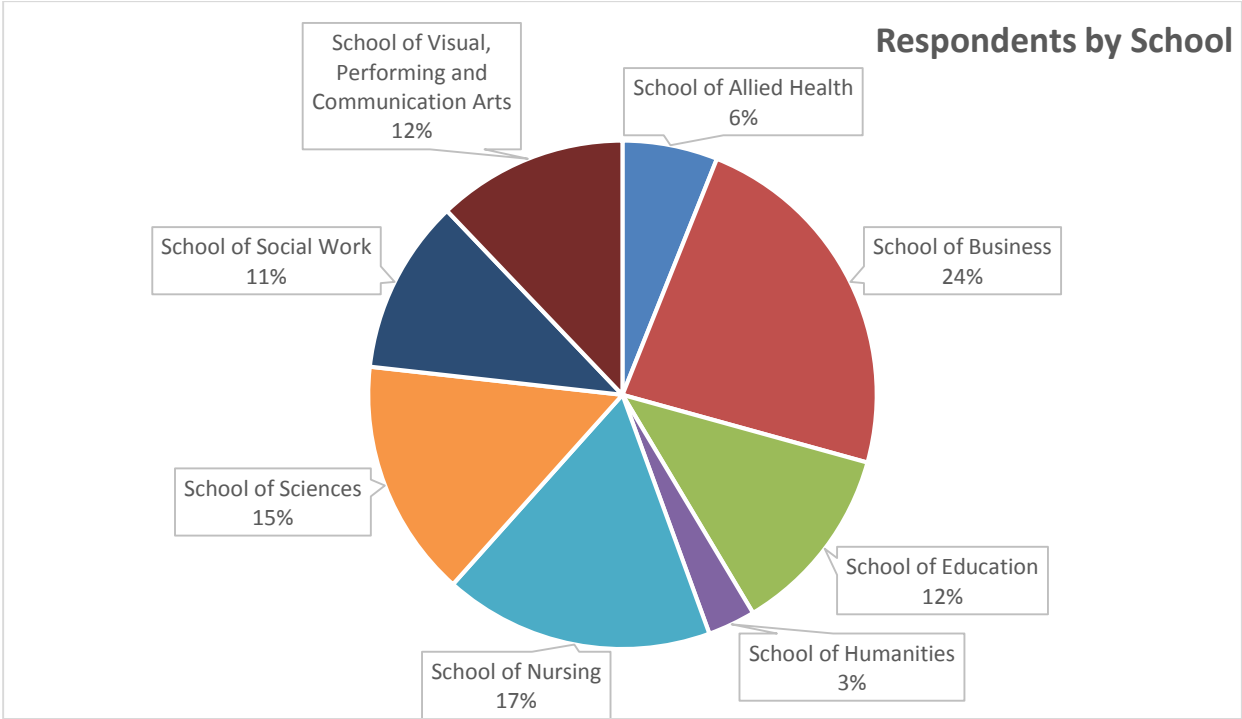
The senior survey instrument was revised by the Office of Institutional Research in Spring 2016, with goals of shortening the survey and adding additional focus on questions about the major. Questions regarding services provided by the various college offices, e.g. the Office of Student Success, the Office of Student Affairs, the Registrar's Office, the Financial Aid Office, the Business Office, Hackney Library and Information Technology, were consolidated into a common section of the survey.

DEMOGRAPHICS OF THE RESPONDENTS

- 73% of the respondents were female and 27% of the respondents were male. There was a higher than average female participation rate since the overall population consisted of 68% female and 32% male students.
- 87% of the respondents were full-time traditional students while 13% of the survey respondents were students in the Accelerated Professional Program.
- 48.5% of the respondents entered Barton College in 2012, 19.1% entered in 2013, 20.6% entered in 2014 and 2.9% entered in 2015. 8.8% of the respondents were "super-seniors" who came to Barton in 2011 or earlier.
- 95.5% of the respondents graduated in May, 3% graduated in December, and 1.5% indicated an "other" graduation date.
- While a senior, 53.7% of the respondents lived off-campus in a room or apartment; 28.4% lived with their parents and 17.9% lived in a residence hall.
- 28% of the respondents reported that neither parent attended college and 9% of the respondents reported at least 1 parent whose highest educational level was unknown.
- 19% of the seniors reported that both parents have a 4-year degree or higher.

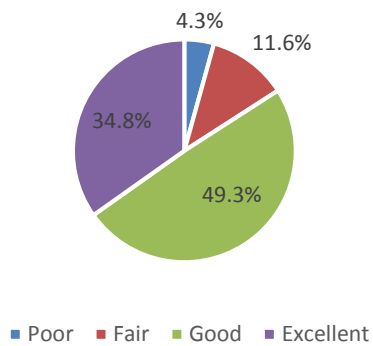


- 97% of the respondents used their own computer while attending Barton; A variety of computing devices were used to complete assignments, including personal PC laptop (68%); personal MAC laptop (36%); personal PC desktop (17%); personal MAC desktop (4%); personal tablet (22%); Barton-owned laptop (28%); and Barton-owned desktop (46%).

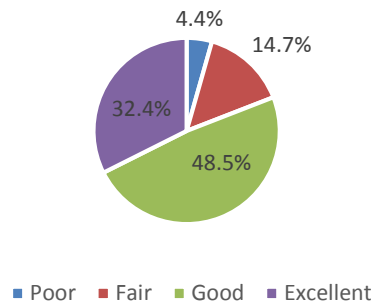


FEEDBACK ABOUT THE MAJOR

Overall quality of the major

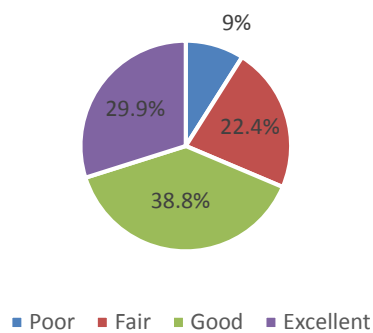


Instruction in 300-400 level courses in the major

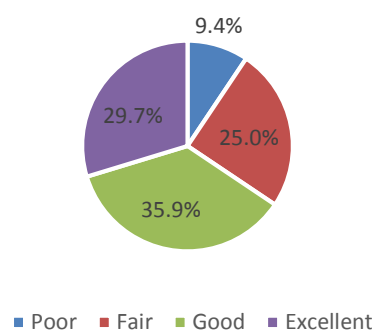


- An overwhelming majority of the respondents (84%) rated the overall quality of the major as good or excellent.
- Feedback about instruction in the 300-400 level courses in the major was also overwhelmingly positive (80.9%).

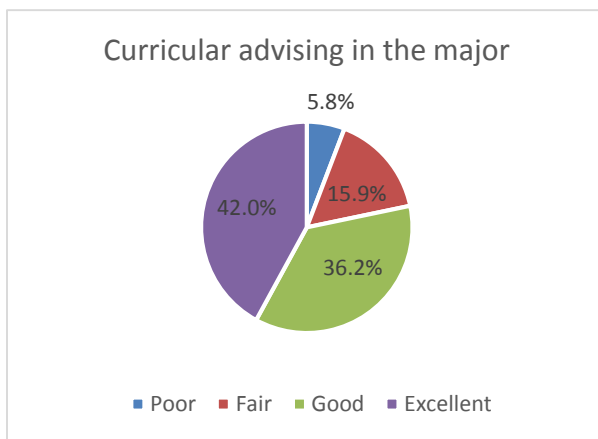
Major courses as preparation for employment after graduation



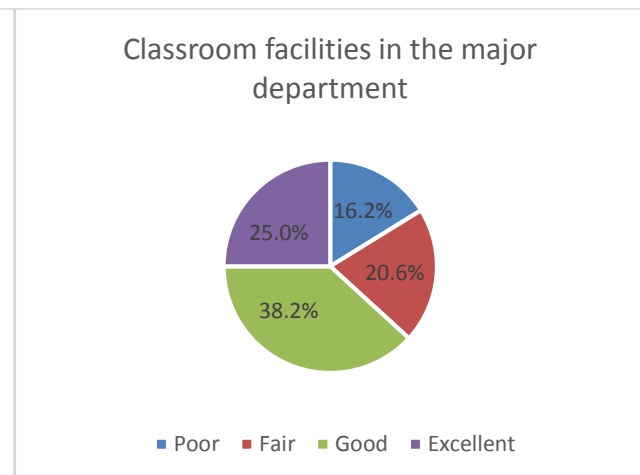
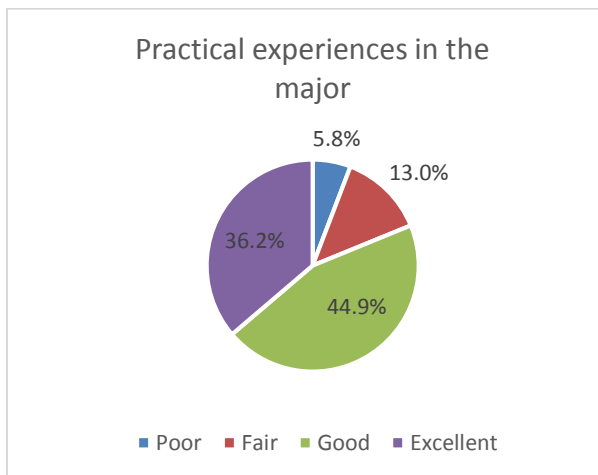
Major courses as preparation for graduate or professional school



- Respondents were somewhat less positive in their feedback about major courses as preparation for employment after graduation (68% rated this category as good or excellent) or as preparation for graduate or professional school (66% gave this category a good or excellent rating).

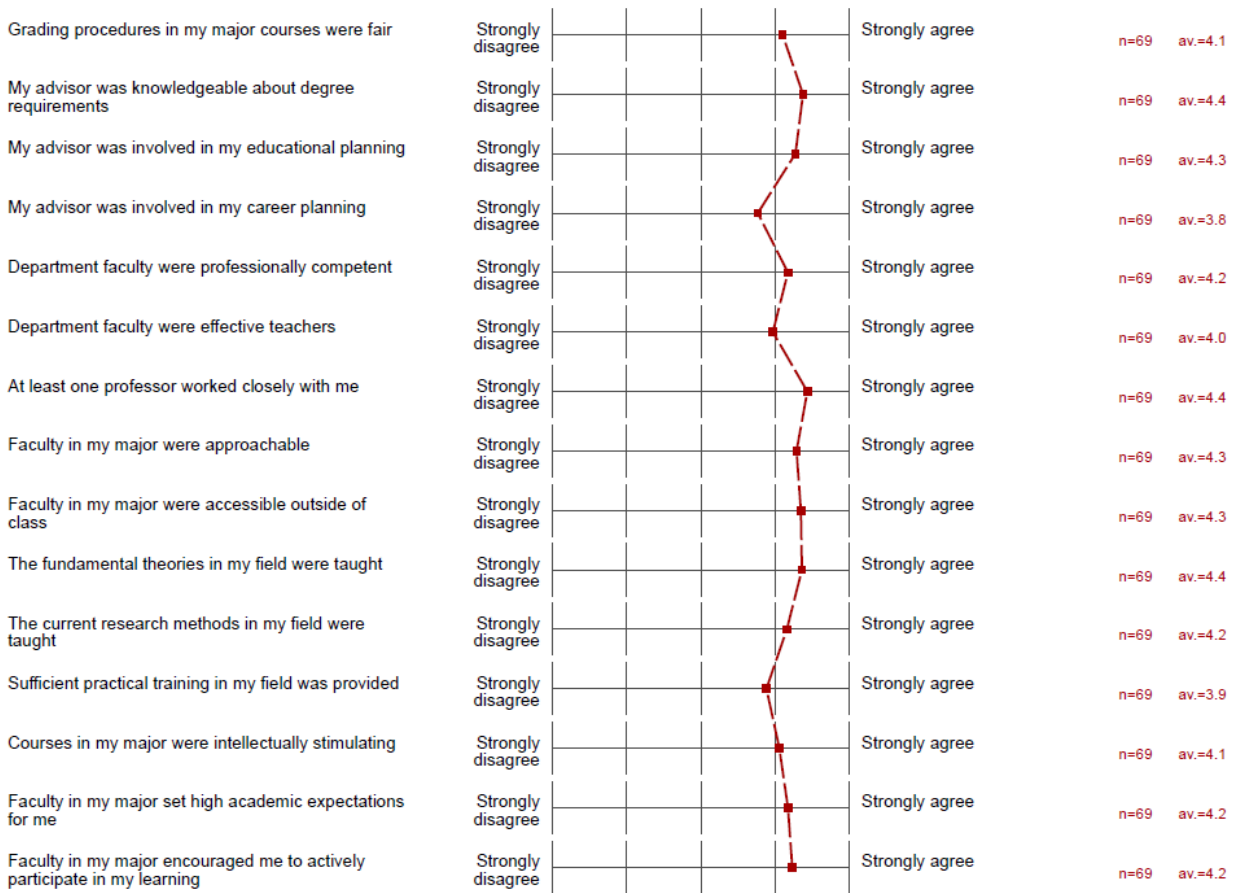


- 78% rated curricular advising in the major as either good or excellent.
- 70% rated career advising in the major as either good or excellent.



- Practical experiences in the major received very positive feedback with 81% assigning a good or excellent rating to the category.
- Approximately two-thirds of the respondents responded that the classroom facilities in the department were good or excellent.
- 76.6% of the respondents reported that laboratory/studio facilities in the major were adequate, while 14.1% selected “more than adequate” as their response. 9.4% indicated that laboratory/studio facilities in the major were inadequate.
- 62.1% of the respondents reported that library books, resources and reference materials in the major were adequate, while 31.8% selected “more than adequate” as their response. 6.1% indicated that library books, resources and reference materials in the major were inadequate.
- 61.2% of the respondents reported that computer facilities in the major were adequate, while 25.4% selected “more than adequate” as their response. 13.4% of the respondents reported that computer facilities in their major were inadequate.

FEEDBACK TO STATEMENTS ABOUT THE MAJOR (on a scale of 1-5)



- The only areas with an average response of less than 4 were in reference to advisors' involvement in career planning (3.8 avg. rating) and in response to the statement: "sufficient practical training in my field was provided" (3.9 avg. rating).
- Overall, feedback to the statements about the majors was very positive.

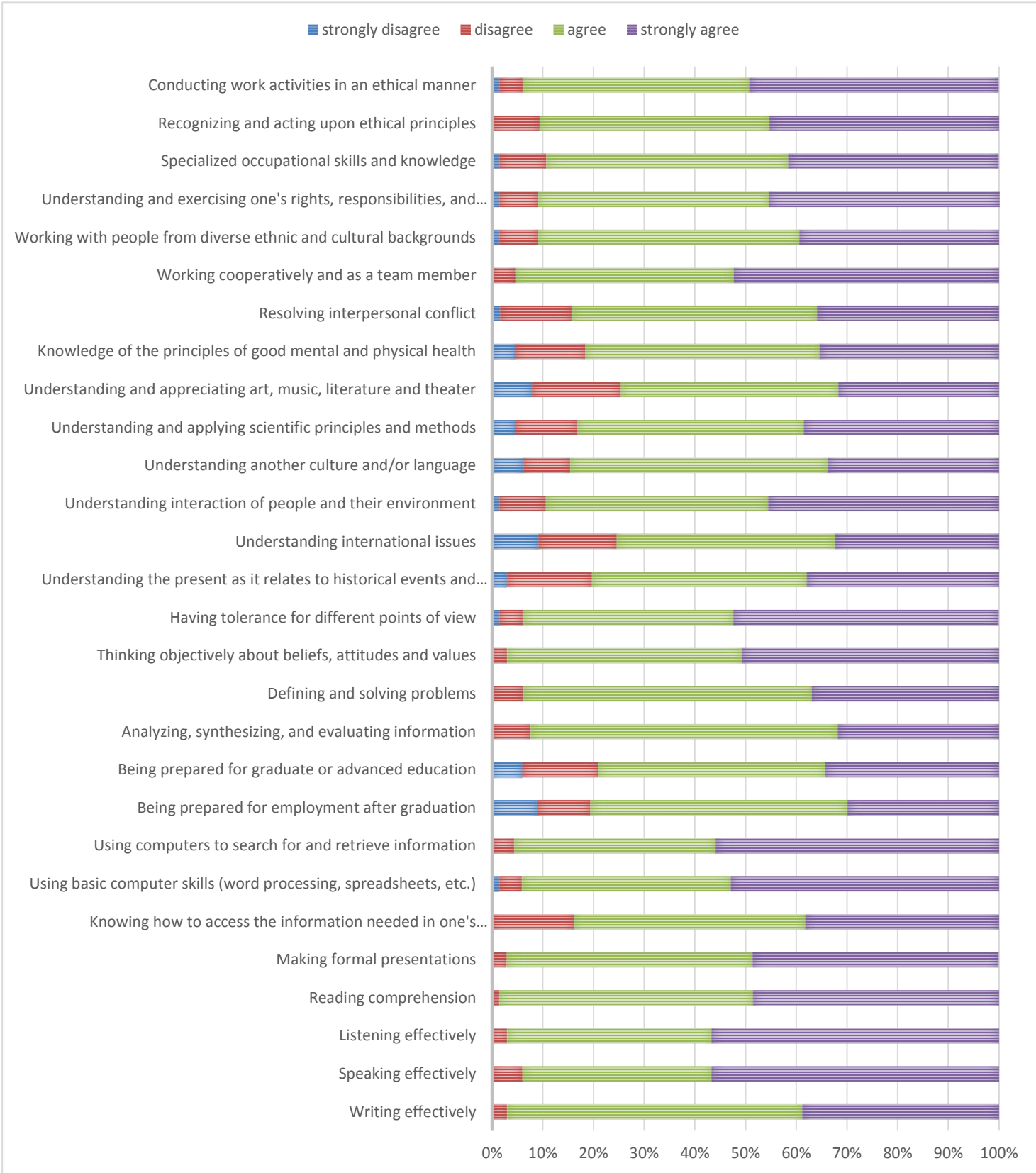
ACADEMIC BEHAVIORS IN THE MAJORS

How often in the major respondents:

	Never	Infrequently	Occasionally	Frequently
Applied concepts learned to solve actual problems		8.7%	37.7%	53.6%
Expressed ideas in writing in major courses	1.4%	7.2%	34.8%	56.5%
Expressed ideas orally in major courses		4.3%	37.7%	58.0%
Conducted or assisted in a research project	7.4%	5.9%	44.1%	42.6%
Had a faculty member express special interest in the respondent's progress	2.9%	17.6%	23.5%	55.9%

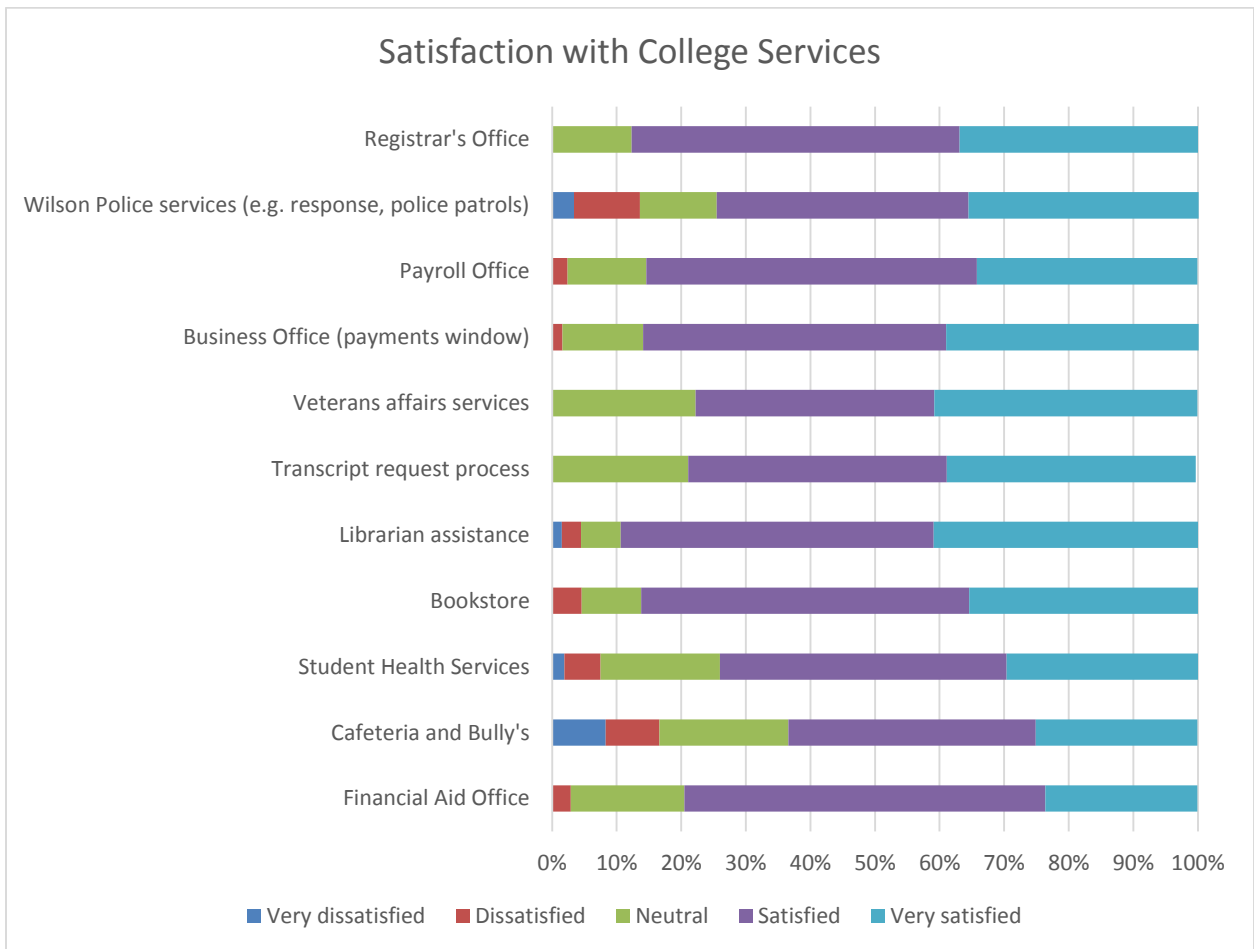
- More than half of the respondents replied that they had frequently applied concepts to solve problems, expressed ideas orally and in writing, and had a faculty member show interest in their progress.
- 20% indicated that a faculty member had never or infrequently expressed special interest in their progress.

FEEDBACK REGARDING BARTON COLLEGE PREPARATION



- At least 97% of the respondents agree or strongly agree that their Barton education prepared them to write effectively, listen effectively, make formal presentations, think objectively about beliefs, attitudes and values, and improved their reading comprehension.
- 20.9 % of the respondents strongly disagreed or disagreed that their Barton education prepared them for graduate or advanced education.
- 24.6% of the respondents strongly disagreed or disagreed that their Barton education prepared them for understanding international issues.
- 25.4% of the respondents strongly disagreed or disagreed that their Barton education prepared them for understanding and appreciating art, music, literature, and theater.
- Only 29.9% strongly agreed that their Barton education prepared them for employment after graduation, the lowest rating in the strongly agree column.

COLLEGE OFFICES AND SERVICES

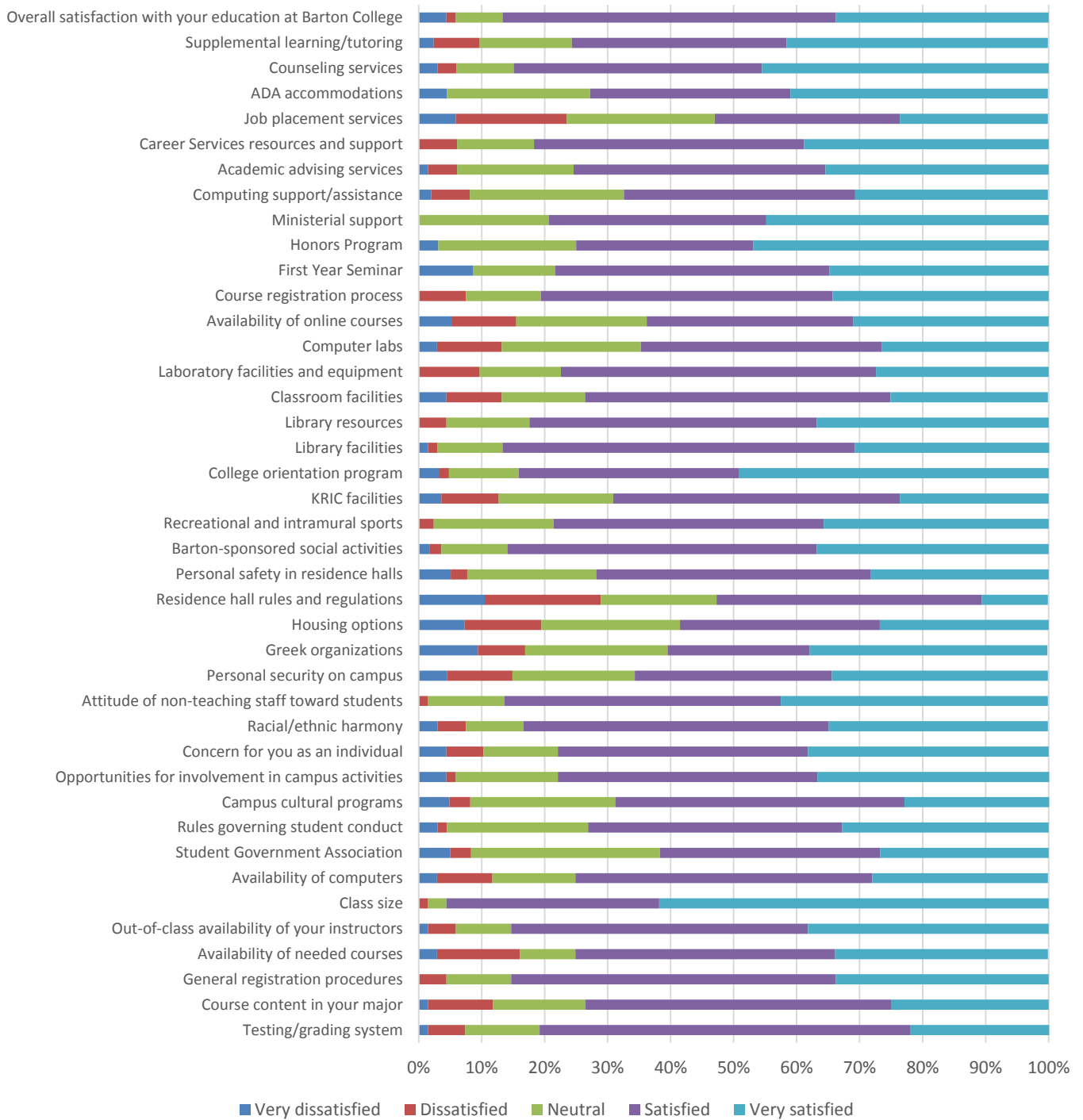


- The service areas of least satisfaction were the Cafeteria and Bully's and Wilson Police services. 16.6% of the respondents rated their satisfaction with the Cafeteria and Bully's as either very dissatisfied or dissatisfied while 13.6% of the respondents rated their satisfaction with Wilson Police services as either very dissatisfied or dissatisfied

- Overall, seniors were very positive about five of the 11 areas surveyed. At least 85% of the respondents rated their satisfaction with librarian assistance, the Business Office, the Bookstore, the Payroll Office and the Registrar's Office as either satisfied or very satisfied.
- At least 40% of the respondents rated their satisfaction with librarian assistance and Veterans Affairs services as very satisfied.
- Only the Cafeteria and Bully's had a satisfaction rating of satisfied or very satisfied of less than 74%.

ELEMENTS OF THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Satisfaction with Elements of the Student Experience



- Over 85% of the respondents rated their satisfaction with the following categories/areas as being either satisfied or very satisfied: general registration procedures; attitude of non-teaching staff towards students; Barton-sponsored social activities; library facilities; and overall satisfaction with their education at Barton.
- 95.6% of students indicated that they were either satisfied or very satisfied with class size at Barton.
- In terms of lowest levels of satisfaction, 28.9% of the respondents were either very dissatisfied or dissatisfied with the residence hall rules and regulations and 23.5% of the respondents were either very dissatisfied or dissatisfied with job placement services.

USE OF TIME AS SENIORS

Time Spent During a Typical Week:

	none	less than 1 hour	1-2 hours	3-5 hours	6-10 hours	11-15 hours	16-20 hours	over 20 hours
Studying/homework	0.0%	1.4%	13.0%	23.2%	29.0%	20.3%	5.8%	7.2%
Attending classes/labs	0.0%	0.0%	7.4%	11.8%	22.1%	29.4%	20.6%	8.8%
Exercising/sports	17.6%	13.2%	23.5%	23.5%	7.4%	4.4%	0.0%	10.3%
Partying	47.8%	21.7%	13.0%	13.0%	1.4%	2.9%	0.0%	0.0%
Socializing with friends	4.3%	8.7%	34.8%	27.5%	10.1%	5.8%	2.9%	5.8%
Working (for pay) on campus	59.4%	2.9%	17.4%	10.1%	7.2%	2.9%	0.0%	0.0%
Working (for pay) off campus	50.7%	0.0%	4.3%	4.3%	5.8%	2.9%	4.3%	27.5%
Participating in student clubs/groups	46.4%	14.5%	15.9%	13.0%	7.2%	1.4%	0.0%	1.4%
Watching TV	8.8%	13.2%	22.1%	33.8%	10.3%	7.4%	0.0%	4.4%
Providing childcare	81.2%	0.0%	4.3%	2.9%	0.0%	1.4%	0.0%	10.0%
Commuting	20.3%	21.7%	17.4%	18.8%	14.5%	2.9%	1.4%	2.9%
Praying/meditating	36.2%	21.7%	18.8%	5.8%	5.8%	2.9%	4.3%	4.3%
Career planning (job searches, internships, etc.)	7.2%	17.4%	24.6%	24.6%	8.7%	4.3%	1.4%	11.6%
Online social networks (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)	13.0%	15.9%	18.8%	30.4%	11.6%	5.8%	1.4%	2.9%

- Over half of the seniors reported that they spend no time each week working for pay on or off campus or providing childcare.
- 47.8% reported that they spend no time partying and 46.4% spend no time participating in student clubs or groups.
- Most students worked for pay off-campus, and these students worked more hours with a majority indicating they worked at least 20 hours per week.
- Only 40% of the students polled indicated they worked on-campus, and a majority of respondents only worked between 1 to 5 hours each week.
- 46% of seniors indicated they devoted no time to clubs or organizations, but 33% said they spent 3-5 hours a week watching tv.
- On a weekly basis more students spend 3-5 hours on online social networks (30.4%) than they do socializing with friends (27.5%).
- One-third of the seniors spend more than 10 hours each week studying and doing homework.

Commuting

- Most of the senior respondents lived close to the college because only 7% spent more than 10 hours commuting each week. Of the remaining seniors, 33% spent between 3 to 10 hours commuting. The remainder either lived on-campus or lived within a 30 minute drive to the college.

Career Planning

- 50% of the seniors devoted more than 2 hours a week to career planning, including job searches and internships.

Employment

In the coming year, 78% of seniors planned to be working full time and 26% plan on attending graduate/professional school.

The current employment plans from graduates are as follows:

- 27% have already found a job.
- 57% are looking for a job.
- 11% will begin looking for a job after graduation.
- 4.8% are not planning to be employed after graduation.

Choosing or Recommending Barton College

76% polled said they would or probably would choose Barton College if they had the decision to make again (Down from 82% in 2015.). Another 80% said they would recommend Barton College to a friend or family member.