

## University of Colorado Colorado Springs: 2011 Graduate Alumni Survey Report

Prepared by the Office of Institutional Research, July 11, 2012

The Office of Institutional Research electronically administered the 2010-2011 Graduate Alumni Survey in February 2012. The survey population was derived from students who completed a graduate degree in either Fall 2010 or Spring 2012. The total number of alumni surveyed was 569 with 103 graduates responding. The survey completion rate was 18%. Open ended responses have been recoded and reported in aggregate to protect the confidentiality of the respondents.

### What degree or degrees did you receive? Please check all that apply.

Answer	N	%
Social Science/Humanities (MA)	12	12%
Education (MA & PhD)	21	20%
Business Administration (MBA)	35	34%
Engineering/Computer Science (PhD, ME or MS)	8	8%
Public Administration (MPA)	10	10%
Nursing/Health SCI (DNP, MS or MSN)	8	8%
Interdisciplinary Sciences (MSc), Math, or Other Science	9	9%






### How do you maintain connections with the department in which you were enrolled?

Answer	N	%
Through a faculty member in my department	27	29%
Through the department head/program chair	16	17%
Through Alumni Activities on campus	10	11%
Through my academic advisor	11	12%
I do not maintain a connection	42	45%
Other	8	9%

#### Other

LinkedIn  
 Facebook  
 Alumni Network  
 Classes/ classmates

### How often do you visit campus?




Answer		Response	%
Three or more times per year		22	23%
Two to three times per year		14	15%
Once per year		13	14%
Every few years		9	10%
Never		36	38%
<b>Total</b>		<b>94</b>	<b>100%</b>

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	5
Mean	2.76
Variance	2.68
Standard Deviation	1.64
Total Responses	94

### Please tell us why you visit campus:

Response	N	%
Attend events	11	30%
Employment	10	27%
Use campus resources	9	24%
Visit faculty	4	11%
Enrolled in courses	3	8%










### During your graduate studies at UCCS, were you a full-time student?

Answer		N	%
Yes		67	71%
Sometimes		7	7%
No		20	21%
<b>Total</b>		<b>94</b>	<b>100%</b>

**In addition to your program at UCCS, did you earn a master's degree or doctoral degree elsewhere?**

Answer		N	%
Yes		16	17%
No		78	83%
<b>Total</b>		<b>94</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Please indicate the academic discipline of Master's or Doctoral Degree that you earned elsewhere.**

Answer		Response	%
Engineering/Computer Science		2	14%
Law		1	7%
Medicine/Nursing/Health Sciences/ Dentistry		3	21%
Education		1	7%
Business		3	21%
Public Affairs		2	14%
Social Science		1	7%
Natural Science		1	7%
Other		2	14%

**What would you have done had you not attended UCCS as part of your graduate program?**

Answer		N	%
I would have attended a different graduate program in my immediate area.		29	24%
I would have enrolled in an on-line graduate program.		19	16%
I would have attended a graduate program outside of the Colorado Springs metro area.		30	25%
I would have delayed attending graduate school.		21	17%
I would not have attended graduate school anywhere.		10	8%
Other		13	11%













**After graduating from UCCS, did you enter the job market in a field related to your graduate degree?**

Answer	N	%
I already had a job related to my graduate degree	49	53%
Yes, within six months of graduation.	20	22%
Yes, within one year of graduation.	5	5%
Yes, within two years of graduation.	0	0%
I entered the job market, but not in a field related to my graduate degree	8	9%
I did not enter the job market.	6	6%
I did not enter the job market because I was not seeking employment.	5	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Are you currently employed?**

Answer	N	%
Yes, full time.	75	81%
Yes, part time.	11	12%
No, but seeking employment.	4	4%
No, and not seeking employment.	3	3%
I am retired	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>100%</b>

### What is your current annual salary?

Answer		N	%
Less than \$20,000		11	13%
\$20,000 to \$29,999		6	7%
\$30,000 to \$39,999		14	17%
\$40,000 to \$49,999		13	16%
\$50,000 to \$59,999		5	6%
\$60,000 to \$69,999		3	4%
\$70,000 to \$79,999		7	8%
\$80,000 to \$89,999		7	8%
\$90,000 to \$99,999		4	5%
\$100,000 to \$129,999		10	12%
\$130,000 to \$149,999		1	1%
\$150,000 or more		2	2%
<b>Total</b>		<b>83</b>	<b>100%</b>

Please estimate what you think your salary might be had you not earned a graduate degree from UCCS.





Answer		N	%
Less than \$20,000		10	12%
\$20,000 to \$29,999		13	16%
\$30,000 to \$39,999		10	12%
\$40,000 to \$49,999		9	11%
\$50,000 to \$59,999		9	11%
\$60,000 to \$69,999		3	4%
\$70,000 to \$79,999		5	6%
\$80,000 to \$89,999		5	6%
\$90,000 to \$99,999		5	6%
\$100,000 to \$129,999		11	14%
\$130,000 to \$149,999		0	0%
\$150,000 or more		1	1%
<b>Total</b>		<b>81</b>	<b>100%</b>

In which sector of the economy is your employment (primary position)?


Answer		N	%
Agricultural		1	1%
Construction		0	0%
Education		24	28%
Engineering		8	9%
Finance		3	3%
Government		9	10%
Insurance/Real Estate		2	2%
Law		0	0%
Manufacturing		5	6%
Medicine/Nursing/Health		11	13%
Military		7	8%
Non-Profit or Non-governmental organization (NGO)		9	10%
Retail or Wholesale		2	2%
Technology or Computer Science		5	6%

Other		11	13%
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### Where was your primary residence immediately after graduation?

Answer		N	%
In Colorado Springs/or surrounding areas.		56	63%
Outside of Colorado Springs, but in Colorado		14	16%
Outside of Colorado		12	13%
Outside of the U.S.		7	8%
<b>Total</b>		<b>89</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Have you relocated since graduation?

Answer		N	%
Yes		26	29%
No		63	71%
<b>Total</b>		<b>89</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Please tell us why you decided to relocate.

Response	N	%
Employment	10	40%
Spouse/Partner	5	20%
Military	4	16%
To continue education	3	12%
To be closer to family	3	12%

### How would you rate the quality in the following areas?

Question	excellent	good	fair	poor	very poor	N	Mean
Primary College of Academic Work	27	45	14	0	1	87	1.89
Overall Instruction	31	40	11	3	1	86	1.87
Academic Challenge or Rigor	23	39	20	4	0	86	2.06



Statistic	Primary College of Academic Work	Overall Instruction	Academic Challenge or Rigor
Min Value	1	1	1
Max Value	5	5	4
Mean	1.89	1.87	2.06
Variance	0.57	0.72	0.69
Standard Deviation	0.75	0.85	0.83
<b>N</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>86</b>

Please indicate your level of agreement that corresponds to each statement below.

Question	strongly agree	agree	neither agree or disagree	disagree	strongly disagree	N	Mean
I learned the technical skills expected in my degree program.	20	56	4	4	2	86	1.98
I learned the theoretical foundations expected in my degree program.	35	43	6	1	2	87	1.76
My studies at UCCS met the educational goals I had in mind when I enrolled.	27	46	7	2	4	86	1.95
My studies at UCCS helped me get a job.	19	15	19	6	6	65	2.46
UCCS prepared me well for my field of specialization.	14	45	17	2	4	82	2.23
Overall, I am satisfied with the education I received at UCCS.	28	45	7	3	3	86	1.93
I would recommend UCCS to a prospective student.	28	41	11	1	4	85	1.96

Statistic	I learned the technical skills expected in my degree program.	I learned the theoretical foundations expected in my degree program.	My studies at UCCS met the educational goals I had in mind when I enrolled.	My studies at UCCS helped me get a job.	UCCS prepared me well for my field of specialization.	Overall, I am satisfied with the education I received at UCCS.	I would recommend UCCS to a prospective student.
Min Value	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Max Value	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Mean	1.98	1.76	1.95	2.46	2.23	1.93	1.96
Variance	0.68	0.67	0.92	1.60	0.87	0.87	0.94
Standard Deviation	0.83	0.82	0.96	1.26	0.93	0.93	0.97
<b>N</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>85</b>

**How would you rate the overall quality of your education at UCCS, in the following areas?**

Question	excellent	good	fair	poor	very poor	N	Mean
Oral Communication	24	39	14	3	1	81	1.99
Quantitative Skills	26	37	15	4	0	82	1.96
Scientific Reasoning	18	35	22	2	1	78	2.14
Qualitative Skills	28	42	13	0	1	84	1.86
Analytical Reasoning	31	36	15	2	0	84	1.86
Reading Skills	23	36	15	1	1	76	1.96
Writing Skills	30	36	12	2	1	81	1.86
Problem Solving Skills	32	38	12	1	0	83	1.78
Computer Skills	10	40	24	2	1	77	2.27
Multicultural Awareness (sensitivity to others unlike you)	30	22	17	1	3	73	1.97

**Approximately, how long did it take to complete your graduate education?**

Answer		N	%
two years or fewer		41	48%
three years		24	28%
four years		10	12%
five or more years		10	12%
Total		85	100%

**What one piece of advice would you give to a new graduate student at UCCS (top 5 responses)?**

- Develop relationships with your faculty
- Gather practical experience/ look for internships
- Take your time
- Network
- Get to know your cohort/peers

**Please rate the quality of services you feel you received from the following departments while attending UCCS.**

Question	excellent	good	fair	poor	very poor	N	Mean
Admissions and Records	21	42	10	10	0	83	2.11
Advising in your major or degree program	22	32	20	3	3	80	2.16
Advising in the Student Success Center	9	14	10	3	1	37	2.27
Disability Services	3	5	1	0	0	9	1.78
Campus Housing	2	6	3	0	0	11	2.09
Campus Recreation Center	11	17	4	0	0	32	1.78
Student Orientation	8	14	8	5	0	35	2.29
Family Development Center	2	3	1	0	0	6	1.83
Financial Aid/Student Employment	9	27	13	3	3	55	2.35
Information Technology (IT)	15	37	20	3	0	75	2.15
Multicultural Office for Student Access, Inclusiveness, and Community	7	14	1	1	1	24	1.96
Office of Campus Activities	5	14	5	0	0	24	2.00
Tutoring/Excel Learning Centers	12	10	2	0	0	24	1.58
UCCS Bookstore	13	47	17	1	0	78	2.08
UCCS Career Center	3	13	4	1	0	21	2.14
UCCS Health Center	9	13	3	0	0	25	1.76
UCCS Public Safety	11	23	7	3	1	45	2.11
University Testing Center	3	8	3	0	0	14	2.00
Veteran and Military Affairs Office	6	5	2	0	1	14	1.93

**In your opinion, what was the single most important advantage of going to UCCS (top 5 responses)?**

Location  
 Convenience  
 Access and quality of faculty  
 High academic standards

Cost  
Class size

**In your opinion, what was the single most important disadvantage of going to UCCS (top 3 responses)?**

Lack of resources and opportunities for graduate students  
Disorganization  
Lack of diversity in the community







**Approximately how many faculty members took an interest in your educational and career goals?**

Answer		N	%
none		13	15%
one		11	13%
two		18	21%
three or more		42	50%
<b>Total</b>		<b>84</b>	<b>100%</b>



**Did you work off campus while enrolled at UCCS?**

Answer		N	%
Yes, Full-time		52	61%
Yes, Part-time		17	20%
No		16	19%
<b>Total</b>		<b>85</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Are you affiliated with the military?

Answer		N	%
I am a member of the military		6	7%
I am a veteran		5	6%
My spouse is in the military		8	9%
My mother or father is/was in the military		9	11%
No, I am not affiliated with the military		58	68%
Other		5	6%

### Were you a Colorado resident when you started at UCCS?

Answer		N	%
Yes		65	76%
No		21	24%
Total		86	100%








### Why did you choose to attend UCCS (top 5 responses)?

Location
Program
Cost
Offered Distance Education
Availability/convenience

### Your gender is?

Answer		N	%
Male		32	38%
Female		52	62%
Transgender		0	0%

**Your primary ethnic group is:**

Answer		N	%
Nonresident Alien		2	2%
Race or Ethnicity Unknown		1	1%
Hispanic		6	7%
American Indian or Alaska Native		0	0%
Asian		1	1%
Black or African American		3	4%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander		0	0%
White		66	79%
Two or more races		5	6%
<b>Total</b>		<b>84</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Are you a first-generation student?**

Answer		N	%
Yes		34	40%
No		50	60%
<b>Total</b>		<b>84</b>	<b>100%</b>

Please mark the level of education achieved by your parent(s) and or step-parent(s) if applicable:

Question	mother	father	stepmother	stepfather	N
Don't Know	0	3	3	2	8
Less than High School	10	9	1	2	22
High School Graduate	31	30	5	4	70
Associate's Degree (2-year)	14	13	1	2	30
Baccalaureate Degree (4-year)	23	16	5	3	47
Master's Degree	7	13	2	2	24
Professional or Doctoral Degree	3	6	0	0	9
Not Applicable	0	0	17	17	34

How many dependents (children or elderly persons that you care for) were in your household during your graduate studies at UCCS?

Answer	N	%
None	55	65%
1	7	8%
2	13	15%
3	6	7%
4	3	4%
5 or more	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>100%</b>