Background
This survey is part of a multi-year project exploring the integration of curricular and co-curricular activities. A cohort of undergraduate students is participating in the project throughout the 2005-2006 school year.

The purpose of the survey was to discover more about students’ friendship groups. “Friendship Group” was defined as: “a group of people with whom you have mutual feelings of trust, support, and affection, enjoy spending time, and who provide you with a sense of belonging.” The definition asked that students exclude family members so the focus could be specifically on friendship groups developed or focused on during college.

681 out of 741 participants completed the web-based survey for a 92% response rate.

Results
How many friendship groups do you currently have in your life?
- 51% said they had five or more friendship groups

How many friendship groups do you currently have at Texas A&M?
- 54% said they had two to three friendship groups at A&M

For the most important friendship group...

When did this friendship group form?
- 49% said their groups formed in high school or during the first freshman semester at A&M

Approximately how long have you been associated with this friendship group?
- 37% said four or more years

Are all the members of your friendship group currently attending Texas A&M?
- 52% said yes

Do all the members of your friendship group have majors in the same academic college?
- 11% said yes

Are all the members of your friendship group from the same classification?
- 32% said yes

Do any members of your friendship group classified as a graduate student?
- 22% said yes

Are all the members of your friendship group from the United States?
- 80% said yes

Are all the members of your friendship group from the same state?
- 55% said yes

Are all the members of your friendship group from the same hometown?
- 24% said yes

Do all the members of your friendship group have the same gender?
- 23% said yes

Do all the members of your friendship group share the same race or ethnicity?
- 36% said yes

Do all the members of your friendship group share the same general religion (i.e., Christian, Jewish, Muslim, etc.)?
- 74% said yes

Do all the members of your friendship group share the same specific religion (i.e., Baptist, Catholic, Orthodox Jew, etc.)?
- 13% said yes

How does your friendship group impact your academic performance?
- 57% said their friendship group had a positive impact on their academic performance

[All participants] How satisfied are you with your overall Texas A&M experience?
- 88% of participants who had at least one friendship group at A&M were satisfied or very satisfied
- 32% of participants who did not have a friendship group at A&M were satisfied or very satisfied

Prepared on: December 5, 2005
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For a complete report and additional results, please visit the Student Life Studies web page.