Student Employment Survey
Fall 2005
Highlights

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 this study was to discover more about students who work while going to school. Specifically, this survey sought information about work hours, pay, responsibilities, and what is learned from the job.

250 participants completed the survey out of the 302 invited to do so. The response rate was 83%.

Results
On average, how many hours per week do you work currently?
• 64% worked less than 20 hours per week

How long have you been working in your current job?
• 40% had been working in their jobs for more than a year

How much do you get paid in your current job?
• 72% were paid $8.00 or less per hour

How did you find out about your current job?
• 45% said they found out through word of mouth

Why did you choose your current job?
• 74% said flexible schedule

What type of work do you currently do?
• 29% said office work
• 13% said retail
• Other types of work mentioned included education, child care, and athletics/fitness.

Do you supervise others in your job?
• 25% said yes

Why do you work?
• 69% wanted to earn extra spending money
• 67% worked for financial necessity

Please indicate your agreement for the following statements

• In my job, I have come in contact with people who are different than me
  o 96% agreed or strongly agreed

• I enjoy my work environment
  o 89% agreed or strongly agreed

• Having a job improved my time management skills
  o 73% agreed or strongly agreed

• I have learned how to resolve conflict in this job
  o 68% agreed or strongly agreed

• My input influences the organization where I work
  o 59% agreed or strongly agreed

• I chose my job because I thought it would teach me skills I could apply to academics or future career
  o 51% agreed or strongly agreed

• I have learned computer skills in this job
  o 47% agreed or strongly agreed

• My job has a negative impact on my academic responsibilities (studying, preparing class assignments, attending class)
  o 23% agreed or strongly agreed

Prepared on: June 2, 2006
For a complete report, please visit the Student Life Studies web page.