Post Graduation Survey Questions

This survey contains a series of multiple-choice questions. There is space for more general comments at the end of the survey.

1. How satisfied are you with the educational experience you had in your program?
   ( ) Not at all satisfied
   ( ) Slightly satisfied
   ( ) Moderately satisfied
   ( ) Very satisfied
   ( ) Extremely satisfied

2. How satisfied are you with the advising you received from your program (including the guidance received from your academic advisor and other faculty and staff)?
   ( ) Not at all satisfied
   ( ) Slightly satisfied
   ( ) Moderately satisfied
   ( ) Very satisfied
   ( ) Extremely satisfied

3. How often did you receive guidance or feedback from your primary faculty advisor? (This is the person who formally served as your academic advisor or research supervisor. If you had co-advisors, answer in reference to the person with whom you worked most closely.)
   ( ) Weekly
   ( ) Once or twice a month
   ( ) Once or twice a semester
   ( ) Once a year
   ( ) Never

4. How satisfied were you with the quality of the relationship between you and your advisor?
   ( ) Not at all satisfied
   ( ) Slightly satisfied
   ( ) Moderately Satisfied
   ( ) Very satisfied
5. How well did your program prepare you to begin a career in your discipline?

( ) Extremely well
( ) Very well
( ) Moderately well
( ) Not very well
( ) Not well at all

6. How collegial (collaborative, friendly) was the environment in your program?

( ) Extremely collegial
( ) Very collegial
( ) Moderately collegial
( ) Slightly collegial
( ) Not at all collegial

7. Was the financial support you received for your doctoral studies (e.g., fellowships, assistantships) sufficient to meet your basic living expenses?

( ) More than sufficient for my needs
( ) Sufficient for my needs
( ) Somewhat less than sufficient for my needs
( ) Not at all sufficient for my needs
( ) I never received any financial support for my doctoral studies.

8. Please select all of the different kinds of funding you ever received during your doctoral program.

Check all that apply.

[ ] Fellowship (internal - from UI sources)
[ ] Fellowship (external - from non-UI sources)
[ ] Research assistantship
  TRIGGER – Were your research assistantships primarily within your department? Yes unsure no
[ ] Teaching assistantship
  TRIGGER – Were your teaching assistantships primarily within your department? Yes unsure no
Graduate assistantship (non-teaching and non-research) TRIGGER – Were your graduate assistantships primarily within your department? Yes  unsure  no

Other on-campus employment (e.g., hourly)
Funds from off-campus employment
Student loans
Support from family members (e.g., spouse/partner, parents)
Other (Please specify:)

9. How much student loan and related debt did you have before you began your UI doctoral program?

$0
$1-$10,000
$10,001-$20,000
$20,001-$30,000
$30,001-$40,000
$40,001-$50,000
$50,001-$60,000
$60,001-$70,000
$70,001-$80,000
$80,001-$90,000
$90,001-$100,000
$100,001-$150,000
More than $150,000
I don’t know

10. How much additional student loan and related debt did you accumulate to finance your UI doctoral program?

$0
$1-$10,000
$10,001-$20,000
$20,001-$30,000
$30,001-$40,000
$40,001-$50,000
$50,001-$60,000
$60,001-$70,000
$70,001-$80,000
$80,001-$90,000
( ) $90,001-$100,000
( ) $100,001-$150,000
( ) More than $150,000
( ) I don’t know

11. Answer the following questions about your primary faculty advisor. (Again, if you had co-advisors, please answer questions in reference to the person with whom you worked most closely.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>A little</th>
<th>A moderate amount</th>
<th>A lot</th>
<th>A great deal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To what extent was your advisor available when you had questions</td>
<td>( )</td>
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<tr>
<td>about your program or research?</td>
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<tr>
<td>How useful was your advisor’s feedback?</td>
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<tr>
<td>To what extent did your advisor support you in the career path of</td>
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<td>your choosing?</td>
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</table>

12. Which of the following would have *most* improved your level of satisfaction with your advisor? Choose up to 3 and rank them.

( ) More program guidance (e.g., coursework, qualifying examinations)
( ) More research guidance (including dissertation, publishing)
( ) More career/professional advice (jobs, networking)
( ) More teaching/pedagogical guidance
( ) More personal encouragement/support
( ) Nothing – I was fully satisfied with the advising I received.

13. For each of the following areas, please rate the quality of guidance you received from your advisor, research supervisor and other department or program faculty/staff:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Poor</th>
<th>Very Poor</th>
<th>I received no guidance at all</th>
<th>Not applicable to me</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dissertation</td>
<td>( )</td>
<td>( )</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching/pedagogy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conducting research (including research methods)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Publishing and presenting research</td>
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</table>
14. How supportive was your program/department of the following professional growth opportunities for graduate students?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opportunity</th>
<th>Extremely supportive</th>
<th>Very supportive</th>
<th>Moderately supportive</th>
<th>Slightly supportive</th>
<th>Not at all supportive</th>
<th>Not applicable to my program or field</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participating as a member of the intellectual community of the department</td>
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<tr>
<td>Serving on departmental committees with faculty</td>
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<td>( )</td>
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<td>Conducting research or taking courses abroad</td>
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<td>Meeting guest speakers or other scholars visiting the department</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gaining knowledge and experience in applying for grants</td>
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<td>( )</td>
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<tr>
<td>Collaborating with students or faculty in other disciplines</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interacting with people in industry or government policy agencies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Considering careers outside academia</td>
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15. While pursuing your doctoral studies, how many times did you present your scholarly work at conferences, workshops, seminars, and other scholarly or professional venues outside the classroom?

Number of times presented on campus: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10+
Number of times presented at regional or national meetings: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10+
Number of times presented at international meetings: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10+
TRIGGER IF EITHER OF PRIOR 2 QUESTIONS MORE THAN 0 -- Did you receive financial support from your department to attend any of the events where you presented your research or work?

( ) Always
( ) Sometimes
( ) Never

16. While pursuing your doctoral studies, how many research articles, chapters, patents, and other scholarly works did you submit for publication (as author or a co-author)?

15b. TRIGGER If #16 >1: On how many of the [ANSWER TO 16] submitted works were you the first or solo author?__

Alternate wording if [Answer to 16] = 1 – Were you the first or solo author of this submitted work? Yes  no

15c. TRIGGER If #16 >1 -- How many of the [ANSWER TO 16] submitted works have been accepted or published so far? __

Alternate wording if Answer = 1 – At this point, has this submitted work been accepted or published? Yes  No

17. While pursuing your doctoral studies, how many departmental, campus-wide, regional or national awards or honors for your scholarly work did you receive? (Include any awards related to your research, teaching, outreach, or writing). __

18. While pursuing doctoral studies, how many grant applications did you author or co-author? __

TRIGGER If more than 0 -- How many of these grant applications have been successfully funded so far? __

19. While working on scholarly publications and other products during your doctoral program, who were your major collaborators? (Check all that apply)

[ ] My primary faculty advisor (including research director)
[ ] Other faculty within my department/program
[ ] Faculty outside of my department/program
[ ] Graduate students in my program
[ ] Graduate students outside of my program
[ ] None – I primarily worked alone
[ ] Other:__________________________________

20. How much did your doctoral program experiences contribute to your knowledge in the following areas:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>A little</th>
<th>A moderate</th>
<th>A lot</th>
<th>A great</th>
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<tr>
<td>A broad understanding of my discipline as a whole (including its history, controversies, etc.)</td>
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<td>Deep expertise in at least one specialized area of knowledge</td>
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<td>Understanding how my research fits into the landscape of my discipline</td>
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<td>Generating interesting questions that are worth investigating</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research techniques commonly used within my discipline</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic writing skills appropriate for my field of study</td>
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<tr>
<td>Understanding how knowledge in my discipline is relevant to public issues</td>
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<tr>
<td>How to design a course in my field</td>
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<tr>
<td>How to teach a course in my field</td>
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</table>

19.) What is your primary career goal?

( ) Research-intensive faculty position
( ) Teaching-intensive faculty position
( ) Balanced research+teaching faculty position
( ) Higher education administration
( ) Non-teaching research position
( ) Work in preschool or K-12 education
( ) Work in the private sector (for-profit organizations)
( ) Work in the government or a non-profit organization
( ) Self-employment
( ) I am not sure yet
( ) Something else (Please specify) ________________________________

20. What best describes your current position:
() Primarily teaching in higher education
() Primarily research in higher education
() Balance of teaching and research in higher education
() Non-teaching research position
() Higher education administration
() Preschool or K-12 education
() Private sector (for-profit organizations)
() Government or a non-profit organization
() Self-employment
() Continuing study (e.g., seeking additional training or degree)
() Unemployed and seeking employment
() Taking time off (e.g., for travel or family)
() Something else (Please specify:) ____________________________

TRIGGER – IF THEY REPORT BEING EMPLOYED BY SOMEONE ELSE (TOP 8 ABOVE)... Is your current position:

☐ Postdoctoral position
☐ Tenure-track faculty position
☐ Internship
☐ Other full-time, permanent employment
☐ Temporary/adjunct or visiting appointment
☐ Part-time position
☐ Other ____________________________

21. If you could begin your graduate studies over again, what would you do? (Select all that apply)

☐ I wouldn’t change anything
☐ Select a different thesis/research topic
☐ Select a different advisor
☐ Attend a different program in the same discipline
☐ Attend a program in a different discipline
☐ Attend a program at a different institution (not at Illinois)
☐ I would not pursue a doctoral degree
☐ I don’t know
22. Would you recommend your program to someone interested in pursuing a doctoral education in your discipline?

( ) Definitely would not
( ) Probably would not
( ) Might or might not
( ) Probably would
( ) Definitely would

22. Did you ever consider leaving your doctoral program to join a different program, either on the Illinois campus or at another university?

( ) No
( ) Yes, sometimes
( ) Yes, frequently
If Yes -- Why?

_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________

24. We would like to hear any additional comments or information you have to share about your experiences in your doctoral program.

_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________

Thank you for taking our survey. Your experience and opinions are very important to the committee. For more information on the review of doctoral programs on campus, please go to: www.grad.illinois.edu/aide

If you have any questions or feedback about the survey, please email us at DocExperience@illinois.edu.