Dear [FIRSTNAME] [LASTNAME],

Thank you for sharing your graduate admissions experiences with us via this brief survey. Your responses will help us improve our graduate programs and recruitment processes.

The survey will take approximately 5-10 minutes to complete. Your responses will remain strictly confidential. Only university-level assessment staff – not members of the department to which you applied – will have access to your identifiable data. Only aggregated results will be shared with departments and included in reports. Your decision to participate is completely voluntary, and your feedback on this survey will not affect your relationship with the University of Illinois in any way. You may skip any questions you wish, and you may end survey participation at any time.

If you have any questions about your rights as a participant in this study or any concerns or complaints, please contact the University of Illinois Institutional Review Board at 217-333-2670 (collect calls will be accepted if you identify yourself as a research participant) or via email at irb@illinois.edu. If you have questions about the survey, you may contact us at DocExperience@illinois.edu.

I sincerely thank you for your participation. Although it is unfortunate for Illinois that you will not be joining us, I wish you all the best in whatever opportunities you pursue in the future.

Deba Dutta
Dean, Graduate College
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

I have read and understood this consent letter. I voluntarily agree to participate.

Please click on the consent button below to supply consent and to proceed to the survey.

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1) How did you first hear about the [PROGNAME] program at Illinois?
   Choose the best answer.
   (Answers are randomly presented.)
   ( ) Former professor/advisor
   ( ) UI faculty member
   ( ) Current or former UI student
   ( ) UI website
   ( ) Gradschools.com
   ( ) Petersons.com
   ( ) US News and World Report
   ( ) Mailing from UI
   ( ) Some other source (Please specify:) ______________________
   ( ) I can't remember

2) How many institutions did you apply to for graduate study?
   Please enter a number.
   ________
3) Which institution will you attend?

( ) * I won't be attending graduate school next year. (If this is answered, then Q3b. is asked.)
( ) Boston University
( ) Brown University
( ) California Institute of Technology
( ) Carnegie Mellon University
( ) Case Western Reserve University
( ) Columbia University
( ) Cornell University
( ) Duke University
( ) Emory University
( ) Georgia Institute of Technology
( ) Harvard University
( ) Indiana University
( ) Iowa State University
( ) Johns Hopkins University
( ) Massachusetts Institute of Technology
( ) Michigan State University
( ) New York University
( ) Northwestern University
( ) Ohio State University
( ) Pennsylvania State University
( ) Princeton University
( ) Purdue University
( ) Rice University
( ) Stanford University
( ) SUNY Buffalo
( ) Texas A&M University
( ) Tulane University
( ) University of Arizona
( ) University of California, Berkeley
( ) University of California, Davis
( ) University of California, Irvine
( ) University of California, Los Angeles
( ) University of California, San Diego
( ) University of California, Santa Barbara
( ) University of Chicago
( ) University of Colorado Boulder
( ) University of Iowa
( ) University of Kansas
( ) University of Maryland, College Park
( ) University of Michigan
( ) University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
( ) University of Missouri-Columbia
( ) University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
( ) University of Pennsylvania
( ) University of Pittsburgh
( ) University of Southern California
( ) University of Texas at Austin
( ) University of Washington
( ) University of Wisconsin-Madison
( ) Vanderbilt University
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( ) Washington University in St. Louis
( ) Yale University
( ) * Another institution (If this is answered, then Q3a. is asked.)

3a) Please specify which institution you will be attending. (Then skip to page 13.)

3b) What is the main reason you have chosen not to attend graduate school next year?
(Then skip to page 13.)

All people who did not answer Q3 are skipped to page 13.

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4) Several factors may have contributed to your decision to attend [INSTNAME] instead of Illinois. Please indicate which of the following were better at [INSTNAME] than at Illinois. Choose up to three factors.
(Answers are randomly presented.)
[ ] Academic quality or reputation of the institution (Ask page 5 questions.)
[ ] Academic quality or reputation of the program (including rankings, others' opinions, post-graduation placement data) (Ask page 6 questions.)
[ ] Program faculty or advisor (Ask page 7 questions.)
[ ] Program content, structure, or climate (including program size, requirements, specializations, opportunities, length, collegiality) (Ask page 8 questions.)
[ ] Availability of equipment or resources for conducting research
[ ] Cost: Tuition, health benefits, financial package (including assistantships, fellowships) (Ask page 9 questions.)
[ ] Timeliness of acceptance -- Illinois notified you later than your chosen institution
[ ] Communication with faculty, graduate students and/or staff (verbal or written communication) (Ask page 10 questions.)
[ ] Clarity or availability of information about the program (e.g., web pages, publications) (Ask page 11 questions.)
[ ] Geographic location (e.g., weather, scenery, proximity to family, general quality of life in Champaign-Urbana)
[ ] Student life or campus climate (Ask page 12 questions.)
[ ] Something else (Please specify:) __________________

Page 5 (Hidden by default)

5) You noted that the academic quality or reputation of [INSTNAME] was better than that of the University of Illinois. Which of the following influenced your assessment of institutional quality?
Please select all major decision factors.
(Answers are randomly presented.)
[ ] National or international media rankings
[ ] Opinions of former teacher, mentors, or advisors
[ ] Opinions of friends or family
[ ] Your own assessment or experience
[ ] Something else (Please specify:) __________________
6) You noted that the academic quality or reputation of the [PROGNAME] program was better at [INSTNAME] than at the University of Illinois. Which of the following influenced your assessment of program quality?

*Please select all major decision factors.*

(Answers are randomly presented.)

- [ ] National or international media rankings
- [ ] Opinions of former teacher, mentors, or advisors
- [ ] Opinions of friends or family
- [ ] Your own assessment or experience
- [ ] Post-graduation placement record
- [ ] Something else (Please specify:) __________________

7) You marked program faculty or advisor as one decision factor. Which of the following were better at [INSTNAME] than at the University of Illinois?

*Choose all that apply.*

(Answers are randomly presented.)

- [ ] General quality or reputation of program faculty
- [ ] Quality or reputation of the research group
- [ ] Quality or reputation of assigned faculty advisor
- [ ] Opportunity to work with the faculty member of your choice
- [ ] Something else (Please specify:) __________________

8) You marked program content, structure, or climate as one decision factor. Which of the following aspects were better at [INSTNAME] than at the University of Illinois?

*Choose all that apply.*

(Answers are randomly presented.)

- [ ] Smaller program size (You wanted fewer students or faculty in the program.)
- [ ] Larger program size (You wanted more students or faculty in the program.)
- [ ] Opportunity to study a specific area of interest (specialization)
- [ ] Program course requirements
- [ ] Online course availability
- [ ] Internship opportunities
- [ ] Research opportunities
- [ ] Professional development opportunities
- [ ] Teaching opportunities
- [ ] International research or study opportunities
- [ ] Shorter program length
- [ ] Flexibility of program calendar or timeline
- [ ] Supportive, collegial environment
- [ ] Something else (Please specify:) __________________
9) You marked cost as one decision factor. Which of the following aspects were better at [INSTNAME] than at the University of Illinois?

Choose all that apply.

**Financial Package**
- [ ] Research assistantship opportunities
- [ ] Teaching assistantship opportunities
- [ ] Dollar amount or duration of research or teaching assistantship stipend (If this is answered, then Q9a. is asked.)
- [ ] Dollar amount or duration of annual fellowship(s) awarded (If this is answered, then Q9b. is asked.)
- [ ] Tuition and fee waiver

**Cost**
- [ ] Lower tuition and fees in relation to financial package awarded
- [ ] Lower cost of living there than in Champaign-Urbana

**Benefits (e.g. Health, Dental, and Vision)**
- [ ] Preferable health benefits
- [ ] Lower cost of health benefits

**Other**
- [ ] Something else (Please explain:) __________________

9a) Please tell us about the assistantship stipend you have been offered by [INSTNAME].

What is the annual stipend you will receive?

*Please enter a dollar amount: _______

For how many years are you guaranteed that stipend?

*Please enter a number of years: _______

9b) Please tell us about the fellowship stipend you have been offered by [INSTNAME].

What is the annual stipend you will receive?

*Please enter a dollar amount: _______

For how many years are you guaranteed that stipend?

*Please enter a number of years: _______

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10) You marked communication with faculty, graduate students, or staff as one decision factor. Which of the following aspects were better at [INSTNAME] than at the University of Illinois?

Choose all that apply.

**Verbal Communication**
- [ ] Interaction with program faculty
- [ ] Interaction with graduate students
- [ ] Interaction with program or department staff
- [ ] Interaction with University staff

**Written Communication**
- [ ] Email or letters from program faculty
- [ ] Email or letters from graduate students
- [ ] Email or letters from program or department staff
- [ ] Email or letters from University staff

**Other**
- [ ] Something else (Please explain:) __________________
11) You marked clarity or availability of information about the [PROGNAME] program as one decision factor. Which of the following aspects were better at [INSTNAME] than at the University of Illinois? Choose all that apply.

[ ] University website
[ ] Program or department website
[ ] University publications
[ ] Program or department publications
[ ] Something else (Please specify:) ____________________

12) You marked student life or campus climate as one decision factor. Which of the following aspects were better at [INSTNAME] than at the University of Illinois? Choose all that apply. (Answers are randomly presented.)

[ ] Social or cultural activities
[ ] Recreational or sports activities
[ ] Family-friendly policies or activities
[ ] Student demographics (e.g. gender, racial or ethnic diversity)
[ ] Smaller size of institution
[ ] Friendly, positive campus ethos
[ ] Campus safety or security
[ ] Something else (Please specify:) ____________________
13) Did you visit the University of Illinois campus prior to making your decision?  
(Answers are randomly presented.)  
( ) Yes (If this is answered, then Q13a. is asked.)  
( ) No (If this is answered, then Q13d. is asked.)

13a) In what capacity did you visit?  
*Choose all that apply.*  
(Answers are randomly presented.)  
[ ] Formal campus visit for prospective students  
(If this is answered, then Q13b and Q13c. are asked.)  
[ ] Informal visit (self-directed)  
[ ] Campus research experience such as REU or SROP  
[ ] Attended UI previously as a student  
[ ] Another opportunity (e.g., previous participation in a sports program, arts program, summer camp) *(Please specify:)* ________________

13b) About how much of the cost of your visit was covered by the University of Illinois?  
(Poles are randomly flipped.)  
( ) None of the cost  
( ) Less than 50% of the cost  
( ) About half of the cost  
( ) More than 50% of the cost  
( ) 100% of the cost

13c) Was your visit part of any of these programs?  
*Choose all that apply.*  
(Answers are randomly presented.)  
[ ] Campus visit event hosted by the program, department, or college  
[ ] Community of Scholars program for under-represented students  
[ ] Individual visit hosted by the program or department  
[ ] None of the above

13d) Why didn't you visit the Illinois campus?  
*Choose all that apply.*  
(Answers are randomly presented.)  
[ ] No funding to visit  
[ ] No time to visit  
[ ] I did not know that I could visit campus.  
[ ] Illinois was not one of my top choices, so it was not a priority for me to visit.  
[ ] Another reason *(Please explain:)* __________________

All people who did not answer Q3 are skipped to end of survey.
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14) Did you visit the campus of [INSTNAME] prior to deciding to attend there?
(Answers are randomly presented.)
( ) Yes (If this is answered, then Q14a. is asked.)
( ) No

Q14a) In what capacity did you visit?
Choose all that apply.
(Answers are randomly presented.)
[ ] Formal campus visit for prospective students
(If this is answered, then Q14b is asked.)
[ ] Informal visit (self-directed)
[ ] Campus research experience such as REU or SROP
[ ] Attended that institution previously as a student
[ ] Another opportunity (e.g., previous participation in a sports program, arts program, summer camp) (Please specify:)

Q14b) About how much of the cost of your visit was covered by [INSTNAME]?
(Poles are randomly flipped.)
( ) None of the cost
( ) Less that 50% of the cost
( ) About half of the cost
( ) More than 50% of the cost
( ) 100% of the cost

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15) Who notified you of your acceptance first: Illinois or your chosen institution?
(Answers are randomly presented.)
( ) Illinois
( ) My chosen institution
( ) I don't recall.

End of survey

Thank you again for sharing your graduate admissions experiences with us. We wish you all the best in whatever opportunities you pursue in the future!
You may close your browser window now.