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2003-2004 Student Satisfaction Survey

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SOUTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY
SAYRE CAMPUS
Student Satisfaction Survey
2003-2004

Of the 109 Sayre graduates in the 2003-2004 academic year, 30 have responded to the survey questionnaire. Collected surveys were sent to the Assessment Center for processing. This year the return rate was about 27%; the average response rate over the last five years is 37%.

The Student Satisfaction Survey asks for students' perceptions of their acquired skills and knowledge. It also asks them to rate their levels of participation in campus activities as well as their use and ratings of campus services. Responses to items are presented in either means or percentages. The total number of responses to each question varies considerably. Therefore, tabulations noted in this narrative report do not include omitted, multi-marked, or invalid responses. Some generalizations from the data include the following:

- ◆ Southwestern experiences met students' needs related to intellectual and personal growth as well as preparation for further education and career either *very well* or *well* by 75%-100% of the respondents, which is similar to previous years. On a scale of one (*very well*) to four (*poorly*), this tabulates to an average mean of 1.81.
- ◆ Overall, 83-100% of the respondents reflect *very high* and *high* ratings of satisfaction with academic experiences and student services. Overall satisfaction has returned to more standard ratings compared to last year's drop by .38-1.05 points. Ninety percent, would *definitely* or *probably* recommend SWOSU at Sayre to someone who wanted to major in their field.
- ◆ Experiences at Southwestern either *satisfactorily*, *well*, or *very well* prepared the graduates in a wide variety of personal and professional skills. Less than twelve percent felt they were *poorly* prepared in any area except conflict resolution. The strongest areas this year according to the tabulated mean are using computers for personal purposes and at work, using technologies, personal development, and self-reliance.
- ◆ Graduates at Sayre indicated their understanding of various areas to be satisfactory or better due to their SWOSU experiences. The most satisfaction was found in the areas of computers and other technologies, the sciences, government and politics, and the social sciences.
- ◆ Participation in activities on the SWOSU Sayre campus (*sometimes*, *often*, or *very often*) ranges from 20% to 65% of the respondents. The greatest

participation appears to lie in the same three areas as the last couple of years: discussion with other students of current affairs or world issues (65%, which is up 20% over last year), independent study and research not for class or course credit (62%, an increase of 21% over last year) and study sessions with other students outside of class (51%, an 8% improvement). The least popular is student government activities.

- ◆ Attendance at and/or participation in Weatherford campus activities by survey respondents (*sometimes, often, or very often*) falls between 4% and 29%. Athletic events and concerts are the most popular followed by religious activities and plays; the least attended are campus dances.
- ◆ In rating the service that survey respondents received on the Sayre campus, only 18% or less were *not satisfied* with a given service. Satisfaction with services has shown little change over the past five years. Student respondents who used the designated services were most satisfied this year with University Computer Labs, Business Office (Cashier), Enrollment and Transcripts, and Student Financial Aid.
- ◆ The most important goal to those responding with their opinion is succeeding in work, *highly important or important* to 100%. Order of importance declines from here as follows (the percentage indicates those who marked *highly important or important*): marrying the right person (93%), continuing to learn (93%), being independent (90%), having strong friendships (86%), raising a family (86%), being a leader (52%), having lots of money (50%), working to correct social or economic injustices (50%), geographic mobility (32%), and lastly, living close to your hometown (20%). Marrying the right person, by small degrees, has become consistently less important over the past five years.
- ◆ Seventy-three percent of the respondents indicate that classes were offered when needed. Seventy-three percent also believe there were enough classes offered in their major for their degree, and 80% say there was enough variety of classes offered in their major. Eighty-one percent graduated in the major that was their first choice, and 67% did not change their major.
- ◆ In rating academic advisement from faculty, 59% of the respondents indicate that it is *excellent or good*; and, 21% feel it is *average*. Fifty-five percent met with faculty members outside of class *often or occasionally*.
- ◆ While 31% were not employed while taking classes, 24% worked up to 20 hours a week, and 45% worked 21 hours or more a week. After graduation, 48% plan to *continue toward a Bachelor degree at the Weatherford campus*, 17% plan to *continue toward a Bachelor degree at another four-year institution*, 17% plan to *eventually obtain another degree*, and 14% plan to *eventually take some additional college courses*. Regarding full time employment after graduation, 40% *have a full time job that they will continue after graduation*; 16% *have a part-*

time job now that will become full time after graduation; 0% have secured a full time job to begin after graduation; 16% have begun looking for full time employment; and 28% will begin looking for full time employment within the next six months.