

Survey of 2006 Baccalaureate Graduates Five Years after Graduation Executive Summary

The five-year Baccalaureate follow-up survey was administered to alumni receiving their bachelors' degrees during the calendar year 2006. A total of 3,424 surveys were mailed and 913 alumni responded yielding a response rate of 27%. Alumni were given the option of responding by one of two modes—paper or web. General highlights of some of the results are outlined below.

- Eighty percent (80%) of the respondents reported a “strongly positive” or “positive” attitude toward SIU Carbondale with an additional 16% stating a “somewhat positive” attitude. Regarding their attitude toward their bachelor’s degree major, 72% reported “strongly positive” or “positive” with 18% indicating they had a “somewhat positive” attitude toward their degree major.
- Ninety-five percent (95%) responded “Yes” when asked “Would you recommend SIU Carbondale to anyone?”
- Eighty-nine percent (89%) responded “Yes” when asked “Would you choose SIU Carbondale again?”
- The full-time employment rate of the survey respondents is 84% with 7% reporting part-time employment.
- Of the 716 alumni who were employed full-time and reported their salaries, the median annual salary was \$55,000 and the mean of this group was \$78,383.
- Regarding level of job satisfaction with their current jobs, 74% of the alumni reported being “very satisfied or satisfied” with their current jobs, with an additional 17% stating they were “somewhat satisfied” with their current jobs. Seventy-three (73%) stated that their jobs were either “closely related or related” to their majors, with 14% reporting that their current jobs were unrelated to their baccalaureate major by choice.
- Respondents rated as “excellent or good” their experiences with SIU Carbondale’s services and programs at the indicated percentage levels:
 - 92% - Overall quality of instruction
 - 77% - Overall quality of academic advising
 - 81% - Overall preparation for your future life and career
- Respondents either “strongly agreed or agreed” with the following statements regarding their major or major department:
 - 95% -- The faculty in my major program effectively communicated the subject matter.
 - 93% -- The faculty in my major program were very good instructors.
 - 96% -- In general, the size of my classes in my major program was conducive to a quality educational experience.
 - 97% -- The number of required courses in my major program could be completed in a reasonable amount of time.
 - 94% -- Classes in my major program were offered at convenient times.
 - 89% -- Courses in my major helped me develop my ability to communicate my ideas to others.
 - 87% -- Classes in my major improved my ability to write more clearly and effectively.
 - 93% -- My program of study challenged me.
 - 86% -- The knowledge and skills learned in my major program are applicable to my field.
 - 85% -- Advisors in my degree program were effective in informing me about degree requirements.