Projected Participation in 2006 UCUES

Prepared at the Request of

Elias Lopez – Director, Student Affairs Research and Information

By

Arooj Ahmad, SARI

AUGUST 2006
Survey Background and Methods

In spring 2006, Student Affairs Research and Information (SARI) conducted a survey to measure the anticipated level of participation by UC Davis students in the upcoming University of California Undergraduate Experience Survey (UCUES).

From March 30th 2006 until April 6th 2006, SARI delivered a Quick Survey to all enrolled UC Davis undergraduates via the MyUCDavis portal (http://my.ucdavis.edu). A total of 2,863 undergraduates responded to the Quick Survey (13% of the undergraduate population). Respondents were asked their likelihood of participating in UCUES and given three options for response:

1 = Will probably complete the survey,
2 = Will probably NOT complete the survey, or
3 = Unsure.

The first and second options branched out into two additional questions. Those who answered “I will probably NOT complete UCUES,” were directed to choose from a list of ten reasons why not. For those students who were unsure, the survey prompted them to elaborate.
Quick Survey
During spring quarter, every UCD undergrad will receive the UC Undergraduate Experience Survey (UCUES). UCUES addresses a wide range of student activities and experiences. Responses will be used by campus decision-makers to evaluate programs and policies that affect undergrads. UCUES takes about 30 minutes online and respondents are eligible for cash prizes. Participation is voluntary and responses are confidential. How likely are you to respond to UCUES this spring?

- I will probably complete UCUES.
- I will probably NOT complete UCUES.
- I don't know yet whether I will complete UCUES.

Submit Privacy
Survey results indicated that 52% of respondents intended to participate in UCUES, while a sizable portion of the respondents indicated uncertainty about taking part in UCUES (32%). Furthermore, a small minority (16%) of the Quick Survey respondents indicated they would not take part in UCUES. Results are shown in Figure 1. As seen in Figure 2, women seem more likely to participate in UCUES compared to men.

![Projected Participation in 2006 UCUES](image-url)
The ethnic break-down of the respondents, as represented by five major groups, suggests that American Indians are more likely to respond to UCUES (72%) than other ethnic groups. African Americans respondents were most likely to indicate that they would not take part in UCUES (20%) and also most likely to be unsure (39%).
Students who indicated they would not participate in UCUES were asked to select reasons for not taking part from 10 options of which the respondents could choose as many as they wished. Of 466 students who did not plan to participate, 317 completed the follow up question. As indicated in the graph below, a majority of respondents indicated the survey was too long and that they did not have enough time (44%). Similarly, 37% of the respondents felt surveys should not be so long. Only 4% of the respondents did not intend to take part because they felt concerned their responses would not be kept confidential.
Figure 4.

Reasons NOT to participate in 2006 UCUES

A  I never complete surveys.
B  I don't think the University should ask students to complete surveys.
C  I don't think a survey should be so long.
D  I don't have time to complete such a long survey.
E  I don't believe my individual responses will make a difference in the results.
F  I'm concerned that my responses won't be kept confidential.
G  I don't care about influencing policy and programs.
H  I don't believe this survey will influence policy and programs.
I  Even if the results do influence policy and programs, I will be gone before then.
J  I think I'm asked to complete too many surveys.