Introduction

The Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) maintains a constant commitment to high quality education and research relevant to the mission of the Navy and Department of Defense (DoD). Through the use of surveys, student feedback has provided valuable and essential information for evaluating and assessing the school’s effectiveness in achieving its strategic goals. Since 1993, a principal vehicle for monitoring student perception of these goals has been the exit survey, administered to graduating students at the end of each academic quarter. Specifically, the exit survey addresses educational effectiveness, support services and resources, and the uniqueness and relevance of the DoD to the graduate education of NPS students.

Methodology

Survey

The NPS Graduating Students Survey consisted of 75 items rated on a five-point Likert scale, extending from strongly disagree to strongly agree, not very satisfied to very satisfied, and not very important to very important, as well as a yes-no question and a non-choice option. The last item asks for (open-ended) comments on any experience at NPS. GSEAS has four additional questions beyond the open-ended question. The AY 2014 survey data spans December 2013 - September 2014.

Target Population consisted of current term graduating students in NPS degree programs for resident students.

- Survey invitations were emailed to: 730 graduating resident students
- Total graduating resident respondents: 530 students 73% response rate

Data Presented

The data for NPS Graduating Resident Students is represented in six charts by percentage of respondents:

Chart 1. Positive responses to all survey questions - percentage of respondents who answered strongly agree, agree, very satisfied, satisfied, very important, and important.
Chart 2. The top 10 positive responses (Strongly agree, agree, very satisfied, satisfied, very important, important)
Chart 3. The top 10 negative responses (Strongly disagree, disagree, not very satisfied, not satisfied, not very important, not important)
Chart 4. Percentage of respondents by race/ethnicity
Chart 5. Percentage of respondents by service
Chart 6. Percentage of respondents by gender

NPS Graduating Students Survey
AY 2014 All Resident Students Summary Findings
Results

1. Instruction and research at NPS had the ultimate goal of enhancing combat effectiveness of the US and Allied armed forces.
2. The University administration is committed to supporting teaching and research for the purpose of enhancing combat effectiveness of the US and Allied armed forces.
3. The unique defense-oriented environment made my graduate education at NPS more relevant than it would have been at a civilian university.
4. My curriculum was related to national security or defense needs.
5. My education at NPS is relevant to my future assignments and responsibilities.
6. Completing a thesis, group project or capstone project was a valuable component of my NPS education.
7. My thesis or capstone research project at NPS made a useful contribution to combat effectiveness or another national security need.
8. NPS staff provided sufficient support to enable me to meet my educational goals. [Program Office Staff]
9. NPS staff provided sufficient support to enable me to meet my educational goals. [Student Services]
10. I received the faculty advice and guidance that I needed to successfully complete my thesis, group project or capstone research project.
11. NPS personnel facilitated my transition to student life.
12. NPS staff provided sufficient support to enable me to meet my educational goals. [Registrar]
13. NPS staff provided sufficient support to enable me to meet my educational goals. [Thesis Processing]
14. NPS computer services met all my course work and research needs.
15. NPS personnel facilitated my transition to student life.
16. NPS staff provided sufficient support to enable me to meet my educational goals. [Residence]
17. NPS staff provided sufficient support to enable me to meet my educational goals. [Program Office Staff]
18. Diversity in service, culture, ethnicity, and gender enriched my NPS education. [Student Services]
19. Diversity in service, culture, ethnicity, and gender enriched my NPS education. [Library]
20. Diversity in service, culture, ethnicity, and gender enriched my NPS education. [Gender]
21. NPS represented itself accurately in promotional materials and representations about the school.
22. I was aware that NPS had an appeals process for student academic complaints.
23. NPS faculty in my program were dedicated to teaching.
24. NPS faculty members involved me in active and participative learning experiences.
25. NPS faculty in my program were dedicated to my success as a student.
26. NPS faculty in my program were generally available to provide additional assistance outside the classroom when I needed it.
27. NPS faculty in my program used student feedback to improve the educational program.
28. My academic background was adequate preparation for successful completion of my program.
29. NPS staff provided sufficient support to enable me to meet my educational goals. [Thesis Processing]
30. NPS staff provided sufficient support to enable me to meet my educational goals. [Registrar]
31. NPS staff provided sufficient support to enable me to meet my educational goals. [Thesis Processing]
32. NPS staff provided sufficient support to enable me to meet my educational goals. [Residence]
33. NPS staff provided sufficient support to enable me to meet my educational goals. [Program Office Staff]
34. NPS staff provided sufficient support to enable me to meet my educational goals. [Library]
35. NPS staff provided sufficient support to enable me to meet my educational goals. [Library]
36. NPS staff provided sufficient support to enable me to meet my educational goals. [Library]
37. NPS staff provided sufficient support to enable me to meet my educational goals. [Library]
38. Please rate the importance of the following NPS Library services: [Library staff assistance]
39. Please rate the importance of the following NPS Library services: [Content (collections of online, print, and media resources)]
40. Please rate the importance of the following NPS Library services: [Research and discovery tools (library catalogs, article databases)]
41. Please rate the importance of the following NPS Library services: [Delivery services (interlibrary loan, article delivery)]
42. Please rate the importance of the following NPS Library services: [Library workshops, classes, online tutorials, etc.]
43. Please rate the importance of the following NPS Library services: [Remote access to services and collections]
44. Please rate the importance of the following NPS Library services: [NSL Library web site]
45. Please rate the importance of the following NPS Library services: [Library staff assistance]
46. Please rate your satisfaction with the NPS Library services: [Library staff assistance]
47. Please rate your satisfaction with the NPS Library services: [Content (collections of online, print, and media resources)]
48. Please rate your satisfaction with the NPS Library services: [Research and discovery tools (library catalogs, article databases)]
49. Please rate your satisfaction with the NPS Library services: [Delivery services (interlibrary loan, article delivery)]
50. Please rate your satisfaction with the NPS Library services: [Library workshops, classes, online tutorials, etc.]
51. I would recommend NPS to other military officers or defense civilians for their graduate education.
52. NPS computer services met all my course work and research needs.
53. Please rate your satisfaction with the NPS Library services: [Physical space/facilities]
54. Please rate your satisfaction with the NPS Library services: [Responsive to Course & Research Needs]
55. I would recommend NPS to other military officers or defense civilians for their graduate education.
56. Commuting and parking were not a problem at NPS.
57. The CLASSROOM and other NONLABORATORY facilities for my program had the following characteristics: [Adequate in number]
58. The CLASSROOM and other NONLABORATORY facilities for my program had the following characteristics: [Accessible]
59. The CLASSROOM and other NONLABORATORY facilities for my program had the following characteristics: [Good Working Condition]
60. The CLASSROOM and other NONLABORATORY facilities for my program had the following characteristics: [Equipped w/ Current Technologies]
61. The CLASSROOM and other NONLABORATORY facilities for my program had the following characteristics: [Responsive to Course & Research Needs]
62. The CLASSROOM and other NONLABORATORY facilities for my program had the following characteristics: [Well Maintained]
63. The overall quality, appearance and currency of the NONLABORATORY facilities in my program left me with a favorable, positive impression.
64. The LABORATORY facilities for my program had the following characteristics: [Lab: Well Maintained]
65. The LABORATORY facilities for my program had the following characteristics: [Lab: Adequate in number]
66. The LABORATORY facilities for my program had the following characteristics: [Lab: Accessible]
67. The LABORATORY facilities for my program had the following characteristics: [Lab: Equipped w/ Current Technologies]
68. The LABORATORY facilities for my program had the following characteristics: [Lab: Focused on Combat Capabilities]
69. The LABORATORY facilities for my program had the following characteristics: [Lab: Responsive to Course & Research Needs]
70. The overall quality, appearance and currency of the LABORATORIES in my program left me with a favorable, positive impression.
71. Adequate health services were available for my family and me while at NPS.
72. My education in GSEAS provided me advanced technical and scientific knowledge so that I am confident that I understand the capabilities and limitations of current/future technologies in battle space environments.
73. My education in GSEAS provided me advanced technical and scientific knowledge so that I am confident that I am able to apply emerging and advanced technologies to enhanced joint warfare capabilities.
74. My education in GSEAS provided me advanced technical and scientific knowledge so that I am confident that I will be able to anticipate, respond and lead in future complex, rapidly changing technological environments.
75. My education in GSEAS provided me advanced technical and scientific knowledge so that I am confident that I will be able to represent the technical needs and interests of my service both within my service, as well as to other services, constituencies and communities (including OSD, Joint Staff and industry).
76. Open Ended
77. Did you attend the majority of your courses on the NPS campus?
### Chart 2
#### Top 10 Positive Responses for All Residents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey Questions</th>
<th>% All Resident Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>57. The CLASSROOM and other NONLABORATORY facilities for my program had the following characteristics: [Accessible]</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. NPS faculty members involved me in active and participative learning experiences.</td>
<td>96%</td>
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<tr>
<td>25. NPS faculty in my program were dedicated to my success as a student.</td>
<td>96%</td>
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<tr>
<td>26. NPS faculty in my program were generally available to provide additional assistance outside the classroom when I needed it.</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. NPS faculty in my program were dedicated to teaching.</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28. My faculty appeared to be well qualified for the defense-related teaching and research done in my curriculum or program.</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. The tests that I took at NPS were fair and relevant.</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58. The CLASSROOM and other NONLABORATORY facilities for my program had the following characteristics: [Adequate in number]</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Diversity in service, culture, ethnicity, and gender enriched my NPS education. [Service]</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. I understood the body of knowledge and skills I was expected to master for my degree program.</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Positive Responses = Strongly agree, Agree, Very Satisfied, Satisfied, Very Important, Important*

### Chart 3
#### Top 10 Negative Responses for All Residents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey Questions</th>
<th>% All Resident Respondents</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>56. Commuting and parking were not a problem at NPS.</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. My NPS program provided me with sufficient electives to pursue.</td>
<td>32%</td>
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<td>22. I was aware that NPS had an appeals process for student academic.</td>
<td>31%</td>
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<td>15. NPS provided opportunities for learning outside the regular curricular program.</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Diversity in service, culture, ethnicity, and gender enriched my NPS education. [Gender]</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71. Adequate health services were available for my family and me while at NPS.</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. My coursework and research at NPS were closely integrated.</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. The unique defense-oriented environment made my graduate education.</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Completing a thesis, group project or capstone project was a valuable component of my NPS education.</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61. The CLASSROOM and other NONLABORATORY facilities for my program had the following characteristics: [Well Maintained]</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Negative Responses = Strongly disagree, Disagree, Not very Satisfied, Not Important*
Exit Survey Demographics

Chart 4
NPS Resident Respondents by Race/Ethnicity

- American Indian/Alaskan Native: 0%
- Asian American/Pacific Islander: 6%
- Black/African American: 3%
- Hispanic/Latinos: 5%
- Int'l: 15%
- Unknown: 1%
- White: 71%

Chart 5
NPS Resident Respondents by Service

- USA: 15%
- USAF: 1%
- USMC: 11%
- USN: 57%
- Int'l: 15%
- Other Services: 1%
- Civilian: 1%

Chart 6
NPS Resident Respondents by Gender

- Male: 89%
- Female: 11%