The focus of this survey was to measure student satisfaction with programming provided during New Student Orientation and to assess if participants attain desired learning outcomes. The Office of Student Development administered this online survey in September of 2006. All new students were invited via email to complete the survey. 1113 new students responded to the survey, providing a 53% response rate. Of the respondents, 1052 were freshmen, 61 were transfer students. This report was compiled by the Office of Student Development in Fall of 2006.

**ABOUT NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION**

Marquette University’s Center for New Student Programs in the Office of Student Development intentionally creates programming (Marquette University PREVIEW and New Student and Family Orientation) structured to foster a welcoming environment for students and family members. New Student Orientation is held each year in August prior to the start of classes. With the assistance of representatives from nearly every office on campus and approximately 100 student volunteers, the program offers academic, student life and social programming for over 2,000 new freshmen and transfer students.

As a result of attending the programs and events held during New Student Orientation, participants have opportunities to learn about the mission of Marquette University, reflect on and find ways to manage their transition to college, meet other new and current students, become aware of campus resources, discover ways to be involved in the Marquette community, gain an understanding of Marquette’s community expectations and explore the concept of vocation.

**PROGRAM ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION**

**CHECK IN FIGURES**

Nearly all new freshmen (96%) and over half of new transfer students (51%) checked in for New Student Orientation.

**MANDATORY PROGRAMS**

There are four programs during New Student Orientation that are designated as mandatory (Campus Safety Presentations, New Student Convocation, First Year Reading Program Discussion Meeting and the New Student Survey/Marquette On Stage Program). All mandatory events were attended by 80% or more of survey respondents.

**SOCIAL EVENTS**

Each night during New Student Orientation, large scale social events provide opportunities for new students to meet other new and current students. The graph below depicts survey respondent attendance at the social events during New Student Orientation.

Survey participants provided the following additional feedback about the social events offered during New Student Orientation:

- 85% of respondents agreed the social events were entertaining
- 88% of respondents agreed the social events appealed to a diversity of interests
- 93% of respondents agreed the social events were well publicized
- 91% of respondents agreed the social events offered during the program provided opportunities to meet other students

**GROUP DISCUSSION MEETINGS**

One of the unique features of Marquette’s New Student Orientation program is the opportunity new students have to attend small (18 - 20 students) group discussion meetings held throughout the program. The graph below illustrates survey respondents Group Discussion Meeting attendance.

Survey participants provided the following additional feedback about their Group Discussion Meeting experience:

- 95% of respondents agreed relevant and important information was shared at the group meetings
- 93% of respondents agreed relevant information was shared about the expectations of Marquette community members
- 94% of respondents agreed the small group meetings helped them to understand social issues they might face at Marquette
MISSION/COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS

One of the primary goals of New Student Programs is to give students opportunities to learn about Marquette’s mission and community expectations.

Survey participants provided the following feedback concerning New Student Orientation’s effectiveness in aiding in their understanding of community expectations:

- 90% of respondents agreed New Student Convocation welcomed them to the Marquette community, and 83% agreed the program helped to clarify expectations
- 93% of respondents agreed the Group Discussion Meetings provided relevant information about community expectations

VOCATION

Providing new students with an opportunity to begin exploring vocation is another goal of programming during New Student Orientation.

FIRST YEAR READING PROGRAM

The First Year Reading Program is the primary vehicle used to explicitly convey messages about vocation to new students. Before arriving at Marquette, new students received a copy of this year’s First Year Reading Program text, Hunger, by Lan Samantha Chang. During New Student Orientation, students met in small groups led by Marquette faculty members and administrators to discuss the vocational themes presented in the book.

When asked about the effectiveness of the First Year Reading Program in conveying an understanding of the term vocation, participants responded as follows:

- 60% agreed the First Year Reading program provided a better understanding of what is meant by the phrase “explore vocation”
- 60% agreed the First Year Reading program provided a vehicle to explore vocation

CAMPUS SAFETY PRESENTATIONS

The graph below depicts participants responses when asked about the effectiveness of the Campus Safety Presentations.

Over 90% of respondents agreed the New Student Orientation program was a vehicle that aided in their transition, facilitated opportunities for them to meet their peers and allowed questions to be answered and introduced them to campus resources and services.

MARQUETTE ON STAGE

During Marquette On Stage, students observe five monologues, performed by their peers, written to introduce new students to the unique social issues (i.e. alcohol use, sexual assault, urban issues) that face members of the Marquette community.

Evaluation participants agreed at a rate of 90% or higher to the following statements about the messages conveyed during the Marquette On Stage program:

- The program provided an opportunity to consider how to respond to any of the issues presented in the monologues (92%).
- The program communicated expectations about maintaining individual responsibility (98%).
- The program communicated expectations regarding the dignity of everyone in the Marquette community (95%).

Survey participants provided the following additional feedback concerning the Marquette On Stage program:

- 93% of respondents agreed Marquette On Stage provided an opportunity to explore thoughts and feelings about presented issues
- 86% of respondents received relevant information about campus and community resources

SUMMARY

In all, over 90% of respondents agreed the New Student Orientation program welcomed them to the community, assisted in their transition, helped them gain a sense of belonging, helped in finding opportunities to get involved and helped students feel prepared to be successful as a student at Marquette.