Follow-Up Survey of Graduates
Class of 2013-2014

May 5, 2015

Institutional Research, Planning, and Institutional Effectiveness
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Executive Summary

Introduction

Since 1974, Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) has conducted annual surveys of its graduates to collect feedback and information about their PVCC experience, further education, and employment. Survey findings are used in assessment of college programs and services, evaluation of our success in preparing students for work and/or transfer, reports to external audiences, and preparation of grant proposals. Results of the 40th Follow-Up Survey of Graduates are presented in this report.

The Office of Institutional Research, Planning, and Institutional Effectiveness (IRPIE) surveyed transfer degree graduates. Graduate employment for other degree categories is tracked by PVCC’s Office of Career Services as well as by IRPIE using Virginia Employment Commission (VEC) data. This year’s PVCC Follow-Up Survey of Graduates was mailed to 268 AA and AS graduates whose degrees were conferred in the summer, fall, and spring terms of the 2013-2014 academic year. Fifty-five (n=55) graduates returned the survey, for a response rate of 21%.

The PVCC Experience

The majority of graduates (73%) were “very much” satisfied the quality of their academic program and 64%, were “very much” satisfied with the quality of student services, overall. Almost all (95%) reported that PVCC helped them further their academic and/or professional goals.

Further Education

Enrollment in College
Forty graduates (73% of respondents) are currently enrolled in college, and another four graduates have plans to enroll in college in the coming year. Of those currently enrolled, 83% (n= 33) are full-time, 80% (n= 32) are attending a 4-year college.

Bachelor’s Degrees
Thirty-seven graduates (93% of those currently enrolled in college) are pursuing a bachelor’s degree. The average GPA of graduates who provided this data (n= 37) at their four-year schools is 3.5.

Transfer
Thirty-three graduates (89% of bachelor’s degree-seeking graduates) reported transferring to their first-choice college, and 35 (95% of bachelor’s degree-seeking graduates) said that the credits they earned at PVCC transferred as expected.

Preparation at PVCC
In relation to their current studies, 84% (n=31) of bachelor’s degree-seeking graduates rated their academic preparation at PVCC as both “excellent,” and “good.” Fifty-one percent (n= 19) said that their bachelor’s degree is “very much” related to their PVCC degree program. Compared with students who started as freshmen at their current colleges, 89% (n= 32) of bachelor’s degree-seeking graduates1 (n= 36) said they were “about as well prepared” or “better prepared.”

College Comparison
According to bachelor’s degree-seeking graduates (and in broad terms), PVCC has more or about the same in friendliness of faculty and staff, individual attention shown to students, about the same in quality of instruction and about the same or less in terms of student competitiveness and strictness of grading policies.

1 n=36; 1 non-respondent
Employment

Overall, 26 of the 55 graduate respondents (47%) said they are currently employed, and another six graduates (11%) said they will be seeking employment in the coming year. Of the 26 employed, 18 (69%) are also currently enrolled in college. In addition, among those employed, 46% (n= 12) said that their current job is “very much” or “somewhat” related to their PVCC degree program of study.

Of those who are employed (n= 26), 50% (n=13) are employed full-time, 19% (n=5) said that their current job is “very much” related to their PVCC degree and 62% (n= 16) said that their skills acquired in their PVCC program have “very much” or “somewhat” helped them perform in the workplace.

Results: Graduates’ Comments

Graduates were invited to comment on any aspect of their PVCC experience. The majority of responses were positive and contained praise for PVCC, its faculty, staff, and services. Most recommendations for improvement focused on specific programs and called for greater accuracy in advising/counseling, especially for transfer. Graduates’ comments are not included in this report, but are provided to college administrators.

Summary

The successful transfer of graduates to four-year colleges and universities is an important measure of the effectiveness of a PVCC education. Seventy-three percent (73%; n=40) of 2013-2014 transfer program graduates who responded to this survey are currently pursuing further education.

These findings, together with data from the Graduate Exit Survey, National Student Clearinghouse, VEC, and other research, are used in assessments of college programs and services, and evaluations of our success in preparing students for work and/or transfer. Supplemental analysis for program review/evaluation will be provided to departments and program coordinators, and will be posted on the Office of Institutional Research, Planning, and Institutional Effectiveness website.
Follow-Up Survey of Graduates - Class of 2013 - 2014

Introduction

Since 1974, Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) has conducted annual surveys of its graduates to collect feedback and information about their PVCC experience, further education, and employment. Survey findings are used in assessment of college programs and services, evaluation of our success in preparing students for work and/or transfer, reports to external audiences, and preparation of grant proposals. Results of the 40th Follow-Up Survey of Graduates are presented in this report.

Methodology

The Office of Institutional Research, Planning, and Institutional Effectiveness (IRPIE) surveyed 268 transfer degree graduates in March, 2015. The survey was mailed to graduates whose degrees were conferred in the summer, fall, and spring terms of the 2013-2014 academic year. Surveys were also emailed to graduates using their preferred email. One follow-up electronic and paper mailing (March 17 electronic; March 19 paper) were sent to non-respondents. (Appendices B and C contain copies of cover letters and the survey instrument). The mailing and email addresses used were from the PeopleSoft Student Information System, cross-referenced with mailing addresses students provided at the time they completed the Graduate Exit Survey. Twenty-two (n=22) paper surveys were returned as undeliverable. Fifty-five (n=55) graduates completed the survey for a response rate of 21%, which was higher than the previous survey (18% in 2012-2013).

Respondent Demographics

The extent to which respondents are representative of the overall graduate population determines the extent to which findings may be generalized. When comparing survey respondent demographics with all AA and AS graduates in 2013-14, there were more males, graduates with an AS, and a higher mean age among respondents. Table 1 summarizes these findings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 1: Demographics</th>
<th>Survey Respondents (n = 55)</th>
<th>All 2013-14 AA and AS Graduates²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African-American</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other or unspecified race</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean age</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree: AA</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Limitations

Survey results represent the opinions and experiences of approximately 18% (IRPIE, 2014) of the AA/AS class of 2013-14. Findings should be generalized with caution and reported only with reference to the surveyed population. As data are disaggregated, it should be noted that the number of students included in analysis becomes smaller and generalization becomes more problematic.

² Unduplicated headcount
Follow-Up Survey of Graduates: Class of 2013-2014

Results: The PVCC Experience

Satisfaction with Services and Programs

The majority (n=40; 73%) of graduates were “very much” satisfied the quality of their academic program. Sixty-four (n=35) percent were “very much” satisfied with the quality of student services. Some 95% (n= 52) responded that PVCC helped them further their academic and/or professional goals, slightly higher than in the previous survey (93% in 2012-2013). (See also Appendix A.)

PVCC’s Contribution to Skill Development

Graduates were asked to indicate the extent to which PVCC helped develop skills essential to success in college and the workplace. Table 2 shows the percentage of graduates indicating that PVCC helped them “very much”, “somewhat”, “very little”, or “not at all.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 2: Contribution of PVCC Education to Skill Development</th>
<th>Very Much</th>
<th>Somewhat</th>
<th>Very Little</th>
<th>Not At All</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Write clearly and effectively</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speak clearly and effectively</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solve problems</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reason logically</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understand &amp; use computers</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understand &amp; use math(^3)</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research a topic</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understand social institutions and cultures</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Set personal wellness goals</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make informed personal decisions</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Results: Further Education

Enrollment in College

Forty (73%) respondents are currently enrolled in college, and another four graduates (7%) have plans to enroll in college in the coming year. Of those currently enrolled:
- 83% (n= 33) are full-time
- 80% (n= 32) are attending a 4-year college

The four-year colleges attended by PVCC graduates are listed in Table 3.

\(^3\) n= 54; 1 non-respondent
Table 3. Colleges to which respondents reported attending.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Virginia</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Madison University</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Commonwealth University</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Tech</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Washington University</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lynchburg College</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty University</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Baldwin College</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Mason University</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Dominion University</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The College of William and Mary</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Newport University</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Michigan at Ann Harbor</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unreported</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>40</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pursuit of a Bachelor’s Degree

Forty (n=40) responding graduates are currently enrolled in college. Of those, ninety-three (93%; n=37) are pursuing a bachelor’s degree in the fields of (for example) accounting, biology, chemical or electrical engineering, finance, and social work. The average GPA of graduates of who provided this data at their four-year schools is 3.5. In the previous survey the average GPA was 3.3.

Preparation for Further Education

The graduates who responded that they were currently enrolled in college and pursuing a bachelor’s degree were asked how well their PVCC education prepared them for education at four-year colleges and universities. Graduates pursuing a bachelor’s degree were also asked to rate the level of academic preparation they received at PVCC in relation to their current studies. Forty-six percent (46%; n=17) rated their academic preparation as “excellent,” 38% (n=14) as “good,” and 16% (n=6) as “fair” (no student indicated “poor”). Compared with students who started as freshmen at their current colleges, (44%; n=16) of PVCC graduates (n=36) said they were better prepared, and (44%; n=16) said they were about as well prepared, and (12%; n=4) said they were less well prepared.

Fifty-one percent (51%; n=19) said that their bachelor’s degree is “very much” related to their PVCC degree program, another 41% (n=15) said that it is “somewhat” related, (3%; n=1) said it is “very little” related, and (5%; n=2) of respondents indicated their degree is “not at all” related to their PVCC program.

Comparison of PVCC to Four-Year Colleges

The graduates who responded that they were currently enrolled in college and pursuing a bachelor’s degree were asked to compare different aspects of PVCC to their current college environment. According to bachelor’s degree-seeking graduates (and in broad terms), PVCC has more or about the same in friendliness of faculty and staff,

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4 n = 36; 1 non-respondent
individual attention shown to students, about the same in quality of instruction and about the same or less in terms of student competitiveness and strictness of grading policies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 4: Comparison of PVCC with Current College Environment</th>
<th>PVCC has more</th>
<th>About the same</th>
<th>PVCC has less</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Degree of student competitiveness</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friendliness of faculty and staff</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual attention is shown to students</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of instruction</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strictness of grading practices</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Transfer Process

The graduates who were currently enrolled in college and pursuing a bachelor’s degree were asked questions about the transfer process to their current college. Eighty-nine percent (89%; n=33) of graduates transferred to their first-choice college, and 95% (n=35) said that the credits they earned at PVCC transferred as expected. Of those who transferred to a public four-year school (n= 35) in Virginia, 74% (n =26) were “very much” satisfied with the transfer process, 23% (n =8) were “somewhat” satisfied, and 3% (n=1) indicated “very little” satisfaction (no student reported “not at all” satisfied with the process).

Twenty-two graduates (60% of those enrolled in 4 year institutions and pursuing a bachelor’s degree) said they transferred under a Guaranteed Admission Agreement and 86% (n= 19) of those same students stated they received assistance from PVCC in transferring to their current college. Additionally, 79% (n= 15) were “very much” satisfied with the transfer assistance they received from PVCC, and 16% (n= 3) were “somewhat” satisfied. Of those who answered the question, one respondent (5%) indicated they were “very little” or “not at all” satisfied.

Results: Graduates’ Comments

Graduates were invited to comment on any aspect of their PVCC experience. Many comments contained praise for PVCC, its faculty and services. Most recommendations for improvement again focused on specific programs and greater accuracy in advising/counseling, especially for transfer. Graduates’ comments are not included in this report, but are provided to college administrators.

Summary

The successful transfer of graduates to four-year colleges and universities, and the placement of graduates in jobs related to their field of study, are important measures of the effectiveness of a PVCC education. Seventy-three percent (73%) of 2013-14 transfer program graduates are currently pursuing further education. Overall, PVCC graduates who are pursuing further education said that their PVCC experience prepared them well for their current studies.

These findings, together with data from the Graduate Exit Survey, National Student Clearinghouse, Virginia Employment Commission, and other research, are used in assessment of college programs and services, and evaluation of our success in preparing students for work and/or transfer. Supplemental analysis for program review/evaluation will be provided to departments and program coordinators, and will be posted on the Office of Institutional Research, Planning, and Institutional Effectiveness website.
Follow-Up Survey of Graduates: Class of 2013-2014

Reference(s):

Appendix A: Comparison of Selected 2013-14 Findings with 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-2013 Surveys

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010-2011</th>
<th>2011-2012</th>
<th>2012-2013</th>
<th>2013-2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mailed</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>269</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received</td>
<td>52 21%</td>
<td>48 18%</td>
<td>56 18%</td>
<td>55 21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Very Much&quot; satisfied with quality of academic program</td>
<td>43 83%</td>
<td>40 83%</td>
<td>46 82%</td>
<td>40 73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Very Much&quot; satisfied with quality of student services</td>
<td>33 63%</td>
<td>33 69%</td>
<td>42 75%</td>
<td>35 64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PVCC helped further academic or professional goals</td>
<td>51 98%</td>
<td>46 96%</td>
<td>52 93%</td>
<td>52 95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currently enrolled in college</td>
<td>43 83%</td>
<td>38 79%</td>
<td>41 73%</td>
<td>40 73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of those enrolled: Pursuing a Bachelor’s degree</td>
<td>41 95%</td>
<td>36 95%</td>
<td>41 100%</td>
<td>37 93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average GPA</td>
<td>3.5 3.5</td>
<td>3.3 3.3</td>
<td>3.3 3.3</td>
<td>3.5 3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrolled Full-time</td>
<td>34 83%</td>
<td>32 89%</td>
<td>37 90%</td>
<td>33 89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrolled Part-time</td>
<td>7 17%</td>
<td>4 11%</td>
<td>2 5%</td>
<td>4 11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of those enrolled: Transferred to their first choice college</td>
<td>32 74%</td>
<td>34 89%</td>
<td>37 90%</td>
<td>33 89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of those enrolled: Credits transferred as expected</td>
<td>39 91%</td>
<td>33 87%</td>
<td>39 95%</td>
<td>35 95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plan to enroll in college in the coming year</td>
<td>6 12%</td>
<td>6 13%</td>
<td>9 16%</td>
<td>4 7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of bachelor’s degree-seeking students, those rating academic preparation at PVCC as:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>11 27%</td>
<td>11 31%</td>
<td>16 39%</td>
<td>17 46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>24 58%</td>
<td>20 56%</td>
<td>15 37%</td>
<td>14 38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>those pursuing a degree that is &quot;Very Much&quot; related to their PVCC degree</td>
<td>19 44%</td>
<td>16 44%</td>
<td>16 39%</td>
<td>19 51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>those rating their preparation as &quot;As Well&quot; or &quot;Better&quot; prepared than other freshmen at their college</td>
<td>31 82%</td>
<td>34 94%</td>
<td>35 85%</td>
<td>32 88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currently employed</td>
<td>30 58%</td>
<td>25 52%</td>
<td>27 48%</td>
<td>26 47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of those currently employed:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time</td>
<td>10 33%</td>
<td>10 40%</td>
<td>8 30%</td>
<td>13 50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time</td>
<td>20 66%</td>
<td>15 60%</td>
<td>18 67%</td>
<td>13 50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed and enrolled</td>
<td>23 77%</td>
<td>16 64%</td>
<td>14 52%</td>
<td>18 69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current job &quot;Very Much&quot; or “Somewhat” related to PVCC Degree</td>
<td>10 33%</td>
<td>9 36%</td>
<td>12 44%</td>
<td>12 46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seeking employment</td>
<td>6 12%</td>
<td>4 8%</td>
<td>6 11%</td>
<td>6 11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Two students did not answer this item in 2012-2013
Note: Underlined figures are corrected from previous reports.
Appendix B: Cover Letters
Follow-Up Survey of Graduates: Class of 2013-2014

First Letter to Graduates

Date
Address
Name

Dear ______________,

One of the best sources of feedback and information available to Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) is the follow-up survey of graduates that we conduct each year. The results of the survey are used in deciding how to improve our programs and services, and in determining how well the college serves both its students and the community.

I encourage you to participate in this year's survey. It will only take about ten minutes of your time and your responses will be strictly confidential. We are particularly interested in your insights concerning the value of a PVCC education and how well it prepared you for your current job or your present course of study at another college. Your feedback is very important to us and to the community we serve.

If you have questions or comments about the survey, please contact Dr. Jolene Hamm, Director of Institutional Research, Planning, and Institutional Effectiveness, by telephone (434-961-5301) or email (jhamm@pvcc.edu).

A stamped, self-addressed envelope is enclosed for your convenience. Please return your survey by March 17, 2015.

I sincerely appreciate your participation in this important study and look forward to receiving your completed survey.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Frank Friedman
President

Enclosures
Dear __________,

One of the best sources of feedback and information available to Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) is the follow-up survey of graduates that we conduct each year. The results of the survey are used in deciding how to improve our programs and services, and in determining how well the college serves both its students and the community.

If you have not already responded to the survey, I encourage you to participate. It will only take about ten minutes of your time and your responses will be strictly confidential. We are particularly interested in your insights concerning the value of a PVCC education and how well it prepared you for your current job or your present course of study at another college. Your feedback is very important to us and to the community we serve.

If you have questions or comments about the survey, please contact Dr. Jolene Hamm, Director of Institutional Research, Planning, and Institutional Effectiveness, by telephone (434-961-5301) or email (jhamm@pvcc.edu). You may also contact Dr. Bernnadette Knight, Research Analyst, by telephone (434-961-6514) or email (bknight@pvcc.edu).

A stamped, self-addressed envelope is enclosed for your convenience. Please return your survey by April 7, 2015.

I sincerely appreciate your participation in this important study and look forward to receiving your completed survey.

Sincerely,

Frank Friedman
President

Enclosures
First email to graduates

Date

Dear PVCC Graduate,

One of the best sources of feedback and information available to Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) is the follow-up survey of graduates that we conduct each year. The results of the survey are used in deciding how to improve our programs and services, and in determining how well the college serves both its students and the community.

I encourage you to participate in this year’s survey. If you have already completed and returned the paper copy which was mailed to you, please disregard this email. If not, please click the link below to access the survey online.

The survey will only take about ten minutes of your time and your responses will be strictly confidential. We are particularly interested in your insights concerning the value of a PVCC education and how well it prepared you for your current job or your present course of study at another college. Your feedback is very important to us and to the community we serve. Please complete the survey by April 7, 2015.

If you have questions or comments about the survey, please contact Dr. Jolene Hamm, Director of Institutional Research, Planning, and Institutional Effectiveness, by telephone (434-961-5301) or email (jhamm@pvcc.edu) or Dr. Bernnadette Knight, Research Analyst, by telephone (434-961-6514) or email (bknight@pvcc.edu).

PVCC sincerely appreciates your participation in this important study and looks forward to receiving your completed survey.

Sincerely,

Jolene Hamm, PhD
Dear PVCC Graduate,

One of the best sources of feedback and information available to Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) is the follow-up survey of graduates that we conduct each year. The results of the survey are used in deciding how to improve our programs and services, and in determining how well the college serves both its students and the community.

I encourage you to participate in this year’s survey. If you have already completed and returned the paper copy which was mailed to you, please disregard this email. If not, please click this link to access the survey online [URL].

The survey will only take about ten minutes of your time and your responses will be strictly confidential. We are particularly interested in your insights concerning the value of a PVCC education and how well it prepared you for your current job or your present course of study at another college. Your feedback is very important to us and to the community we serve. Please complete the survey by April 7, 2015.

If you have questions or comments about the survey, please contact Dr. Jolene Hamm, Director of Institutional Research, Planning, and Institutional Effectiveness, by telephone (434-961-5301) or email (jhamm@pvcc.edu) or Dr. Bernnadette Knight, Research Analyst, by telephone (434-961-6514) or email (bknight@pvcc.edu).

PVCC sincerely appreciates your participation in this important study and looks forward to receiving your completed survey.

Sincerely,

Jolene Hamm, PhD
Appendix C: Follow-Up Survey of Graduates (Class of 2013-14)
Instructions: Please check the appropriate box(es) for each question and answer all questions that apply to you. This information will be treated as strictly confidential with answers being combined for group analysis.

[Name of Student]

Section I: PVCC Experience

1. Overall, how satisfied were you with the quality of your academic program at PVCC?
   - [ ] Very much
   - [ ] Somewhat
   - [ ] Very little
   - [ ] Not at all

2. Overall, how satisfied were you with the quality of college services provided by PVCC?
   - [ ] Very much
   - [ ] Somewhat
   - [ ] Very little
   - [ ] Not at all

3. Did PVCC help you further your academic and/or professional goals?
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No

4. If PVCC did not help you further your academic and/or professional goals, please explain.

5. To what extent did your PVCC education contribute to your ability to:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Very much</th>
<th>Somewhat</th>
<th>Very little</th>
<th>Not at all</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Write clearly and effectively</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
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<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Speak clearly and effectively</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solve problems</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reason logically</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
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<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understand &amp; use computers</td>
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<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understand &amp; use math</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research a topic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Understand social institutions and cultures</td>
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<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Set personal wellness goals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Make informed personal decisions</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
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</table>

Section II: Further Education

1. Are you currently enrolled in college?
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No

2. If not, do you have plans to enroll during the coming year?
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No

**If not currently enrolled in college, skip to Section III: Employment**

3. Are you attending college full-time or part-time?
   - [ ] Full-time
   - [ ] Part-time

4. What type of college are you attending?
   (Please check one from each row)
   - [ ] 2-year
   - [ ] 4-year
   - [ ] Public
   - [ ] Private
   - [ ] In-state
   - [ ] Out-of-state
   - [ ] Other (Please list) ____________________________

5. What college are you attending? ____________________________________________________________
6. Are you currently pursuing a bachelor’s degree? □ Yes □ No

7. If not, what is your primary purpose for attending college?
□ Personal interest
□ Professional development
□ Pursue a graduate degree
□ Satisfy a work requirement
□ Other _______________________________________
(Please list)

**If not currently pursuing a bachelor’s degree, skip to Section III: Employment**

8. What is your major field of study? _____________________________________________________________________

9. How many credit hours have you earned at your current college? _________ credit hours

10. What is your current grade point average (on a 4.0 scale) at your current college? _____________

11. To what extent is your bachelor’s degree related to your PVCC degree program?
□ Very much □ Somewhat □ Very little □ Not at all

12. To what extent did your PVCC degree program prepare you academically for the bachelor’s program?
□ Very much □ Somewhat □ Very little □ Not at all

13. Compared to students who started at your current college as freshmen, do you feel:
□ Better prepared □ About as well prepared □ Less well prepared

14. In relation to your current studies, how would you rate the level of academic preparation you received at PVCC?
□ Excellent □ Good □ Fair □ Poor

15. For each of the following aspects of college environment, please indicate whether PVCC has more, less, or about the same of a given aspect as your current college.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aspect</th>
<th>PVCC has more</th>
<th>About the same</th>
<th>PVCC has less</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Degree of student competitiveness</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friendliness of faculty and staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual attention shown to students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quality of instruction</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Strictness of grading practices</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

16. Did the credits you earned at PVCC transfer as you expected they would? □ Yes □ No

17. How many credits, if any, were not accepted by your current college? _________ credits

18. Was the college to which you transferred your:
□ First choice □ Second choice □ Third choice □ None of these

19. If you transferred to a public 4-year college in Virginia, how satisfied were you with the transfer process?
□ Very much □ Somewhat □ Very little □ Not at all

20. If you transferred to a public 4-year college in Virginia, did you transfer under a Guaranteed Admission Agreement?
□ Yes □ No

21. Did you receive assistance from PVCC in transferring to your current college?
□ Yes □ No
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22. If yes, how satisfied are you, overall, with PVCC’s transfer assistance?
   □ Very much   □ Somewhat   □ Very little   □ Not at all

Section III: Employment

1. Are you currently employed?  □ Yes □ No
2. If not, are you seeking employment?  □ Yes □ No

**If not currently employed, please skip to Section IV: Comments & Suggestions**

3. Are you employed full-time or part-time?  □ Full-time □ Part-time
4. On average, how many hours per week do you work?
   □ 1 to 10 hours   □ 31 to 40 hours
   □ 11 to 20 hours   □ 41 to 50 hours
   □ 21 to 30 hours   □ Over 50 hours
5. What is your current occupation?  ________________________________________________________________
6. What is your exact job title (if different from #5)? _____________________________________________________
7. Who is your employer?  ________________________________________________________________________
8. To what extent is your PVCC degree program related to your current occupation?
   □ Very much   □ Somewhat   □ Very little   □ Not at all
9. To what extent do skills acquired in your PVCC degree program help you perform in the workplace?
   □ Very much   □ Somewhat   □ Very little   □ Not at all
10. Compared to other employees beginning their careers in your job field, do you feel:
    □ Better prepared   □ About as well prepared   □ Less well prepared
11. In relation to your present job, how would you rate the level of academic preparation you received at PVCC?
    □ Excellent   □ Good   □ Fair   □ Poor
12. Would you say that your job is:
    □ Very Satisfying   □ Satisfying   □ Not very satisfying   □ Unsatisfying
13. Do you intend to pursue your current job as a long-term career?  □ Yes □ No
14. When did you obtain your current job?  □ Before attending PVCC □ While attending PVCC □ After attending PVCC
15. Did your degree from PVCC help you obtain your present job?  □ Yes □ No
16. Has your degree helped you obtain a promotion in your present job?  □ Yes □ No
17. Did you receive career placement assistance from PVCC in obtaining your present job?  □ Yes □ No
18. If yes, please rate the quality of career placement assistance you received from each of the following sources:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Poor</th>
<th>Not Applicable</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Career Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty</td>
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19. What is your annual salary?  □ Less than $5,000 □ $30,000 – $39,999
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☐ $5,000 – $14,999  ☐ $40,000 - $49,999
☐ $15,000 – $29,999  ☐ Over $50,000

20. What would you estimate your annual salary to be if you had not attended PVCC? $ ___________ per year

Section IV: Comments & Suggestions

Please share comments or suggestions concerning any aspect of your PVCC experience. We are particularly interested in how we can improve our curriculum and services. Thank you for your participation.