

2022 Freshman Student Exit Survey

Prepared by

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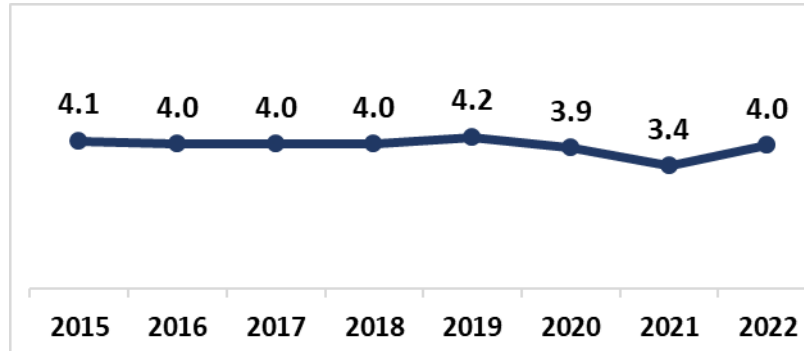
September 2023

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Highlights of Survey Findings

The average rating of **overall educational experience at AUA** for 2015–2022 is **3.9** out of 5.0 according to the freshman student exit surveys.



2022 Survey Findings: (Open-ended comments¹)

82% of respondents rated their overall educational experience at AUA **good/excellent.**

“Overall atmosphere is good. Everyone is always supportive and kind.”

86% of respondents are **net promoters of AUA.**

“Everyone is there to learn something. That’s a great place to meet people and have fun studying”

90% of respondents agreed that the **interactions between student and faculty are characterized by mutual respect.**

“The instructors make it very easy to ask question and not be afraid to ask for help”

84% of respondents agreed/strongly agreed that in general, the **courses they took were all well taught** and were **intellectually challenging and stimulating.**

“The curriculum is designed in an appropriate manner and gives learners the necessary skills and knowledge to master their chosen profession.”

80% of respondents reported that they experienced **stress regarding their studies.**

There are some semesters that are quite overwhelming, it would be great if the subjects were distributed more evenly.

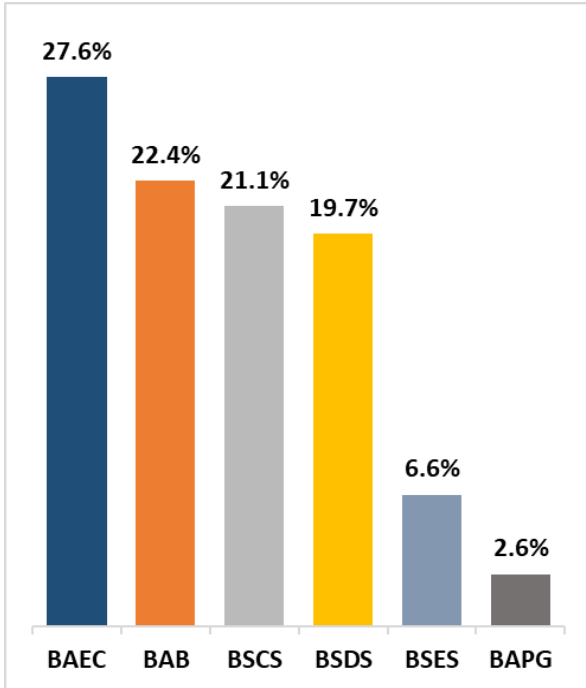
¹ Edited for spelling only.

Respondent Profile

Response rate: 16.0%

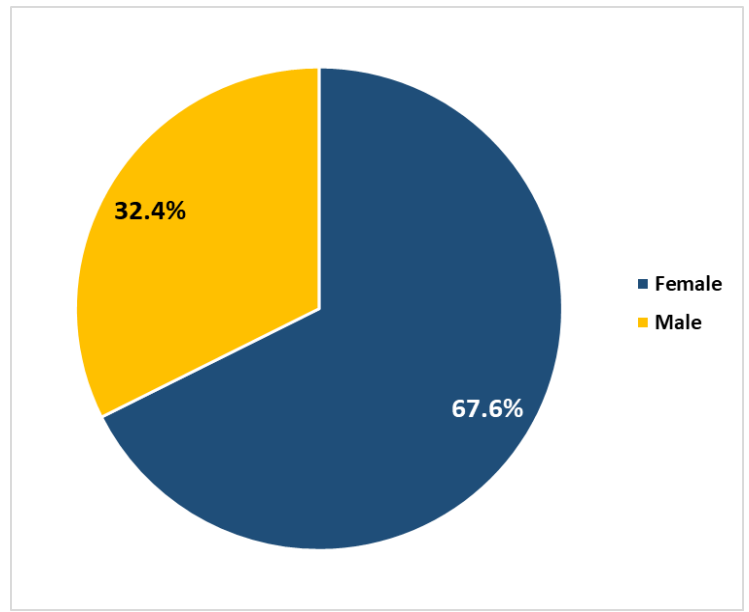
Program of Respondents

University Wide N=76



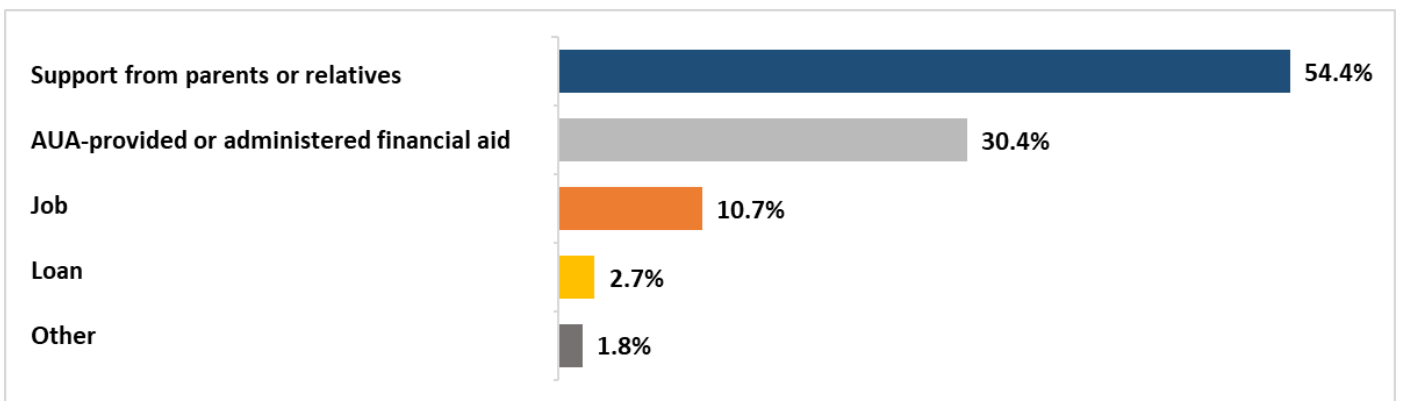
Sex of Respondents

University Wide N=74



How are you paying for your University education*?

University Wide N=76



* Total is based on the total number of respondents (not responses)

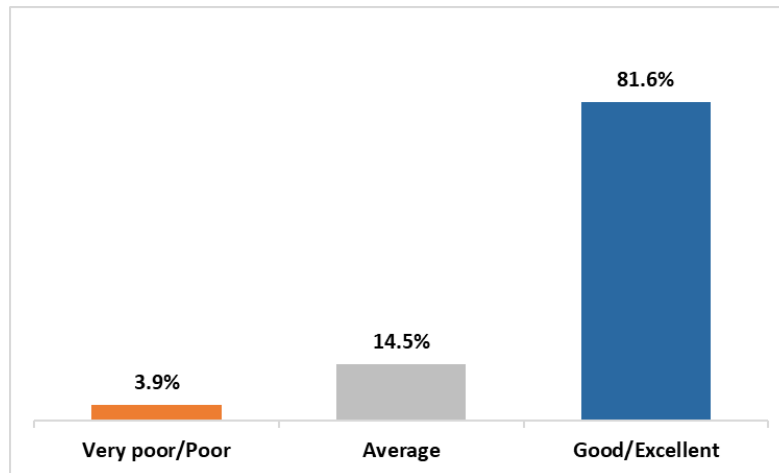
First-Year Experience

Overall satisfaction

Approximately **82%** of freshman students rated **their overall educational experience during the current academic year at AUA as good/excellent**. Approximately **85%** of freshman students are **net promoters of AUA**³.

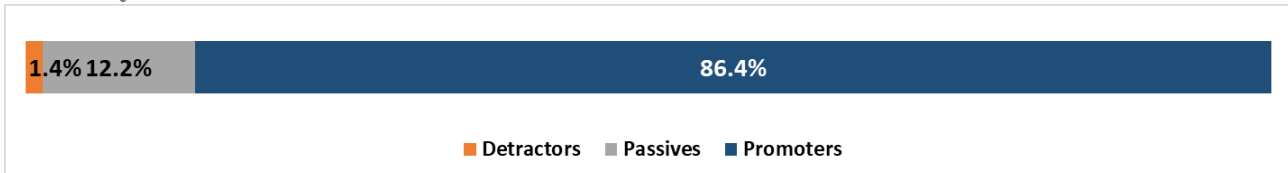
How would you rate your overall educational experience at AUA:

University Wide N=76



Recommending AUA to prospective undergraduate students.

University Wide N=74



Statistically Significant Difference by Sex

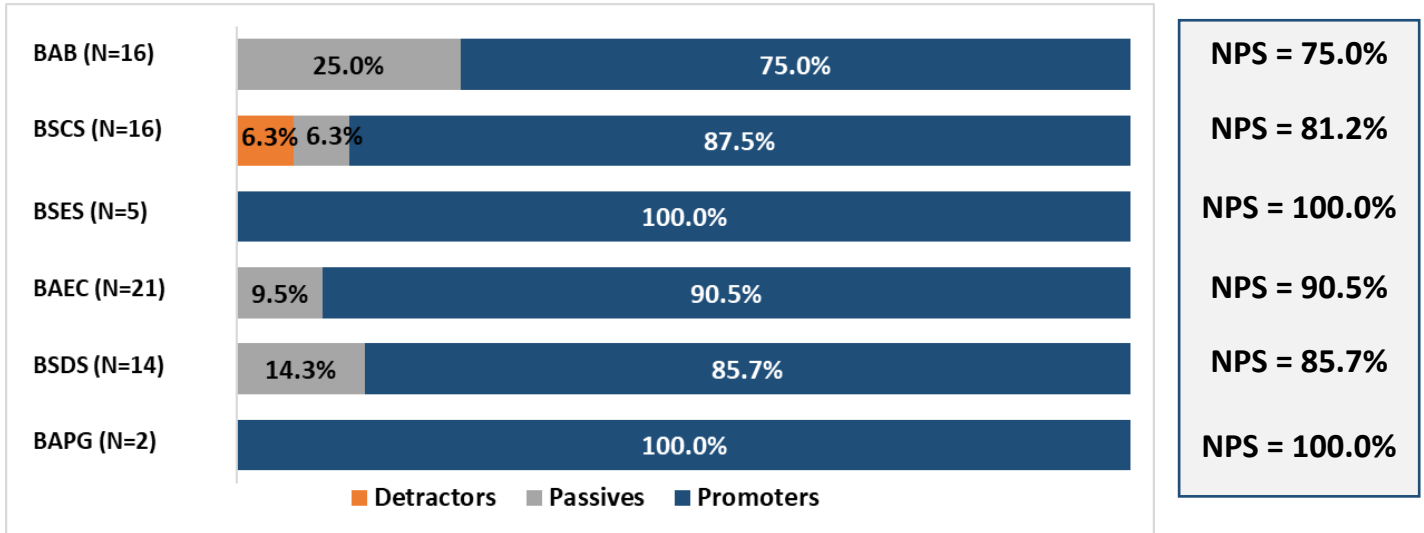
Question	Female	Male	U-wide
<i>Mean Values (1-Very Poor,...,5-Excellent)</i>			
The way in which the university communicates with me is effective. ⁴ N=75	4.2 (SD=0.5)	3.8 (SD=0.9)	4.0 (SD=0.7)

³ Promoters: responses of strongly agree/agree; Passive: neither agree nor disagree; Detractor: strongly disagree/disagree. Net Promoter Score (NPS) is the difference between the percentage of promoters and detractors.

⁴ Significance in independent samples T-test=2.280, testing the difference in rating the overall academic experience between females and males, p=0.026.

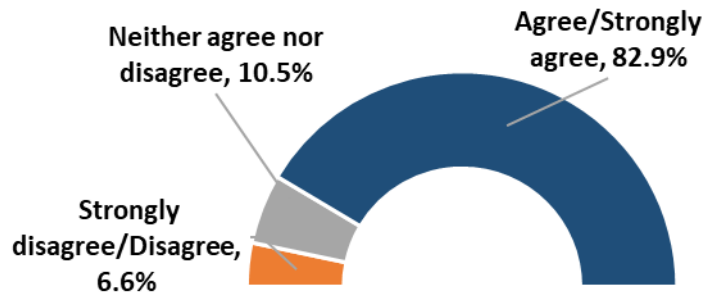
Approximately **86%** of freshman students **would recommend AUA to prospective undergraduate students**. Nearly **83%** of participants reported that if they could start all over again, they would want to attend AUA.

To prospective undergraduate students I would recommend:



If I could start all over again, I would want to attend AUA.

University Wide N=76



University Wide N=69

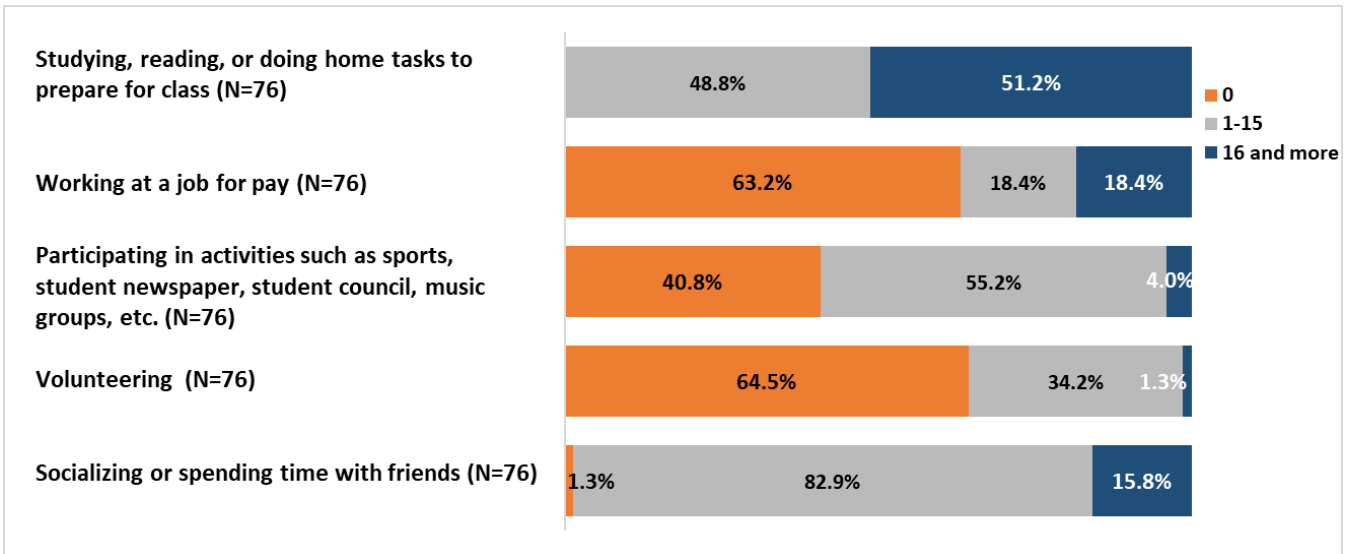
College	Your level of satisfaction with the services provided by the Writing and Math Center ⁵ (Mean Values, 1-Strongly disagree,...,5-Strongly agree)
CBE	4.1 (SD=0.7)
CSE	3.3 (SD=1.0)
CHSS	3.0 (SD=1.1)
University-Wide	3.4 (SD=1.1)

⁵ Significance in ANOVA (LSD, Tukey, Bonferroni, Sidak tests) testing the difference in the question “Your level of satisfaction with the services provided by the Writing and Math center” between those in CSE and CHSS, CBE and CSE colleges, p<0.05.

Workload during undergraduate studies

37% of the participants reported that they **worked at a job for pay during the current academic year**. Approximately **29%** of students who **did not work** and only **5%** of students who **worked** reported that they spent **on average more than 11 hours** on homework on each course in a typical week.

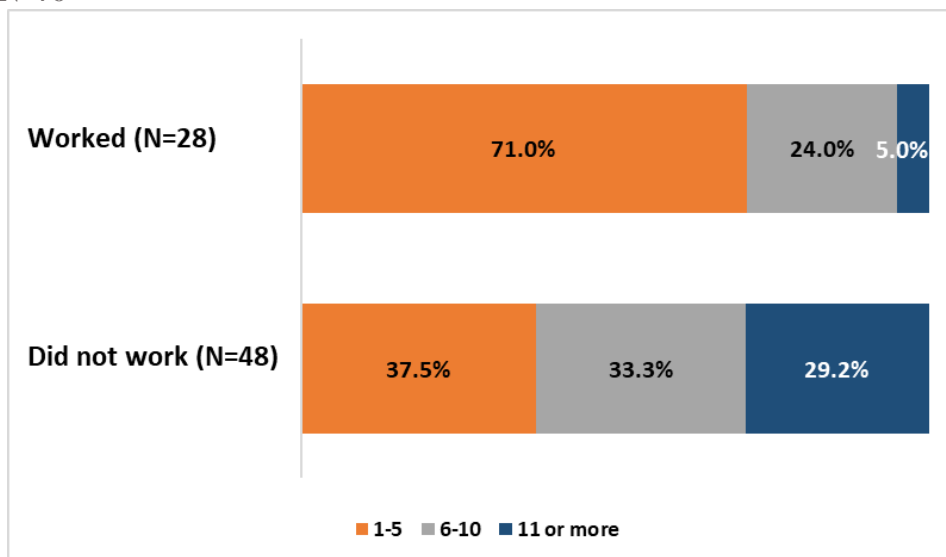
Hours spent each week on doing the following:



During the current academic year on average approximately how many hours did you spend on homework for each course in a typical week?

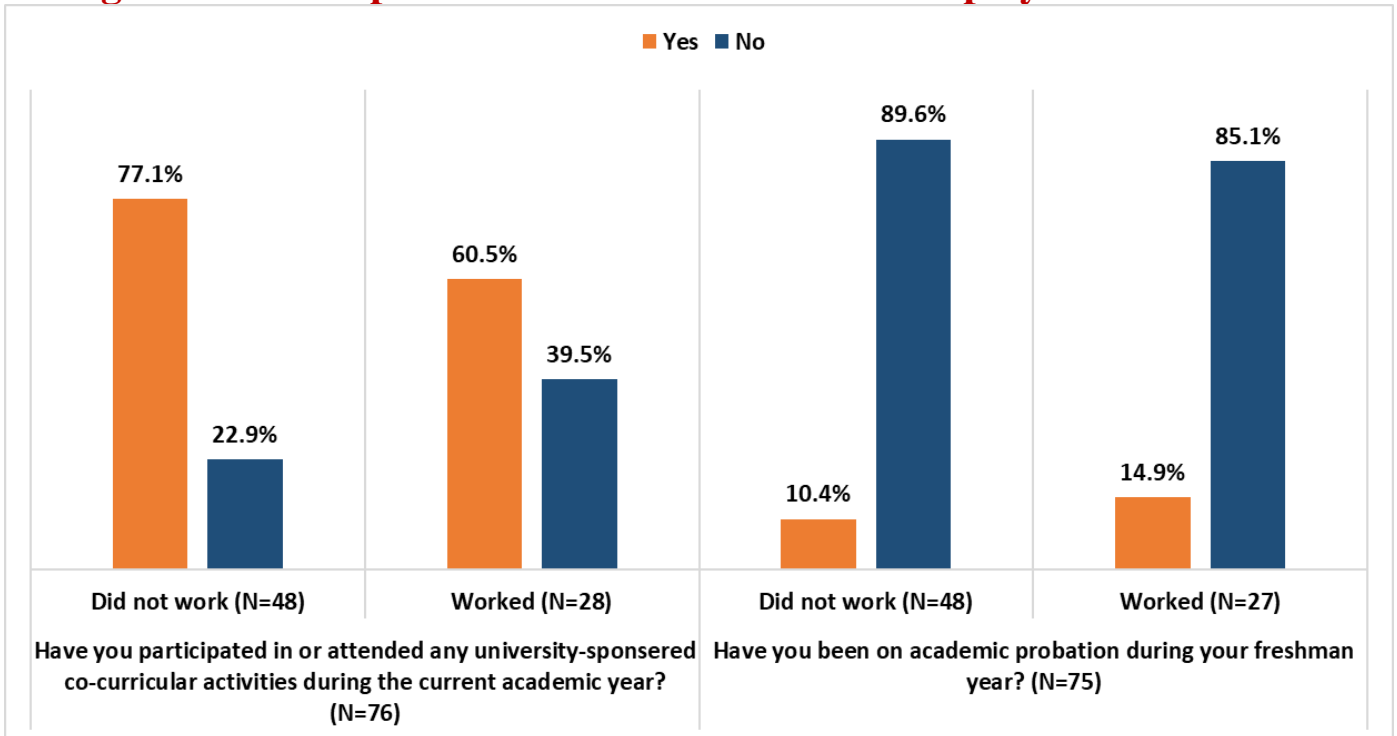
By employment status (worked or did not work at a job for pay)

University Wide N=76



Approximately **15%** of respondents who **worked at a job for pay** have been on **academic probation** during freshman year compared to about **10%** of students who **did not work**. **More** students who **did not work** at a job for pay participated in **university-sponsored co-curricular activities** compared to students who **worked at a job for pay**.

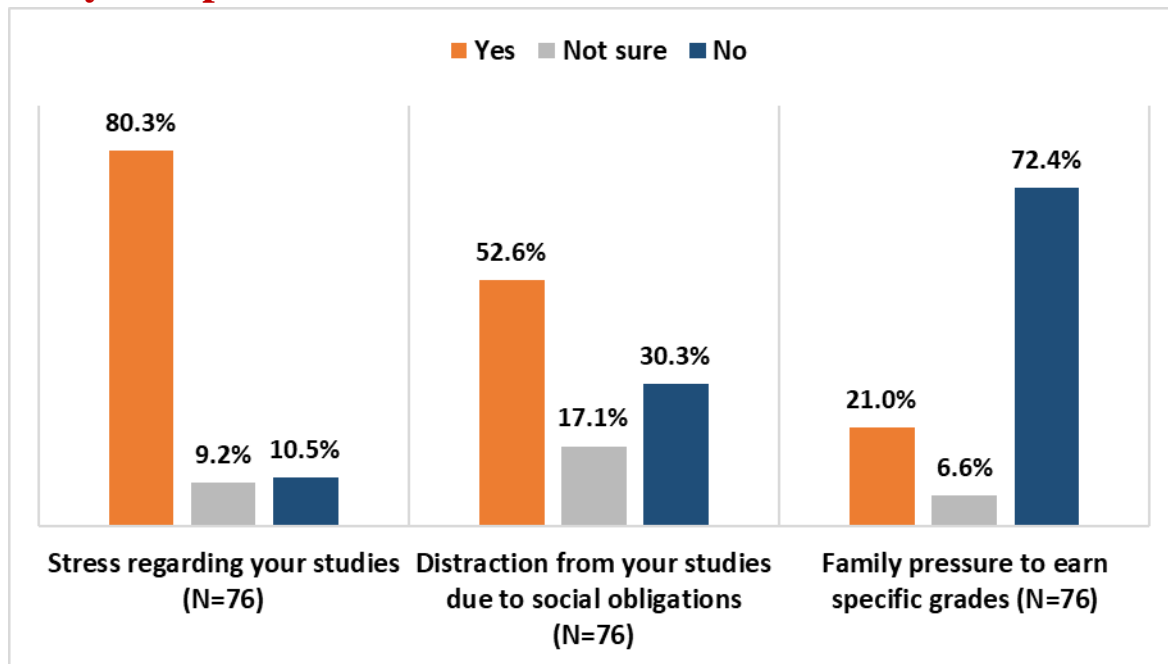
Participation in any university-sponsored co-curricular activities and being on academic probation based on students' employment status.



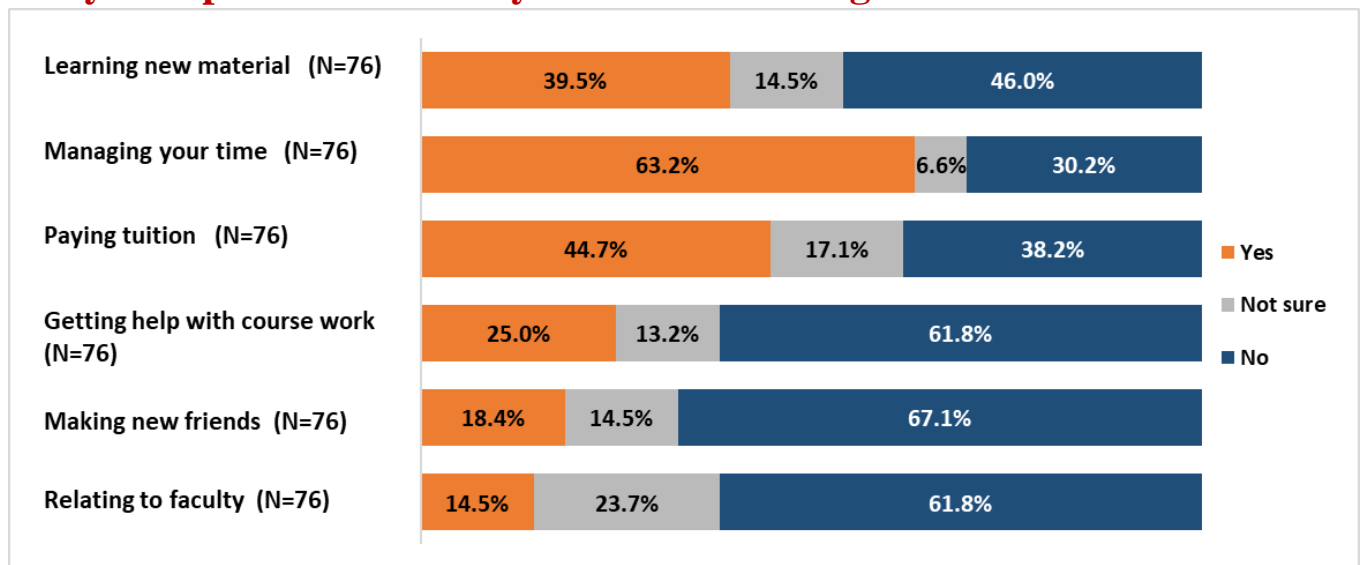
Experiencing difficulties, distraction and stress during undergraduate studies

Approximately **80%** of freshman students reported that they **experienced stress regarding their studies**. **72%** of students reported that they **did not experience family pressure to earn specific grade**. **More than half** of freshman students reported that they **experienced difficulties with managing their time** and approximately **40%** of students reported **learning new material**. Approximately **45%** of freshman students reported they **experienced difficulties with paying tuition**.

Did you experience:



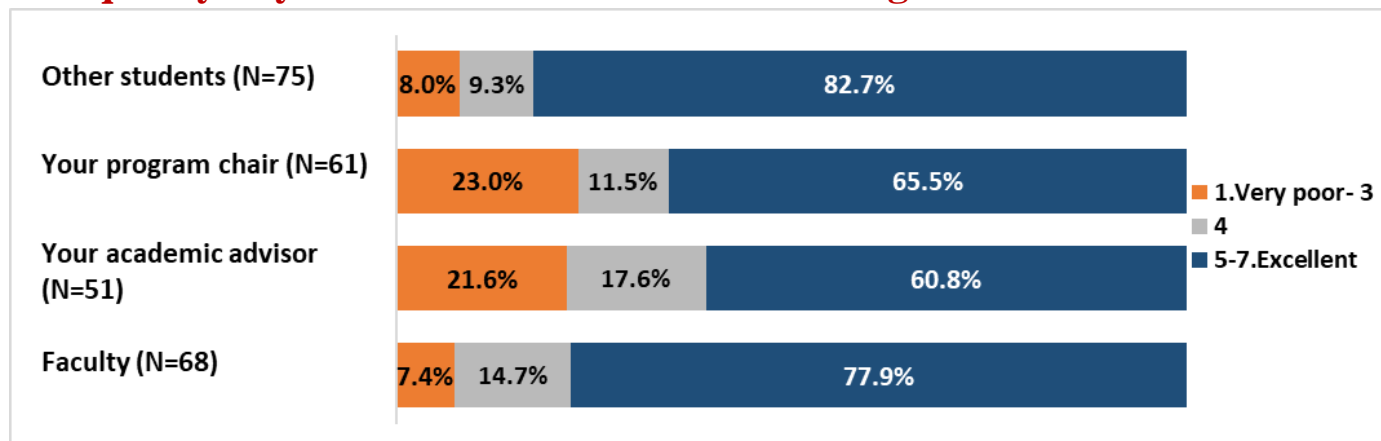
Did you experience difficulty with the following:



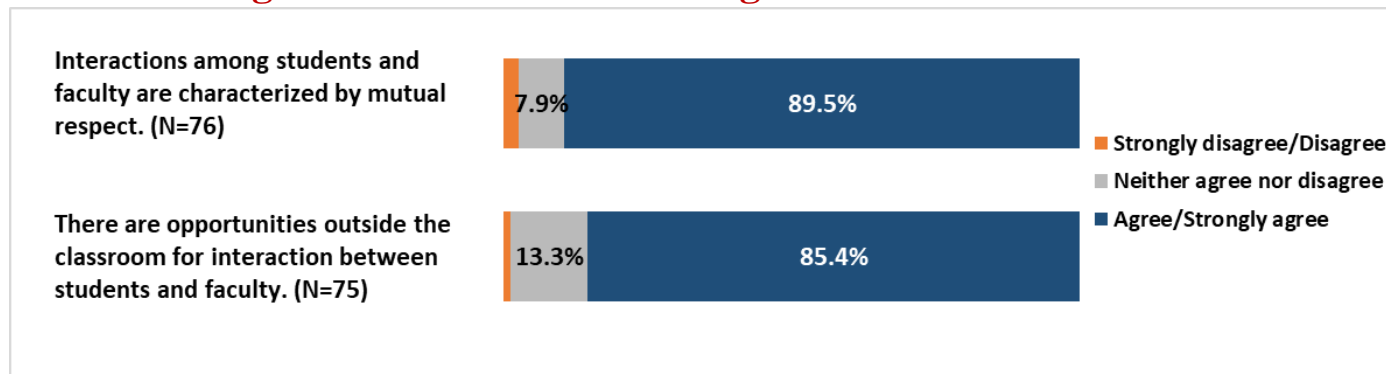
Quality of interaction with different constituencies

More than 60% of freshman students rated the quality of their interaction with other students, their program chair, faculty and their academic advisor higher than four out of seven (1-very poor, 7-excellent). 90% of freshman students agreed that the interactions between student and faculty are characterized by mutual respect. Approximately 85% of students strongly agreed/agreed that there are opportunities outside the classroom for interaction between students and faculty.

The quality of your interaction with the following:



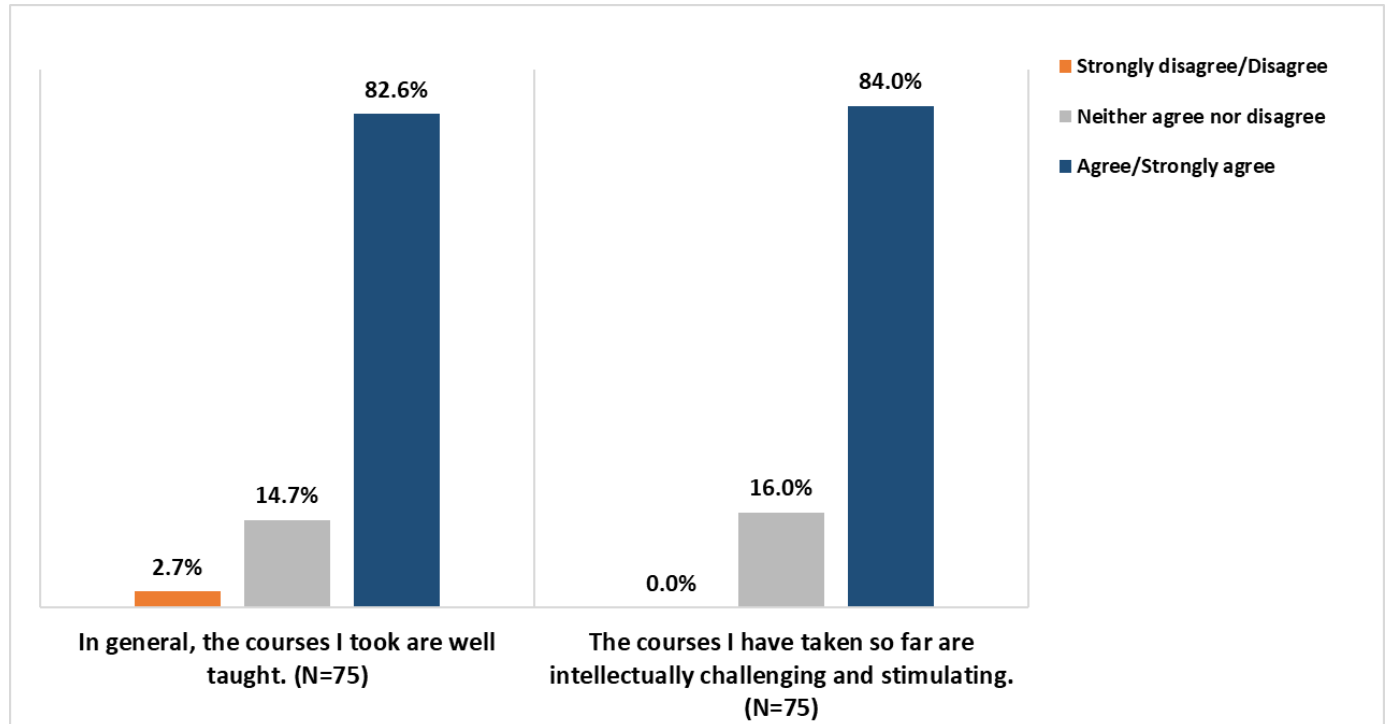
The level of agreement with the following:



Faculty and Courses

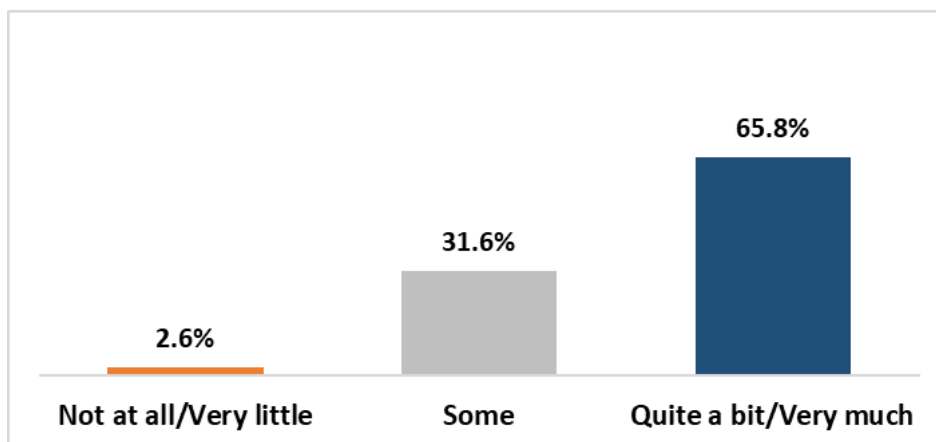
More than 83% of freshman students **agreed/strongly agreed** that in general, **the courses** they took were well taught and were **intellectually challenging and stimulating**. Approximately 66% of participants reported that the courses challenge them **quite a bit/very much** to do their best work during the current academic year.

Courses. The level of agreement with the followings:



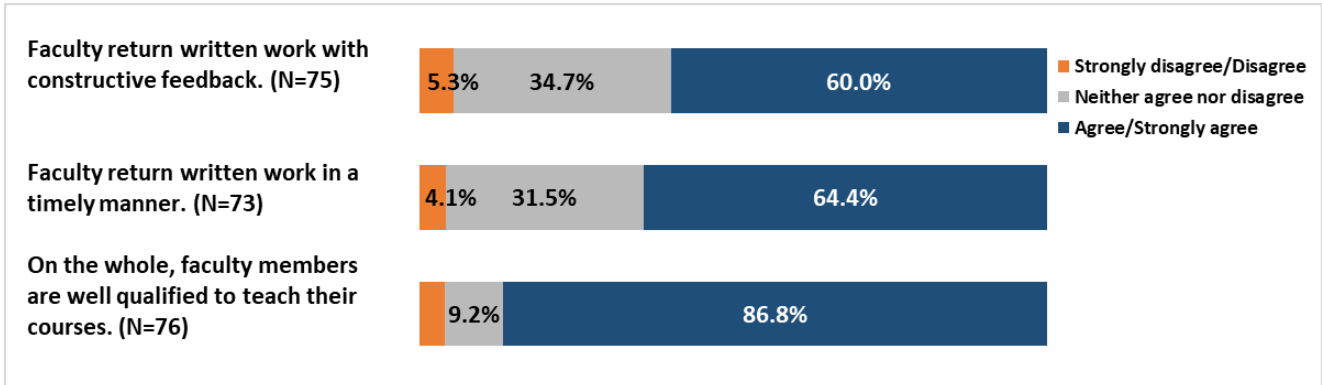
To what extent did your courses challenge you to do your best work during the current academic year?

University Wide N=76



Nearly 87% of respondents strongly agreed/agreed that on the whole faculty members are well qualified to teach their courses. Approximately 64% of freshman students strongly agreed/agreed that faculty return written work in a timely manner.

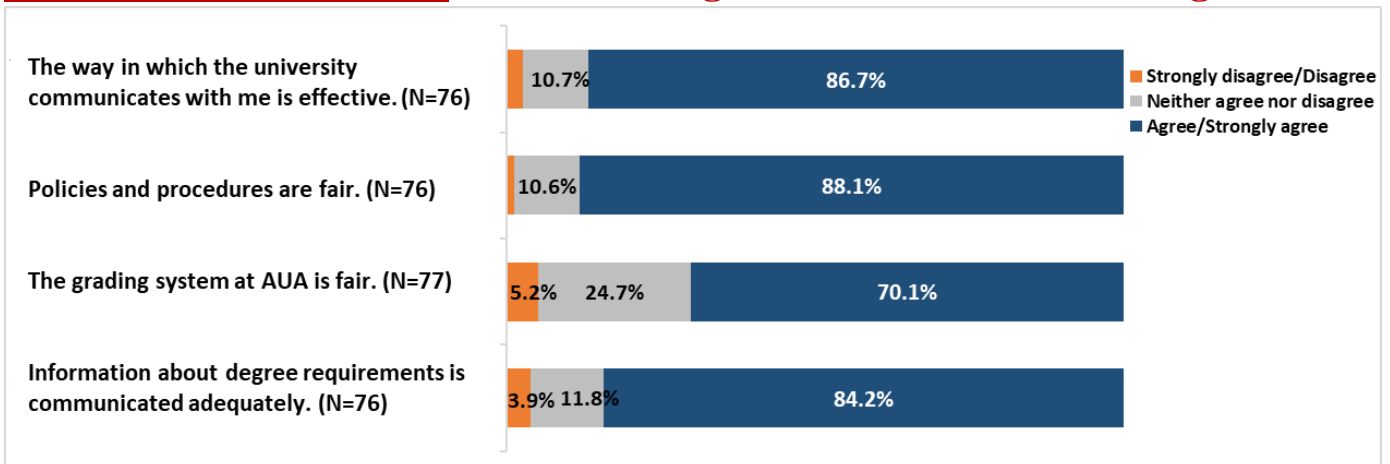
Faculty. The level of agreement with the followings:



Satisfaction with Procedures, Services and Resources

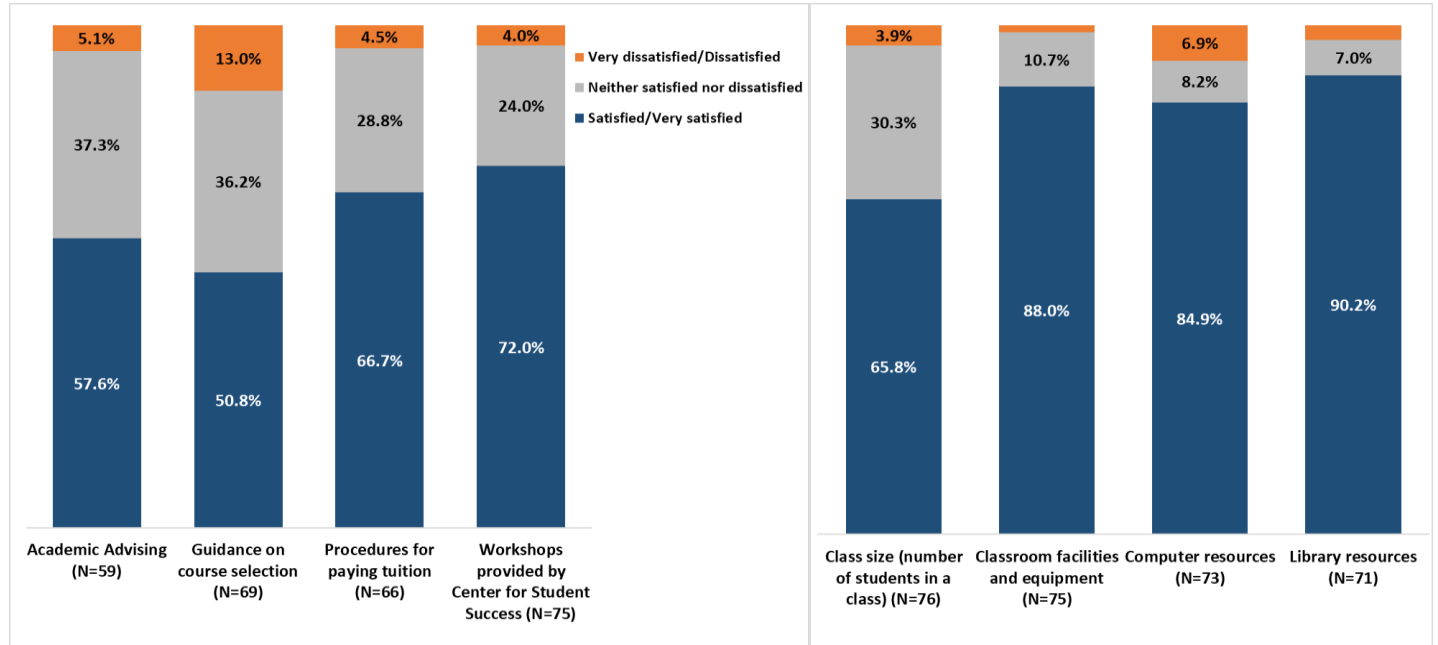
The vast majority of respondents (88%) agreed/strongly agreed that policies and procedures are fair at AUA. Almost 30% of freshman students strongly disagreed/disagreed/ neither agreed nor disagreed that grading system at AUA is fair.

Policies and Procedures. The level of agreement with the followings:

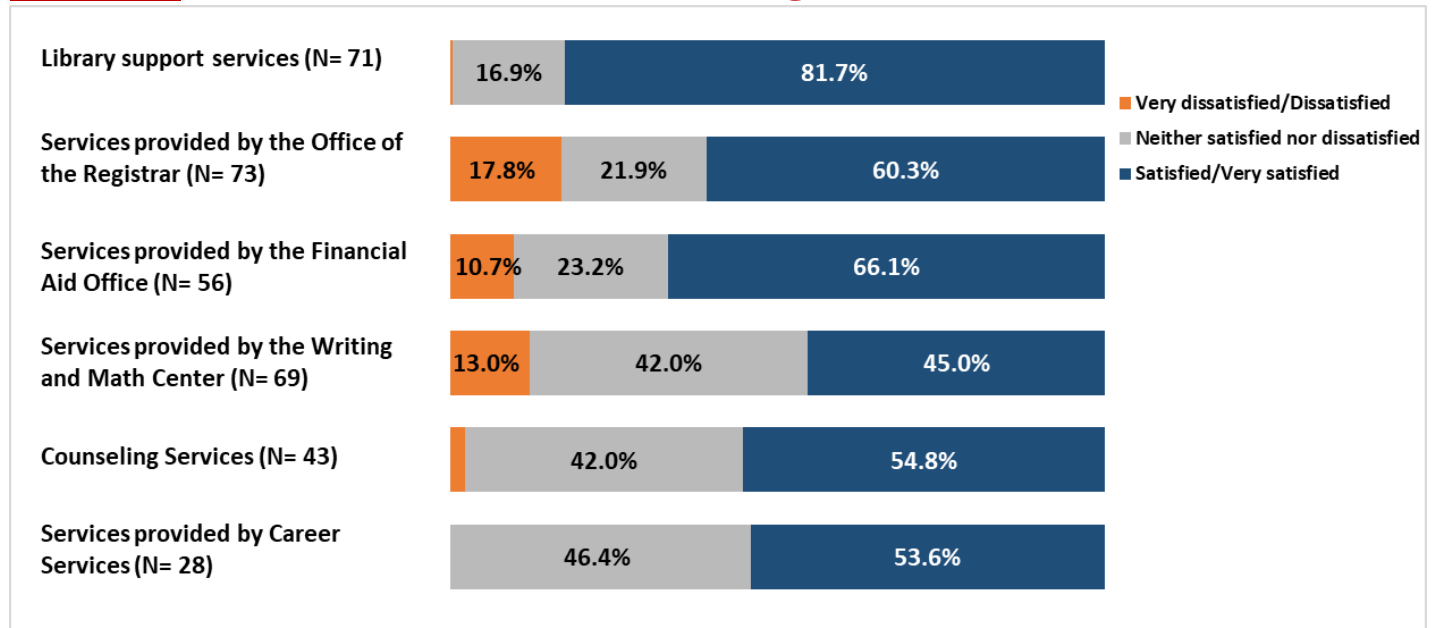


Around 13% of respondents were very dissatisfied/dissatisfied with the guidance on course selection. The vast majority of freshman students (90%) were very satisfied/satisfied with the library resources.

Procedures and resources. The satisfaction with the following:



Services. The satisfaction with the following:



Answers to Open-Ended Questions (coded)⁶:

Positive highlights

What are the THREE things that you like most about AUA?			
N	Response option	Count	%
1	Overall atmosphere	50	26.7%
2	Faculty	33	17.7%
3	Curriculum	20	10.7%
4	Resources	27	14.4%
5	Faculty - Student Interaction	27	14.4%
6	Extra-curricular activites	11	5.9%
7	Other	2	1.1%
8	Facilities	17	9.1%
	Total	187	

Suggestions for improvements

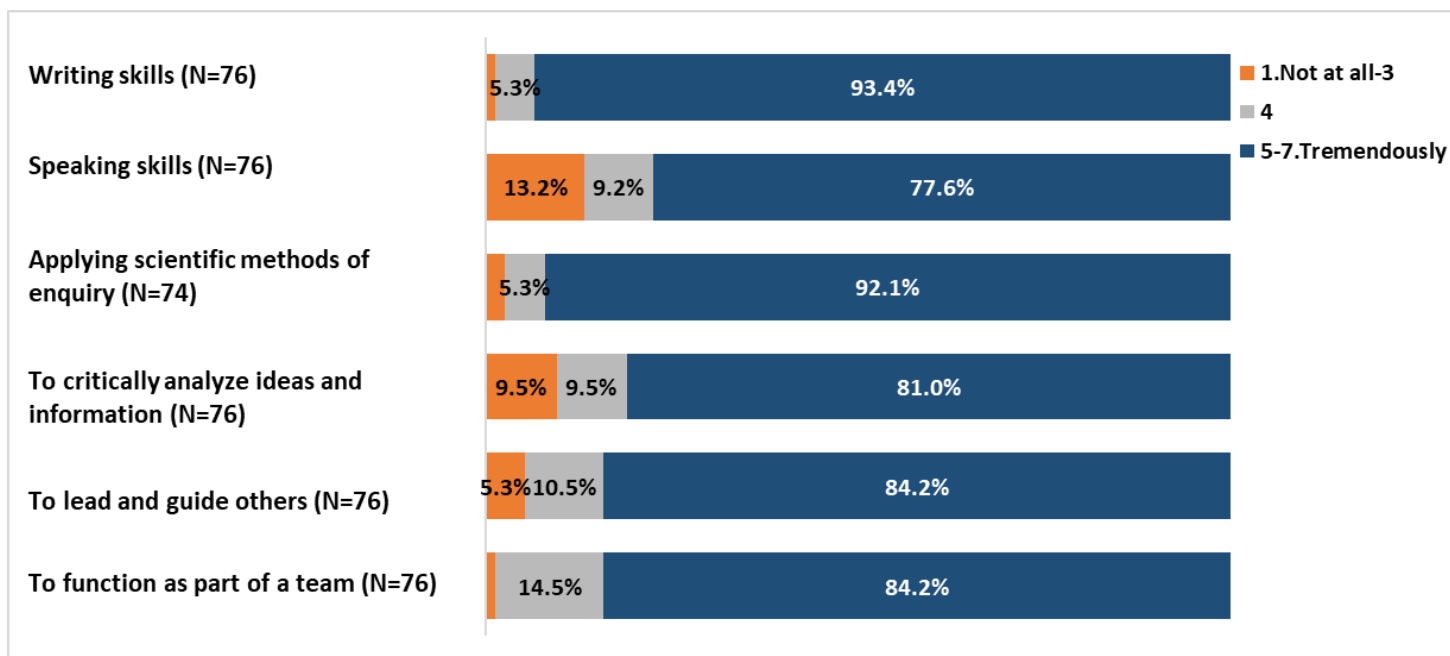
What are the THREE most important things AUA could do to improve the quality of your			
N	Response option	Count	%
1	Curriculum	31	24.2%
2	Other	32	25.0%
3	Extra-curricular activites	19	14.8%
4	Faculty	6	4.7%
5	Facilities	22	17.2%
6	Support Services	18	14.1%
	Total	128	

⁶ The percent is calculated based on the total number of responses.

Expectations for Upcoming Academic Years

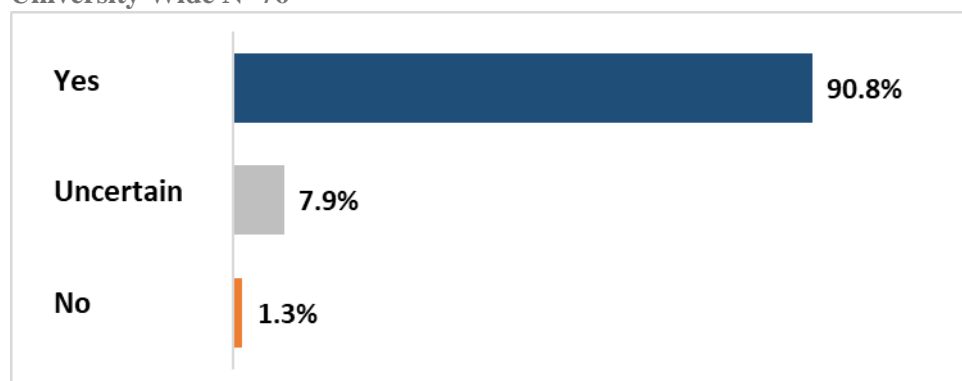
Most of the students rated their preparedness in speaking skills and ability to critically analyze ideas and information higher than four out of seven (1-not at all, 7-tremendously).

The level of preparedness in the following skills:



Expectation to graduate in four years:

University Wide N=76



Methodology and Background

Instrument Design and Timeline

The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment administered the University's 2022 Freshman Student Exit Survey from April 16 to April 30, 2022.

The objectives of the survey were to gather information from freshman students about their first-year experience, academic environment, extracurricular activities, satisfaction with services provided at the university, and expectations for upcoming academic year, as well as to identify areas of possible improvements.

This report describes the methodology used for the survey.

The survey population included 476 freshman students.

Program	Number of eligible respondents	Number of survey respondents	Percent (%) completed
Bachelor of Arts in Business (BAB)	158	20	12.7%
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (BSCS)	107	16	5.6%
Bachelor of Science in Data Science (BSDS)	61	14	23.0%
Bachelor of Arts in English and Communications (BAEC)	88	17	19.3%
Bachelor of Science in Engineering Sciences (BSES)	27	5	18.5%
Bachelor of Arts in Politics and Governance (BAPG)	35	4	11.4%
Total	476	76	16.0%

An email was sent from the Interim Provost to all freshman students on April 16 highlighting the importance of the survey, encouraging participation and providing a direct link to the online survey. In seeking a high response rate, the following course of action was taken:⁷

- Two reminder emails were sent from the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment on April 26, and April 29.
- Program Chairs and the Center for Student Success were asked to promote participation.

A total of **126 (26.5%)** out of **476** freshman students participated in the survey. The results of **50** partially completed surveys were excluded from the analyses, thus denoting a response rate of **16.0%**.

Freshman students by college and by sex distributions in population and in sample are presented in the tables below.

⁷ Due to the fact that the University had administered courses online due to the worldwide pandemic, fliers were not distributed on campus.

Program	Population	Proportion in population	Sample	Proportion in sample
CBE	158	33.2%	20	26.3%
CSE	195	41.0%	35	46.1%
CHSS	123	25.8%	21	27.6%

Sex	Population	Proportion in population	Sample	Proportion in sample
Male	208	43.7%	24	31.6%
Female	268	56.3%	52	68.4%

Description

Upon completion of the on-line survey, data was analyzed in SPSS. Descriptive analysis includes frequencies, custom tables by sex and academic program, calculation of mean values for categorical variables with Likert scale type response options, and medians for ordinal categorical variables.

To detect the difference in the mean values of questions and respondents' sex, independent sample t-test was conducted. One-way ANOVA was run to detect the difference in the mean values of questions between academic colleges. Post-Hoc tests helped to identify the mean difference between particular academic colleges. The significance level used for the statistical tests was 5%. The full report for *internal use only* consists of the following main parts: by program and by sex tables for 2021 survey results, answers to open-ended questions for 2021 survey results, and longitudinal dashboard and tables for 2014-2022 survey results.

In the full report for *internal use only* for statements that have a Not Applicable (N/A) response option, the mean value is calculated without including Not Applicable responses. In the full report, for informational purposes, statements in which Missing Values in the total population and Not Applicable responses combined comprised more than 10% of total responses are marked in white print on black background. The numbering of the responses in the full reports corresponds to the numbering in the survey questionnaire.