

**University of New Orleans
Office of Institutional Research & Data Management
New Student Expectations: Fall 2010
Prepared by: L. Jakiel**

Background: The University of New Orleans completed the first administration of its New Student Survey (NSS). The NSS was designed to gather information about students' perceptions and expectations of the university as they began their college careers at UNO.

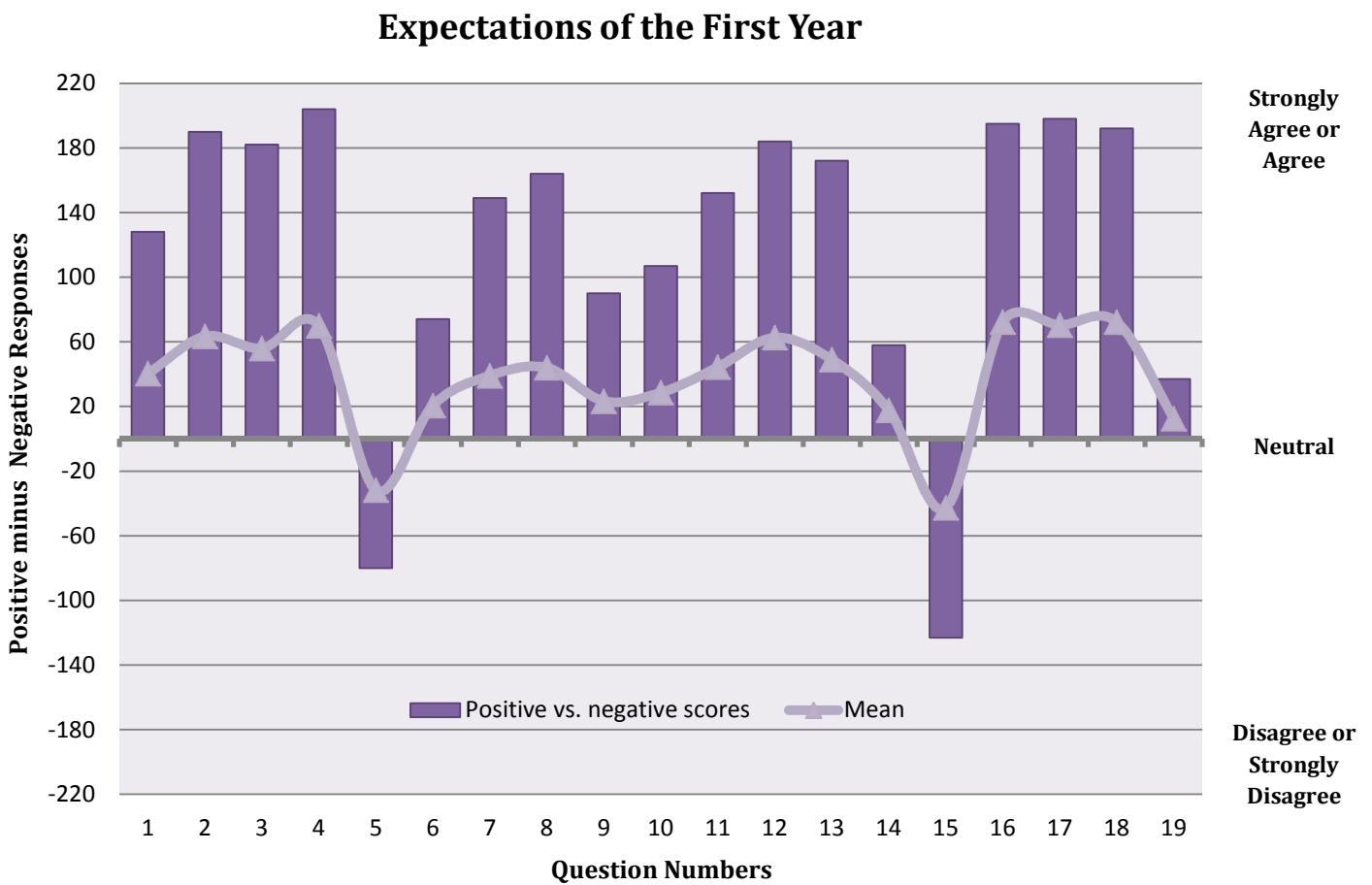
Expectations of the First Year: Students were asked to respond to a variety of statements related to their expectations of their first year at UNO using a likert scale (Strongly Agree = 4; Agree = 3; Disagree = 3; Strongly Disagree = 1). In order to show both the mean response for each item as well as a representation of the strength of the feeling of the respondents, a graph is provided on the following page. In the graph, question means are overlaid on top of the difference between positive and negative responses to each question. The questions were:

1. My classes will be more exciting than my high school classes
2. I will be challenged academically
3. Although I may feel challenged, I am confident in my ability to succeed academically
4. I will regularly come to classes prepared with homework and reading assignments completed
5. I will skip a class for a non-emergency reason
6. Some of the subjects I study this year will be so interesting that I might do more than the required work
7. My instructors will be engaging
8. Faculty will be encouraging and helpful
9. I will talk with faculty members outside of class
10. I will discuss ideas for a paper, project, or assignment with a faculty member
11. I will collaborate with and learn from other students
12. My first year will give me good preparation for my sophomore year
13. I will be able to maintain a balance between my academic work and other aspects of my life
14. I will become involved with a campus group or student club
15. I will join a fraternity/sorority
16. I will make friends with students whose race or ethnicity is different from mine
17. I will make friends with students whose family background (economic/social class) is different from mine
18. I will enjoy being a college student
19. I will participate in community service or service-learning

Findings: The majority of student responses to the expectations items were *positive*. The majority of students who responded to the NSS have *positive expectations* for their first-year experiences at UNO. Notable exceptions are:

- Question 5: “I will skip a class for a non-emergency reason.”
- Question 15: “I will join a fraternity/sorority.”

Negative responses to Question 5, actually indicate a positive student behavioral expectation; students do not plan to skip a class for a non-emergency reason. For Question 15, respondents indicate that they do not expect to join a fraternity or sorority. With a relatively small fraternity/sorority population (230 total members in 14 organizations in Spring 2009), this finding is not necessarily surprising.



Expectations Items & Frequencies from UNO New Student Survey Fall 2010

#	Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1	My classes will be more exciting than my high school classes	65	104	33	8
2	I will be challenged academically	101	99	4	6
3	Although I may feel challenged, I am confident in my ability to succeed academically	81	115	10	4
4	I will regularly come to classes prepared with homework and reading assignments completed	108	99	3	0
5	I will skip a class for a non-emergency reason	10	55	80	65
6	Some of the subjects I study this year will be so interesting that I might do more than the required work	36	105	55	12
7	My instructors will be engaging	47	131	23	6
8	Faculty will be encouraging and helpful	55	132	18	5
9	I will talk with faculty members outside of class	33	117	52	8
10	I will discuss ideas for a paper, project, or assignment with a faculty member	39	119	44	7
11	I will collaborate with and learn from other students	61	120	25	4
12	My first year will give me good preparation for my sophomore year	96	100	10	2
13	I will be able to maintain a balance between my academic work and other aspects of my life	64	127	16	3
14	I will become involved with a campus group or student club	42	92	58	18
15	I will join a fraternity/sorority	19	24	81	85
16	I will make friends with students whose race or ethnicity is different from mine	121	81	4	3
17	I will make friends with students whose family background (economic/social class) is different from mine	115	89	3	3
18	I will enjoy being a college student	124	77	6	3
19	I will participate in community service or service-learning	30	93	75	11