

2004 - 2005 SENIORS'
PERCEPTIONS OF THEIR
VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCES

SUMMARY RESULTS FROM THE
VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY
SENIOR EXIT QUESTIONNAIRE

Office of Strategic Research and Analysis

Valdosta State University
Valdosta, Georgia 31698
August 2005

This report is a descriptive summary of the 972 seniors who graduated during the 2004-2005 academic year and completed the Valdosta State University Senior Exit Questionnaire. There were 1,326 graduates total, creating a 73% return rate. It is anticipated that these results will be used by colleges and departments as one indicator of the effectiveness of the University's programs and services. In addition to this report, each department has received a supplement that provides summary statistics of its seniors' ratings for the academic experiences in the Major Field of Study for that department.

Graduate Assistants Tamara Edrington and Allison Parris and student Assistant Lorimar Negrón coded all of the questionnaires. The report was prepared by Allison Parris and Research Associate Linda Gooden under the guidance of Dr. Ruth Salter. The report was proofread for accuracy by Lorimar Negrón and Research Analyst Angela Henderson. The report is organized as follows:

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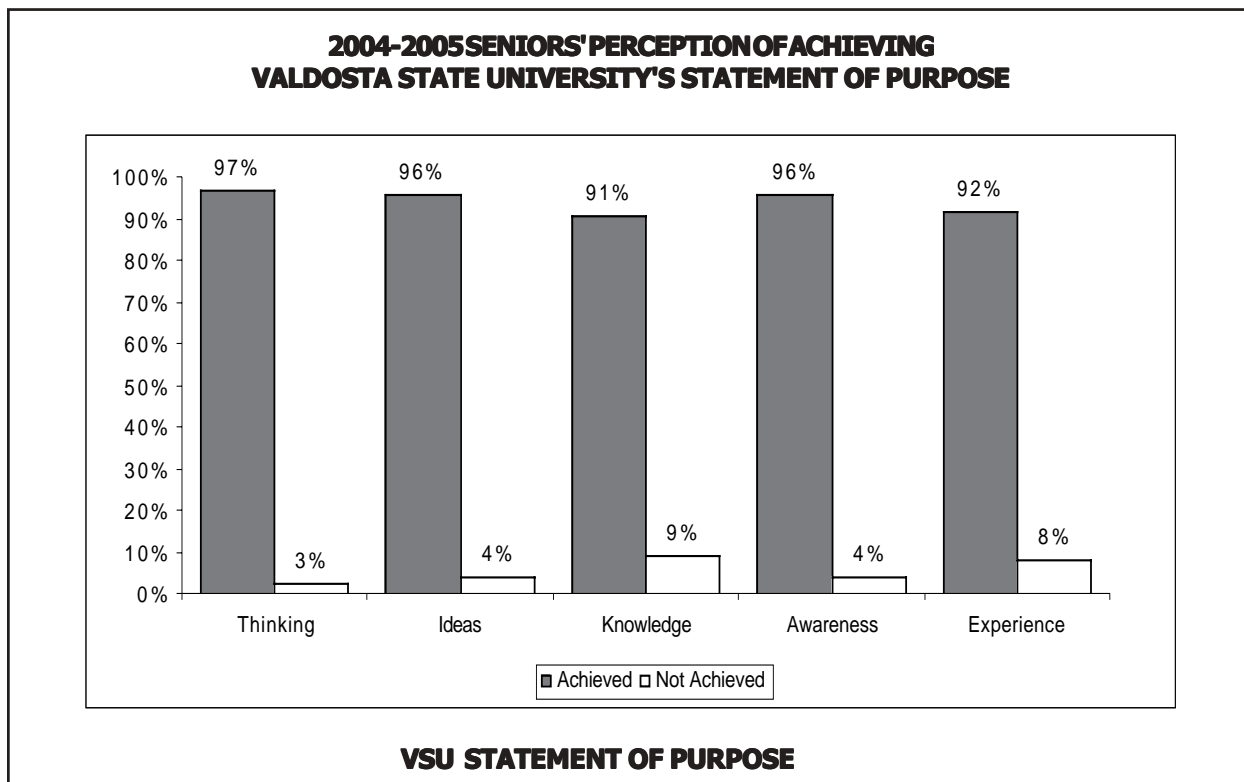
How Effective is Valdosta State University in Achieving Its Statement of Purpose?

One indicator of the University's effectiveness is from the 2004-2005 seniors who were asked to rate the extent to which their experiences at VSU contributed to achieving the following purposes of the University . . .

1. Encouraged thinking critically and independently.
2. Provided an environment for free and open exchange of ideas.
3. Encouraged acquiring and drawing upon knowledge embodied in the liberal arts.
4. Provided an opportunity to function in a professional setting and to act with ethical awareness.
5. Encouraged expanding the range of human experience through personal relationships, cultural experiences, social events, artistic activities, and political exchanges.

The results are graphically depicted below. Ninety-seven percent of the 2004-2005 graduating seniors believed their experiences at the University helped them to achieve the purpose of thinking critically and independently, and ninety-six percent believed the University provided an environment for free and open exchange of ideas. Ninety-one percent of the seniors believed that the University helped them to acquire and draw upon knowledge from the liberal arts. Ninety-six percent of the seniors believed they had the opportunity to function in a professional setting and act with ethical awareness, and ninety-two percent believed the University expanded their range of human experience.

Goal achievement scales are composed of two scales: achieved and not achieved. The "achieved" scale is comprised of "definitely" and "probably" responses. The scale of "not achieved" is comprised of "definitely not" and "probably not" achieved responses.

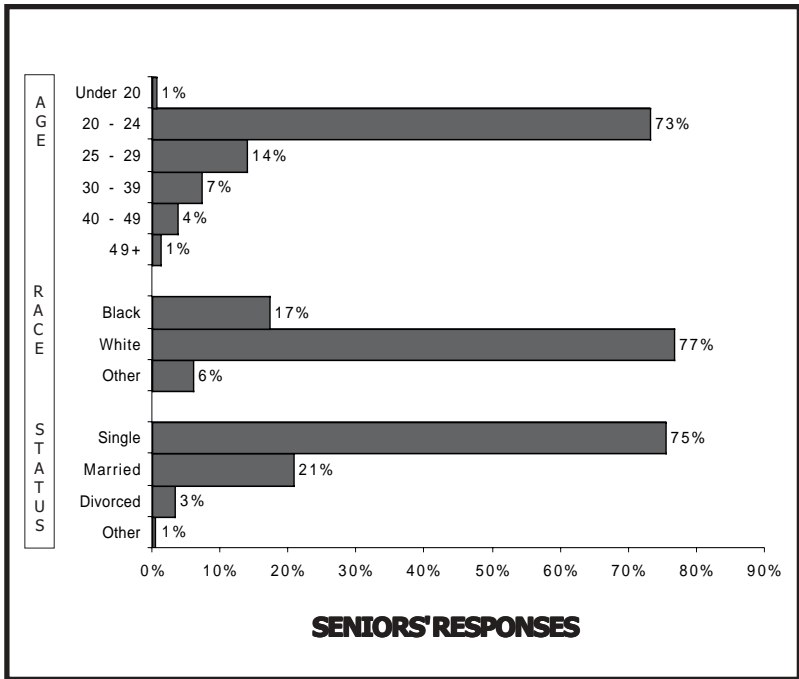


Note: Percents have been rounded to the nearest whole number; therefore may not total 100.

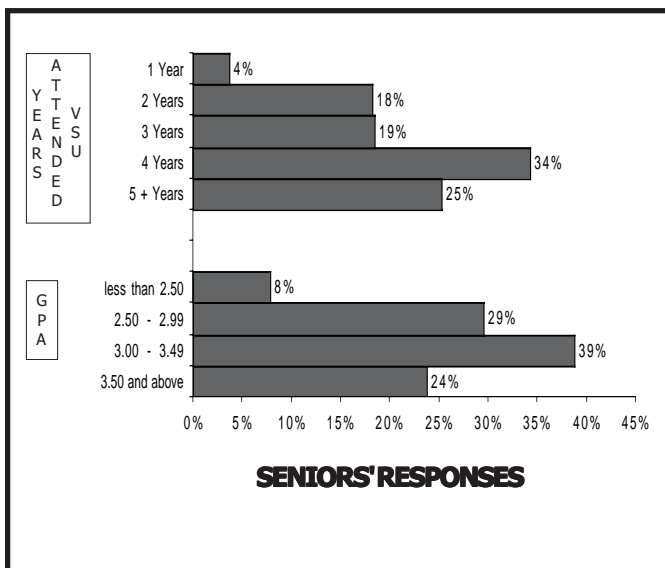
A Demographic Summary

In order for Valdosta State University to maintain its quality of education and assess its strengths and weaknesses, the Senior Exit Questionnaire was developed to evaluate students' overall experiences at Valdosta State University. The seniors were polled during the 2004-2005 fiscal year which corresponds to Summer Semester 2004 through Spring Semester 2005. These seniors were asked to respond by taking into consideration their total experiences at VSU. Background information for these seniors is discussed below.

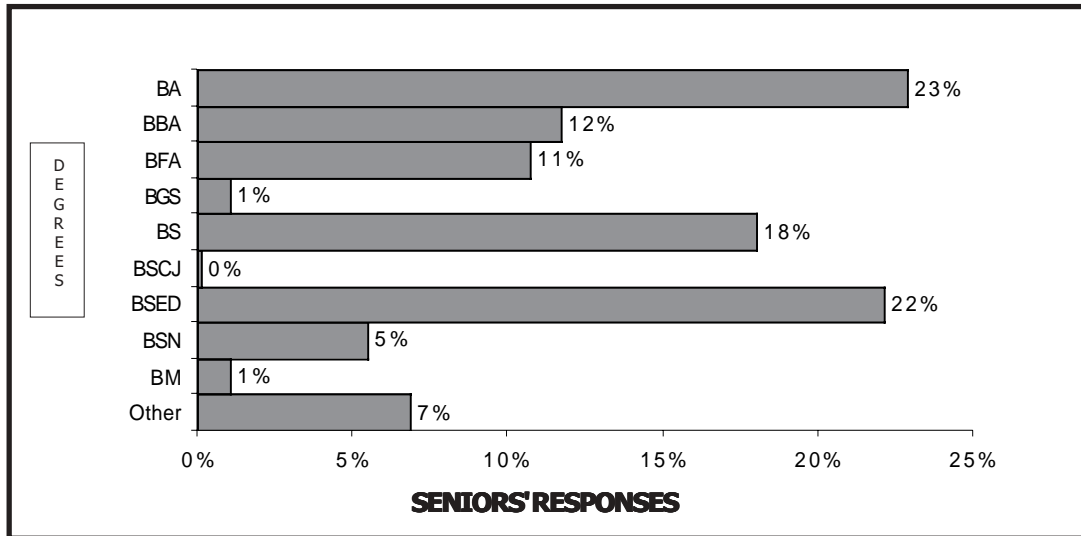
Based on the results of 972 seniors who completed the questionnaire, the age category reveals that less than one percent were under age 20, seventy-three percent of the existing seniors were between 20-24 years of age; fourteen percent were 25-29 years of age; seven percent were 30-39 years of age; four percent were 40-49; and one percent were over 49 years of age. Seventy-two percent of the respondents were females, and the remaining twenty-nine percent were males. Distributions for race revealed seventeen percent of the seniors polled were African-American, seventy-seven percent White, and six percent indicated other races. Seventy-five percent of the seniors were single, twenty-one percent were married, three percent reported being divorced and less than one percent claimed "other" for marital status.



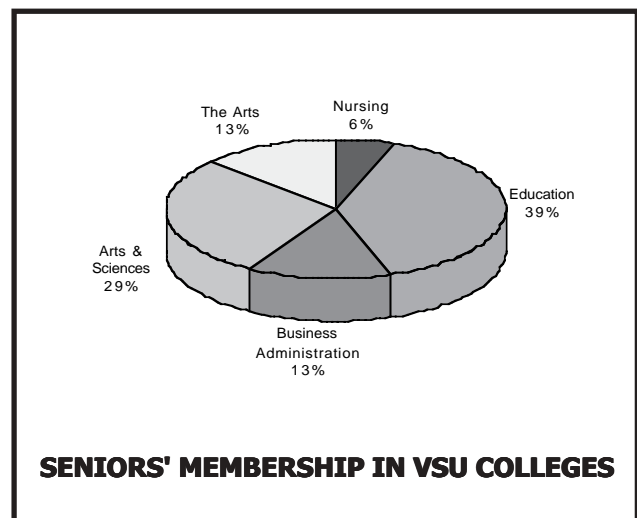
The 2004-2005 seniors were asked to indicate the number of years of attendance at VSU. The results showed that four percent had attended for one year or less; eighteen percent had attended for two years; nineteen percent had attended for three years; thirty-four percent had attended for the conventional four years. Twenty-five percent had attended for five or more years. Interestingly enough, sixty-four percent of the seniors polled had never lived on campus. Twenty-seven percent lived on-campus from 1-2 years; and nine percent had resided on campus for 3 years or more. For overall Grade Point Average, the results showed twenty-four percent of the seniors reported having a GPA of 3.5 or higher, thirty-nine percent reported having a GPA between 3.00 and 3.49, twenty-nine percent reported having a GPA between 2.50 and 2.99, and the remaining eight percent reported having a GPA of less than 2.5.



The number of respondents who identified their degree received or anticipated are graphically shown below. Twenty-three percent of the seniors expected to receive a BA degree. Another twenty-two percent of the seniors anticipated receiving a BSED degree, with the remaining students receiving degrees from one of the other eight categories.



Thirty-nine percent of the seniors identified their college as Education, with another twenty-nine percent belonging to the College of Arts and Sciences. Thirteen percent of the seniors were enrolled in the College of Business Administration. The remaining nineteen percent of the seniors were divided between the College of The Arts and the College of Nursing as displayed in the circle graph to the right.



Upon graduation, ninety-seven percent of the seniors responding plan on working; they will either be seeking new employment or continuing their current career. Of those working, seventy-eight percent of the seniors want to work full-time and nineteen percent want to work part-time. Eighty-five percent of the seniors are planning on attending graduate school. Of those planning to attend graduate school, thirty-nine percent are planning to attend graduate school full-time, with the other forty-seven percent preparing to attend on a part-time basis. In conjunction with those seniors who want to attend graduate school, five percent of all seniors anticipate beginning or continuing military service, and forty-nine percent expect to be caring for a home or family.

As an indicator of future economic growth in this region, forty-eight percent of the graduating seniors who responded plan to reside and work in the South Georgia area. Fifty-two percent plan to leave the South Georgia region; however, seventy-five percent of the total group plan to remain in the state of Georgia. Approximately twenty-five percent of the seniors plan to leave the state of Georgia.

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Seniors' Ratings of The University's Services and Facilities

University Services and Facilities Responses of All Seniors	N	Mean	SD	Quality of Service			
				Excel(4)	Good(3)	Fair(2)	Poor(1)
1. Housing & residence halls	346	2.46	0.77	6%	44%	38%	11%
2. Sororities & fraternities	156	3.32	0.79	49%	36%	12%	3%
3. Clubs & student organizations	474	3.21	0.64	33%	57%	10%	1%
4. Intramural program & services	257	3.19	0.68	32%	57%	8%	2%
5. Athletic and recreation facilities	653	3.57	0.55	60%	37%	3%	0%
6. VSU Undergraduate Bulletin/Catalog	741	3.17	0.69	32%	54%	12%	2%
7. VSU Food Services	703	2.79	0.75	16%	52%	28%	4%
8. Support services for international students	71	2.83	0.99	28%	39%	20%	13%
9. Parking	871	1.45	0.68	2%	6%	27%	65%
10. Shuttle bus services	583	2.51	0.81	11%	39%	40%	10%
11. Cooperative education program	123	2.98	0.83	29%	46%	21%	5%
12. University work-study program	100	3.14	0.77	33%	52%	11%	4%
13. Campus student employment	229	3.09	0.83	35%	45%	16%	5%
14. Career planning services	252	3.07	0.77	30%	50%	17%	3%
15. Job placement services	96	2.80	0.91	24%	42%	25%	9%
16. Counseling center services	138	3.22	0.84	44%	41%	11%	5%
17. Testing services	264	2.96	0.72	22%	56%	20%	3%
18. Minority programs/counseling	39	2.85	0.88	21%	54%	15%	10%
19. Veterans services	49	3.39	0.81	57%	27%	14%	2%
20. Public safety services	287	2.80	0.86	21%	46%	25%	8%
21. Bookstore	917	2.76	0.83	17%	49%	25%	8%
22. Post Office	372	3.11	0.70	28%	58%	12%	2%
23. Handicapped accessibility for VSU facilities	42	2.95	0.94	31%	43%	17%	10%
24. Services for special needs	52	3.40	0.87	60%	27%	8%	6%
25. Health services	555	2.82	0.89	23%	45%	23%	9%
26. VSU Home page	912	3.37	0.61	43%	51%	5%	0%

NOTE: N = the number of seniors responding to the item. Mean = mean of the ratings with Excellent = 4, Good = 3, Fair = 2, and Poor = 1. SD = standard deviation of the mean. Percents have been rounded to the nearest whole number; therefore may not total 100.

Seniors' Ratings of the University's Procedures

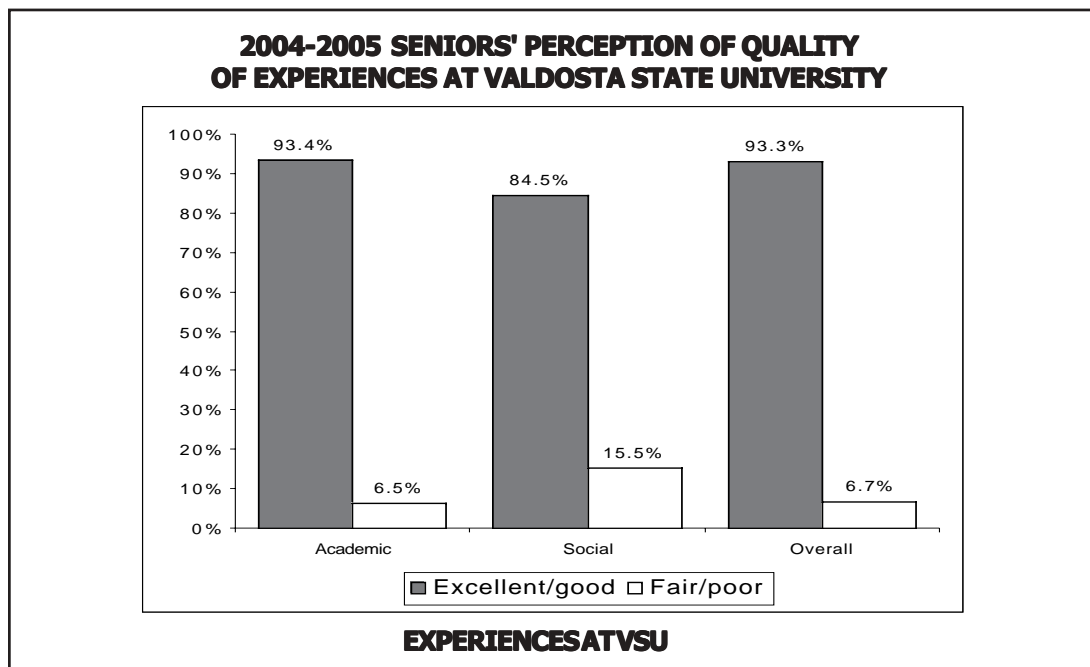
University Services and Facilities Responses of All Seniors	N	Mean	SD	Quality of Service			
				Excel(4)	Good(3)	Fair(2)	Poor(1)
1. Admissions	934	3.34	0.63	42%	52%	5%	1%
Yes - Procedures Clear	881	3.37	0.60	43%	52%	4%	1%
No - Procedures Not Clear	26	2.31	0.74	0%	46%	39%	15%
2. VSU Orientation program	811	3.21	0.73	37%	49%	12%	2%
Yes - Procedures Clear	740	3.25	0.69	39%	50%	11%	1%
No - Procedures Not Clear	35	2.17	0.75	3%	29%	51%	17%
3. Registering for courses	931	3.17	0.76	36%	48%	13%	3%
Yes - Procedures Clear	851	3.23	0.72	38%	49%	11%	2%
No - Procedures Not Clear	45	2.24	0.68	0%	38%	49%	13%
4. Dropping - Adding courses	900	3.25	0.70	38%	50%	10%	2%
Yes - Procedures Clear	820	3.31	0.66	41%	51%	8%	1%
No - Procedures Not Clear	46	2.33	0.76	4%	37%	46%	13%
5. Paying fees	915	3.19	0.73	35%	52%	11%	3%
Yes - Procedures Clear	819	3.27	0.66	38%	53%	8%	1%
No - Procedures Not Clear	67	2.22	0.85	6%	31%	42%	21%
6. Student Grants	565	3.05	0.84	32%	48%	14%	6%
Yes - Procedures Clear	444	3.25	0.69	38%	51%	10%	2%
No - Procedures Not Clear	85	2.04	0.84	2%	29%	38%	31%
7. Student loans	646	3.15	0.78	35%	49%	12%	4%
Yes - Procedures Clear	548	3.28	0.68	40%	50%	9%	2%
No - Procedures Not Clear	73	2.12	0.82	3%	32%	41%	25%
8. Scholarships	590	2.96	0.90	30%	44%	17%	9%
Yes - Procedures Clear	439	3.23	0.73	38%	49%	11%	2%
No - Procedures Not Clear	113	1.96	0.83	3%	24%	40%	34%
9. Work-Study program	264	2.92	0.93	28%	46%	15%	11%
Yes - Procedures Clear	183	3.13	0.82	35%	49%	10%	6%
No - Procedures Not Clear	46	1.91	0.81	2%	22%	41%	35%

NOTE: N = the number of seniors responding to the item. Mean = mean of the ratings with Excellent = 4, Good = 3, Fair = 2, and Poor = 1. SD = standard deviation of the mean. Percents have been rounded to the nearest whole number; therefore may not total 100.

How Effective is Valdosta State University in Creating an Atmosphere for Learning?

One major purpose of the University is to create and maintain an environment for students that is attractive and conducive for learning. As an indicator of how effective the University is in creating an atmosphere for learning, the 2004-2005 seniors were asked to rate the quality of their experiences at Valdosta State University in three areas: academic, social, and overall experiences.

The results are displayed in the table below. The academic experiences were rated as excellent to good by 93.4% of the seniors and as fair to poor by 6.5%. The poor category was chosen by less than one percent of the seniors. Eighty-four and a half percent of the seniors rated their social experiences as excellent to good while fifteen and a half percent rated them as fair to poor. Seniors had high marks for Valdosta State University as 93.3% rated their overall experience as excellent to good. The overall experience was rated as fair to poor by 6.7% of the seniors.



There are two indicators of the University's effectiveness in creating an atmosphere for learning. One is the seniors' rating for the quality of instruction. Second is their rating of the overall quality of faculty. The quality of instruction in the core was rated by eighty-three percent of the seniors as excellent to good and by seventeen percent as fair to poor. Eight percent of the seniors rated the overall quality of the faculty in their majors as fair to poor, while ninety-two percent rated the quality of faculty as excellent to good. A final indicator of the University's effectiveness in this area is that ninety-five percent of the seniors would recommend Valdosta State University to others. There are, as always, specific areas that require improvements; however, the 2004-2005 seniors indicated, based on these factors, the University is doing a good job of creating a positive atmosphere for learning.

Seniors' Ratings of Their Academic Experiences in the Core Curriculum

Academic Experiences Core Curriculum -- All Seniors	N	Mean	SD	Quality of Service			
				Excel(4)	Good(3)	Fair(2)	Poor(1)
VSU PERSONNEL SUPPORT							
1. Availability of academic advisor	784	3.16	0.81	38%	43%	15%	4%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	765	3.12	0.85	38%	42%	16%	5%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	731	3.06	0.78	31%	48%	19%	3%
4. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	740	3.04	0.78	30%	48%	20%	3%
5. Overall attitude of faculty toward students	764	3.09	0.72	30%	52%	17%	2%
6. Overall quality of faculty	761	3.15	0.67	30%	55%	14%	1%
VSU INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT							
7. Courses as preparation for liberal education	621	3.00	0.64	19%	63%	16%	1%
8. Courses as preparation for initial employment	622	2.85	0.73	16%	56%	24%	4%
9. Courses as preparation for graduate school	551	2.89	0.74	20%	54%	24%	3%
10. Getting into required courses	746	2.91	0.79	22%	52%	21%	5%
11. Getting into elective courses	732	2.99	0.75	24%	54%	19%	3%
12. Organization of curriculum	742	3.00	0.69	22%	58%	18%	2%
13. Quality of instruction	747	3.05	0.63	23%	60%	17%	0%
14. Fairness of grading	752	3.08	0.64	24%	61%	15%	1%
15. Practicum or internship experiences	332	3.03	0.81	30%	48%	18%	5%
16. Study abroad experiences	164	3.25	0.65	36%	54%	10%	1%
17. Appearance of printed information about program	606	2.97	0.67	20%	59%	20%	2%
18. Usefulness of printed information about program	597	2.95	0.67	19%	59%	21%	1%
19. Availability of research support	527	3.01	0.69	23%	57%	19%	1%
20. Usefulness of research support	515	3.01	0.69	23%	56%	20%	1%
21. Quality of distance learning courses	229	3.02	0.72	24%	57%	16%	3%
VSU FACILITIES							
22. Library collections/resources	712	3.22	0.69	36%	50%	13%	1%
23. Library facilities	735	3.32	0.65	42%	49%	9%	0%
24. Computer lab facilities	738	3.25	0.72	40%	48%	11%	2%
25. Computer lab availability	739	3.01	0.86	33%	40%	23%	5%
26. Classroom facilities	740	3.09	0.67	27%	58%	15%	1%
27. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	667	3.20	0.67	33%	54%	11%	1%

Seniors' Ratings of Their Academic Experiences in the Major Field of Study

Academic Experiences Major Field of Study -- All Seniors	N	Mean	SD	Quality of Service			
				Excel(4)	Good(3)	Fair(2)	Poor(1)
VSU PERSONNEL SUPPORT							
1. Availability of academic advisor	919	3.46	0.67	55%	38%	7%	1%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	922	3.45	0.72	57%	34%	7%	2%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	905	3.35	0.71	48%	40%	11%	1%
4. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	912	3.41	0.69	52%	39%	8%	1%
5. Overall attitude of faculty toward students	922	3.38	0.70	49%	41%	9%	1%
6. Overall quality of faculty	916	3.41	0.65	49%	43%	7%	1%
VSU INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT							
7. Courses as preparation for liberal education	733	3.26	0.61	34%	58%	7%	1%
8. Courses as preparation for initial employment	791	3.24	0.66	35%	55%	9%	1%
9. Courses as preparation for graduate school	728	3.31	0.66	41%	50%	8%	1%
10. Getting into required courses	897	3.18	0.82	40%	43%	14%	4%
11. Getting into elective courses	834	3.23	0.74	40%	46%	13%	2%
12. Organization of the curriculum	888	3.19	0.71	35%	51%	13%	2%
13. Quality of instruction	898	3.31	0.65	40%	52%	8%	1%
14. Fairness of grading	900	3.22	0.67	35%	53%	11%	1%
15. Practicum or internship experiences	549	3.26	0.78	44%	42%	11%	3%
16. Study abroad experiences	222	3.43	0.67	52%	40%	7%	1%
17. Appearance of printed information about program	790	3.17	0.69	33%	53%	13%	1%
18. Usefulness of printed information about program	788	3.16	0.69	32%	55%	12%	2%
19. Availability of research support	665	3.19	0.68	34%	53%	12%	1%
20. Usefulness of research support	654	3.19	0.67	33%	55%	12%	1%
21. Quality of distance learning courses	292	3.25	0.70	37%	53%	7%	3%
VSU FACILITIES							
22. Library collections/resources	828	3.24	0.73	39%	49%	10%	3%
23. Library facilities	845	3.35	0.67	45%	47%	8%	1%
24. Computer lab facilities	875	3.33	0.70	44%	46%	8%	2%
25. Computer lab availability	873	3.08	0.84	35%	43%	18%	4%
26. Classroom facilities	870	3.15	0.70	31%	54%	13%	2%
27. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	653	3.21	0.73	36%	51%	10%	3%

NOTE: N = the number of seniors responding to the item. Mean = mean of the ratings with Excellent = 4, Good = 3, Fair = 2, and Poor = 1. SD = standard deviation of the mean. Percents have been rounded to the nearest whole number; therefore may not total 100.

**Seniors' Ratings of Their Academic Experiences in the Major Field of Study
College of Arts & Sciences**

Academic Experiences: Major Field of Study College of Arts & Sciences	N	Mean	SD	Quality of Service			
				Excel(4)	Good(3)	Fair(2)	Poor(1)
VSU PERSONNEL SUPPORT							
1. Availability of academic advisor	258	3.49	0.63	55%	40%	5%	1%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	260	3.45	0.68	54%	38%	7%	1%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	256	3.39	0.70	50%	40%	9%	1%
4. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	257	3.45	0.66	53%	40%	6%	1%
5. Overall attitude of faculty toward students	258	3.40	0.69	50%	40%	8%	1%
6. Overall quality of faculty	258	3.43	0.64	51%	42%	7%	0%
VSU INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT							
7. Courses as preparation for liberal education	217	3.29	0.63	38%	54%	8%	1%
8. Courses as preparation for initial employment	215	3.13	0.69	29%	58%	11%	2%
9. Courses as preparation for graduate school	212	3.28	0.69	39%	52%	6%	2%
10. Getting into required courses	251	3.08	0.85	36%	42%	18%	5%
11. Getting into elective courses	244	3.17	0.80	39%	41%	17%	3%
12. Organization of the curriculum	247	3.23	0.67	36%	52%	11%	1%
13. Quality of instruction	251	3.32	0.63	41%	51%	8%	0%
14. Fairness of grading	252	3.25	0.69	38%	52%	9%	2%
15. Practicum or internship experiences	129	3.16	0.90	40%	43%	8%	9%
16. Study abroad experiences	71	3.44	0.69	54%	38%	7%	1%
17. Appearance of printed information about program	212	3.17	0.71	33%	53%	12%	2%
18. Usefulness of printed information about program	217	3.16	0.70	31%	56%	11%	2%
19. Availability of research support	200	3.24	0.68	36%	53%	10%	2%
20. Usefulness of research support	198	3.22	0.67	35%	54%	11%	1%
21. Quality of distance learning courses	74	3.23	0.65	32%	61%	4%	3%
VSU FACILITIES							
22. Library collections/resources	245	3.20	0.78	39%	46%	12%	3%
23. Library facilities	250	3.34	0.68	45%	45%	9%	1%
24. Computer lab facilities	250	3.32	0.67	43%	48%	8%	1%
25. Computer lab availability	250	3.12	0.83	38%	40%	19%	3%
26. Classroom facilities	248	3.17	0.68	32%	54%	13%	1%
27. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	189	3.25	0.68	38%	52%	9%	2%

**Seniors' Ratings of Their Academic Experiences in the Major Field of Study
College of Business Administration**

Academic Experiences: Major Field of Study College of Business Administration	N	Mean	SD	Quality of Service			
				Excel(4)	Good(3)	Fair(2)	Poor(1)
VSU PERSONNEL SUPPORT							
1. Availability of academic advisor	128	3.40	0.68	50%	41%	9%	1%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	129	3.48	0.66	57%	33%	9%	0%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	126	3.40	0.68	50%	41%	9%	1%
4. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	128	3.41	0.70	52%	39%	8%	2%
5. Overall attitude of faculty toward students	129	3.45	0.66	54%	36%	9%	0%
6. Overall quality of faculty	129	3.46	0.61	52%	42%	6%	0%
VSU INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT							
7. Courses as preparation for liberal education	99	3.15	0.61	25%	67%	6%	2%
8. Courses as preparation for initial employment	111	3.24	0.69	38%	50%	12%	1%
9. Courses as preparation for graduate school	99	3.29	0.63	38%	53%	9%	0%
10. Getting into required courses	126	3.21	0.74	37%	51%	10%	3%
11. Getting into elective courses	126	3.21	0.74	37%	51%	10%	3%
12. Organization of the curriculum	125	3.19	0.68	32%	58%	8%	2%
13. Quality of instruction	126	3.29	0.58	36%	58%	6%	0%
14. Fairness of grading	126	3.23	0.61	33%	58%	10%	0%
15. Practicum or internship experiences	45	3.16	0.80	38%	42%	18%	2%
16. Study abroad experiences	27	3.33	0.62	41%	52%	7%	0%
17. Appearance of printed information about program	101	3.17	0.60	28%	61%	11%	0%
18. Usefulness of printed information about program	100	3.16	0.58	26%	64%	10%	0%
19. Availability of research support	91	3.22	0.66	34%	55%	10%	1%
20. Usefulness of research support	91	3.21	0.61	31%	59%	10%	0%
21. Quality of distance learning courses	36	3.22	0.64	31%	64%	3%	3%
VSU FACILITIES							
22. Library collections/resources	113	3.31	0.63	39%	54%	6%	1%
23. Library facilities	115	3.35	0.65	44%	49%	7%	1%
24. Computer lab facilities	125	3.44	0.68	54%	38%	8%	1%
25. Computer lab availability	125	3.11	0.84	38%	40%	18%	4%
26. Classroom facilities	124	3.14	0.73	32%	53%	13%	2%
27. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	67	3.18	0.67	31%	57%	10%	2%

NOTE: N = the number of seniors responding to the item. Mean = mean of the ratings with Excellent = 4, Good = 3, Fair = 2, and Poor = 1. SD = standard deviation of the mean. Percents have been rounded to the nearest whole number; therefore may not total 100.

**Seniors' Ratings of Their Academic Experiences in the Major Field of Study
College of The Arts**

Academic Experiences: Major Field of Study College of The Arts	N	Mean	SD	Quality of Service			
				Excel(4)	Good(3)	Fair(2)	Poor(1)
VSU PERSONNEL SUPPORT							
1. Availability of academic advisor	115	3.67	0.53	70%	28%	3%	0%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	116	3.59	0.66	67%	27%	4%	2%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	112	3.50	0.62	56%	38%	6%	0%
4. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	114	3.60	0.58	64%	32%	4%	0%
5. Overall attitude of faculty toward students	115	3.53	0.63	60%	33%	7%	0%
6. Overall quality of faculty	115	3.58	0.53	60%	38%	2%	0%
VSU INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT							
7. Courses as preparation for liberal education	96	3.29	0.61	37%	57%	5%	1%
8. Courses as preparation for initial employment	105	3.29	0.65	38%	53%	8%	1%
9. Courses as preparation for graduate school	86	3.24	0.72	40%	47%	13%	1%
10. Getting into required courses	114	3.31	0.80	48%	38%	11%	4%
11. Getting into elective courses	110	3.35	0.69	46%	44%	9%	1%
12. Organization of the curriculum	113	3.22	0.73	38%	48%	12%	2%
13. Quality of instruction	115	3.45	0.60	50%	44%	5%	0%
14. Fairness of grading	115	3.25	0.70	38%	50%	10%	2%
15. Practicum or internship experiences	68	3.29	0.83	50%	32%	15%	3%
16. Study abroad experiences	39	3.56	0.68	67%	23%	10%	0%
17. Appearance of printed information about program	110	3.24	0.75	42%	41%	16%	1%
18. Usefulness of printed information about program	108	3.24	0.75	41%	44%	13%	2%
19. Availability of research support	93	3.12	0.75	33%	46%	19%	1%
20. Usefulness of research support	91	3.15	0.71	33%	51%	15%	1%
21. Quality of distance learning courses	42	3.48	0.67	57%	33%	10%	0%
VSU FACILITIES							
22. Library collections/resources	112	3.11	0.86	37%	44%	13%	6%
23. Library facilities	114	3.32	0.76	47%	40%	10%	3%
24. Computer lab facilities	116	3.39	0.66	48%	42%	10%	0%
25. Computer lab availability	115	2.97	0.87	30%	41%	24%	5%
26. Classroom facilities	112	3.10	0.72	30%	53%	16%	2%
27. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	92	3.30	0.71	44%	45%	11%	1%

**Seniors' Ratings of Their Academic Experiences in the Major Field of Study
College of Nursing**

Academic Experiences: Major Field of Study College of Nursing	N	Mean	SD	Quality of Service			
				Excel(4)	Good(3)	Fair(2)	Poor(1)
VSU PERSONNEL SUPPORT							
1. Availability of academic advisor	48	3.23	0.88	46%	38%	10%	6%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	48	3.23	0.97	50%	33%	6%	10%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	48	3.04	0.80	33%	38%	29%	0%
4. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	48	3.06	0.81	33%	42%	23%	2%
5. Overall attitude of faculty toward students	49	2.88	1.05	35%	33%	18%	14%
6. Overall quality of faculty	49	2.94	0.90	33%	33%	31%	4%
VSU INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT							
7. Courses as preparation for liberal education	37	3.16	0.69	30%	60%	8%	3%
8. Courses as preparation for initial employment	42	3.02	0.68	24%	55%	21%	0%
9. Courses as preparation for graduate school	39	3.21	0.70	36%	49%	15%	0%
10. Getting into required courses	46	3.50	0.66	57%	39%	2%	2%
11. Getting into elective courses	37	3.46	0.65	54%	38%	8%	0%
12. Organization of the curriculum	47	2.79	0.91	23%	40%	28%	9%
13. Quality of instruction	46	2.87	0.89	24%	48%	20%	9%
14. Fairness of grading	47	2.98	0.82	30%	40%	28%	2%
15. Practicum or internship experiences	35	3.29	0.79	46%	40%	11%	3%
16. Study abroad experiences	10	3.70	0.48	70%	30%	0%	0%
17. Appearance of printed information about program	45	3.09	0.79	33%	44%	20%	2%
18. Usefulness of printed information about program	44	3.05	0.78	30%	48%	21%	2%
19. Availability of research support	36	3.17	0.78	36%	47%	14%	3%
20. Usefulness of research support	35	3.17	0.79	37%	46%	14%	3%
21. Quality of distance learning courses	18	3.28	0.83	50%	28%	22%	0%
VSU FACILITIES							
22. Library collections/resources	45	3.44	0.69	53%	40%	4%	2%
23. Library facilities	45	3.53	0.69	62%	31%	4%	2%
24. Computer lab facilities	46	3.43	0.72	54%	37%	7%	2%
25. Computer lab availability	47	3.19	0.88	43%	40%	11%	6%
26. Classroom facilities	47	2.98	0.92	32%	43%	17%	9%
27. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	43	3.14	0.89	42%	35%	19%	5%

NOTE: N = the number of seniors responding to the item. Mean = mean of the ratings with Excellent = 4, Good = 3, Fair = 2, and Poor = 1. SD = standard deviation of the mean. Percents have been rounded to the nearest whole number; therefore may not total 100.

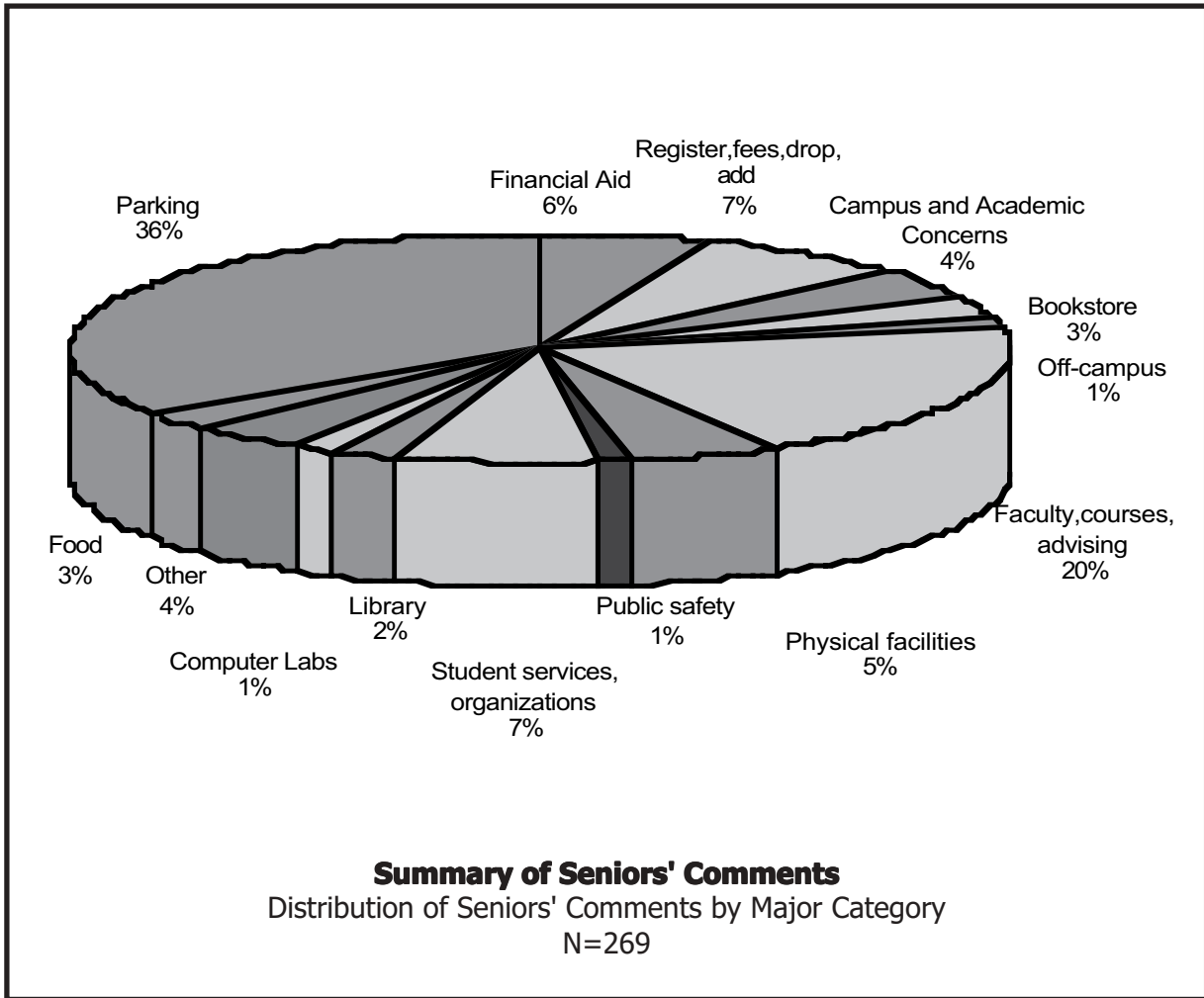
**Seniors' Ratings of Their Academic Experiences in the Major Field of Study
College of Education**

Academic Experiences: Major Field of Study College of Education	N	Mean	SD	Quality of Service			
				Excel(4)	Good(3)	Fair(2)	Poor(1)
VSU PERSONNEL SUPPORT							
1. Availability of academic advisor	347	3.41	0.70	52%	38%	9%	1%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	347	3.42	0.75	55%	35%	8%	3%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	340	3.30	0.73	44%	43%	12%	2%
4. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	341	3.38	0.70	50%	40%	9%	1%
5. Overall attitude of faculty toward students	348	3.37	0.66	47%	44%	8%	1%
6. Overall quality of faculty	342	3.39	0.62	47%	47%	6%	0%
VSU INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT							
7. Courses as preparation for liberal education	267	3.28	0.59	35%	59%	6%	0%
8. Courses as preparation for initial employment	298	3.34	0.60	40%	55%	5%	1%
9. Courses as preparation for graduate school	273	3.40	0.61	46%	48%	6%	0%
10. Getting into required courses	339	3.14	0.83	38%	43%	15%	4%
11. Getting into elective courses	297	3.23	0.70	37%	50%	11%	1%
12. Organization of the curriculum	335	3.22	0.71	38%	48%	13%	1%
13. Quality of instruction	339	3.31	0.64	40%	52%	7%	1%
14. Fairness of grading	338	3.21	0.65	33%	56%	10%	1%
15. Practicum or internship experiences	256	3.33	0.69	45%	45%	9%	1%
16. Study abroad experiences	69	3.35	0.68	45%	46%	7%	1%
17. Appearance of printed information about program	303	3.18	0.66	32%	56%	12%	1%
18. Usefulness of printed information about program	300	3.17	0.67	31%	55%	12%	1%
19. Availability of research support	229	3.18	0.65	31%	57%	11%	1%
20. Usefulness of research support	223	3.18	0.66	31%	57%	10%	1%
21. Quality of distance learning courses	111	3.19	0.75	34%	55%	6%	5%
VSU FACILITIES							
22. Library collections/resources	293	3.25	0.66	36%	54%	8%	1%
23. Library facilities	302	3.33	0.62	41%	52%	6%	1%
24. Computer lab facilities	316	3.26	0.72	40%	49%	9%	3%
25. Computer lab availability	315	3.05	0.83	32%	46%	17%	5%
26. Classroom facilities	320	3.18	0.67	32%	55%	12%	1%
27. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	243	3.17	0.76	34%	53%	8%	5%

Seniors' Ratings of Their Atmosphere For Learning

Atmosphere for Learning	N	Mean	SD	Agreement with Statement			
				DY (4)	PY (3)	PN (2)	DN (1)
1. VSU helped me develop and demonstrate my ability to think critical and independently	942	3.49	0.57	52%	45%	2%	0%
2. VSU helped me to engage in free and open exchange of ideas	937	3.48	0.59	52%	45%	3%	1%
3. VSU helped me to acquire and draw upon knowledge embodied in the liberal arts	864	3.32	0.66	42%	49%	9%	1%
4. VSU helped me to function in a professional setting and to act with ethical awareness	927	3.50	0.60	55%	40%	4%	1%
5. VSU encouraged me to expand my range of human experience personally, culturally, socially, artistically, and politically	915	3.43	0.67	52%	40%	7%	1%
6. If I started college over, I would choose to attend VSU	935	3.29	0.78	46%	40%	11%	3%
7. I would recommend VSU to others	942	3.51	0.63	57%	38%	3%	1%
				Quality of Ratings			
	N	Mean	SD	Excel (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)
8. I would rate my academic experiences at VSU as . . .	943	3.34	0.62	41%	53%	6%	1%
9. I would rate my social experiences at VSU as . . .	937	3.22	0.72	39%	46%	14%	1%
10. I would rate my overall experiences at VSU as . . .	939	3.35	0.62	42%	52%	6%	0%

NOTE: N = the number of seniors responding to the item. Mean = mean of the ratings with Excellent = 4, Good = 3, Fair = 2, and Poor = 1 OR DY = Definitely Yes (4), PY = Probably Yes (3), PN = Probably Not (2) and DN = Definitely Not (1). SD = standard deviation of the mean. Percents have been rounded to the nearest whole number; therefore may not total 100.



Note: Senior comments are distributed to the appropriate departments.

Summary Highlights From 2004-2005 VSU Seniors

- The three Services/Facilities most frequently used were:
 - Bookstore
 - VSU Homepage
 - Parking

- The Services/Facilities with highest average rating for quality of service (4=high; 1=low) were:
 - Athletic and Recreation Facilities (mean = 3.57)
 - Special Needs Services (mean = 3.40)
 - Veterans Services (mean = 3.39)

- The clearest University procedures were found for:
 - Admissions
 - Registering for Courses
 - Dropping/Adding Courses
 - Paying Fees

- The academic experiences with highest average rating for quality in the Core Curriculum (4=high; 1=low) were:
 - Library Facilities (mean = 3.32)
 - Computer Lab Facilities (mean = 3.25)
 - Study Abroad Experiences (mean = 3.25)

- The academic experiences with highest average rating for quality in the Major Field of Study (4=high; 1=low) were:
 - Availability of Advisor (mean = 3.46)
 - Helpfulness of Advisor (mean = 3.45)
 - Study Abroad Experiences (mean = 3.43)

- Overall satisfaction with VSU was indicated by:
 - 86% would choose to attend VSU again
 - 95% would recommend VSU to others