

2002 - 2003 SENIORS'
PERCEPTIONS OF THEIR
VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCES

SUMMARY RESULTS FROM THE
VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY
SENIOR EXIT QUESTIONNAIRE

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This report is a descriptive summary of the 1,073 seniors who graduated during the 2002-2003 academic year and completed the Valdosta State University Senior Exit Questionnaire. 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.

Student Assistant Natasha Walker coded all of the questionnaires. The report was prepared by Research Assistant/Administrative Coordinator Angela Elder. The report was proofed for accuracy by Research Associates Linda Gooden and Verna Harvey under the guidance of the Former Director of Institutional Research and Policy Analysis, Michael R. Crowe and Interim Director, Ruth Salter. The report is organized as follows:

T O P I C	PAGE
Effectiveness of VSU in Achieving Its Statement of Purpose	3
Demographic Summary of 2002-03 Seniors	4
Seniors' Ratings of the University's Services and Facilities	6
Seniors' Ratings of the University's Procedures	7
Effectiveness of VSU in Creating An Atmosphere for Learning	8
Seniors' Ratings of Their Academic Experiences in the Core Curriculum	9
Seniors' Ratings of Their Academic Experiences in the Major Field of Study	9
Seniors' Ratings of Their Academic Experiences in the Major Field of Study:	
College of Arts & Sciences	10
College of Business Administration	10
College of The Arts	11
College of Nursing	11
College of Education	12
Seniors' Ratings of Their Atmosphere for Learning	12
Seniors' Comments	13
Summary Highlights From 2002-03 VSU Seniors	20
Appendix A: Summary of 2002-2003 Seniors' Academic Experiences	

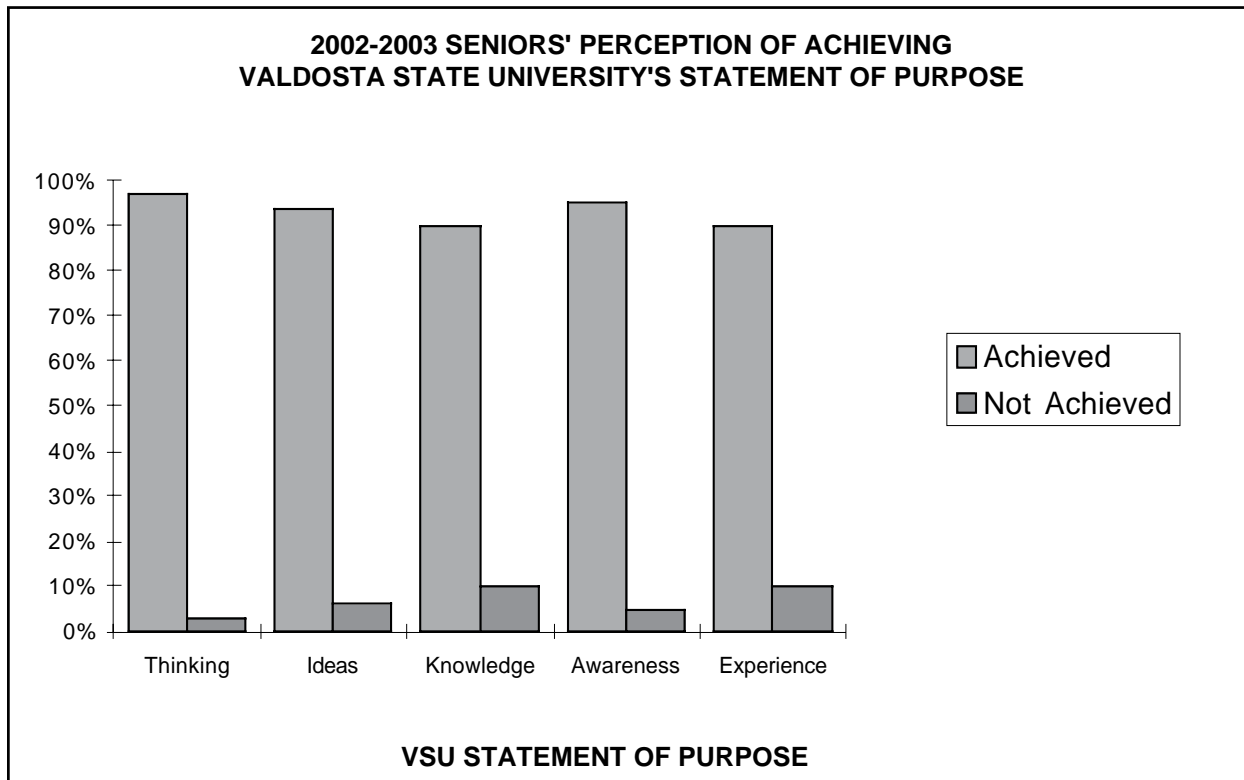
How Effective is Valdosta State University in Achieving Its Statement of Purpose?

One indicator of the University's effectiveness is from the 2002-2003 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 2002-2003 graduating seniors believed their experiences at the University helped them to achieve the purpose of thinking critically and independently, and ninety-four 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-four percent of the seniors believed they had the opportunity to function in a professional setting and act with ethical awareness, and ninety 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.

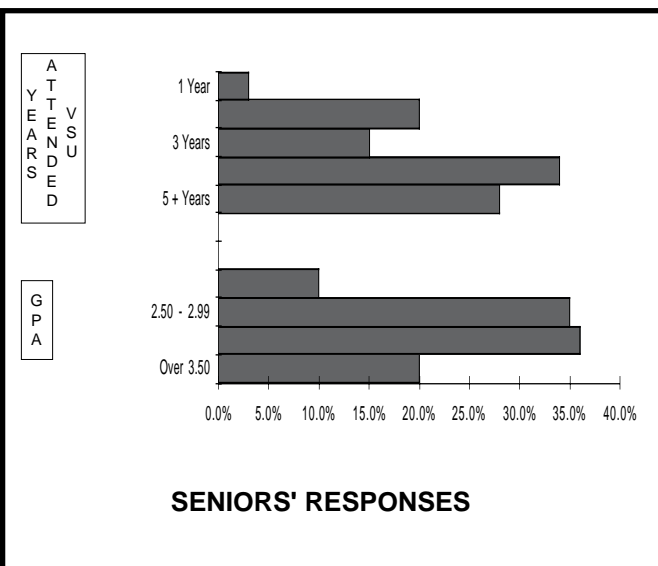
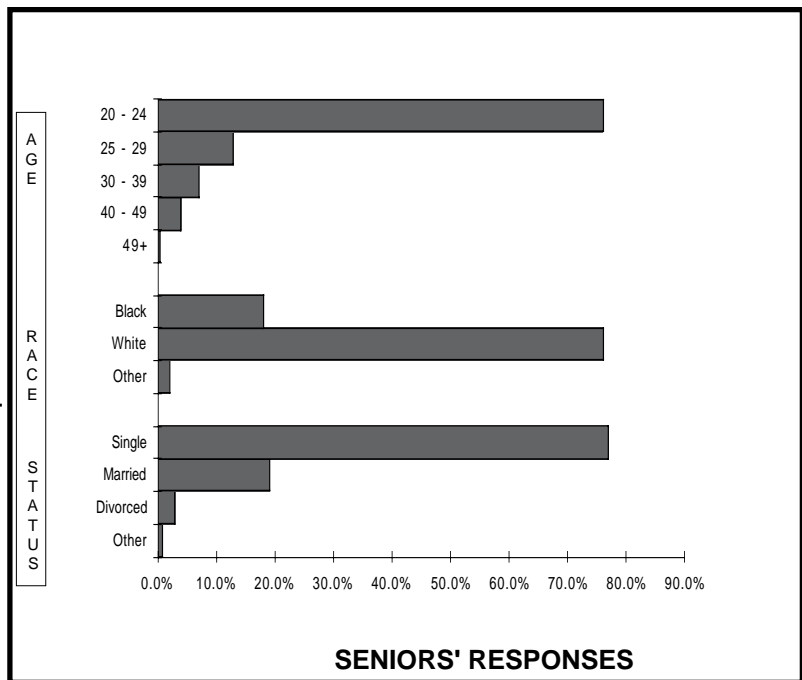


Note: Percents have been rounded to the nearest whole number; therefore may not total 100.

A Demographic Summary

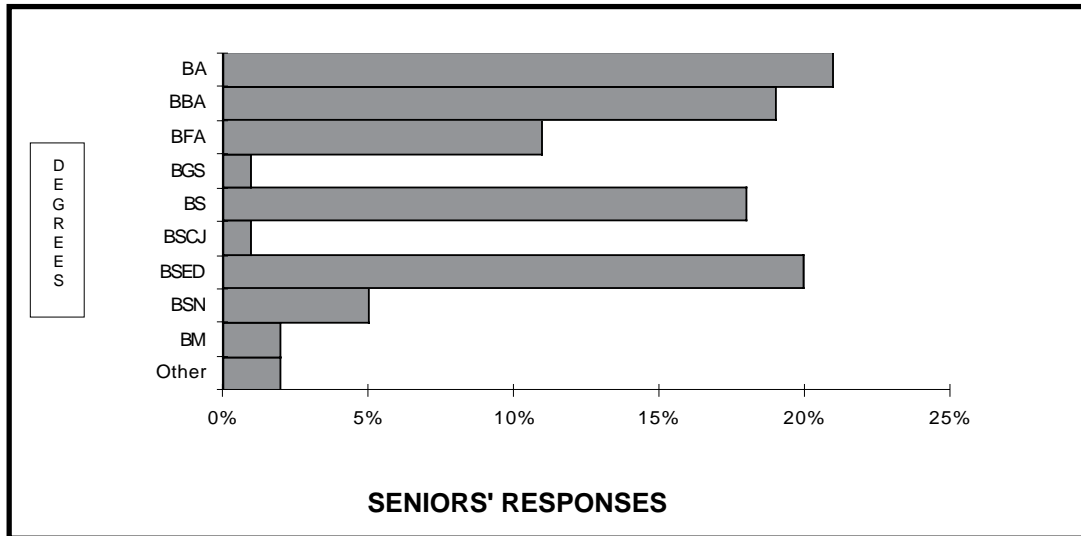
In order for Valdosta State University to maintain its quality of education and assess its strengths and weaknesses, the Senior Exit Questionnaire was developed to evaluate students' overall experiences at Valdosta State University. The seniors were polled during the 2002-2003 fiscal year which corresponds to Summer Semester 2002 through Spring Semester 2003. 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 1,073 seniors who completed the questionnaire, the age category reveals that less than one percent were under age 20, seventy-six percent of the existing seniors were between 20-24 years of age; thirteen percent were 25-29 years of age; seven percent were 30-39 years of age; seven percent were 40-49; and less than one percent were over 49 years of age. Sixty-four percent of the respondents were females, and the remaining thirty-six percent were males. Distributions for race revealed eighteen percent of the seniors polled were African-American, seventy-six percent White, and six percent indicated Other races. Seventy-seven percent of the seniors were single, nineteen percent were married, three percent reported being divorced and one percent Other.

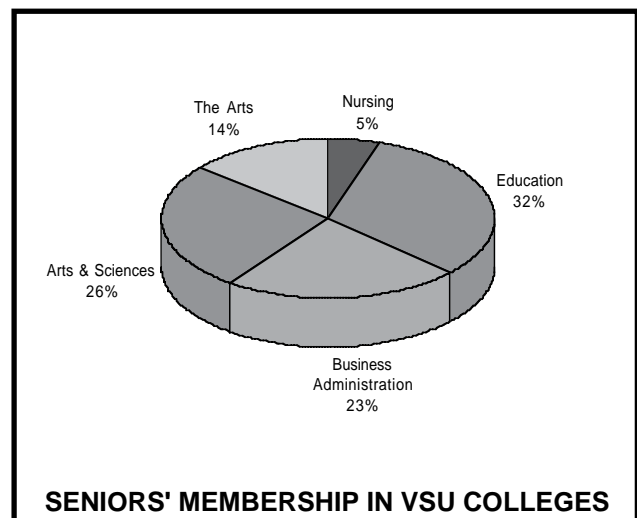


The 2002-2003 seniors were asked to indicate the number of years of attendance at VSU. The results showed that three percent had attended for one year or less; twenty percent had attended for two years; fifteen percent had attended for three years; thirty-four percent had attended for the conventional four years. Twenty-eight percent had attended for five or more years. Interestingly enough, sixty-four percent of the seniors polled had never lived on campus. Twenty-nine percent lived on-campus from 1-2 years; and eight percent had resided on campus for 3-4 years. For overall Grade Point Average, the results showed twenty percent of the seniors reported having a GPA of 3.5 or higher, thirty-six percent reported having a GPA between 3.00 and 3.49, thirty-five percent reported having a GPA between 2.50 and 2.99, and the remaining ten percent reported having a GPA of less than 2.5.

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



Twenty-six percent of the seniors identified their college as Arts and Sciences, with another twenty-three percent belonging to the College of Business Administration. Thirty-two percent of the seniors were enrolled in the College of Education. 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, eighty-six percent of the seniors plan on working, they will either be seeking new employment or continuing their current career. Of those working, eighty-four percent of the seniors want to work full-time and sixteen percent want to work part-time. Sixty-seven percent of the seniors are planning on attending graduate school. Of those planning to attend graduate school, forty-three percent are planning to attend graduate school full-time, with the other fifty-seven percent preparing to attend on a part-time basis. In conjunction with those seniors who want to attend graduate school, four percent of all seniors anticipate beginning or continuing military service, and fifty-one 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 plan to reside and work in the South Georgia area. Fifty-two percent plan to leave the South Georgia region; however, seventy-four percent plan to remain in the state of Georgia. Approximately twenty-six percent of the seniors plan to leave the state of Georgia.

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	397	2.31	0.77	4%	40%	42%	15%
2. Sororities & fraternities	204	3.27	0.81	46%	41%	9%	4%
3. Clubs & student organizations	508	3.24	0.63	35%	55%	10%	0%
4. Intramural program & services	324	3.10	0.66	25%	61%	11%	2%
5. Athletic and recreation facilities	613	3.17	0.74	35%	49%	14%	2%
6. VSU Undergraduate Bulletin/Catalog	909	3.18	0.65	30%	58%	11%	1%
7. VSU Food Services	741	2.60	0.79	10%	48%	33%	9%
8. Support services for international students	67	2.60	0.99	18%	42%	22%	18%
9. Parking	980	1.41	0.67	1%	7%	23%	69%
10. Shuttle bus services	699	2.59	0.78	10%	48%	34%	8%
11. Cooperative education program	168	2.76	0.92	23%	41%	27%	10%
12. University work-study program	115	3.05	0.77	29%	51%	17%	4%
13. Campus student employment	271	3.02	0.83	30%	47%	18%	5%
14. Career planning services	317	2.99	0.70	23%	55%	21%	1%
15. Job placement services	105	2.81	0.79	17%	52%	25%	6%
16. Counseling center services	159	3.17	0.77	36%	48%	13%	3%
17. Testing services	311	2.83	0.70	14%	58%	24%	3%
18. Minority programs/counseling	33	2.94	0.90	27%	49%	15%	9%
19. Veterans services	48	3.06	0.86	33%	46%	15%	6%
20. Public safety services	339	2.78	0.85	20%	47%	26%	8%
21. Bookstore	1030	2.66	0.84	14%	48%	29%	10%
22. Post Office	435	3.01	0.68	22%	58%	18%	2%
23. Handicapped accessibility for VSU facilities	40	2.80	0.94	23%	48%	18%	13%
24. Services for special needs	60	2.90	1.02	32%	42%	12%	15%
25. Health services	649	2.80	0.87	21%	47%	23%	9%
26. VSU Home page	1025	3.32	0.63	40%	53%	7%	1%

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

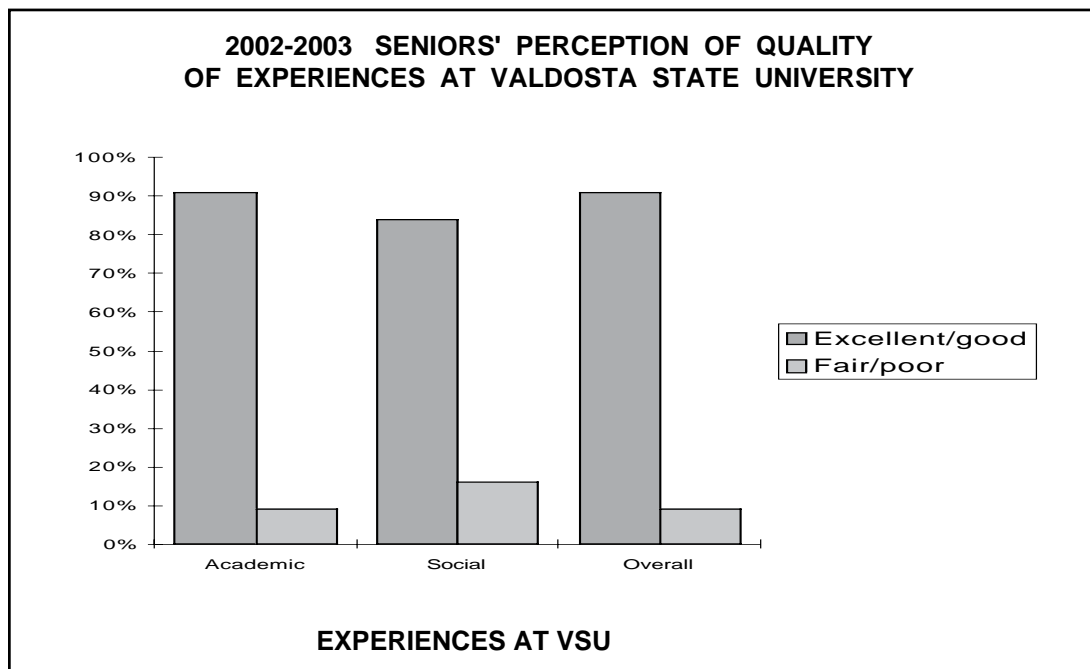
University Services and Facilities Responses of All Seniors	N	Mean	SD	Quality of Service			
				Excel(4)	Good(3)	Fair(2)	Poor(1)
1. Admissions	1053	3.28	0.67	38%	53%	7%	2%
Yes - Procedures Clear	999	3.32	0.63	40%	54%	5%	1%
No - Procedures Not Clear	43	2.28	0.85	7%	33%	42%	19%
2. VSU Orientation program	911	3.14	0.75	33%	52%	12%	3%
Yes - Procedures Clear	857	3.20	0.70	34%	53%	11%	2%
No - Procedures Not Clear	40	1.93	0.76	0%	25%	43%	33%
3. Registering for courses	1054	3.06	0.81	31%	48%	17%	4%
Yes - Procedures Clear	958	3.14	0.75	33%	49%	15%	3%
No - Procedures Not Clear	80	2.14	0.84	5%	28%	44%	24%
4. Dropping - Adding courses	1014	3.13	0.77	34%	49%	14%	3%
Yes - Procedures Clear	924	3.22	0.70	36%	51%	11%	2%
No - Procedures Not Clear	72	2.01	0.70	1%	21%	56%	22%
5. Paying fees	1048	3.07	0.81	31%	49%	15%	5%
Yes - Procedures Clear	952	3.16	0.73	34%	52%	12%	3%
No - Procedures Not Clear	81	1.89	0.74	3%	15%	52%	31%
6. Student Grants	651	2.89	0.94	28%	45%	15%	12%
Yes - Procedures Clear	506	3.19	0.73	34%	53%	9%	3%
No - Procedures Not Clear	126	1.73	0.79	2%	14%	37%	46%
7. Student loans	704	2.91	0.93	28%	45%	16%	11%
Yes - Procedures Clear	587	3.12	0.78	33%	51%	12%	4%
No - Procedures Not Clear	106	1.74	0.80	3%	13%	39%	45%
8. Scholarships	651	2.87	0.96	28%	44%	16%	12%
Yes - Procedures Clear	504	3.16	0.75	34%	52%	10%	4%
No - Procedures Not Clear	130	1.72	0.79	3%	12%	39%	46%
9. Work-Study program	306	2.81	0.97	25%	45%	15%	14%
Yes - Procedures Clear	228	3.12	0.75	31%	54%	11%	4%
No - Procedures Not Clear	58	1.57	0.73	2%	9%	35%	55%

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 2002-2003 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 ninety-one percent of the seniors and as fair to poor by nine percent. The poor category was chosen by only one percent of the seniors. Eighty-four percent of the seniors rated their social experiences as excellent to good while sixteen percent rated them as fair to poor. Overall, seniors had high marks for Valdosta State University as ninety-one percent rated their total experience as excellent to good. Nine percent felt their experience was fair to poor.



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-one percent of the seniors as excellent to good and by nineteen percent as fair to poor. Seven percent of the seniors rated the overall quality of the faculty in their majors as fair to poor, while ninety-three percent rated the quality of faculty as excellent to good. A final indicator of the University's effectiveness in this area is that ninety-three percent of the seniors would recommend Valdosta State University to others. There are, as always, specific areas that require improvements; however, the 2002-2003 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	912	3.07	0.84	34%	43%	18%	5%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	875	3.03	0.89	35%	39%	20%	6%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	841	3.04	0.76	28%	51%	18%	3%
4. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	850	2.98	0.81	27%	48%	21%	5%
5. Overall attitude of faculty toward students	888	3.01	0.75	26%	52%	20%	3%
6. Overall quality of faculty	886	3.07	0.69	25%	58%	15%	2%
VSU INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT							
7. Courses as preparation for liberal education	739	2.94	0.59	14%	67%	18%	1%
8. Courses as preparation for initial employment	765	2.78	0.75	14%	57%	24%	6%
9. Courses as preparation for graduate school	672	2.82	0.75	16%	55%	25%	5%
10. Getting into required courses	873	2.83	0.79	19%	51%	25%	6%
11. Getting into elective courses	859	2.90	0.76	20%	55%	21%	4%
12. Organization of curriculum	863	2.90	0.69	17%	59%	21%	3%
13. Quality of instruction	873	2.99	0.64	19%	62%	18%	1%
14. Fairness of grading	877	3.00	0.66	20%	63%	16%	2%
15. Practicum or internship experiences	377	2.94	0.77	22%	54%	19%	5%
16. Study abroad experiences	203	2.92	0.83	23%	53%	16%	7%
17. Appearance of printed information about program	714	2.90	0.66	15%	62%	21%	2%
18. Usefulness of printed information about program	709	2.88	0.68	15%	60%	23%	2%
19. Availability of research support	638	2.91	0.69	17%	59%	22%	3%
20. Usefulness of research support	627	2.91	0.70	17%	59%	21%	3%
21. Quality of distance learning courses	264	2.83	0.80	17%	58%	17%	8%
VSU FACILITIES							
22. Library collections/resources	848	3.06	0.73	26%	56%	14%	3%
23. Library facilities	862	3.11	0.70	28%	58%	12%	2%
24. Computer lab facilities	862	3.06	0.73	27%	55%	15%	3%
25. Computer lab availability	863	2.85	0.84	22%	47%	24%	7%
26. Classroom facilities	875	3.01	0.66	21%	60%	18%	1%
27. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	781	2.99	0.71	22%	59%	16%	3%

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	1047	3.47	0.69	57%	35%	7%	2%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	1050	3.46	0.73	58%	33%	7%	2%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	1032	3.35	0.71	47%	42%	9%	2%
4. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	1031	3.40	0.69	50%	41%	8%	1%
5. Overall attitude of faculty toward students	1045	3.39	0.66	48%	44%	7%	1%
6. Overall quality of faculty	1045	3.43	0.64	51%	43%	6%	1%
VSU INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT							
7. Courses as preparation for liberal education	859	3.23	0.59	31%	61%	7%	0%
8. Courses as preparation for initial employment	951	3.26	0.67	37%	53%	8%	2%
9. Courses as preparation for graduate school	850	3.28	0.64	38%	53%	8%	1%
10. Getting into required courses	1022	3.17	0.79	38%	46%	13%	4%
11. Getting into elective courses	967	3.21	0.71	36%	51%	11%	2%
12. Organization of the curriculum	1022	3.18	0.71	34%	52%	11%	2%
13. Quality of instruction	1025	3.33	0.62	41%	52%	6%	1%
14. Fairness of grading	1028	3.26	0.68	37%	53%	8%	2%
15. Practicum or internship experiences	577	3.25	0.71	38%	51%	9%	2%
16. Study abroad experiences	246	3.24	0.71	37%	52%	8%	3%
17. Appearance of printed information about program	892	3.16	0.64	29%	59%	11%	1%
18. Usefulness of printed information about program	897	3.15	0.66	29%	58%	12%	1%
19. Availability of research support	806	3.13	0.69	29%	56%	13%	2%
20. Usefulness of research support	795	3.13	0.68	29%	57%	13%	1%
21. Quality of distance learning courses	339	3.12	0.74	30%	55%	11%	4%
VSU FACILITIES							
22. Library collections/resources	946	3.11	0.73	30%	56%	12%	3%
23. Library facilities	954	3.18	0.67	31%	58%	9%	2%
24. Computer lab facilities	985	3.18	0.73	34%	52%	10%	3%
25. Computer lab availability	986	2.95	0.86	28%	46%	20%	7%
26. Classroom facilities	1003	3.15	0.68	30%	57%	11%	2%
27. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	715	3.14	0.70	30%	58%	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	273	3.49	0.71	60%	33%	5%	3%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	274	3.47	0.76	61%	29%	7%	3%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	272	3.40	0.72	52%	39%	7%	2%
4. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	269	3.44	0.65	52%	42%	6%	1%
5. Overall attitude of faculty toward students	272	3.42	0.66	51%	42%	6%	1%
6. Overall quality of faculty	274	3.43	0.67	52%	41%	6%	2%
VSU INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT							
7. Courses as preparation for liberal education	232	3.23	0.60	32%	60%	8%	0%
8. Courses as preparation for intitial employment	247	3.14	0.70	30%	57%	10%	3%
9. Courses as preparation for graduate school	235	3.27	0.68	39%	51%	9%	1%
10. Getting into required courses	263	3.13	0.82	36%	46%	13%	5%
11. Getting into elective courses	263	3.21	0.72	36%	52%	10%	3%
12. Organization of the curriculum	265	3.17	0.73	34%	52%	12%	3%
13. Quality of instruction	268	3.38	0.63	46%	48%	6%	1%
14. Fairness of grading	268	3.29	0.69	41%	50%	8%	2%
15. Practicum or internship experiences	116	3.20	0.74	35%	53%	9%	3%
16. Study abroad experiences	71	3.30	0.66	38%	56%	3%	3%
17. Appearance of printed information about program	229	3.18	0.65	31%	57%	11%	1%
18. Usefulness of printed information about program	225	3.19	0.66	32%	56%	12%	1%
19. Availability of research support	211	3.18	0.70	33%	54%	11%	2%
20. Usefulness of research support	213	3.20	0.70	35%	52%	12%	1%
21. Quality of distance learning courses	80	3.21	0.72	35%	55%	6%	4%
VSU FACILITIES							
22. Library collections/resources	257	3.08	0.74	28%	55%	13%	4%
23. Library facilities	258	3.17	0.68	32%	55%	11%	2%
24. Computer lab facilities	260	3.18	0.70	33%	54%	12%	2%
25. Computer lab availability	263	2.97	0.87	29%	45%	19%	7%
26. Classroom facilities	266	3.22	0.66	34%	56%	9%	1%
27. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	200	3.20	0.67	33%	56%	10%	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	239	3.47	0.72	57%	35%	5%	3%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	241	3.40	0.74	53%	37%	8%	3%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	236	3.38	0.63	45%	49%	5%	1%
4. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	239	3.31	0.72	44%	45%	9%	2%
5. Overall attitude of faculty toward students	241	3.37	0.63	45%	49%	6%	1%
6. Overall quality of faculty	241	3.43	0.60	48%	48%	3%	1%
VSU INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT							
7. Courses as preparation for liberal education	193	3.18	0.57	26%	66%	7%	1%
8. Courses as preparation for intitial employment	224	3.28	0.65	37%	55%	7%	1%
9. Courses as preparation for graduate school	197	3.25	0.60	34%	58%	8%	0%
10. Getting into required courses	237	3.04	0.78	29%	50%	18%	3%
11. Getting into elective courses	234	3.07	0.72	27%	55%	15%	3%
12. Organization of the curriculum	234	3.22	0.62	33%	58%	9%	0%
13. Quality of instruction	234	3.29	0.58	35%	59%	5%	0%
14. Fairness of grading	236	3.25	0.64	34%	57%	7%	1%
15. Practicum or internship experiences	95	3.06	0.77	28%	54%	14%	4%
16. Study abroad experiences	60	3.13	0.72	32%	52%	15%	2%
17. Appearance of printed information about program	195	3.06	0.61	20%	68%	11%	2%
18. Usefulness of printed information about program	198	3.10	0.65	25%	61%	12%	2%
19. Availability of research support	192	3.02	0.73	25%	56%	16%	3%
20. Usefulness of research support	191	2.99	0.71	22%	59%	16%	3%
21. Quality of distance learning courses	92	2.97	0.72	21%	59%	17%	3%
VSU FACILITIES							
22. Library collections/resources	215	3.03	0.75	26%	56%	14%	4%
23. Library facilities	220	3.10	0.68	26%	62%	10%	3%
24. Computer lab facilities	234	3.24	0.64	35%	55%	10%	0%
25. Computer lab availability	234	3.03	0.78	30%	47%	21%	3%
26. Classroom facilities	232	3.13	0.67	28%	60%	11%	2%
27. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	146	3.16	0.62	27%	62%	10%	1%

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	141	3.70	0.52	73%	24%	3%	0%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	141	3.66	0.57	70%	26%	3%	1%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	137	3.53	0.63	59%	35%	5%	1%
4. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	140	3.64	0.61	70%	24%	5%	1%
5. Overall attitude of faculty toward students	140	3.54	0.64	60%	35%	4%	1%
6. Overall quality of faculty	141	3.61	0.56	65%	32%	4%	0%
VSU INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT							
7. Courses as preparation for liberal education	124	3.40	0.57	44%	52%	4%	0%
8. Courses as preparation for intitial employment	133	3.45	0.62	52%	41%	7%	0%
9. Courses as preparation for graduate school	110	3.44	0.67	54%	36%	10%	0%
10. Getting into required courses	139	3.30	0.77	47%	39%	12%	2%
11. Getting into elective courses	133	3.40	0.65	48%	44%	7%	1%
12. Organization of the curriculum	140	3.32	0.69	43%	49%	6%	2%
13. Quality of instruction	139	3.47	0.54	50%	48%	2%	0%
14. Fairness of grading	140	3.41	0.58	46%	50%	4%	0%
15. Practicum or internship experiences	84	3.32	0.62	41%	51%	8%	0%
16. Study abroad experiences	40	3.58	0.55	60%	38%	3%	0%
17. Appearance of printed information about program	120	3.29	0.64	38%	53%	8%	1%
18. Usefulness of printed information about program	123	3.24	0.69	37%	52%	10%	2%
19. Availability of research support	118	3.25	0.68	38%	48%	14%	0%
20. Usefulness of research support	116	3.23	0.65	35%	53%	12%	0%
21. Quality of distance learning courses	45	3.36	0.68	44%	49%	4%	2%
VSU FACILITIES							
22. Library collections/resources	131	3.10	0.72	28%	59%	10%	4%
23. Library facilities	131	3.18	0.69	32%	57%	9%	2%
24. Computer lab facilities	136	3.13	0.87	38%	45%	10%	7%
25. Computer lab availability	135	2.77	1.01	29%	33%	25%	13%
26. Classroom facilities	138	3.05	0.76	28%	51%	17%	3%
27. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	102	3.14	0.76	32%	53%	11%	4%

**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	56	3.14	0.77	34%	50%	13%	4%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	56	3.14	0.86	39%	41%	14%	5%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	56	2.98	0.77	27%	46%	25%	2%
4. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	56	3.27	0.67	39%	48%	13%	0%
5. Overall attitude of faculty toward students	56	3.07	0.68	27%	54%	20%	0%
6. Overall quality of faculty	55	3.09	0.73	31%	47%	22%	0%
VSU INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT							
7. Courses as preparation for liberal education	40	3.13	0.61	23%	70%	5%	3%
8. Courses as preparation for intitial employment	44	3.16	0.68	30%	59%	9%	2%
9. Courses as preparation for graduate school	38	3.11	0.65	24%	66%	8%	3%
10. Getting into required courses	55	3.36	0.69	46%	46%	9%	0%
11. Getting into elective courses	41	3.22	0.65	34%	54%	12%	0%
12. Organization of the curriculum	54	2.93	0.72	20%	54%	24%	2%
13. Quality of instruction	55	2.96	0.69	20%	58%	20%	2%
14. Fairness of grading	53	3.06	0.72	26%	55%	17%	2%
15. Practicum or internship experiences	46	3.02	0.75	26%	52%	20%	2%
16. Study abroad experiences	16	3.06	0.93	38%	38%	19%	6%
17. Appearance of printed information about program	52	3.15	0.57	25%	65%	10%	0%
18. Usefulness of printed information about program	53	3.08	0.55	19%	70%	11%	0%
19. Availability of research support	46	2.96	0.67	17%	63%	17%	2%
20. Usefulness of research support	44	2.98	0.66	18%	64%	16%	2%
21. Quality of distance learning courses	25	3.00	0.71	24%	52%	24%	0%
VSU FACILITIES							
22. Library collections/resources	50	3.18	0.72	32%	58%	6%	4%
23. Library facilities	51	3.20	0.66	31%	59%	8%	2%
24. Computer lab facilities	52	3.02	0.83	29%	50%	15%	6%
25. Computer lab availability	52	2.98	0.80	25%	54%	15%	6%
26. Classroom facilities	55	2.93	0.77	20%	58%	16%	6%
27. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	47	3.02	0.74	23%	60%	13%	4%

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	335	3.41	0.69	52%	38%	10%	1%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	335	3.46	0.70	57%	34%	8%	2%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	328	3.28	0.74	44%	42%	13%	2%
4. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	324	3.34	0.70	46%	44%	8%	2%
5. Overall attitude of faculty toward students	333	3.35	0.67	45%	46%	8%	1%
6. Overall quality of faculty	331	3.42	0.63	49%	44%	7%	0%
VSU INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT							
7. Courses as preparation for liberal education	267	3.21	0.58	30%	61%	9%	0%
8. Courses as preparation for initial employment	300	3.27	0.67	38%	53%	8%	2%
9. Courses as preparation for graduate school	267	3.28	0.63	37%	55%	8%	1%
10. Getting into required courses	325	3.22	0.79	40%	46%	10%	4%
11. Getting into elective courses	293	3.23	0.72	38%	50%	10%	2%
12. Organization of the curriculum	326	3.15	0.75	34%	51%	13%	3%
13. Quality of instruction	326	3.33	0.63	41%	51%	8%	0%
14. Fairness of grading	328	3.20	0.71	35%	53%	10%	2%
15. Practicum or internship experiences	234	3.36	0.67	45%	48%	5%	2%
16. Study abroad experiences	56	3.09	0.75	27%	61%	7%	5%
17. Appearance of printed information about program	293	3.15	0.66	29%	57%	12%	1%
18. Usefulness of printed information about program	295	3.12	0.67	28%	57%	14%	1%
19. Availability of research support	236	3.14	0.63	27%	61%	11%	1%
20. Usefulness of research support	228	3.15	0.62	27%	61%	11%	0%
21. Quality of distance learning courses	94	3.11	0.80	31%	55%	7%	6%
VSU FACILITIES							
22. Library collections/resources	290	3.20	0.71	35%	53%	10%	2%
23. Library facilities	291	3.25	0.64	35%	56%	8%	1%
24. Computer lab facilities	300	3.20	0.74	35%	53%	8%	4%
25. Computer lab availability	299	2.94	0.84	26%	49%	18%	7%
26. Classroom facilities	309	3.20	0.64	31%	59%	9%	1%
27. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	217	3.11	0.75	29%	58%	8%	5%

Seniors' Ratings of Their Atmosphere For Learning

Atmosphere for Learning (All Alumni)	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 critically and independently	1054	3.44	0.57	47%	50%	3%	1%
2. VSU helped me to engage in free and open exchange of ideas	1054	3.40	0.64	47%	47%	5%	1%
3. VSU helped me to acquire and draw upon knowledge embodied in the liberal arts	980	3.28	0.66	38%	52%	9%	1%
4. VSU helped me to function in a professional setting and to act with ethical awareness	1043	3.44	0.63	51%	44%	5%	1%
5. VSU encouraged me to expand my range of human experience personally, culturally, socially, artistically, and politically	1034	3.36	0.70	48%	42%	9%	1%
6. If I started college over, I would choose to attend VSU	1055	3.18	0.80	39%	44%	13%	4%
7. I would recommend VSU to others	1054	3.43	0.67	51%	42%	5%	2%
				Quality of Ratings			
	N	Mean	SD	Excel (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)
8. I would rate my academic experiences at VSU as . . .	1062	3.26	0.64	36%	55%	8%	1%
9. I would rate my social experiences at VSU as . . .	1058	3.20	0.75	38%	46%	14%	2%
10. I would rate my overall experiences at VSU as . . .	1061	3.29	0.65	39%	52%	8%	1%

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.

Seniors' Comments

All of the seniors' comments are represented; minor editing has been applied to a few comments. Comments which occur repeatedly have been summarized and are followed with the count of similar comments in parentheses

- ◆ Parking is inadequate and needs to be drastically improved. (89)
 - ◆ Bookstore prices are too high. (5)
 - ◆ More computer labs with longer hours are needed. (3)
 - ◆ Financial Aid is highly disorganized and needs more qualified personnel.(3)
 - ◆ The food at Palms needs improvement. (2)
 - ◆ Parking was frustrating! I'd suggest more shuttle buses with clear routes to all campus locations.
 - ◆ There needs to be a better system set up for paying fees. You should be able to pay VSU fees at the bursary as well as the P.C. complex if you so choose.
 - ◆ Web based courses taken by out-of-county students should not carry all the fees of an on campus course. When this was protested the response was "well maybe we can fix it next year". That is of little solace after completion of the program.
 - ◆ Fraternities need to be watched more closely. When called to Greek Affairs to complain I got a snobbish "I don't care" attitude from the director. This made me think even less of student affairs.
 - ◆ Several times I wanted to appeal tickets that were given at the end of the semester. Unfortunately, I was not able to because of having a flag on my record, and not being able to register on time. One of the complaints involved triple ticketing of my automobile for the same infringement. I was forced to pay \$30.00 because I had to register the next day.
 - ◆ Parking here is horrible. There is not enough for the accommodation of all the people here. We need to build a parking deck on top of the Oak Street parking area. Sometimes, there is not anywhere to park so you get a ticket. You are either late to class or get a ticket. Not enough parking is affecting our learning.
 - ◆ Faculty needs to encourage students more than criticize them.
 - ◆ Parking is no doubt the worst subject in the college. I think the new buildings are awesome, but I think more resources should be put to use in achieving better parking conditions.
 - ◆ It was frustrating to find parking especially after paying for it. I think if students park and leave their car on campus, they should be in a certain section. This would open up closer parking spaces for students having to drive in for classes.
 - ◆ One of the big problems I have with VSU this semester is housing and residence life. Although we were supposedly in renovated rooms, I had more problems than any other year in the dormitories. I tried to talk to people in the housing and residence life office. However, in the end it didn't seem like anyone cared. My parents pay too much money for me to live in the dorms for me to have so many problems. I realize I will never receive anything for my wasted time and money but I hope the housing office can get their act together before they turn everyone away.
 - ◆ There is great difficulty trying to register for classes when most classes are only offered 2-3 times with the exception of most intro classes. It would be nice to have more class time options.
 - ◆ We need more programs studying and learning about other cultures.
- Freshmen do not need a car to survive their first year here at VSU.
- COBA really needs about ten more computers and definitely another printer in the computer lab.
- ◆ The student handbook makes no organizational sense. It would be helpful to have the degree programs in alphabetical order.
- In LAS advising, I saw someone different each time. Science classes with no lab should count in the core for nonscience majors. Sociology and anthropology should be treated and handled separately.
- ◆ The Financial Aid Department is very unorganized. It is the worst department at the college. The staff is not friendly. The staff is primarily incompetent to answer questions and properly assist students. They lose important documents and files regularly and rarely have things done at an appropriate time. They inconvenience students and hinder their experience at VSU instead of helping.
 - ◆ Financial Aid needs to work on not misplacing students' paperwork and then not notifying him/her if financial aid drops him/her from classes.
 - ◆ The exercise science program needs improved lab facilities and equipment. Students receive very little if any hands-on experience.
 - ◆ Need funding for lab equipment in the exercise science department. Otherwise, we will have a great knowledge base without any practical experience. The faculty has requested funding on several occasions!
 - ◆ At the beginning of each semester while in my major, there was a lot of confusion about practicum placing.
 - ◆ I started attending VSU in the Spring of 1999. During my time here at school, I have come in contact with only four biology professors that actually were great. As for the other professors I have had, it was completely the opposite. The majority of the biology staff and faculty are rude and very disrespectful. I realize I do not know as much as the professor, but just because I don't, doesn't mean I should not be treated with respect as well. As the completion of my college education comes to an end, I regret attending VSU strictly due to the attitude of most of the biology department. Unfortunately, getting advised was a nightmare. My advisor actually raised their voice at me on more than one occasion. It wasn't to the point of yelling, but definitely not a tone that should be used when talking to a student. It is a real shame that the biology department is the way it is. With the new facilities, it should be wonderful, but it is completely the opposite.
 - ◆ The department staff and the advisors do not know what students need to do in order to prepare for life after college. The advisors only tell students what courses are required for graduation, but they fail to recommend at what time those courses should be taken. It has been my experience that many students, myself included, have had to wait before taking a test such as the MCAT because necessary courses were lacking. Advisors should communicate this information well in advance. Students look to their advisors for guidance, when many times they would be better off doing it themselves. The availability of some of the computer labs is poor. The science building has wonderful computer lab facilities but they are not accessible to students except for a few hours in the morning.
 - ◆ I have attended VSU for only one year so I haven't utilized all the benefits the university has to offer. Of the time I have spent here thus far, things have been great.
 - ◆ VSU treats night students horribly. Being a night student only, it has been very hard for me to find night classes that are 5:30 and later.
 - ◆ There needs to be more classes and majors available.
 - ◆ My class had a great deal of trouble getting the correct textbooks.
 - ◆ Need more diverse material regarding different authors, cultures and writing styles.
 - ◆ They need to cook different menus that are healthy rather than the same stuff over and over. The prices are too high and buyback services are cheating students.
 - ◆ I believe the Parking and Transportation Department on this campus is a huge problem. Paying \$50.00 for a parking permit is ridiculous when there is nowhere to park. At 7:00 at night I ran into a friend's room to have a photo made and I was there approximately 15-20 minutes. During that time I received a ticket. I was not keeping anyone from parking there and there were about

15 other parking spaces. I did not want to walk all the way from North Oak St. to Reed Hall in the dark by myself to have my picture made. The system as it is set up now is dangerous for girls.

- ◆ Do away with Science 3000. It is a complete waste of time. The professors who teach do not want to and the students get nothing from it. The ECED 3300 class is sufficient enough for science.
- ◆ The parking situation at VSU is ridiculous and unacceptable. It is extremely and increasingly difficult to find parking places, especially for morning and early afternoon classes. The time allowed for 20-minute parking needs to be increased because very little can be accomplished in 20 minutes. More parking lots need to be built or perhaps assigned parking should be given. Some colleges do not allow Freshman to bring cars; perhaps VSU should consider this as well.
- ◆ Although there are some very positive things about VSU's academic program and learning environment, I am sad to see such a continued segregation between many different racial groups; this includes the majority white administration. I would like to see more all race inclusive programs and administration heads. Where are the Blacks, Asians, Indians, and Hispanics? Maybe I am asking too much of a South Georgia school, but even as I see it as a Caucasian, this is not a good thing, and I do not plan to be donating much money as an Alumnus until I see a change.
- ◆ I attended VSU through the off-campus program at Waycross College and was very impressed with all the professors who made the trip to Waycross. It has been a wonderful experience. I think my education matches the education or exceeds that of an on-campus student.
- ◆ I did not need to use the handicapped facilities; however in the College of Nursing building (Walter Martin Hall) there is no way for a handicapped person to get to the second floor. There are not a lot of disabled nursing students, but if one did break a leg etc., they would have no way to get upstairs if needed. I believe this building needs to be handicap accessible.
- ◆ The Financial Aid Office personnel at VSU are the rudest and most unprofessional group of people I've ever encountered. Every time I had questions about something they wouldn't answer the questions or misplaced the information. They always needed more information although they would tell me that what I provided them was all they needed. The Financial Aid office needs to be looked at closely. The personnel are awful and they seem to know little about how to get grants besides student loans.
- ◆ I believe that VSU should build a parking deck and charge \$1.00 a day for parking. There should also be an obvious way to pay for this parking such as with the "Flex" accounts.
- ◆ I was confused a little about reapplying for HOPE.
- ◆ I recommend more parking spaces be available on main campus. I recommend more accurate shuttle service from main campus to north campus.
- ◆ The research section is pathetic. We're expanding the physical library, so we should expand our research materials as well.
- ◆ Upgrade classrooms.
- ◆ I would like to see an improved library.
- ◆ The parking situation at VSU does not accommodate the number of students. I would be willing to pay for reserved parking if I was to come back to school here.
- ◆ In one classroom our television had a turn knob! It must have been from the eighties. We need to get better equipment. In Nevins Hall you would burn up in the winter and you would freeze during the summer. The temperature situation needs to be regulated.
- ◆ Add more parking on Georgia Avenue; allow extended parking on main campus during the summer. Put doors on shower stalls, clean mildew off ceilings, and clean bathrooms more often.
- ◆ At the P.E. complex, there are not enough computers for the

majors. There is just one small room with about eight computers. I think Valdosta State is an excellent school and I have enjoyed my time here so far.

- ◆ Library should be open 24 hours a day and seven days a week!
- ◆ Improve Financial Aid by making more students aware of scholarships and grants available.
- ◆ The only trouble at VSU that I have incurred was with the Financial Aid Department. Several times after I called the FA department, they told me all forms were filled out. My classes ended up being dropped and I had to go to the Vice-President (who was very kind) to get my classes reinstated. Once is an accident, but two and three times is unacceptable. Other than that, I quite enjoyed intramural bowling and the business department is great!
- ◆ I didn't give the Career Services office a good rating because one of the ladies in the office was completely rude to me. She was yelling at the people who were working in there and was very short with me when I asked questions. A few months later, I went back there when she wasn't there and everyone else was very helpful.
- ◆ Parking is ridiculous. There has to be some solution to this congested parking problem especially at North Campus. Parking personnel need to stop showing favoritism and give all wrong parkers a ticket; not just the people they don't know.
- ◆ There needs to be more student parking, closer to buildings. Staff should have to park in the same place as students. More parking needs to be accessible so that people wouldn't have to park in places where they get tickets.
- ◆ We need more communication courses offered and more great teachers.
- ◆ Parking really needs to be improved on campus. If additional parking spaces are not available, parking should be made on a first come, first serve basis. No faculty/student parking.
- ◆ The staff in the Financial Aid Office is not very helpful and many have attitudes that discourage students from seeking help.
- ◆ The bookstore frequently ran out of textbooks. I think it might be good to order overstock or limit the number of books that can be purchased by students and faculty not involved in the class.
- ◆ The residence halls (especially Langdale) are not in good condition. They are not cleaned and are in need of improvements. It's a shame that although one Langdale wing has been revamped, this "new" wing has many problems. The bathrooms stay in disrepair with constantly clogging shower drains and mold on the walls and ceiling.
- ◆ Every year I attended VSU my only complaint about the university was the Financial Aid Department. The staff was usually not helpful and on more than one occasion supplied me with entirely incorrect information. Two years in a row I was told by the staff of that department that my file was complete, but when the tuition money was due, my class schedule was dropped because my file was not complete and I was forced to pay cash and was later reimbursed. Three times the department lost important personal documents of mine and my parents which were never found. The department is very unorganized. It is embarrassing to be a VSU student or alumni once being in the Financial Aid office. Someone needs to be put in that office to direct it in a proper and professional manner, unlike it is currently and has been run in the past.
- ◆ Most classes in my major are only offered once per year. This prolongs students from graduating on time.
- ◆ More, if not all, computer systems courses (excluding the programming courses) should have more of a "hands-on" feel!
- ◆ Classrooms in FA building don't have heat and air-conditioning regulation. Computers in lab in FA are few in comparison to class time.
- ◆ The athletics department is outstanding; however it must be understood that athletics are important to the growth of a University. Division 1 athletics will create recognition for the school, fans, and an overall better student experience.
- ◆ Parking is a nightmare sometimes. Giving more and more

parking tickets makes it worse.

- ♦ The people who fix food in Oasis aren't very clean and they have terrible attitudes towards customers.
- ♦ Overall, I enjoyed attending VSU. However, the parking situation is ridiculous. I have paid over \$200 in parking tickets because I parked in either the 20 minute parking or in a staff parking lot in order to get to class on time. A student should not have to drive around for an hour to search for a parking place that is 2 miles from his/her class.
- ♦ I would like to see full size desks in the classrooms instead of half desks. (Fine Arts Building - Room 214)
- ♦ I'd like to see more parking lots for commuters. I'd also like to see more eating establishments. There needs to be an ATM in every part of the campus.
- ♦ All classes need to have a study sheet.
- ♦ VSU needs computer labs available later into the night and at least one lab in the University Center open even when classes that require a computer are in session.
- ♦ I would just like for the section of the Oak Street lot closest to campus to be reserved for seniors. Then B or C for Juniors etc. I mean, as Seniors, we've spent the most time and money here. We've earned it!
- ♦ The program would have been greatly improved if they had the funding for more staff, leading to more classes.
- ♦ There is absolutely not any parking. For the \$50/year we paid for parking, I think the funds should be spent on building a parking garage. Also, there needs to be an over the road walkway on Patterson Street.
- ♦ Parking is horrible! The on-campus housing needs to have a separate lot. The people who live on campus are parking in the big lots for days at a time. That causes major complications for commuters.
- ♦ I would like to see greater handicapped accessibility for all students with special needs. Certain buildings have very little (West Hall) and the new ♦ ♦ Biology needs accessible doors.
- ♦ This is the worst parking situation that I have ever seen. To get a parking space, one must arrive before 8:00 a.m. or journey with others for literally 30 minutes to one hour for a space. I am really upset that I have to pay for this torture. Also, there are too many "Reserved" parking spaces that hardly get used. Similarly, there are too few spaces for visiting guests. There is really no reason that a visiting family member/friend should have to go through the ordeal of getting permission from the parking department so they can visit. The parking capacity needs to be doubled.
- ♦ The computer lab always had classes in it! There needs to be a lab for students or a lounge area!
- ♦ I think it would be beneficial to many nursing students if you would monitor more closely the instructors and the way they run the classroom.
- ♦ Steps inside library need some sort of safety strip on them. Very slippery! Several people, including me have fallen down them.....not safe!
- ♦ It should not be the responsibility of the university to make sure a student has a good social experience while attending. College is for work.
- ♦ There needs to be more student parking in Oak St. parking lot and less faculty and reserved! It is very difficult to find parking, and it is not practical to have to walk 1-2 miles to get to main campus. Many of us drive anywhere from 1-2 hours to get here and we don't have time to spare waiting for a bus to drive you over to main campus. We have many classes, many hours of homework, and a family to attend to and being late for class because of not being able to find a parking space really ruins your day!
- ♦ Parking is a joke at VSU! The main lot is full of students' cars that live on campus. They stay there 24 hours then I have to walk 1 1/2 hours to class. Even with a permit you have to park in Remerton! So what's the \$50.00 buying? It's not paying for bus services because now there is a \$5.00 transportation fee

added in. Let's see, if 5000 students buy \$50.00 permit every year, somebody's getting rich! That equals \$250,000.00 a year!!!! VSU MUST solve the parking problem.

- ♦ The rooms in the dorm are too small. That's a little too close for comfort. The bathrooms are a mess and some people just aren't used to those not cleaning after themselves. I suggest building apartment style dorms. ♦ Parking is ridiculous. There are more staff parking spaces than there is staff. There should be assigned spaces with priority to class first, then location of classes and dorms and on campus VSU students. Need more buses running because they do not run every ten to fifteen minutes.
- ♦ VSU Housing and Food Services could stand vast improvement. I understand projects are underway to do so, but when I stayed in the dorms, these services were still very poor.
- ♦ The residence halls do not need to have check-in procedures unless all people who visit are checked in. Most problems on the halls are caused by friends of the same sex hanging out and this would help with the noise.
- ♦ Parking was one of the worst things to deal with here at VSU. The decals cost too much, when there is only a limited number of spaces to park at. The 20 minute spaces are irrelevant since classes last 50 minutes and it isn't convenient for everyone to park in Sustella lot! If you all are going to charge \$50 for decals, then students should not get tickets and there should be more places to park!
- ♦ There are only three Anthropology teachers and they can't teach all classes all the time.
- ♦ There is no distinguishable difference between Reserved and Staff parking. The reserved parking is a waste of space. There should be parking made for those living off of campus. It is not fair to permit people to buy parking decals if they live off campus, why they are only coming to campus for classes they have a few times a week.
- ♦ Food services should research on vegetarian cuisine.
- ♦ The parking is ridiculous. There are not enough student spaces near the buildings on main campus. Ticketing should stop before it gets dark. I do not feel safe getting out of class at 8 or 9 at night and having to walk alone, in the dark to a long distance to my car.
- ♦ Some graduating seniors have no idea what they want to do or at least might be undecided.
- ♦ As if it has never been discussed, the parking at VSU is only as bad as it is because we are geographically locked. We can only build up (ex: parking garage). It's hard for me to understand why any college would sell more parking permits (for \$50) than there are parking spaces. This should be illegal and probably is. I hate paying \$50 to park and getting a ticket because there is nowhere to park. Commuters shouldn't have to buy a parking permit.
- ♦ Computer lab facilities and computer lab availability - This poses as a big problem in the Business School. As a student, I feel the quality and quantity of computers in the computer lab should be re-evaluated. There have been numerous occasions upon which computer availability was almost impossible for up to one hour. Also, the neatness of the computer facilities concerns me. The smell of mildew in the carpet and the overall look of the place is not very professional.
- ♦ Advisor did not inform me about need to apply for graduation.
- ♦ I found most of the departmental staff to be really rude. I don't know why.
- ♦ Since grants require a great deal of work more help should be given to students in acquiring them.
- ♦ I wish I could have one technology course for Math Secondary Education to use graphic calculators and other useful software programs as well as internet resources.
- ♦ I believe that the overall spirit of the school would improve if we were to have our own football stadium. Football is a large part of college and it makes me upset that VSU students don't get to experience that enthusiasm that other college students do.
- ♦ VSU needs a parking deck! Sometimes the same food is served over and over (at the U.C.); some variety in vegetables would be nice!

- ◆ When I went to orientation and registered for classes as a freshman, I had no idea about core classes nor did I know how to register for them or in what order I should take them. There were only a few people helping us out in the computer lab and even when I left with a schedule, I was still not sure as to why I was taking certain classes.
- ◆ Parking is completely out of hand. There are no parking spaces available for students when there are spaces available freshman usually take the spot and leave their car there forever or the space is made reserved or staff. Sorry, but we don't need anymore reserved spaces. The ones we have aren't used now. Students need somewhere to park!!!! If we are expected to get to class on time, we need parking places!!!!
- ◆ Parking was horrible at VSU. If you are going to have an educational Institution at the University level, you need to provide adequate parking so the students can actually get to class and get there on time. The parking fee is \$50.00, yet this does not guarantee parking. This amount of money per year should be reinvested into more parking areas for two or three years before you begin to count it as profit.
- ◆ I feel that the One Card Services should be improved. I think that a time period on when you can use the money that you put on the card is ridiculous. Being a business major at North Campus, there is little use of my One Card. As a result, I lost my own money for not using it within a year! The money that students place on that account is theirs. It should remain there until the student wishes to use it. I think that VSU's policy is something that should be examined and changed.
- ◆ The department of College of the Arts (Communication Arts) discriminated in their classes against all students that are non-communication majors. Professors should implement discretion.
- ◆ I transferred to VSU from Georgia Military during the Maymester. I thought the transition would be hard but it was a lot easier than I thought. I love it here!
- ◆ The student professor relationship is very weak. There also is a lack of minority professors in the Sociology, Anthropology and Criminal Justice Dept. As a student it was easy to tell the majority of white professors did not associate themselves with minority professors in the same dept. Furthermore, some professors have very good relationships with students of different cultures but other professors seem to have good relationships with students who resemble their professor in color and culture. Moreover, this problem would still exist even if there were an equal representation of minority professors. The main problem is most professors may have been raised in communities, religions, or families that only participated in activities that pertained to their color and background.
- ◆ One professor in particular is completely ruthless and cold-hearted when it comes to student interaction. This professor is in the English Department. I suffered through only one class w/ her, but that was enough to make me break down in tears outside of class on one occasion. She's a mean person, says the rudest things, grades unfairly and I'm not the only person who feels this way.
- ◆ The parking was horrible. More spaces should be available at the College of Business. Students pay \$50 for a sticker that doesn't ensure a parking space for them.
- ◆ I think at least one parking deck should be built. If this can't be done, then make the parking lot at the nursing school bigger and give specific permits for nursing students. That would allow only nursing students to park in that lot.
- ◆ We need more parking. The Business department should add parking where the grass (open field) across from the hospital is. It is used for absolutely nothing. Main campus could use a parking garage for students who live on campus and the rest of the parking could be used for the rest of the students. I think you should add more parking for professors near/on the main campus itself. Then they wouldn't take up so many parking spaces in the Oak Street parking lot.
- ◆ We need our own football stadium. We don't need to keep

- playing in a high school dump.
- ◆ The residence halls were not up to par most of the time I lived there. Mold ran rampant, the bathrooms were beyond disgusting and the Housing and Residence Life Staff was never willing to help. I would not and have not recommended living in the dorms to anyone. Students who live in residence halls should not be allowed to park in the Oak St. parking lot since they do not move their cars for weeks at a time. They should utilize the parking lot behind the Rec. Center to free up close spaces.
- ◆ FAMC is a very small. I would like to see more information available about painting, drawing, sculpture; for example: recent contemporary, examples of artists, documentary video's and books on individuals and movements. Fine Arts staff is wonderful, they deserve raises.
- ◆ Need more computerized classrooms - they allow better instruction and facilitate easier learning and can be used at all levels of instruction. The core curriculum, while state mandated, lacks any recognition of student individuality and likely experience.
- ◆ Parking was scarce and poorly organized. More parking permits were distributed than spots available. On top of scarce parking, tickets are given too liberally. A bad experience!
- ◆ As a student requiring the efficient functions of the lab computers, I know more money should have been directed towards the more efficient functions of the computer's hard drive than the superficial appearance of the flat screen monitors. All of us students have research papers to do. That flat screen monitor might "look pretty", but it does nothing for me as far as the smooth operation of the programs that I use to get my work done. I do not need your computers to take 10 minutes to open up my power point project files or lock-up the word program and lose most of my research information. A regular monitor would have been fine with me, because the purchase of those flat screens were merely for bragging rights only.
- ◆ Parking needs to be improved! We pay for a \$50 parking permit each semester but there is nowhere to park! The parking/appeals office takes no mercy, they just want our money.
- ◆ As VSU continues to grow more and more, distance students enroll. With this increase in enrollment, more parking is required. At this time, parking is a serious issue and it should be treated as such.
- ◆ Beginning Academic Advising is a nightmare. If your advisor can't tell you what to take and what course of action to take, what can you do?
- ◆ The computer lab in the Fine Arts Building does not have enough open hours. For mass media majors that is the only place where the Script Writing programs are installed. The Editing Lab is too small for the amount of mass media majors. The whole mass media facility is too small for the amount of people we have.
- ◆ Although the library facilities were extremely helpful, I found the IMC facilities to be the most help in my Education studies. It is well resourced and the staff was always friendly and helpful.
- ◆ I couldn't have had a better advisor who really cared about his students.
- ◆ The Workplace Essentials course was underwhelming. The professor posted to his web site three times and provided very little instruction. Other than that all the professors seem committed to quality instruction.
- ◆ It is difficult to find out what to do for a student loan. They need to make it clearer when you are coming in as a freshman.
- ◆ Even when registration begins the phone and online systems have restrictions. Investigations need to be made within the office of financial aid. Two years in a row, they have been quite careless in handling my file(s).
- ◆ One semester we (ECED majors) were required to take a foreign language and the next semester we were not. The Spanish class I thought I was required to take dropped my GPA.
- ◆ There are not enough parking spaces. The security in the Oak Street parking lot is lax.
- ◆ Have too many instances of overlapping material which I had to

read four times in four different classes.

- ◆ My advisor did not offer real advice and only signed my registration form as a minimum requirement. Other professors were very helpful and gave their advice. Upper level courses need to be offered every semester rather than every other year with different time slots which will not conflict with other departments. The grading system needs to be changed. How can you distinguish a student from being a high "B" or a low "B" student? An 80 should be a "B" while an 85 should be a "B+". Internships should be a requirement. The department should be involved in helping a student to find an internship. The library should open earlier and close later than midnight.

- ◆ The bookstore marks everything up 300% then runs out of the books you need for class. This has happened to me every semester and I've had to wait up to a month and a half on the bookstore. They don't seem to order enough books for everyone in the class.

- ◆ The veteran's services were wonderful.

- ◆ The library staff could be better trained in helping to locate resources.

- ◆ The computer labs were always unavailable when I needed them the most. Why not have them open during all school hours. I cannot believe that the Fine Arts computer lab is the only place in the entire school to have computers with zip disks. Why not install the computers in the library with the drives. This would have been helpful for me especially since I would have to go to the library for most of the time since the Fine Arts computer labs were always unavailable.

- ◆ In some classrooms maps are not current. Outdated maps should be tossed each year in my opinion; we need current "stuff".

- ◆ More competitive pricing or decrease prices because retention rate is up, therefore, book prices and supply prices should be decreasing.

- ◆ My teachers in my major classes have been great. They have been very willing to help after class and have pushed me to get the most out of my education.

- ◆ The computer lab for the College of Nursing needs help. It's set up awkwardly and the printer always needs help. Maybe the College of Nursing should move because our books are so heavy and the entrance doors are heavy too. It's a real job trying to get in and out. There also needs to be a quiet place to study.

- ◆ Often advisors may/may not be available during summer terms - they are still needed even in the summer!

- ◆ The cashiers at the University Bursary need a better attitude when working. They need to be more helpful and show more concern because two out of five students they come in contact with are having a crisis or going through financial problems. They should be willing to help in any way that they can.

- ◆ Offer major courses every semester. My graduation date was held back because classes were not offered over the summer.

- ◆ Shuttle busses need to operate quicker. Can't get to classes on time because you never know when a bus will show up. I had to wait thirty minutes for a bus.

- ◆ Although I have maintained a good GPA throughout my education here at VSU, I was never offered a scholarship and was never contacted about the results of scholarships that I applied for. I have been sent numerous letters for international and local honor societies, but never any information about getting money for college.

- ◆ Health Services are rather elementary and could be better.

- ◆ Health services were available but not effective.

- ◆ It would have been nice to have been offered more evening classes.

- ◆ Book buybacks are a disappointment when over half the books trying to be returned are not accepted. Also long lines before semesters start are rough on people working during the day and going to school at night.

- ◆ If the purpose of higher education is to promote free thought and the capacity to think abstractly then I think VSU helped

open my mind.

- ◆ The staff parking has 50-100 empty spaces. I think it is highly unfair to students who are paying tuition to attend this school to charge them \$50 for a decal to park on campus when the parking is ludicrous. I think all parking areas should be first come and first serve basis. I do not feel that students should have to pay for a parking decal to park on campus. They should be free. I feel giving students tickets is a scam especially as bad as the parking is at VSU.

- ◆ Checks should be accepted in eating establishments. Friendlier employees would greatly be appreciated especially in Ed Center Oasis. They are very rude there.

- ◆ Ask those questions in class in order to get class participation.

- ◆ Longer intramural seasons are needed.

- ◆ The housing conditions are horrible. I lived in Langdale for two years and there was mold everywhere.

- ◆ Classrooms were being upgraded and advanced (after all other departments) to be as good as many, if not all other departments. It seems that our particular area received much of the cost of furnishings making the learning experience somewhat uncomfortable.

- ◆ Student workers who work at a separate building from campus or even places close to parking lots should be able to have a temporary pass that allows them to park close to their job. I have lost an average of five hours a week because of this issue.

- ◆ I would like to see health services actually treat patients with medications best suited for their particular medical needs rather than giving ibuprofen for a broken arm. (Hypothetically speaking, of course).

- ◆ My advisor was extremely helpful in every way. Not only is my advisor a teacher that cares about his students, he is always more than willing to help outside of the classroom.

- ◆ My advisor was excellent. He is an excellent teacher that relates information well to students and went above and beyond when advising me as a student. He was always willing to help.

- ◆ Offer more classes at night! There are many students who work full-time and need them.

- ◆ I ordered books two times on-line and both times one book wasn't in so they didn't mail them to me. I had to cancel the order and go there and stand in line to buy my books. Parking was impossible. I think if there is only one book lacking to fill your order, then the bookstore should go ahead and send your order with a note that one is missing and you should arrange another way to get that one book. I ordered 18 books and because one book wasn't there I had to cancel my order and go get the other 17 myself. Very inconvenient!

- ◆ Bookstore needs to continue to use flex accounts on the banner web and at an earlier date to save some time standing in line at the bookstore. We can just go pick up the books.

- ◆ Certain faculty of the College of Nursing need to be extensively evaluated by higher personnel than the Dean of the College of Nursing. Plenty of complaints have been filed, therefore it is passed time for something to be done.

- ◆ VSU's parking situation is insane. With twice as many parking permits being issued as there are spaces. This policy must end. Further, the shuttle bus is irregular and sporadic at best, making relying on it as transportation to class impossible. The shuttle needs a regular stop schedules (I.e. the bus will be here at 11:00 a.m., 11:15, 11:30, 11:45, etc....)

- ◆ When I first registered for classes, I was unable to take any dance classes (which is my major). The orientation procedure for registering for classes needs to be held by a person with more knowledge of the requirement of a theater major.

- ◆ It is hard to get into the classes needed. More classes should be offered.

- ◆ I feel that the post office should be open past 2:30 p.m. on Fridays and open also on Saturdays until 1:00 p.m. like all the other post offices! You should be able to ship a package over 1lb. from campus mail.

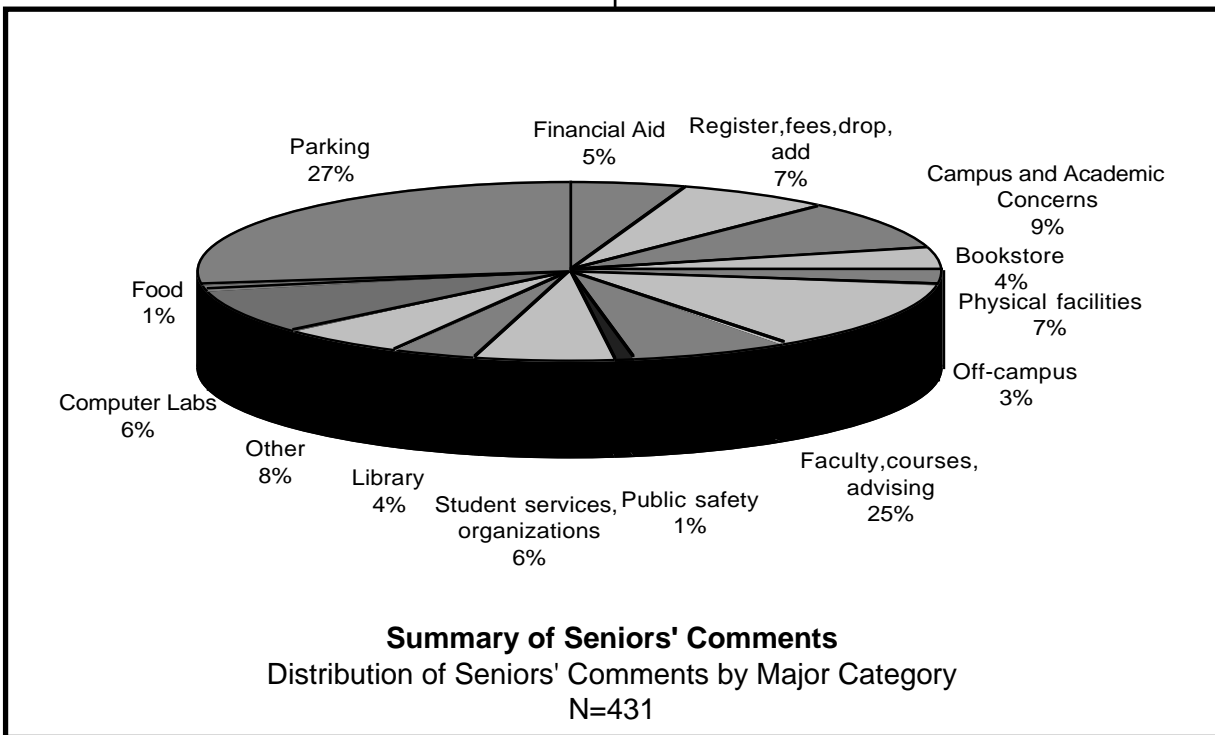
- ◆ This bookstore is nothing but a way for VSU to make a ton of

money. The books are marked up ridiculously high (I know from searching them on the Internet). If you drop a class before midterm, you should be able to take your receipt and the withdraw form to the bookstore and get your money back. That's the way my other school did it and it works. Try it!

- ◆ Responses could then help determine whether more effective career guidance and counseling sessions should be implemented with the main focus on graduating seniors.
- ◆ I understand that the parking for main campus has to be how it is due to the lack of extra space. However, the Business department is in desperate need of additional parking. We should not have to walk from the hospital parking lot to go to class. There needs to be something done to implement this as well. Many people are late to class due to the lack of parking places because you have to wait and catch someone coming out so you won't receive a ticket for parking in a no parking zone!
- ◆ Scholarships are the same as grants and this area is very weak.
- ◆ Getting into required courses - major. Many of the upper level CS courses are only offered once a year. I know that they are not offered every semester due to a shortage in teaching staff however, these classes are very difficult and if a course has to be repeated, the student must wait an entire year to take it.
- ◆ Transportation for wheelchairs - handicaps would be nice too. My friend could not go places with us because we could not transport her very heavy wheelchair. (To the movies or to restaurants).
- ◆ Financial Aid Office at VSU was the most ridiculous and painful experience to have to go through. If VSU wants their money from the students, I suggest getting the Financial Aid services up to standards. If students can't receive money, VSU doesn't get money. Hire more qualified personnel.
- ◆ There is only one computer lab that has Interior Design's CAD program and Home Designer program and it's usually not available. We need our own computer lab!
- ◆ The Business department needs more teachers, because not enough classes were offered and sometimes only once a year. Also because of the shortness of teachers the classrooms were packed.
- ◆ Prices are outrageous at the Bookstore. And that is only if

they have the book. Many times, they did not order enough books for COMD majors and we were forced to wait 2-3 weeks for a book, all the time getting behind in class. COMD advisors who are off-campus supervisors should NOT be undergraduate advisors. They are never available and usually don't know what the solutions to our concerns are.

- ◆ The Mac lab for graphic design is too small. It feels like a closet. There is no room for presentation. There's no place to hang artwork for critique. It is absurd that there is an interior design program when existing programs need improvement such as graphic design. Also, all art classes should be together! It is very hard to build a canvas in the woodshop and haul it over to the painting studio because there is no where to park and you get a ticket if you park at the basketball court. The painting studio is not big enough when attendance is full.
- ◆ VSU has demonstrated a total lack of regard for any religion other than Christianity and has consistently failed to produce worthwhile diversity education programs. Free speech at VSU is hard-won and only by those who care enough to fight for it. This reflects badly upon the intended environment of intellectual exchange.
- ◆ I advise you to correct, maintain and expand the processing capability of your existing computers; instead of just maintaining the "minimal requirements" to just get the computers to work. There have been so many unreported cases of computer "lock-ups", non-functioning A-drives and computers not connected to printers. This becomes important when students need to upload files from disks or get that research paper printed out. I say upgrade all your computer systems so that they work efficiently and not upgrade their appearances. So they look good? So what!?! They still don't work right. Fix them.
- ◆ The faculty and staff in the Special Education Department are great. They are always willing to help and they treat everyone fair and professionally.
- ◆ A teacher in the psych department is a very good professor. I agree that Experimental Psychology should be two semesters. The first semester should be learning how to conduct experiments and the second semester should be actually conducting research.
- ◆ Get a new stadium.



- ◆ The number of night classes is limited. I had to change jobs because I could not take anymore classes at night. VSU did not have any to offer!
- ◆ The College of Nursing needs to be more attentive to the RN to BSN needs. These students are overlooked quite a bit. Many RN's would like to attend VSU but the faculty really doesn't support the RN to BSN students. The "General BSN" students receive more attention. The faculty really needs to change its thinking about the RN students.
- ◆ There should be a designated commuter only parking lot.
- ◆ As a non-traditional student, I found the orientation process unnecessary and not applicable to my situation.
- ◆ The Art Department faculty is the best!!!!
- ◆ You should look into providing a suggested degree program for the majors (suggested courses to take during --first year, Spring/Fall, Second year, Spring/Fall etc.) or at least have some regularity in course offerings so others will not have to panic and come out of pocket for an additional semester (for one class).
- ◆ Lab needed for Health and Kinesiology students and paper provided. Need proper lab and equipment for exercise science.
- ◆ The schedule of classes all overlap. In one department it is impossible to take the classes needed for graduation because all of the upper level classes are scheduled at the same time.
- ◆ In English, it's hard to decide whether grading is fair or not because there are no clearly defined answers. VSU department heads should investigate allegations of favoritism among the faculty, especially if there are overwhelming reports about certain professors.
- ◆ Campus activities should sponsor more social events on campus. The first time registering was not properly explained.
- ◆ More classes should be offered each semester.
- ◆ The fees at VSU are ridiculous. I have to pay a graduation application fee, even though I have paid thousands of dollars in tuition and books. I have to pay to get a transcript even though I am a student and have paid for everything else VSU can charge the students. These services should be free and I feel that these are charged to us purely for profit on VSU's part. The college makes plenty of money off the students already without these fees.
- ◆ Most teachers were fair in grading policies, but some showed favoritism.
- ◆ I can recall in one classroom that the front desk (used to the instructor to stand behind) had to be held up by a chair. This broken desk remained this way throughout the entire semester. Can we not afford to get that fixed?
- ◆ How can an Ecologist advise a pre-med major? Many of my professors in my major field of study were too busy reminding us that they had their degrees to teach and got the information across to us in a concise way. If I had to do it over again I would rethink attending VSU, however, it is because of some good professors that I had an overall good learning experience here.
- ◆ I found there to be more than a few incompetent professors. The faculty should place more emphasis on teacher evaluations. I had an overall good experience at VSU.
- ◆ Math and computer information systems need more professors. All campus housings should have the same quality of design that Langdale has. I hate the semester system.
- ◆ Applying for Financial Aid is a problem. You fill out all the papers and at the last possible minute, you find out that your Financial Aid packet is not complete. This causes a problem with any grants or anything you need to help you financially in school. The office staff is not that polite. They need to get more organized over there.
- ◆ It is ridiculous how you have to run all over campus to get everyone's signature. A more consolidated program should exist.
- ◆ More cashiers are needed in the bookstore during the first few weeks of classes. Bookstore needs to order enough books. Shut Palms down and start over. The food is yucky there! Also, take-out should be allowed.
- ◆ Every semester at VSU, my financial aid was messed up in some form. One semester my classes were dropped because the financial aid office forgot to send my Pell Grant money to the bursary.
- ◆ As a transfer student, I found it difficult to get involved in many extra-curricular programs. They should be a more formal method of recruitment into these programs for transfer students, especially ones that live off campus.
- ◆ I would like to see greater availability of parking, particularly near the new Special Education and Communication Disorders building.
- The computer lab and classroom facilities at north campus were excellent. However, main campus facilities are not so up to par.
- ◆ My internship experience was okay. However, interns should get paid or get a stipend because we can spend 15 hours at a part-time job getting paid for our time. These places would have to pay a new employee while training them, why not pay the intern? Also, I believe sensible clothing/casual wear is appropriate because some of us can't afford new clothes.
- ◆ Applying for Financial Aid at VSU is a nightmare. Much of the Financial Aid office staff are rude, curt, and unhelpful. Visiting the office is a practice in futility as much of their staff will give students the run-around, sending them to different places for different forms, etc. The Financial Aid process should be simplified, the entire process condensed to one, meaningful visit and all requirements made clear from the start.
- ◆ Applying for short term loans - no matter if you get your excess back, you should be able to get a small short term loan if it is really needed. Bursary - If there is an emergency, a person should be able to get their money (excess) to deal with the situation. For example, one may need to get an emergency operation and need to pay to have it done. (Dentist)
- ◆ The financial aid office needs help! Procedures are unclear, including deadlines, forms to be turned in, etc. I missed out financial aid summer because the forms I had to fill out after the initial application was turned in were never sent to me. I can't afford this on my own. I need help. Student employment office is fantastic. They helped me out a great deal!
- ◆ A more accurate response for this section could be generated by including a "don't know/undecided other" option.
- ◆ There are not enough sections offered in the C.S. CIS degree program. There are no evening courses at all!
- ◆ My core advisor allowed me to take two perspectives in the same area, so now I have to make that up. It costs me more money, time, and headache for something I thought I had already gotten out of the way. We need more cultural events!
- ◆ If you are paying fees over the phone, sometimes it is very hard to get through to the bursary.
- ◆ The classrooms need bigger desks!!!!!!!!
- ◆ Financial Aid advisors should be more helpful and less demanding in their attitudes. They should also be sure they include all necessary paperwork for us. This is our money at stake and they should have a bit more concern.
- ◆ Palms food made me very sick.
- ◆ VSU's administration consistently treats students as helpless children, allowing little room for growth. It also consistently lies about its actions and regularly acts as a white male-centered, non-diverse, anti-human entity. This, too, poorly reflects the intended intellectual and educational environment.
- ◆ The bookstore needs to have a more efficient way of having more signs for which register is for what transaction. Also, the bookstore needs to better train their employees and have longer hours at the beginning of the semester.
- ◆ Overall quality of the faculty was tops. They are true professionals who know their stuff. I know that I have grown educationally because of Educators of their caliber.

Summary Highlights From 2002-2003 VSU Seniors

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

- The three Services/Facilities with highest quality of service rating were:
 - VSU Homepage
 - Sororities & Fraternities
 - Clubs & Student Organizations

- The clearest University procedures were found for:
 - Admissions
 - Orientation
 - Student Grants

- The four top-rated academic experiences for the Core Curriculum were:
 - Library Facilities
 - Availability of advisor
 - Overall quality of the faculty
 - Library Collections

- The four top-rated academic experiences for the Major Field of Study:
 - Availability of advisor
 - Helpfulness of advisor
 - Overall quality of the faculty
 - Opportunities for interaction with faculty

- Satisfaction with VSU was indicated by:
 - 83% would choose to attend VSU again
 - 93% would recommend VSU to others