Graduate Follow-up Report:  
Academic Year 2005 – 2006  

Summary of Findings  

Metropolitan Community College  
Office of Research, Evaluation, and Assessment
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http://mcckc.edu/?qlinks=Research+Department
Introduction
The purpose of this report is to answer common questions regarding MCC graduates. Information obtained for this report is from the institutional research database and from graduate follow-up surveys.

Graduate follow-up surveys are sent to MCC degree and certificate recipients following graduation. Questions are asked regarding employment status and further educational pursuits. In addition, items are included to ascertain satisfaction with college instruction, college services, general aspects of the college, and personal academic growth.

Graduate follow-up surveys are sent to all MCC degree and certificate recipients approximately three months following graduation. After three weeks, a second survey is sent to those graduates who did not respond to the first mailing. Additional efforts are made to contact A.A.S. degree and certificate graduates for employment status information including calling individuals and contacting departments.

This particular report seeks to answer questions regarding MCC graduates from the Academic Year (AY) 2005 to 2006. For more detailed information, the technical report may be obtained from our website: http://mcckc.edu/?qlinks=Research+Department.

How many students graduated during the 2005 to 2006 academic year?

Table 1 displays the number of students who graduated each term. A total of 2,003 students graduated over the academic year. The largest percentage of graduates occurred in the spring semester followed by the fall and summer semesters, respectively. Spring graduation accounted for over half of all AY 2005 - 2006 MCC graduates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Graduates</td>
<td>2,003</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer 2005</td>
<td>351</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2005</td>
<td>640</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring 2006</td>
<td>1,012</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: MCC Graduate Follow-up Database
How many graduates were there for each degree type?

MCC grants four different types of awards: Associate of Arts (AA), Associate of Science (AS), Associate of Applied Science (AAS), and one-year and semester certificates. Table 2 shows that over half of the graduates from AY 2005 - 2006 were awarded Associate of Arts degrees, 27% earned Associate of Applied Science degrees, and 22% earned certificates. See the technical report for degree types by campus.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Graduates</td>
<td>2,003</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate of Arts</td>
<td>1,012</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate of Science</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate of Applied Science</td>
<td>530</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: MCC Graduate Follow-up Database

What was the demographic profile of graduates during the 2005 to 2006 academic year?

Sixty-one percent (61%) of the overall graduates were female. The highest percentage of female students occurred for AAS degrees (67%) and AA degrees (65%). The relative proportion of female-to-male graduates mirrors the 60/40 ratio typically found in terms of attendance.

Fifty-two percent (52%) of the graduates were students in the less than 25 age category, 26% were between 25 and 34 years of age, and 22% were over 34 years of age. Non-traditional students represent almost half of all graduates (degree and certificate). The highest percentages of awards given to non-traditional students were for Certificate and AAS degrees. Seventy percent (70%) of AA graduates were under 25 years compared to 35% of AAS graduates and 30% of certificate graduates.
Overall, 81% of graduates were white, 8% black, and 11% fell into other ethnic categories. Percentages varied slightly by degree type.

**How many AAS graduates were there by program?**
A total of 530 students graduated with AAS degrees. The Nursing program had the highest number of graduates (115) followed by Business (58), Automotive Technology (38), and Paralegal Practice (31). See the technical report for the complete list of programs and for numbers by campus.

**How many Certificate graduates were there by program?**
A total of 433 students graduated with certificates. Practical Nursing had the highest number of graduates (130) followed by Fire Academy (66), Police Academy (56) and HVAC Job Ready (46). See the technical report for the complete list of programs and for numbers by campus.

**What was the employment status of AA/AS graduates following graduation?**
Forty-one percent (41%) of respondents (N=345) obtained employment related to their field of study and an additional 15% were employed in an unrelated field. Forty percent (40%) went on to continue their education. It is important to note that graduates who indicated they were both employed and continuing their education were classified as employed.

**What was the employment status of AAS/Certificate graduates following graduation?**
Seventy-one percent (71%) of AAS/Certificate graduates contacted by survey or phone (N=883) obtained employment related to their field of study and another 8% obtained employment in an unrelated field. Sixteen percent (16%) went on to continue their education.

**How many graduates obtained employment locally?**
Of those graduate survey respondents who provided information regarding employment location (N=705), 85% obtained employment in the greater Kansas City Metropolitan area. Specifically, 50% indicated they were employed in Kansas City, Missouri and 35% were employed in other cities within the greater Kansas City area. Outside of the metro area, 12% were employed in Missouri and 1% in Kansas. Only 2% obtained employment outside of Kansas or Missouri.
In what ways did their MCC education help in the graduate’s present or most recently held job?

Graduate survey respondents were asked to indicate in a “mark all that apply” item the ways their MCC education helped in their present or most recently held job. Thirty-nine percent (39%) of AAS/Certificate graduates and 28% of AA/AS graduates indicated that their education helped performance on their present job. Thirty-six percent (36%) of AAS/Certificate graduates and 12% of AA/AS graduates indicated that their education helped them obtain a job. Twenty percent (20%) of AAS/Certificate graduates and 10% of AA/AS graduates indicated that their education helped them advance on the job.

How many AA/AS graduates continued their education and at what types of institutions?
Of the 344 respondents, 273 (79%) indicated they were continuing their education. The majority (68%) continued their education at a 4 year college, 8% stayed at MCC, and 3% enrolled at another 2 year college or technical school. In terms of gender, there were higher percentages of females than males continuing their education at MCC. As for age, a higher percentage of younger students than older students were attending a 4-year college.

How many AAS/Certificate graduates continued their education and at what types of institutions?
Of the 384 respondents, 170 (44%) indicated they were continuing their education. Twenty-three percent (23%) stayed at MCC, 18% attended a 4 year college, and 3% enrolled at another 2 year college or technical school. In terms of gender, a higher percentage of males than females were attending a 4-year college while a higher percentage of females were not presently continuing their education. A higher percentage of graduates less than 25 years of age then older students were attending a 4-year college or MCC while older students had a higher percentage not presently continuing their education.

At what institutions did graduates continue their education?
The most popular transfer institutions for these graduates were UMKC (21%), Park University (19%) and CMSU (N=17%). Other transfer institutions included Avila University (3%), MU-Columbia (3%), Missouri Western State University (2%) and Rockhurst University (2%).
How satisfied were graduates with the college instruction they received at MCC?
Within the graduate follow-up survey, respondents were asked to indicate their level of satisfaction with various aspects of the college instruction they received at MCC. Most satisfaction rates were above 80% including those for course variety, faculty helpfulness, instruction quality, course challenge, course objectives and class size. The lowest satisfaction level (69%) occurred for instructor availability outside of class.

How satisfied were graduates with the college services they received at MCC?
Within the graduate follow-up survey, respondents were asked to indicate their level of satisfaction with college services they received at MCC. The highest levels of satisfaction were for the library (79%), admissions (73%), the bookstore (68%), the media center (68%), advising (65%), the business office (65%), tutorial services (65%) and the data processing lab (62%). Relatively low percentages of respondents indicating satisfaction with employment services (44%), handicap assistance (48%), developmental courses (51%), and food service (55%) are most likely at least in part attributable to some respondent’s not having the occasion to utilize these services. Between 33% and 48% of respondents indicated a neutral response in regards to those services.

How satisfied were graduates with general aspects of the college?
Within the graduate follow-up survey, respondents were asked to indicate their level of satisfaction with general aspects of the college. Respondents indicated the highest levels of satisfaction with the overall impression of the college and with the college in general (both 84%). Seventy-eight percent (78%) indicated they were satisfied with the equipment and facilities available for student use and 65% were satisfied with the college’s “concern for you as an individual.”

How satisfied were graduates with their growth as a result of their experiences at MCC?
Within the graduate follow-up survey, respondents were asked to indicate their level of satisfaction with their growth as a result of their experiences at MCC. Graduates indicated the high satisfaction levels with their growth in the following skills: critical thinking (86%), organizing ideas (85%), problem solving (83%), continuing education preparation (83%), speaking (81%) and writing (80%). In regards to knowledge areas, graduates reported the highest satisfaction levels with growth in Ethics (75%), Social Science (73%) and Arts/Humanities (71%). Slightly lower satisfaction levels were reported for growth in Science (70%) and Mathematics (67%).