

Faculty Senate Task Force on University Status

Survey of Students – March 2013

## **STUDENT SURVEY: Summary of findings**

The Senate Task Force on University Status worked with the Student Senate to encourage students to fill out a survey about the possibility of the transition to university status. We are very pleased that 1,195 students took the time to complete the survey. Students of all levels were well-represented among respondents. One hundred, eighty-three respondents were freshmen, 230 were sophomores, 338 were juniors, 332 were seniors, and 113 students were graduate students. Nearly 60 percent of respondents were transfer students.

Most of the survey included questions that students were asked to answer on a five-point likert-type scale with 1 = very negative, 2 = somewhat negative, 3 = no difference, 4 = somewhat positive, and 5 = very positive. Respondents were also able to answer “don’t know” to these questions. That response was coded as an “8”, but was counted as a missing value when the modes, means and standard deviations were calculated.

### *Stockton’s reputation and recruitment*

Student respondents were very optimistic about the impact that transitioning to university status will have on the college’s reputation and its ability to recruit graduate, undergraduate and international students. For all of those questions, the modal response was “very positive,” with means in the mid 4’s (somewhat to very positive).

### *Impact on education*

Students also believed that the transition to university status would have a favorable impact on Stockton’s education. The modal response for all four questions was “very positive.” Means for each of these were near four, indicating that students believed that the transition would have a somewhat positive impact on our educational offerings.

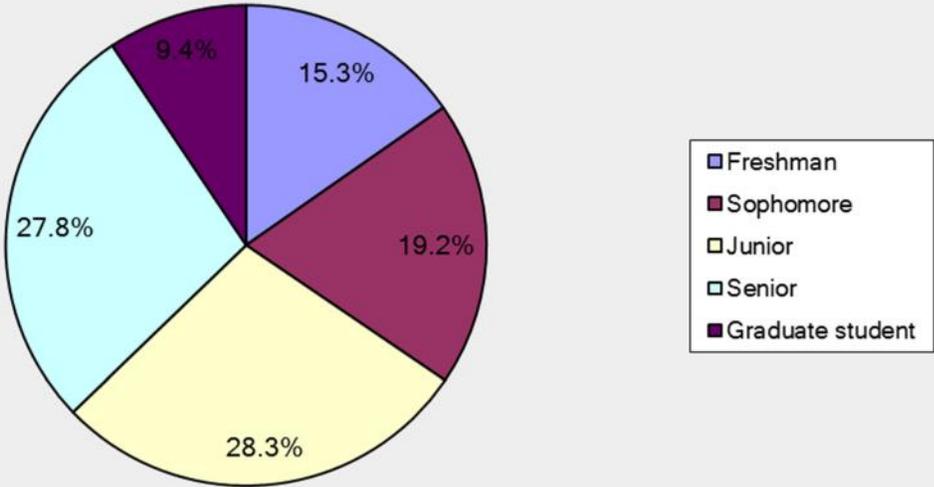
### *Impact on the campus*

Students were ambivalent about the impact that the transition would have on the campus. The modal response for impact on tuition was “somewhat negative”, and several students wrote comments expressing concern that the university might have a higher tuition. Students were most concerned about parking, with a modal response of “very negative” and a mean of two (somewhat negative). Students were less concerned about classroom size. The modal response for the questions concerning graduate and undergraduate classroom size were “very positive.” Means for both questions were in the low to mid 3’s (no difference).

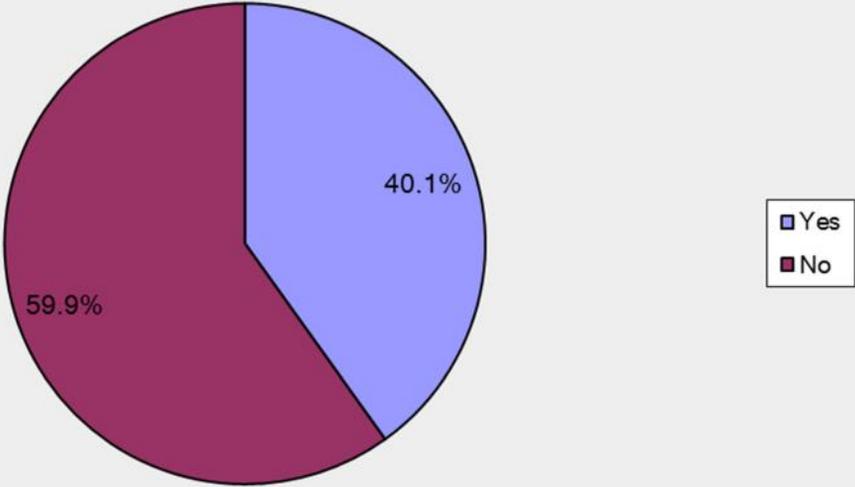
### *Overall support*

Students were asked to rate their opinion about transitioning to a university status with a 1 = completely against it to a 10 = completely for it. The mean response was a 7.89, with a mode of 10.

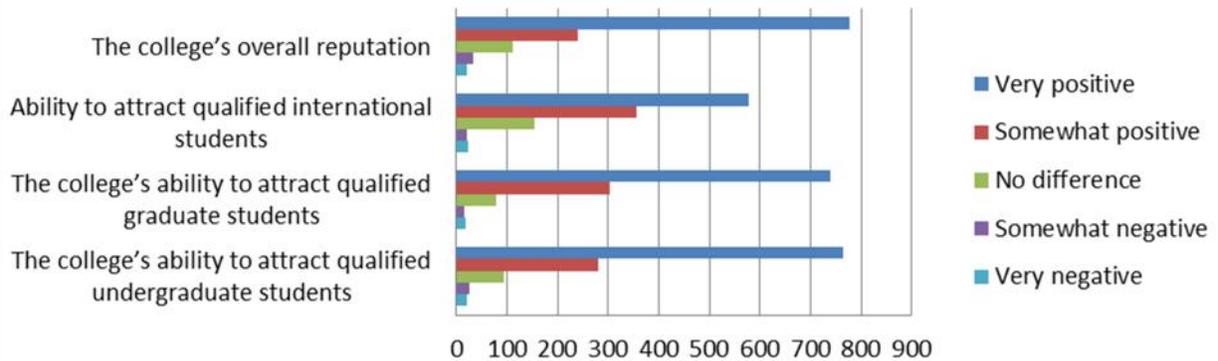
What is your current student status at Stockton?



Are you a transfer student?

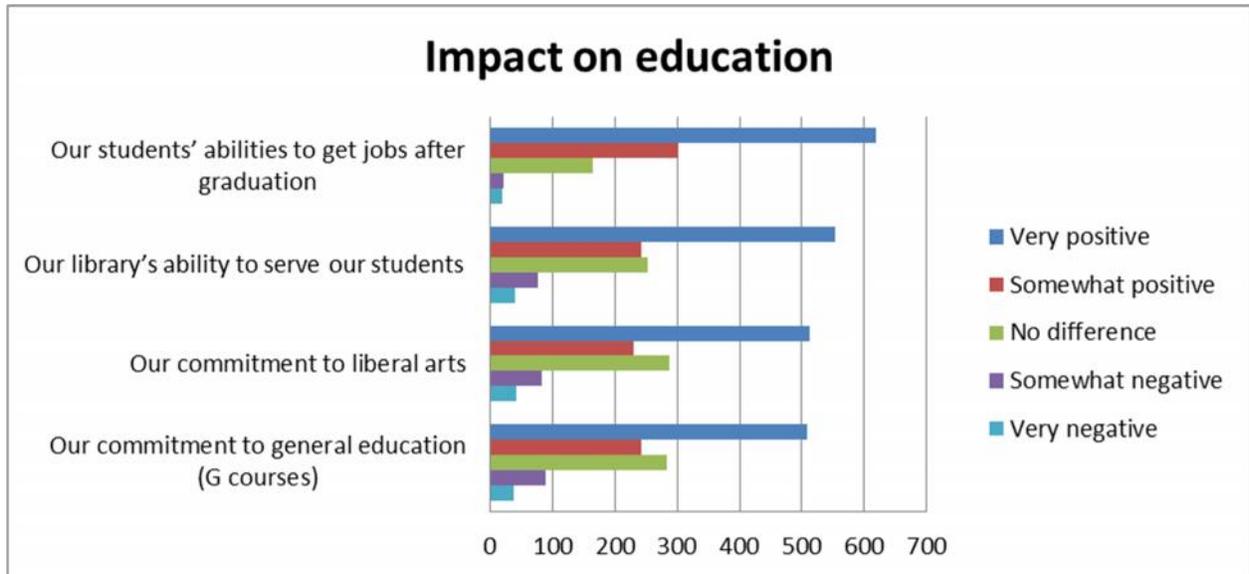


## Impact on student recruitment / reputation



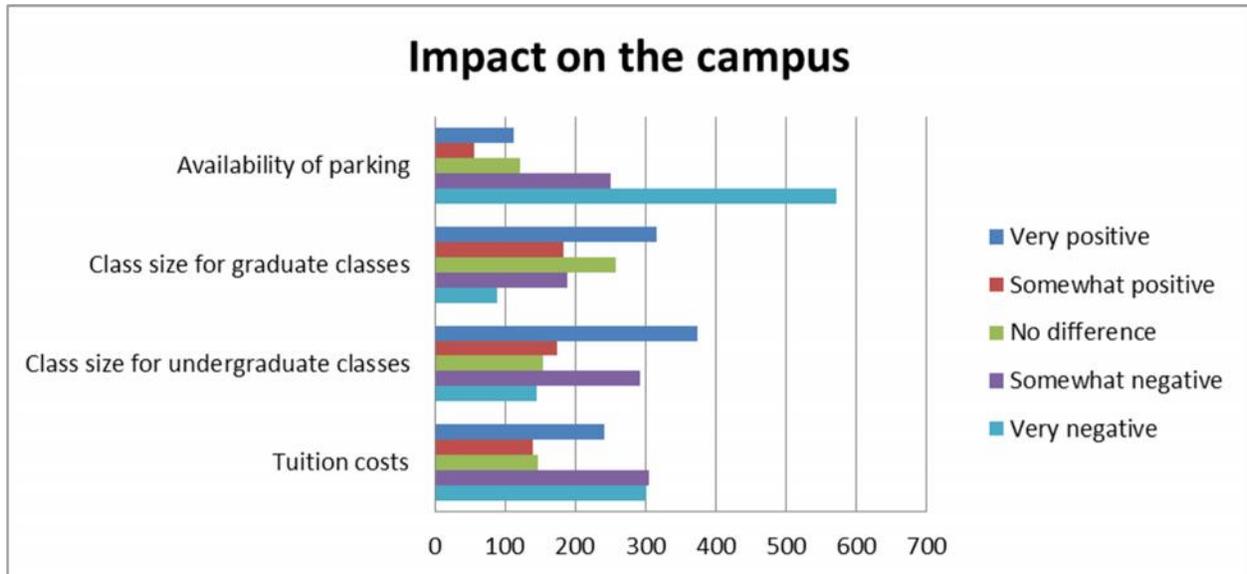
**What kind of impact do you think that moving to university status will have on student recruitment/reputation (1 = very negative → 5 = very positive)**

|   | Mean | Mode | Std. Deviation |
|---|------|------|----------------|
| The college's ability to attract qualified undergraduate students | 4.47 | 5    | .856           |
| The college's ability to attract qualified graduate students      | 4.50 | 5    | .805           |
| Ability to attract qualified international students               | 4.28 | 5    | .903           |
| The college's overall reputation                                  | 4.46 | 5    | .896           |



**What kind of impact do you think that moving to university status will have on education (1 = very negative → 5 = very positive)**

|  | Mean | Mode | Std. Deviation |
|--|------|------|----------------|
| Our commitment to general education (G courses)      | 3.95 | 5    | 1.128          |
| Our commitment to liberal arts                       | 3.94 | 5    | 1.143          |
| Our library's ability to serve our students          | 4.03 | 5    | 1.121          |
| Our students' abilities to get jobs after graduation | 4.31 | 5    | .911           |



**What kind of impact do you think that moving to university status will have on the campus (1 = very negative → 5 = very positive)**

|                                      | Mean | Mode | Std. Deviation |
|--------------------------------------|------|------|----------------|
| Tuition costs                        | 2.75 | 2    | 1.499          |
| Class size for undergraduate classes | 3.30 | 5    | 1.464          |
| Class size for graduate classes      | 3.44 | 5    | 1.317          |
| Availability of parking              | 2.00 | 1    | 1.319          |

**On a scale of 1 (completely against it) to 10 (completely for it), what is your opinion about transitioning to university status?**

| Mode | Mean | SD    |
|------|------|-------|
| 10   | 7.89 | 2.684 |