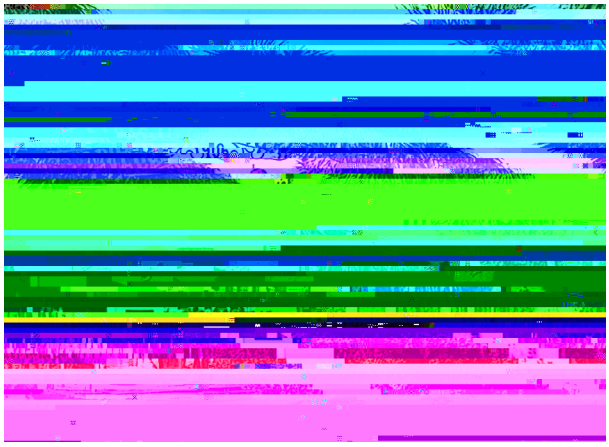

SENIORS' PERCEPTIONS OF THEIR EXPERIENCES AT VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

SUMMARY RESULTS FROM THE VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY SENIOR EXIT QUESTIONNAIRE 2007-2008

Strategic Research & Analysis
Valdosta State University
July 2008

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Introduction

This report is a visual summary of the perceptions of 1,089 VSU seniors who completed their degrees during the 2007-2008 academic year and returned 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.

Graduate Assistants Rhien Cooper, Amber Mize, and Nicole Reynolds coded and entered the survey data necessary to produce this report. Data analysis and creation of the report were created by Angela Elder Henderson, Data Resource Specialist, and Amber Mize, Graduate Assistant. The report was proofread by Linda Gooden, Associate Director, and Dr. Kristina Cragg, Assistant to the President for Strategic Research & Analysis.

We invite you to explore the results shown on the following pages and welcome any comments and suggestions for future analyses.

Kristina M. Cragg, Ph.D
Assistant to the President for Strategic Research & Analysis

Description of the Responding Seniors

Number of Respondents: 1,089

(All per] ⌐ d̲ Í ș є o ɣ Î i ³ Respon] 2 M0o ³ ɵ ll Respondent |

Background Characteristics

EXHIBIT 1: Age of Respondents

B endance at VSU

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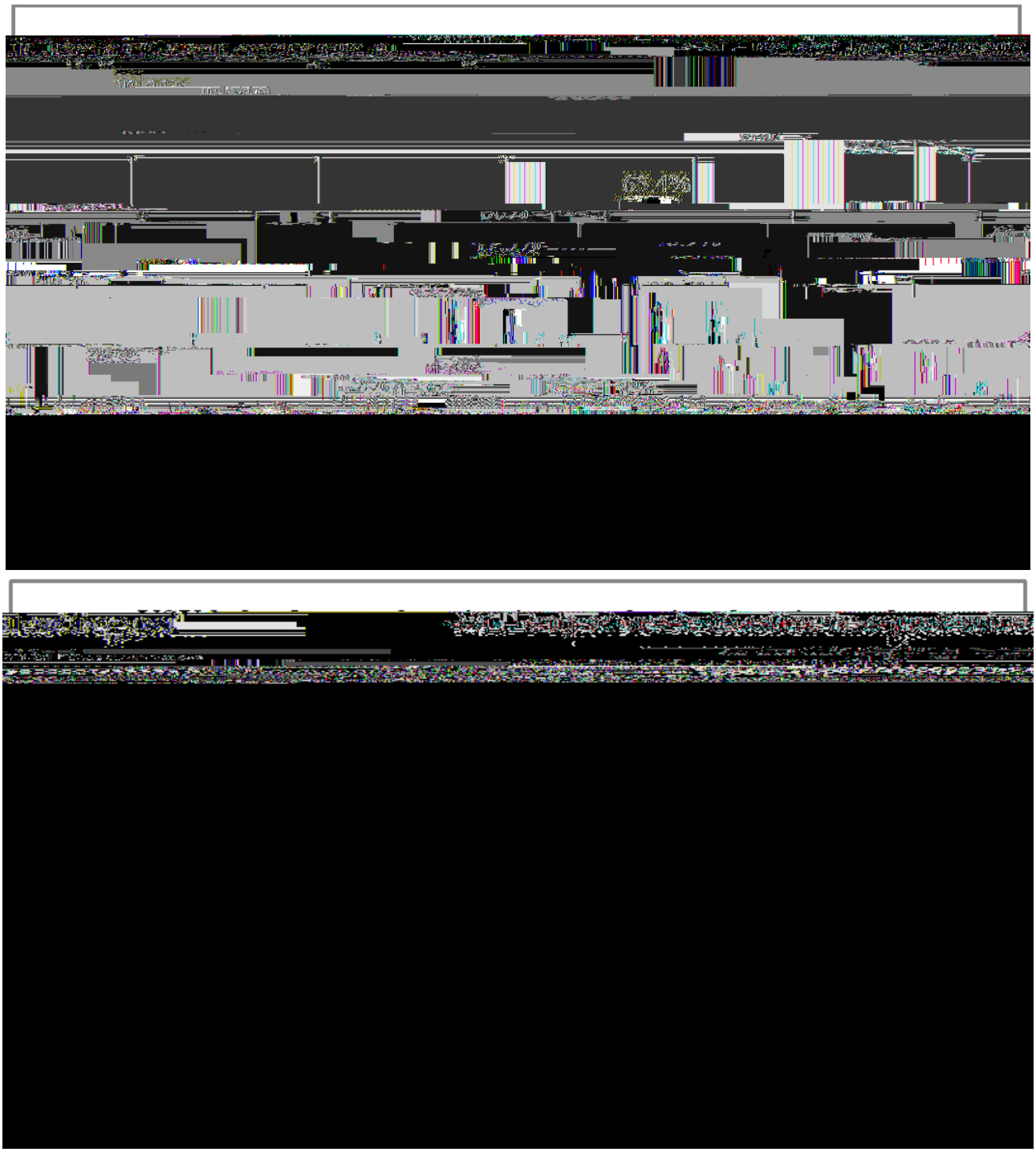
B uate GPA

EXHIBIT 8: Atmosphere for Learning



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

Å In 2008, a majority (611) of responding seniors felt that VSU deýnitely helped them to function in a professional setting and to act with ethical awareness.
Å In 2008, a majority (478) of responding seniors felt that VSU deýnitely helped them to engage in free and open exchange of ideas.

EXHIBIT 9: Overall VSU Experience

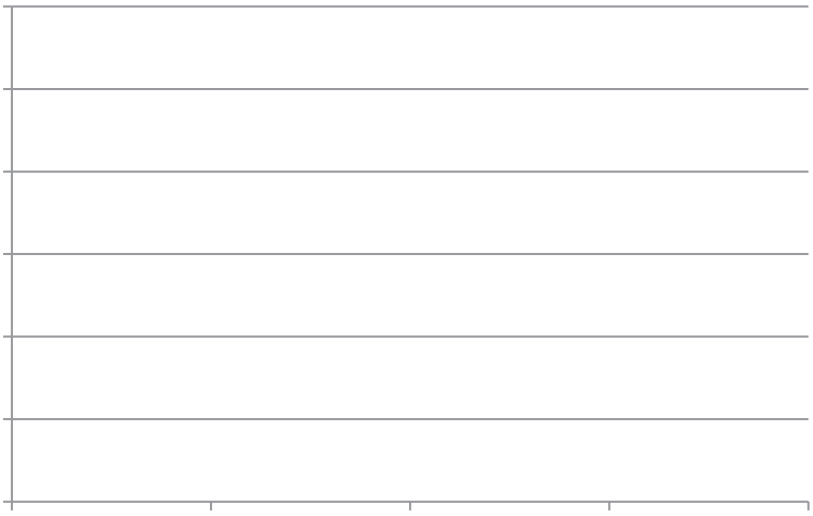
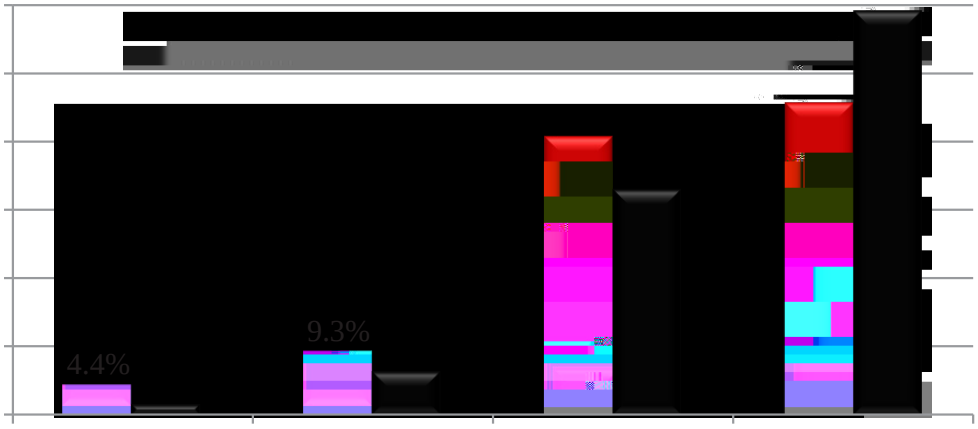


EXHIBIT 10: Would Recommend or Choose to Attend VSU Again

University Services and Facilities: Quality Ratings

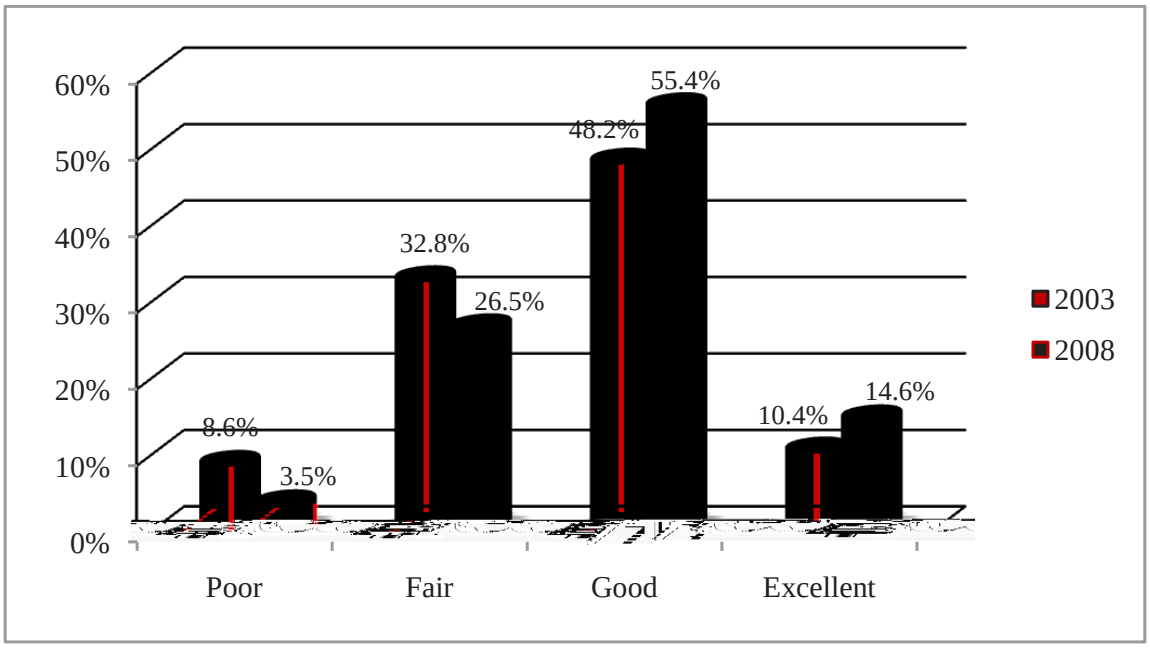
EXHIBIT 11: Quality of Sororities and Fraternities



2008 Responses

- 16% of responding seniors participated in sororities or fraternities.
- 173 of 188 respondents rated the quality of sororities or fraternities as excellent or good.

EXHIBIT 13: Quality of VSU Food Services



2008 Responses

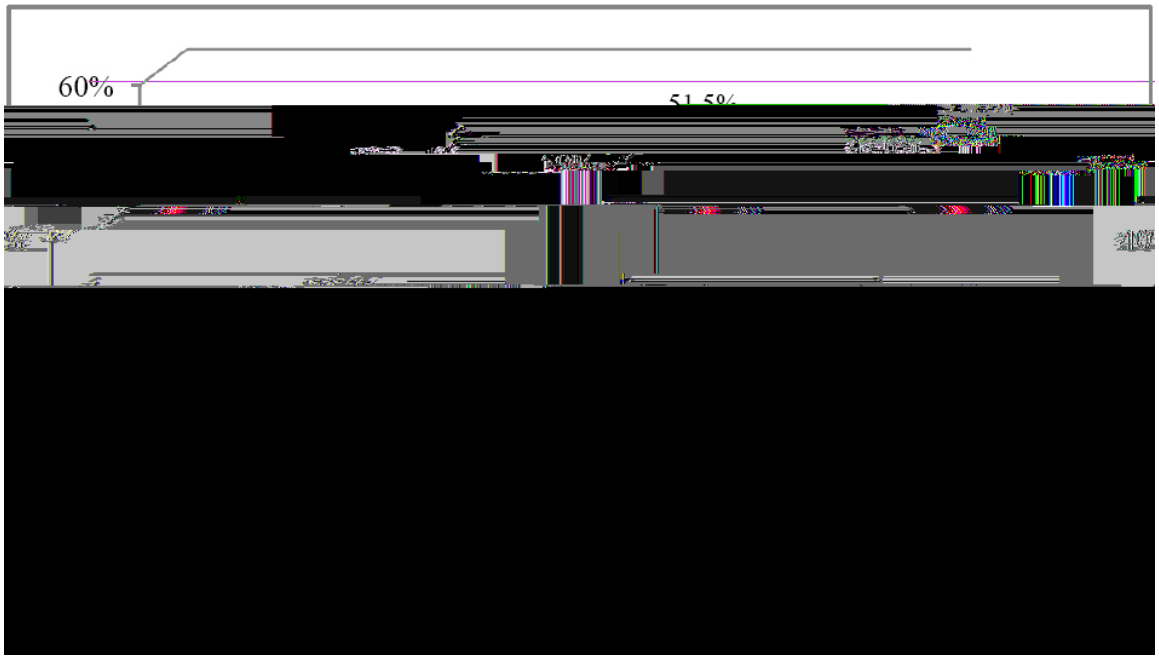
- 74% of responding seniors reported using VSU Food Services.
- 523 of 747 respondents rated the quality of VSU Food Services as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 14: Quality of VSU Bookstore

2008 Responses

- 96% of responding seniors used the VSU Bookstore.
- 707 of 998 respondents rated the quality of the VSU Bookstore as excellent or good.



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 15: Quality of Parking

2008 Responses

Å 91% of respondents used VSU Parking.

Å 831 of 936 responding seniors rated the quality of VSU Parking as fair or poor.

EXHIBIT 16: Quality of Shuttle Bus Services

EXHIBIT 19: Quality of Support for International Students

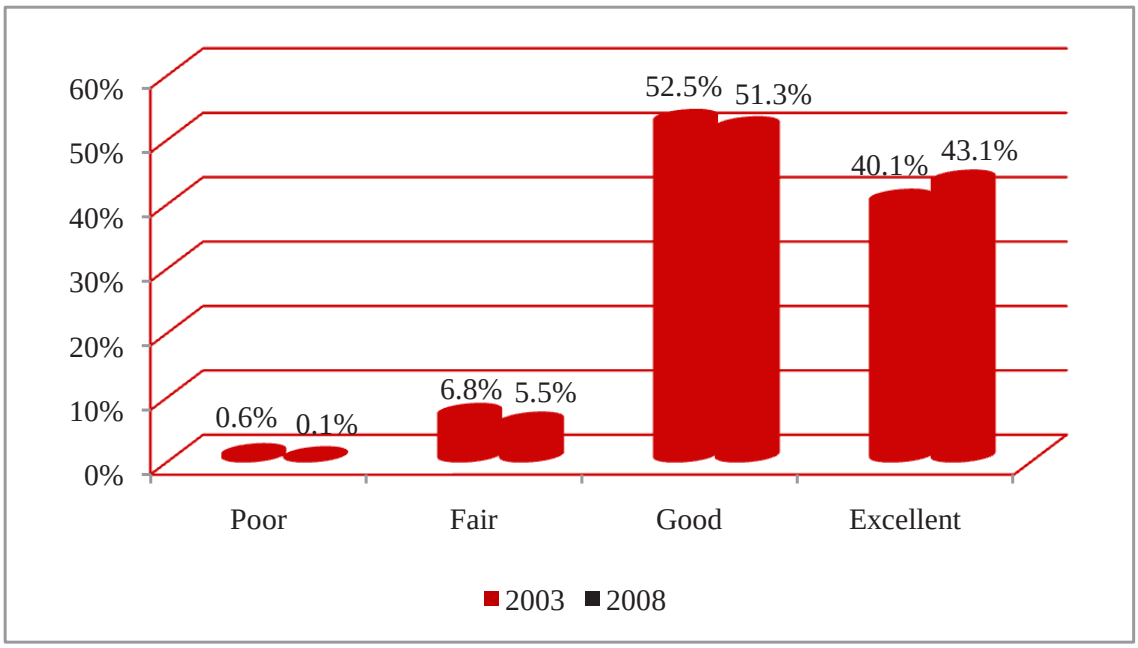
2008 Responses

Å 4% of responding seniors reported using International Student Support Services.

Å 53 of 87 respondents

EXHIBIT 20: Quality of Minority Programs

EXHIBIT 23: Quality of VSU Home Page



2008 Responses

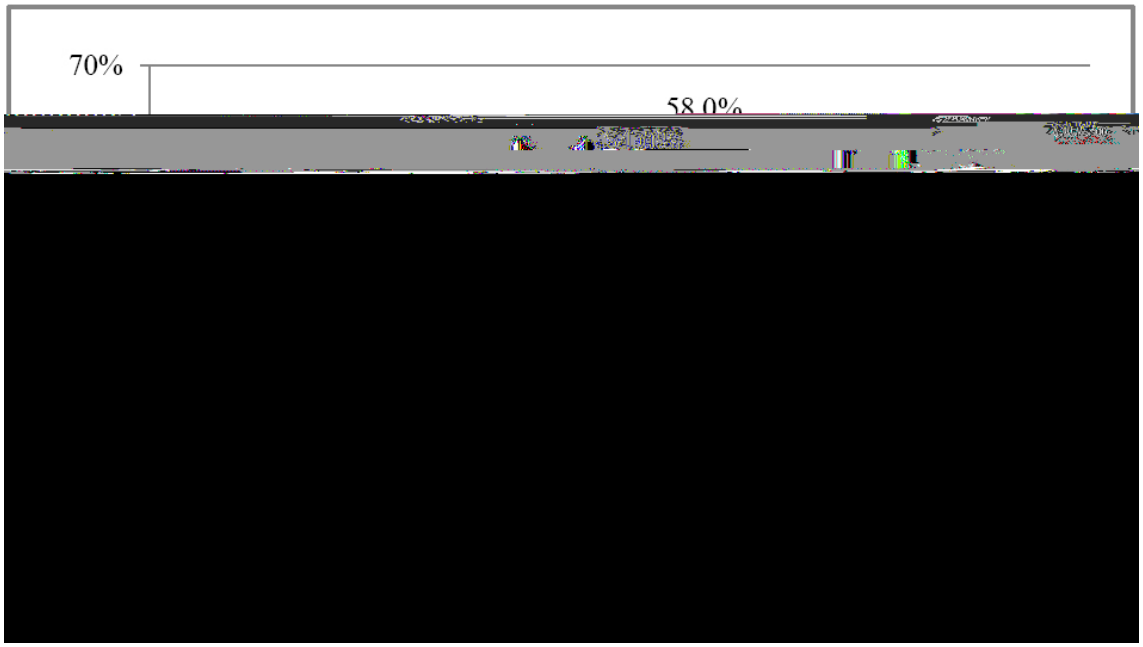
- 96% of respondents used the VSU Home Page.
- 947 of 1,003 responding seniors rated the quality of the VSU Home Page as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 24: Quality of VSU Undergraduate Bulletin/Catalog

2008 Responses

- 60% of respondents reported using the VSU Undergraduate Bulletin/ Catalog.
- 569 of 639 responding seniors rated the quality of the VSU Undergraduate Bulletin/Catalog as excellent or good.



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 25: Quality of Counseling Center

2008 Responses

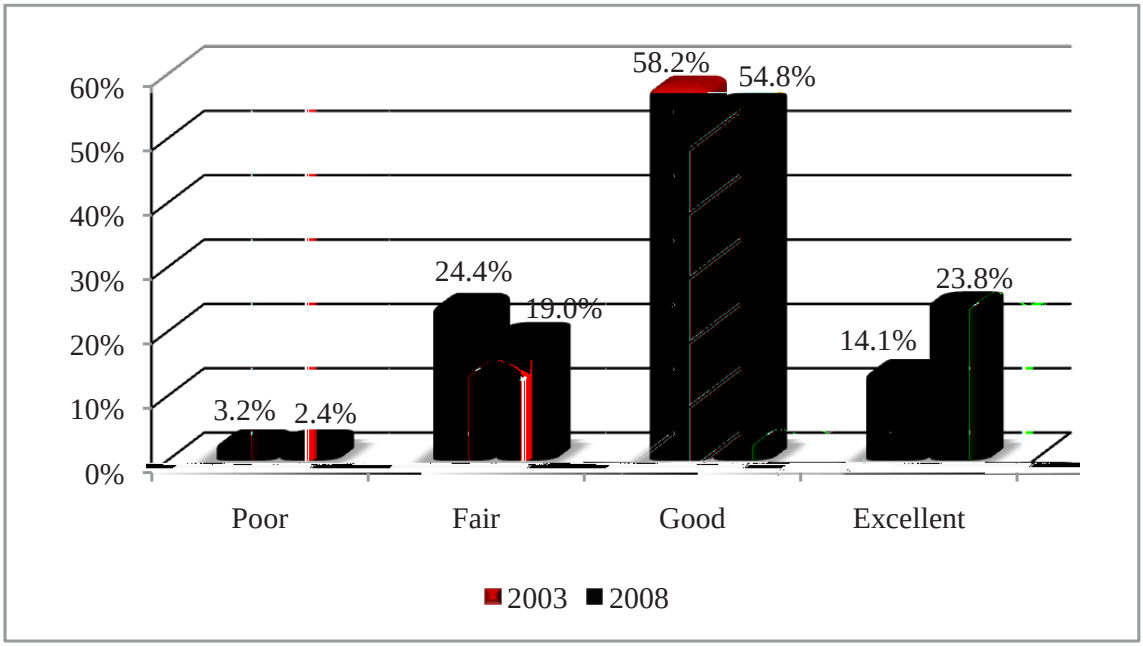
- 14% of respondents used VSU Counseling Center Services.
- 134 of 158 responding seniors rated the quality of VSU Counseling Center Services as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 26: Quality of Testing Services

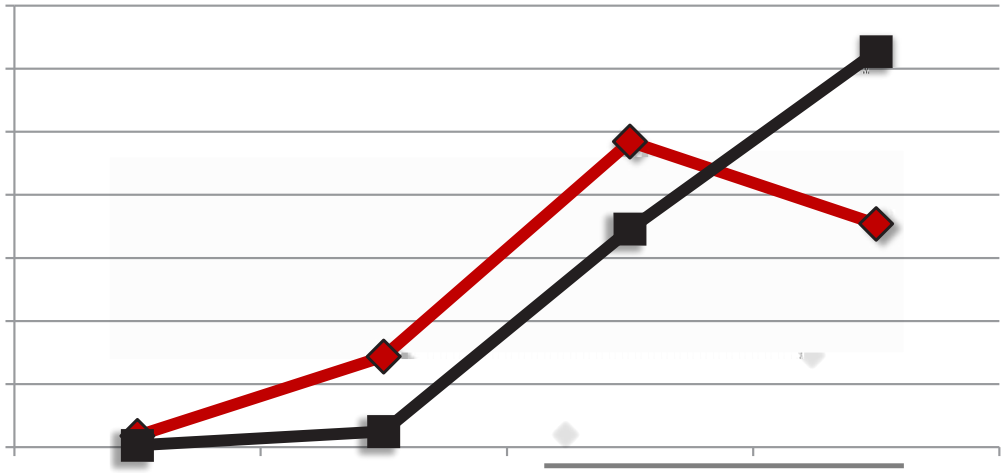
2008 Responses

- 19% of respondents used VSU Testing Services.
- 165 of 210 responding seniors rated the quality of VSU Testing Services as excellent or good.



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 27: Quality of Athletic Facilities



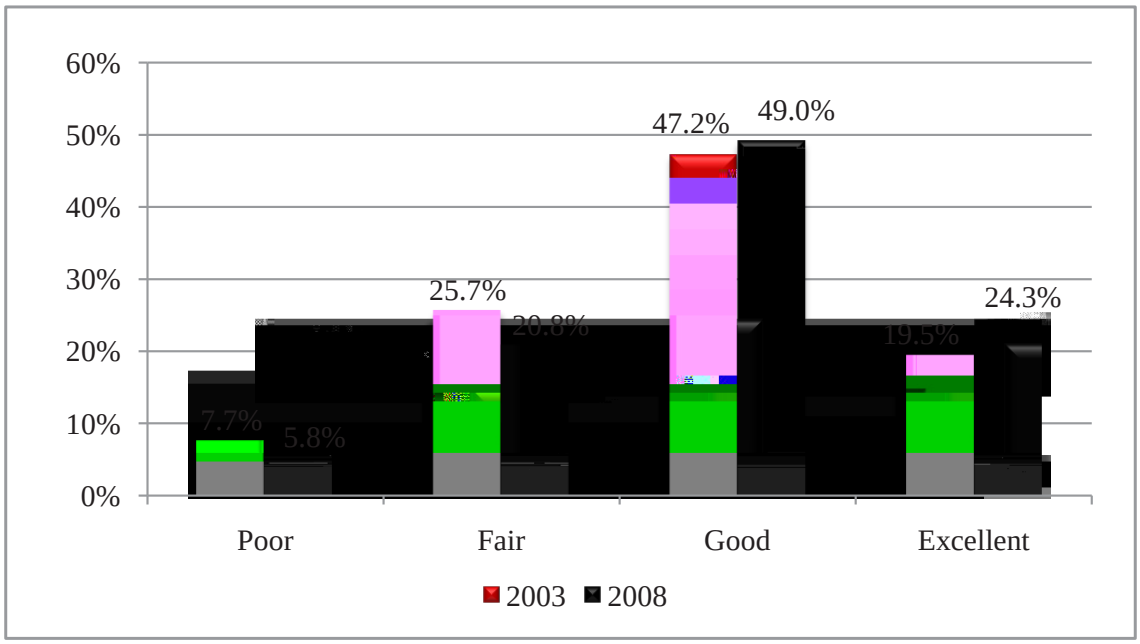
2008 Responses

Å 73% of responding seniors used Athletic & Recreation Facilities.

Å 715 of 735 respondents rated the quality of the Athletic & Recreation Facilities as excellent or good.

EXHIBIT 28: Quality of Intramural Programs

EXHIBIT 29: Quality of Public Safety



2008 Responses

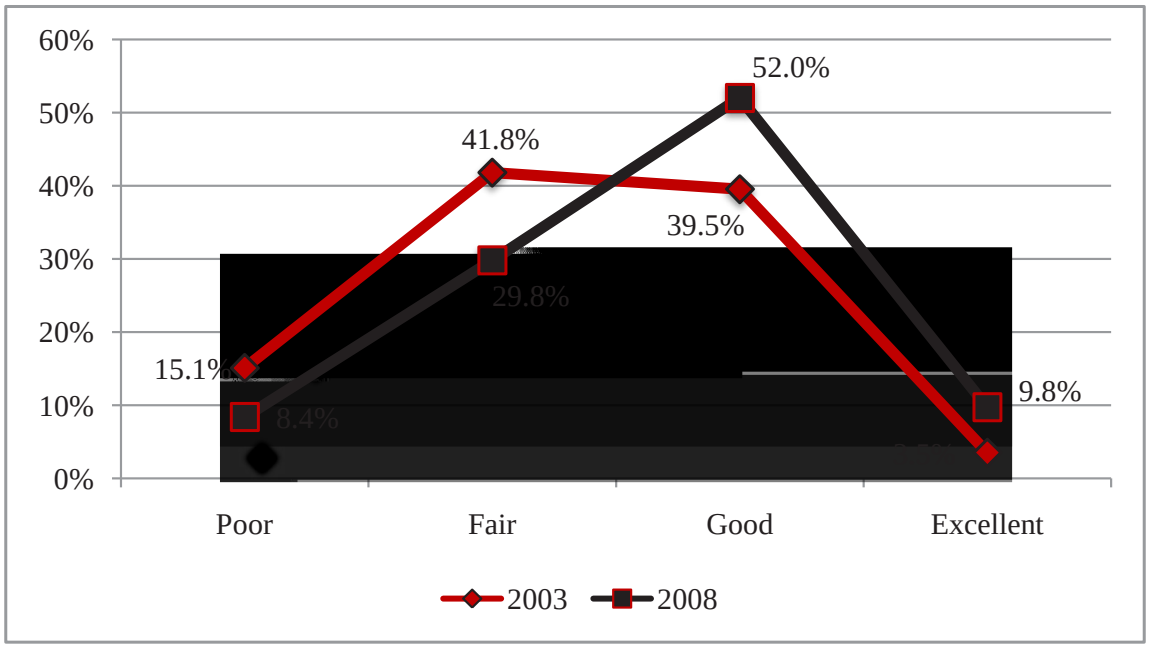
- 22% of respondents used Public Safety Services.
- 190 of 259 responding seniors rated the quality of Public Safety Services as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 30: Quality of Housing and Residence Halls

2008 Responses

- 37% of responding seniors used Housing & Residence Halls.
- 228 of 369 responding seniors the quality of Housing & Residence Halls as excellent or good.

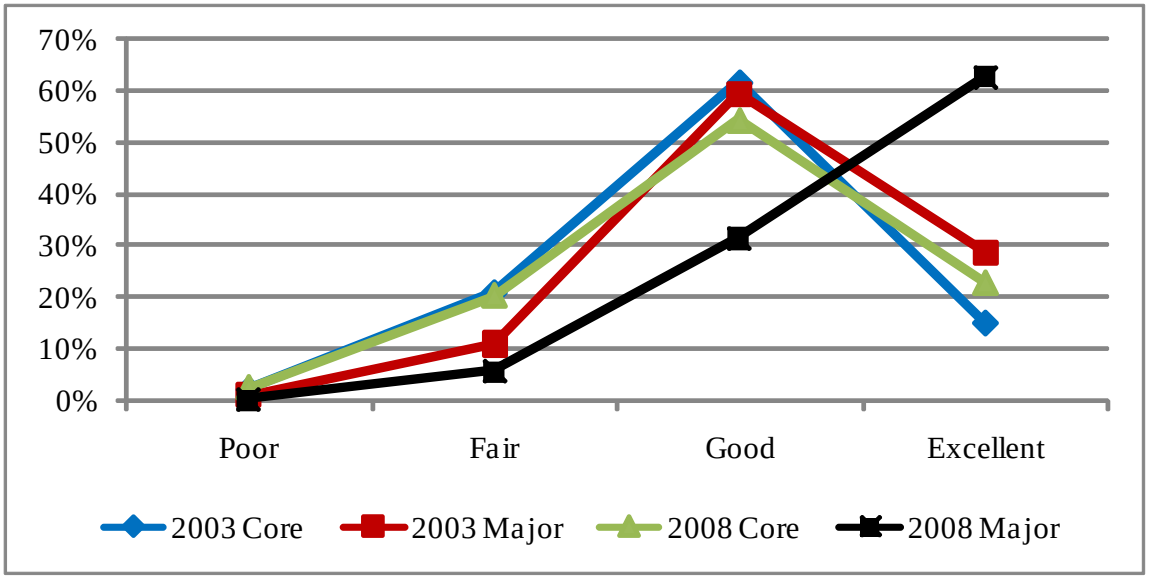


Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 35: Overall Attitude of Faculty Towards Students

EXHIBIT 36: Overall Quality of Faculty

EXHIBIT 47: Appearance of Printed Information About Program



2008 Responses

Respondents rated the appearance of printed information about their programs as excellent or good:

Å Core: 77%

EXHIBIT 48: Usefulness of Printed Information About Program

EXHIBIT 49: Availability of Research Support

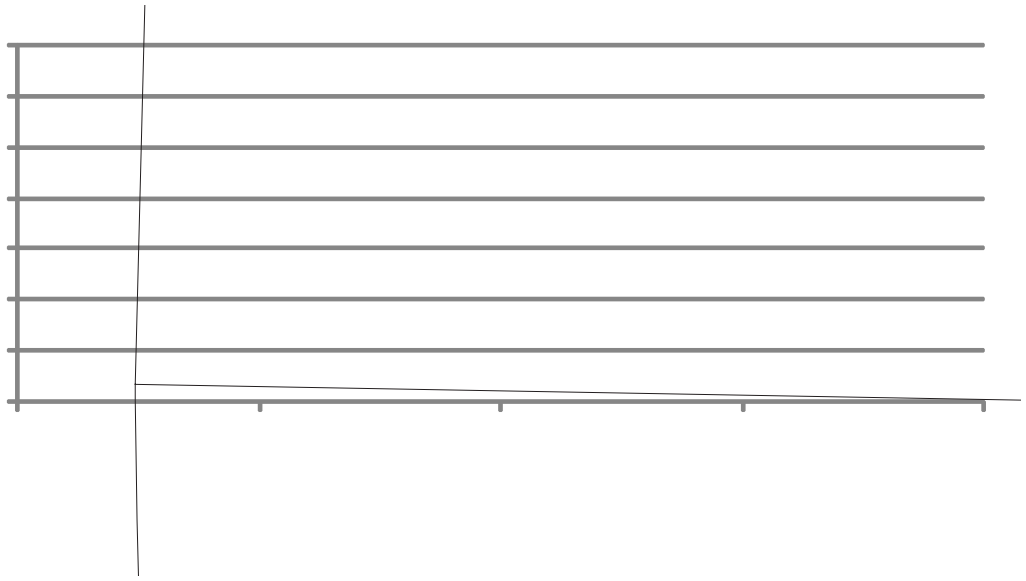


EXHIBIT 50: Usefulness of Research Support

EXHIBIT 53: Computer Lab Facilities

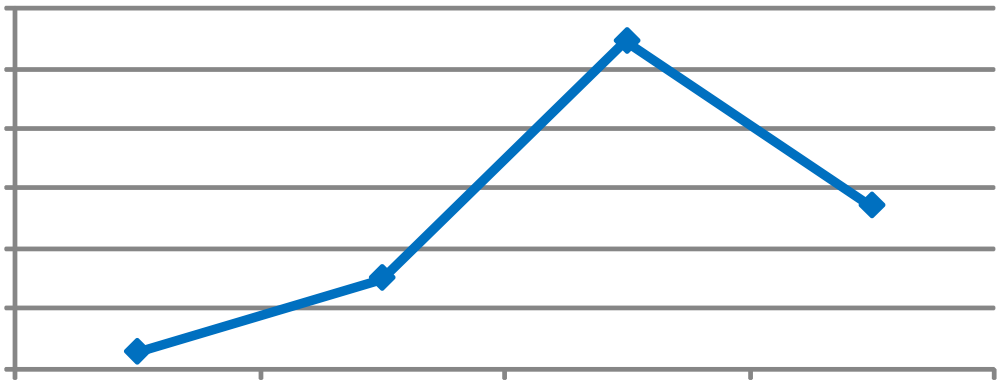
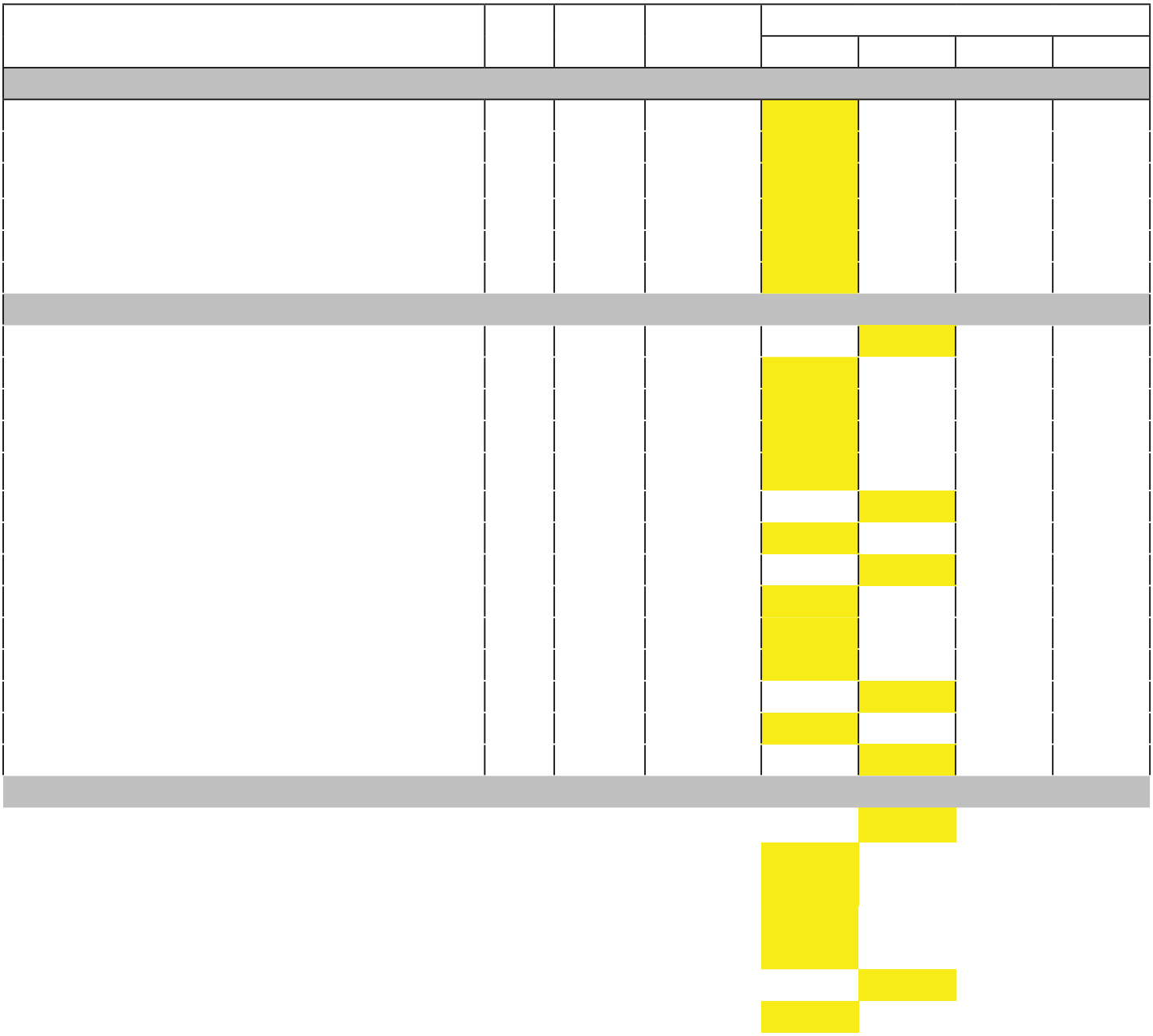


EXHIBIT 54:Computer Lab Availability

EXHIBIT 58: Seniors' Ratings of the University's Services and Facilities

Note: Yellow indicates highest percent value for each question. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

EXHIBIT 60: Seniors' Ratings of their Academic Experiences in the Major Field of Study



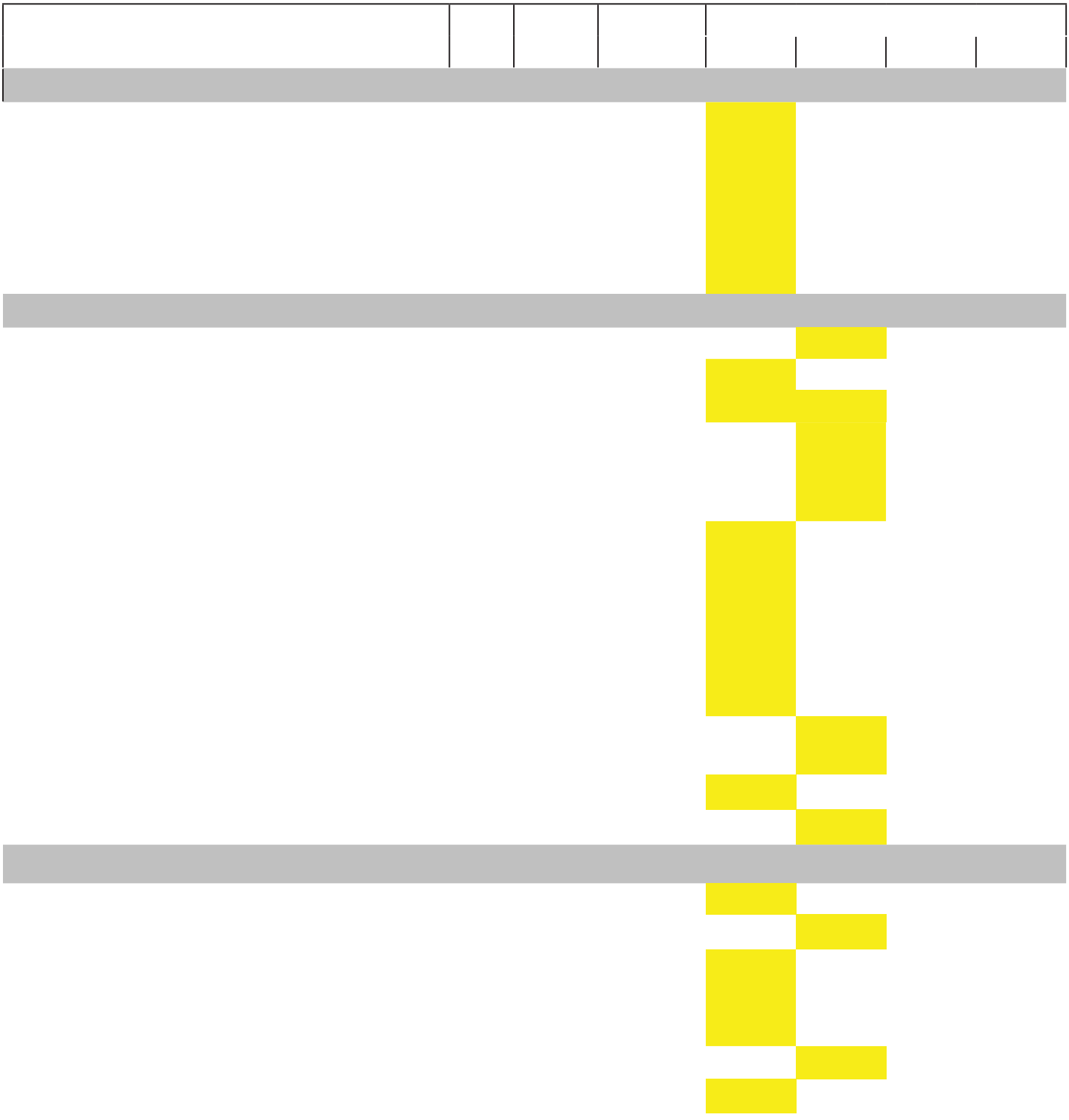
Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 61: Seniors' Ratings of Academic Program by College - Arts and Sciences

	n	Mean	Std. Dev.	Quality of Experience			
				Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
VSU Personnel Support							
1. Availability of academic advisor	186	3.53	0.66	61.3%	31.7%	5.9%	1.1%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	199	3.59	0.69	68.8%	23.6%	5.5%	2.0%
3. Helpfulness of departmental ofýce staff	186	3.54	0.62	59.7%	34.9%	4.8%	0.5%
4. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	193	3.52	0.64	59.6%	33.7%	6.2%	0.5%
5. Attitude of faculty toward students	189	3.50	0.63	56.1%	38.6%	4.2%	1.1%
6. Overall quality of faculty	201	3.55	0.60	59.7%	35.8%	4.0%	0.5%
VSU Instructional Support							
7. Courses as preparation for liberal education	154	3.29	0.72	42.2%	46.1%	9.7%	1.9%
8. Courses as preparation for initial employment	159	3.23	0.74	39.6%	45.9%	12.6%	1.9%
9. Courses as preparation for graduate school	157	3.39	0.68	48.4%	44.6%	5.1%	1.9%
10. Ease of getting into required courses	172	3.26	0.76	43.0%	41.3%	14.0%	1.7%
11. Ease of getting into elective courses	188	3.31	0.72	44.7%	42.6%	11.7%	1.1%
12. Organization of the curriculum for your major	189	3.26	0.72	40.2%	47.1%	11.1%	1.6%
13. Quality of instruction	190	3.43	0.61	48.9%	45.8%	4.7%	0.5%
14. Fairness of grading	183	3.28	0.66	39.3%	50.3%	9.8%	0.5%
15. Practicum or internship experiences	98	3.36	0.76	50.0%	38.8%	8.2%	3.1%
16. Study abroad experiences	69	3.41	0.71	50.7%	42.0%	4.3%	2.9%
17. Appearance of printed information about program	209	3.51	0.66	59.8%	32.1%	7.7%	0.5%
18. Usefulness of printed information about program	149	3.19	0.69	34.2%	52.3%	12.1%	1.3%
19. Availability of research support	166	3.38	0.73	50.6%	38.6%	9.0%	1.8%
20. Usefulness of research support	149	3.13	0.76	32.2%	51.7%	12.8%	3.4%
VSU Facilities							
21. Quality of distance learning courses	76	3.26	0.68	38.2%	51.3%	9.2%	1.3%
22. Library collection/resources	178	3.37	0.66	46.6%	44.4%	8.4%	0.6%
23. Library facilities	190	3.54	0.56	57.4%	39.5%	3.2%	0.0%
24. Computer lab facilities	196	3.46	0.69	54.6%	39.3%	3.6%	2.6%
25. Computer lab availability	198	3.41	0.73	53.5%	36.4%	8.1%	2.0%
26. C							

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 63: Seniors' Ratings of Academic Program by College - Arts



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 64: Seniors' Ratings of Academic Program by College - Education

EXHIBIT 65: Seniors' Ratings of Academic Program by College - Nursing

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 67: Seniors' Future Plans

	Total n	Full-time		Part-time	
		n	%	n	%
1. Working	999	735	73.6%	264	26.4%
2. Seeking employment	947	622	65.7%	325	34.3%
3. Pursuing further graduate work	967	365	62.3%	602	37.7%
	Total n	Yes		No	
		n	%	n	%
4. Continue employment in current career	865	359	41.5%	506	58.5%
5. Beginning/continuing military service	872	30	3.4%	842	96.6%
6. Caring for home/family	874	365	41.8%	509	58.2%

EXHIBIT 68: Seniors' Plans to Stay in Georgia