

# **GRADUATE STUDENT LIFE SURVEY REPORT**

**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA, TAMPA**

**GRADUATE SCHOOL**

**&**

**STUDENT AFFAIRS**

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## **REPORT ON FINDINGS FROM THE USF GRADUATE STUDENT LIFE SURVEY**

The University of South Florida Graduate School and Division of Student Affairs jointly created a survey to determine the needs and concerns of new graduate students at the University of South Florida, Tampa campus. The survey, which focused on various aspects of graduate student life, was distributed to all enrolled new Fall 2012 graduate students at the Tampa campus. This report describes methods used to create and distribute the surveys, an overview of responses and implications for graduate student programming and services.

### **Methods**

#### Instrument

A 49-question electronic survey was sent to all currently enrolled new Fall 2012 graduate students at the University of South Florida's Tampa campus. The survey was designed after a detailed review of graduate life surveys from Tulane University (Graduate Student Life Satisfaction Survey, 2009), Caltech University (GSC/WEST Quality of Graduate Student Life Survey, 2003), University of Colorado, Boulder (Graduate Student Life Survey, 2005), University of Central Florida (Graduating Graduate Student Survey, 2012) and crafted with questions suited to the USF graduate student community. The USF Graduate Student Life survey used is found in Appendix I. Graduate School Dean/Associate Vice-President for Research & Innovation, Dr. Karen Liller and Associate Dean for Students, Danielle McDonald reviewed the survey and recommended modifications.

The survey consisted of six sections. Section I focused on campus services and offices. Section II contained questions relating to programming and support services. Section III focused on campus involvement. Section IV contained questions related to graduate school choice.

Section V focused on various aspects of graduate student life. Finally, Section VI contained questions related to demographics.

The survey was created using Survey Monkey software which generated a survey link. This link was sent in an email to all currently registered USF Tampa campus new Fall 2012 graduate students by the Interim Dean for Students through the Graduate School list-serve. Survey respondents were advised that all information collected in the survey was confidential and only group data would be reported. Survey respondents were not required to give their names or email addresses in order to complete the survey. The survey response period spanned four weeks (February 3, 2013-March 3, 2013). Four emails containing the survey link were sent to graduate students – the first was the original message sent on February 3, 2013. The second (sent on February 18, 2013), third (sent on February 25, 2013) and fourth (sent on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013) were reminder messages encouraging students to complete the surveys. A message regarding the survey was also posted on the Graduate School’s Facebook page. The Facebook message did not contain the survey link in order to ensure that only the select group of currently registered graduate students had access to the survey.

### Incentives

An incentive for completing the survey was offered. Survey respondents were invited to provide their University ID numbers at the end of the survey if they wanted to enter a random selection for a lunch coupon at the On Top of the Palms restaurant in the Marshall Student Center. Survey respondents were further advised that a total of 10 students would be selected to receive those coupons.

Email addresses corresponding to the winning UID numbers were obtained from the Graduate School. Each student was informed via email that he or she had won and was provided with instructions to collect the coupons. Email reminders were sent periodically to these students. Coupons were collected by nine of the 10 winners who each signed a USF prize-waiver form. IP addresses were not recorded and UID numbers were removed from the shared survey data.

### **Data Analysis**

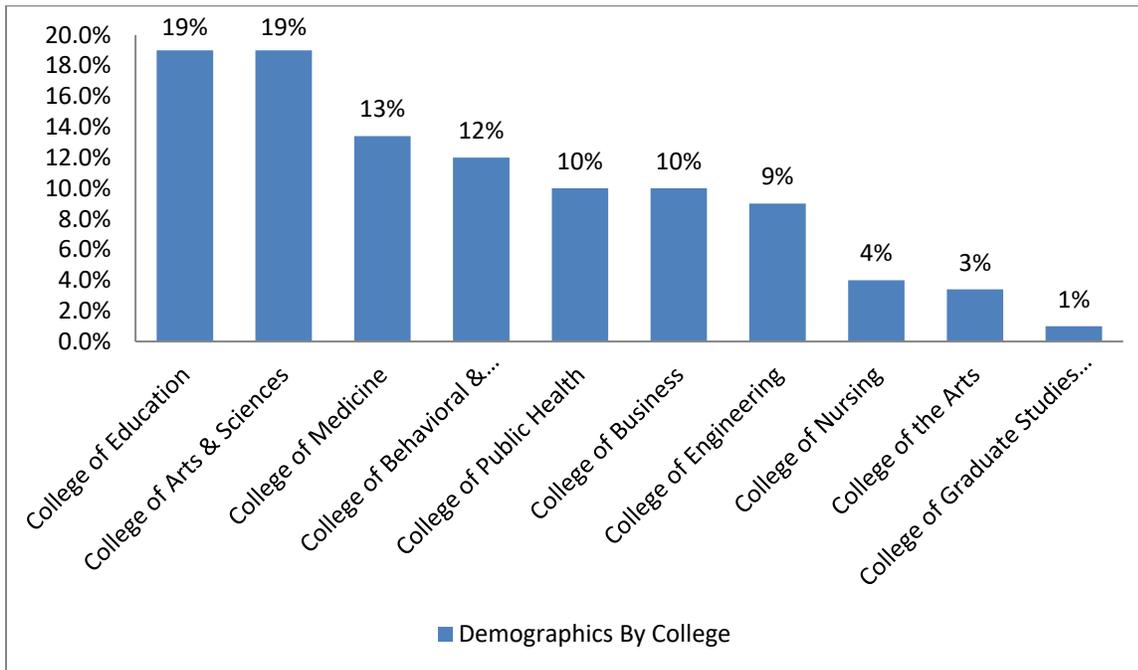
Once the survey was closed on March 3, 2013, all surveys were gathered and analyzed through the survey software which provided a summary of response counts and percentages for each survey question. The software also provided responses to the three open-ended questions and the 16 questions with comments sections contained in the survey.

### **Participants**

The Graduate Student Life survey was sent to all registered new Fall 2012 graduate students at the USF Tampa campus, (approximately 2,342 students). Of that number, a total of 360 students responded to the survey representing approximately a 15% response rate. The demographics of the participants are as follows:

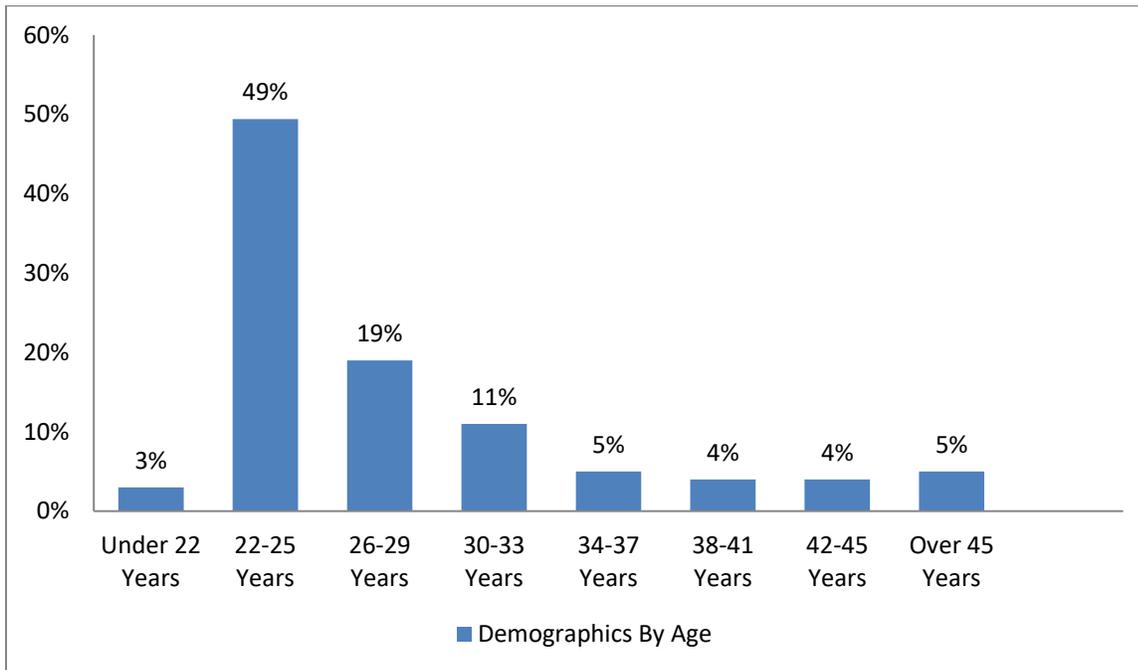
Masters level students represented 78% of respondents while 22% of the respondents were doctoral students. Respondents represented all colleges at USF, except the College of Marine Science. The predominant number of respondents were from USF Health (comprised of the Colleges of Medicine, Public Health and Nursing), followed by the Colleges of Education and Arts & Sciences. The demographic break-down by College is shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1



There were 87% of respondents enrolled full-time and 13% enrolled part-time. Primary program modes for respondents were, 77% for on-campus classes, 4% for online/distance classes and 18% for hybrid classes (both on-campus and online). Most respondents (65%) did not complete their undergraduate degree at USF. Many respondents (49%) were between the ages of 22-25 years and approximately 19% were 26-29 years. A demographic break-down by age group is shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2

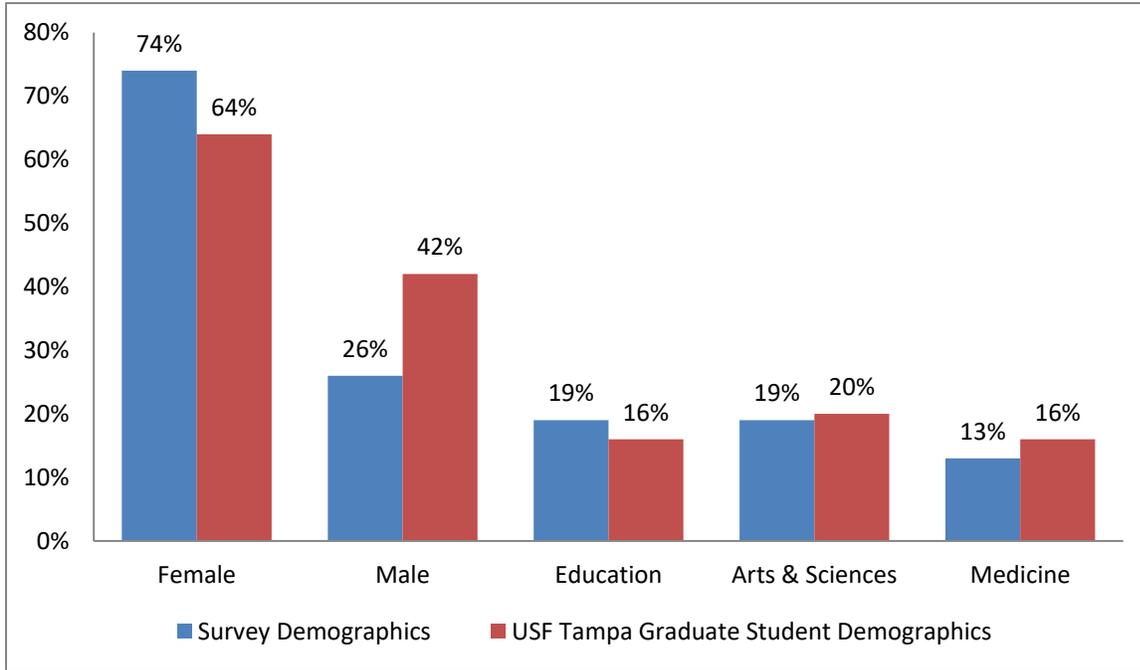


Respondents' gender was 74% female and 26% male. Regarding spousal status, 60% of the respondents were single, 26% married, 11% partnered, and 3% divorced. There were 84% of respondents who do not have children living with them. Of the respondents, 43% were employed part-time, 23% were employed full-time and 34% were not employed.

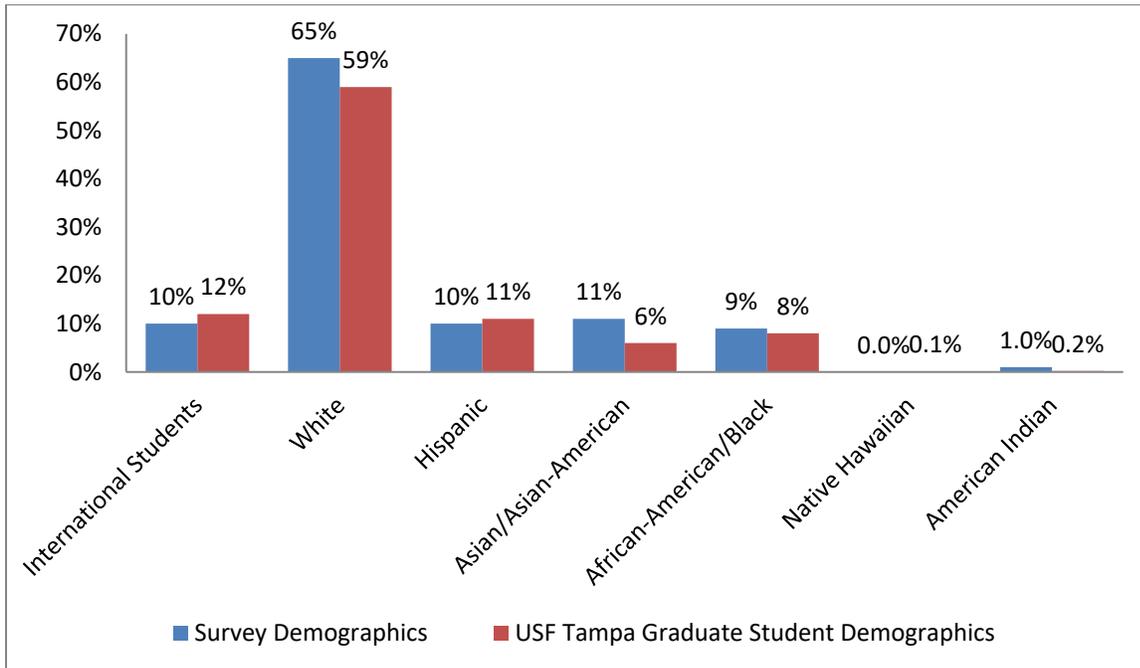
The demographic results were mostly representative of USF Tampa graduate student demographic data, with the majority of respondents being at the Masters level, female, enrolled in USF Health, White and domestic. A chart comparing the survey demographic data to current USF Tampa graduate student demographics is shown in Figure 3.

Figure 3

Charts Comparing Survey Demographic Data with USF Tampa SP13 Demographic Data



*N=360; USF Tampa Graduate Student SP13 Enrolment = 8,461*

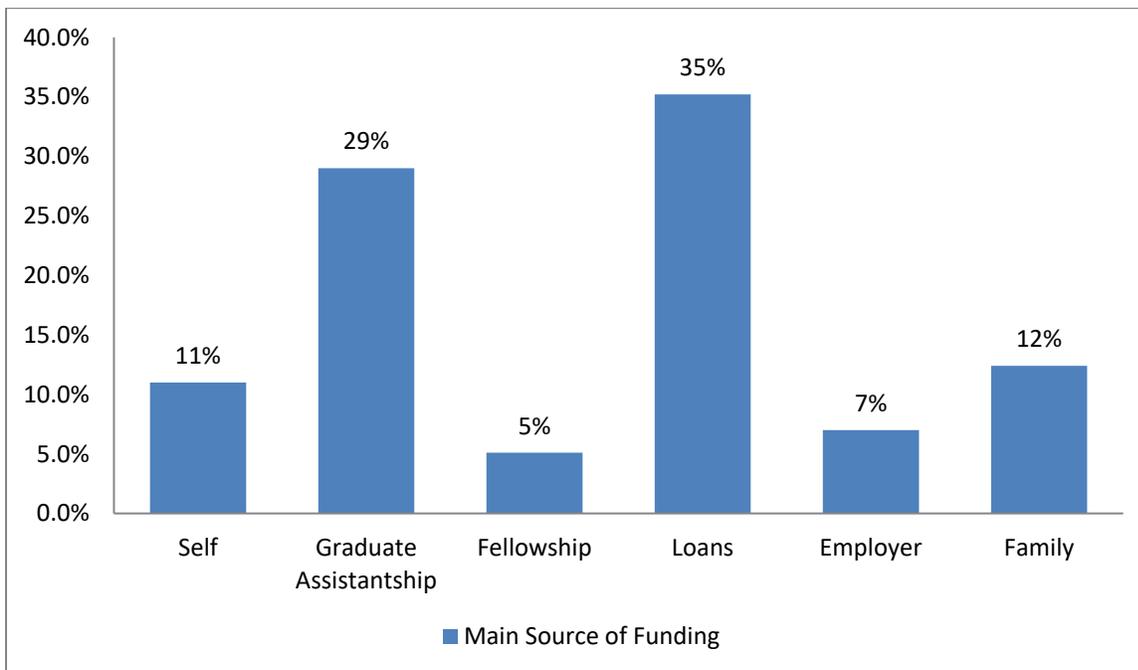


There were 87% of respondents who reported as U.S. citizens, 10% were International Students (student visa), 3% were U.S. Permanent Residents (green card) and 0.3% preferred not to respond. Regarding international admissions entry, 91% were regular admits, 6% were former INTO-USF Pathway Program students and 4% were former INTO-USF Academic English Program students.

The majority of respondents (99%) lived off-campus while 1% lived on-campus. Seventy percent (70%) of respondents lived between less than 5-15 miles from campus, 15% lived 16-30 miles from campus and 16% lived more than 30 miles from campus.

The two main sources of funding for the students were loans (35%) followed by graduate assistantships (29%). Survey respondents' main source of funding is represented in Figure 4.

Figure 4



### Utilization of Campus Services and Offices

In an effort to determine graduate student usage of campus services/offices and the need for services, eight questions were asked. Students were asked to indicate how frequently (on a scale of frequently, sometimes, never) they used specific offices/department services. Fifty-two percent of respondents reported they use the Library frequently. The highest frequencies for the *sometimes* category were 57% for use of the USF Bookstore, 47% for Financial Aid & Scholarships, 44% for use of Parking & Transportation Services, 40% for both the Graduate School and the Library, 39% for Academic Advising, 37% for the Student Health Center, 36% for the USF Computer Store, and 34% for Campus Recreation. Frequencies reported for use of the eight other office/department services listed were below 17%. Respondents were asked to rate the quality of service of the offices they have utilized. The leading setting for offices with excellent ratings was 36% for the Library. The leading settings for offices with good ratings were 41% for both the USF Bookstore and the Library, 35% for both Parking & Transportation and the Graduate School, 28% for both Financial Aid & Scholarships and Campus Recreation and 21% for the Student Health Center and the USF Computer Store.

In response to what extent (frequently, sometimes, never) campus offices and student services have hours that meet student needs, 53% of respondents indicated frequently, 45% indicated sometimes and 3% reported never. When asked if they would access student services offices if they were open beyond 5:00 p.m., 37% of respondents indicated Yes. Suggestions for offices with hours beyond 5:00 p.m. include Student Health, Financial Aid, the Bookstore, Counseling Services and the Library.

Specifically related to dining services, students were asked to what extent (frequently, sometimes, never) they utilized specific on-campus dining areas. The leading settings for sometimes use were 47% for the Marshall Student Center (MSC) Food Court, 40% for the USF Library (Starbucks), 37% for other MSC restaurants (Top of the Palms, Einstein's, Jamba Juice, Beef 'O' Brady's), 29% for Cooper Hall (Subway) and 24% for USF Barnes & Noble Bookstore Coffee-shop. The leading setting for frequent use was 19% for both the Marshall Center Food Court and the USF Library (Starbucks).

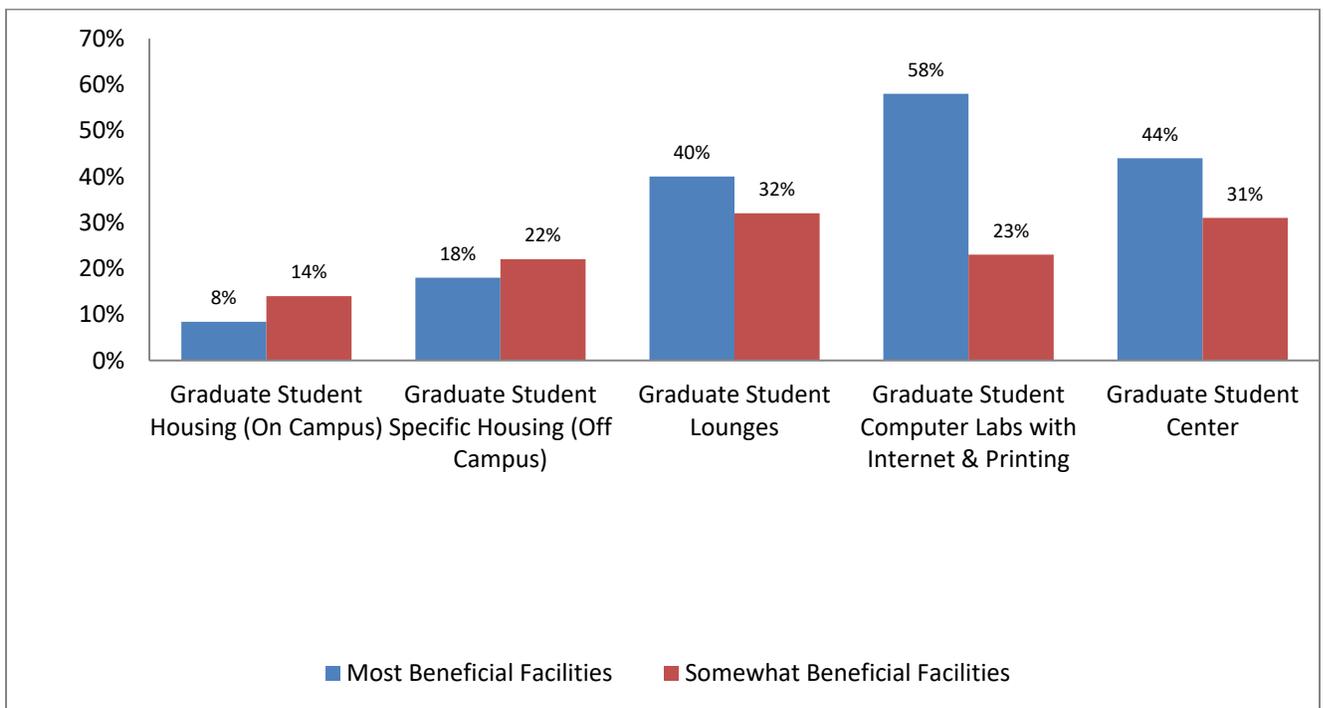
While 20% of respondents purchased meals or snacks on campus one to two times per week, 22% indicated that they never purchase meals or snacks on campus. Fifty-five percent of respondents indicated that they were either very satisfied/moderately satisfied with the dining options on campus. Twenty-eight percent did not know that a Graduate Student Meal Plan was available and 69% indicated that they did not have a Graduate Student Meal Plan.

### Programming & Support Services

In order to determine what programming and support services graduate students have used and what facilities would be most useful to graduate students, three questions were posed. Respondents were asked to rate graduate student support services that they had utilized. The leading services for excellent and good was 27% for graduate assistantships followed by 16% for writing skills support. Respondents were asked to indicate their participation in graduate student programming. Twenty-six percent had participated in graduate student social events, followed by 20% who had participated in professional development workshops and 17% in research workshops/showcases.

Respondents were asked to indicate which of five graduate student facilities would be most beneficial to them. Eight-one percent indicated that graduate student computer labs with internet and printing would be either most/or somewhat beneficial. Other high frequencies for either most/somewhat beneficial graduate student facilities included 75% for a Graduate Student Center and 72% for Graduate Student Lounges. A breakdown of the most beneficial and somewhat beneficial frequencies related to facilities is shown in Figure 5.

Figure 5



### Campus Involvement

In order to assess graduate students' level of campus involvement, six questions were posed including use of media for access to campus event information, engagement in campus activities, and sense of belonging to USF. Regarding how graduate students utilize media for campus events/information, the USF website (82%), Note-A-Bull News email (79%), fellow

students (75%), and college webpage (64%) were the major media listed for the categories of frequently and sometimes.

There were 67% of respondents who were not involved/not active members of any graduate student organizations and 93% indicated that they have not served in a leadership position in any graduate student organizations.

Academic related events/activities scored the highest frequency (68%) for significant/moderate attendance/participation, followed by sponsored lectures (44%) and social events (40%). Research activities with faculty (39%), athletic events (35%), professional/career events/activities (34%) and community outreach/volunteer activities (34%) were the next highest frequencies.

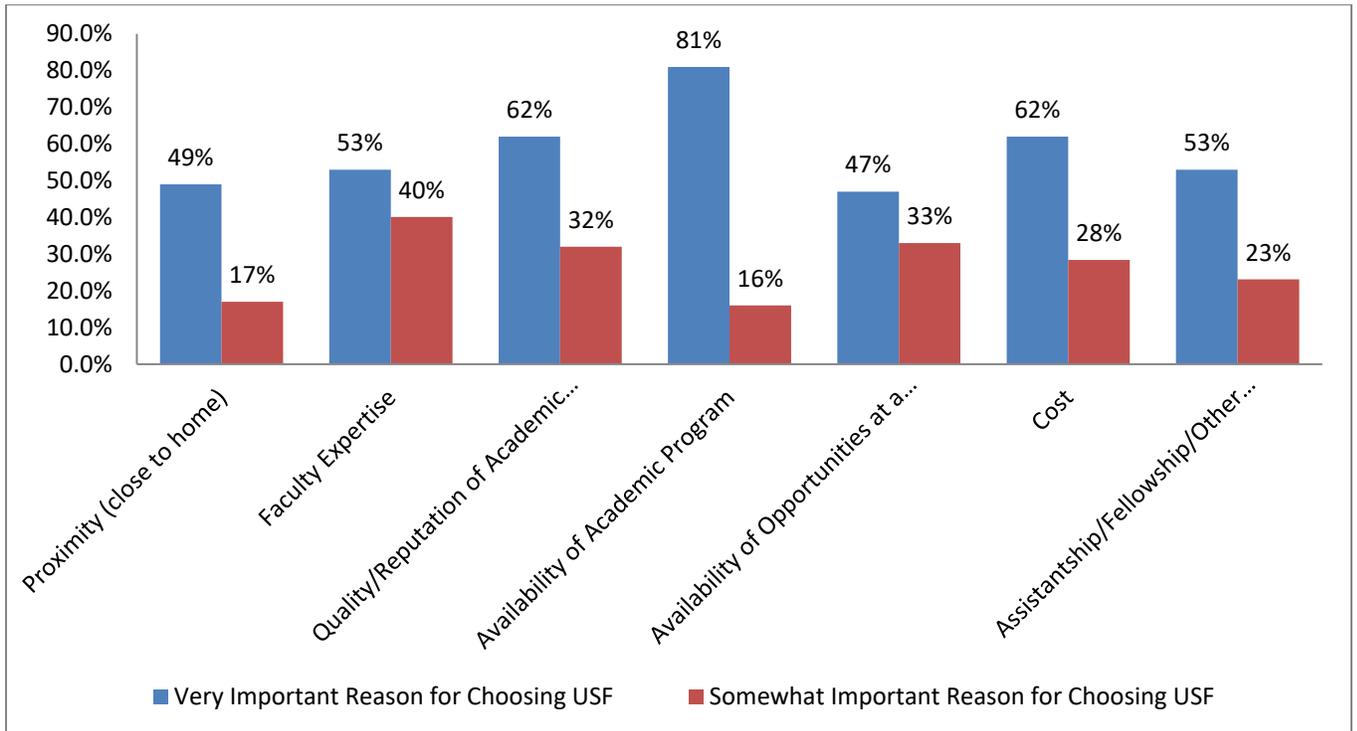
The majority (58%) of respondents indicated that they felt they belonged to USF while 53% of respondents felt valued as a student at USF.

### Graduate School Choice

There were eight questions regarding graduate school choice, satisfaction and orientation. Approximately 41% of the respondents began present graduate studies at USF within one year after completing their Bachelor's degrees. For 69% of respondents, USF was their first choice for graduate school. There were 69% of respondents who felt that USF meets expectations, while 71% would recommend USF to others for graduate studies. Eighty-one percent of respondents indicated that availability of the academic program was the major reason for enrolling in graduate studies at USF. Other leading responses included 62% for both quality/reputation of academic program and cost and 53% for both faculty expertise and

assistantship/fellowship/financial award. A breakdown of the very important and somewhat important reasons for choosing USF is represented in Fig. 6.

Figure 6



Graduate Student Life

In order to more fully assess graduate student life at USF Tampa, six questions were posed regarding challenging factors, safety, satisfaction with graduate student life and transition to graduate school. There were 43% of respondents who indicated that finances were the most challenging factor they faced. Factors that were somewhat of a challenge included academic course-work load (48%), research (43%), time management (33%) and both physical health and social life (31%). A majority of respondents (95%) felt very safe/moderately safe walking alone on campus during the day, 77% felt very safe/moderately safe in their place of residence

and 64% very safe/moderately safe in on-campus parking lots/garages. The leading setting for feeling very unsafe was 28% for walking alone off-campus at night. Regarding graduate student life satisfaction, 62% were very satisfied/satisfied. Approximately 22% of respondents indicated that their transition to graduate school was moderately easy while 22% found the transition to be neither easy/difficult.

### **Themes From Open-Ended Questions**

There were three open-ended questions included in the survey. Some of these questions received over 95 responses. Below are examples of leading themes that emerged from the open-ended responses:

- **Graduate School Orientation**

More workshops on Blackboard/OASIS, more opportunities to interact within colleges, more financial aid information

- **Graduate Student Life Improvements**

More graduate student social activities/inter-departmental events, more information on/better marketing of events, better parking, graduate student lounge/study space, more assistantships.

- **What You Wish You Knew Before Starting Studies at USF**

Financial aid/scholarship/assistantship information, off-campus housing options, campus resources, campus information, number of courses online versus face to face, course-load expectations and transition time to graduate education.

## **Conclusions**

New USF Tampa graduate students are generally satisfied with graduate student life, feel valued by and a sense of belonging at the university and would recommend USF to others for graduate studies. A large majority of new graduate students chose to enroll in graduate studies at USF because of availability of academic program, quality/reputation of academic program and cost. Most respondents did not complete their undergraduate or other studies at USF. Approximately half of the respondents found the transition experience to graduate studies easy. The most challenging factors for new graduate students are course-work load, research, finances and time management. The majority of respondents feel safe walking alone on campus during the day and at their place of residence, while several feel very unsafe walking alone off-campus at night. A majority of respondents are funded by either loans or graduate assistantships.

The Library is the most frequently used service/office followed by Parking & Transportation and the Graduate School. The Marshall Center Food Court and the USF Library Starbucks are the most frequently used dining areas. A majority of respondents would benefit from graduate student computer labs with internet and printing, graduate student lounges and a graduate student center. Most students utilize the USF website, fellow students and Note-a-Bull news email to find out about campus events/information.

## **Discussion**

The graduate student life survey results provide insight into the experience of new graduate students which can help inform the development of policies and decisions regarding services, programming and facilities that best support graduate student needs.

The level of participation in campus events/activities was fairly high for academic-related events and moderate in a few areas including sponsored lectures, social events and research activities. Membership in graduate student organizations was fair. This provides insight into how students are getting engaged in the campus community and connecting during their first semester with opportunities provided for students. These trends in involvement coupled with the fact that a majority of graduate students is under age 30 can be targeted for analysis to improve graduate student participation in campus life.

While graduate students are generally satisfied and feel that their expectations are being met, there are some improvements that could be made. Students have strongly indicated a desire for graduate student facilities (including fully equipped computer labs and lounges), showing that there may be a need to expand or create additional facilities and continue to make students aware of those that exist. Finances continue to be a significant challenge for graduate students, indicating a need for ongoing efforts to provide more scholarships and graduate assistantships.

The results also indicate that academic/course-work load, time management, balancing studies and family life and parking are also challenging factors, which could be addressed through collaboration with the colleges/the Graduate School and the wellness units of Student Affairs (and with parking and transportation for parking issues). Based on the results regarding feeling safe walking alone off-campus at night, there may be opportunities for collaboration with the University Police to provide safety training and resource information. The results on reasons for enrolling provide useful information for both the Graduate School and Graduate Admissions. Each college has been given their own findings for review and discussion.

Comparisons of these findings to last year's survey is difficult due to the fact that this survey only captured responses from newly enrolled students in Fall, 2012 whereas the last year's survey captured responses from ALL enrolled graduate students. Since the last survey, orientation has greatly improved due to greater opportunities for interaction and breakout sessions. We continue to work on the parking issues (graduate assistants can now apply for a limited number of E-staff parking permits) and have incorporated additional graduate resources into the Graduate Student Life Guide. There are ongoing efforts to improve distribution of information regarding graduate student specific/related events and programming including increased visibility in the Note-a-Bull newsletter and the Week of Welcome programming schedule. Ultimately, this survey will be useful in continued efforts to support and ensure graduate student success.

## References

Caltech University Graduate Student Council (2003). GSC/WEST Quality of Graduate Student Life Survey. Retrieved from <http://www.its.caltech.edu/~survey/survey/survey.html>

Tulane University Graduate Student Life Satisfaction Survey, 2009. Retrieved from <http://sacs.tulane.edu/uploads/Grad%20Student%20Life%20Survey%202009-2010%20042110.pdf>

University of Central Florida (2012). Graduating Graduate Student Survey. Retrieved from [http://www.irweb2.ucf.edu/oeas\\_survey/gss/gd12.pdf](http://www.irweb2.ucf.edu/oeas_survey/gss/gd12.pdf)

University of Colorado Boulder (2005). Graduate Student Survey. Retrieved from <http://www.colorado.edu/pba/surveys/grad/05/questionnaire.pdf>

**Appendix I**

*The USF Graduate Student Life Survey 2013*

<b>Graduate Student Life Survey 2013&lt;BR&gt;</b>			
<b>Campus Services &amp; Offices</b>			
<b>1. To what extent have you utilized the following office/department services?</b>			
	3 - Frequently	2 - Sometimes	1 - Never
Academic Advising	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Campus Recreation Center	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Career Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Center for Leadership & Civic Engagement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Counseling Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Financial Aid & Scholarships	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Graduate School	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
International Student Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Library	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Parking & Transportation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Multicultural Affairs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Student Disability Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Student Health Center	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Student Veteran Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
USF Bookstore	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
USF Computer Store	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
University Police	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify)	<input type="text"/>		

**Graduate Student Life Survey 2013<BR>**

**2. Please rate the quality of service for the following office/department services that you have utilized.**

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	N/A
Academic Advising	<input type="radio"/>				
Campus Recreation Center	<input type="radio"/>				
Career Services	<input type="radio"/>				
Center for Leadership & Civic Engagement	<input type="radio"/>				
Counseling Services	<input type="radio"/>				
Financial Aid & Scholarships	<input type="radio"/>				
Graduate School	<input type="radio"/>				
International Student Services	<input type="radio"/>				
Library	<input type="radio"/>				
Parking & Transportation	<input type="radio"/>				
Multicultural Affairs	<input type="radio"/>				
Student Disability Services	<input type="radio"/>				
Student Health Center	<input type="radio"/>				
Student Veteran Services	<input type="radio"/>				
USF Bookstore	<input type="radio"/>				
USF Computer Store	<input type="radio"/>				
University Police	<input type="radio"/>				

Other (please specify)

**3. To what extent do campus offices and student services have hours that meet your needs?**

- Frequently
- Sometimes
- Never

**4. Would you have need to access student services offices if they were open beyond 5:00 p.m.?**

- Yes
- No

If yes, please specify which offices and what times would be most useful.

**Graduate Student Life Survey 2013<BR>**

**5. To what extent do you utilize the following on-campus dining areas?**

	3 - Frequently	2 - Sometimes	1 - Never
Andros Center	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Argos Center (Fresh Food Co.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Business Administration	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cooper Hall (Subway)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Engineering II	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Juniper Poplar Hall	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Marshall Center Food Court	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Marshall Center (Top of the Palms, Einstein's, Jamba Juice, Beef 'O' Brady's)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Morsani Center (Camille's)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sessums Mall (Burger King)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
USF Library (Starbucks)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
USF Barnes & Noble Bookstore Coffeeshop	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
USF Wellness Center (Champion's Choice)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**6. How many times per week do you purchase meals or snacks from a USF dining facility?**

- Never
- Less Than 1-2 Times/week
- 1-2 Times/week
- 3-4 Times/week
- 5-6 Times/week

If never, please indicate why.

**7. How satisfied are you with the dining options on campus?**

- Very Satisfied
- Moderately Satisfied
- Neither Satisfied/Dissatisfied
- Moderately Dissatisfied
- Very Dissatisfied

Please indicate any changes you would make to dining options/services to increase satisfaction.

**Graduate Student Life Survey 2013<BR>**

**8. Do you have a Graduate Student Meal Plan?**

- Yes
- No
- Did not know one was available

**Graduate Student Life Survey 2013<BR>**

**Programming & Support Services**

**9. Please rate the following graduate student support services that you have used so far.**

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	N/A
Writing Skills Support	<input type="radio"/>				
Thesis/Dissertation Support	<input type="radio"/>				
Interdisciplinary Study Options	<input type="radio"/>				
Graduate Assistantships	<input type="radio"/>				
Travel Grants for Conference Presentations	<input type="radio"/>				
Graduate Student-Specific Career Services	<input type="radio"/>				
Legal Aid	<input type="radio"/>				
Child-Care Services	<input type="radio"/>				
Graduate Student Life Guide	<input type="radio"/>				

Other (please specify)

**10. To what extent would the following types of graduate student facilities be beneficial to you?**

	4 - Most beneficial	3 - Somewhat beneficial	2 - A little beneficial	1 - Not at all beneficial
Graduate Student Housing (On-Campus)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Graduate Student Housing (Off-Campus)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Graduate Student Lounges	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Graduate Student Computer Labs with Internet and Printing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Graduate Student Center	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify)

**Graduate Student Life Survey 2013<BR>**

**11. Please indicate if you have participated in any of the following types of graduate student programming and indicate your level of satisfaction for those you participated in.**

	Participated in this programming?	If Yes, how satisfied were you with the programming?
Research Workshops/Showcases	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Conference Presentation Workshops	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Graduate Student Social Events	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Professional Development Workshops	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Graduate Student Wellness Events	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Other (please specify)	<input type="text"/>	

**Graduate Student Life Survey 2013<BR>**

**Campus Involvement**

**12. To what extent do you utilize the following media to find out about campus events/information?**

	3 - Frequently	2 - Sometimes	1 - Never
Graduate School Webpage	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
College Webpage	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Graduate Student List-Serve	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Graduate school Facebook/Social Media	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Graduate & Professional Student Council Webpage	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
USF Website	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Note-a-Bull News Email	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fellow Students	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bulletin Boards	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify)

**13. Are you involved in/are you an active member of any graduate student organizations?**

- Yes
- No

If yes, please specify which organizations.

**14. Have you served in a leadership position in any graduate student organizations?**

- Yes
- No

**Graduate Student Life Survey 2013<BR>**

**15. How would you describe your attendance/participation in the following campus activities?**

	Significant	Moderate	Not At All
Academic-related events/activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Athletic events/activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Art exhibitions/music-events	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community outreach/volunteer activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Graduate student gov./leadership groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Multicultural events/activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Political events/activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Professional/Career events/activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religious events/activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Research Activities with Faculty	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sponsored Lectures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social Events	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wellness workshops/events	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**16. To what extent do you feel that you belong to USF?**

- Significant
- Moderate
- Neutral
- Slightly
- Not At All

**17. To what extent do you feel valued as a student at USF?**

- Significant
- Moderate
- Neutral
- Slightly
- Not At All

**Graduate Student Life Survey 2013<BR>**

**Graduate School Choice**

**18. When did you begin present graduate studies at USF?**

- Within 1 year after Bachelor's degree
- 1 to 3 years after Bachelor's degree
- More than 3 years after Bachelor's degree
- Within 1 year after Master's degree
- 1 to 3 years after Master's degree
- More than 3 years after Master's degree

**19. Where did USF rank in your choices for graduate school?**

- First Choice
- Second Choice
- Third Choice or Below

**20. Please rate how important each of the following reasons was for choosing to enroll in graduate studies at USF.**

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important
Proximity (close to home)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Faculty Expertise	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Quality/Reputation of Academic Program	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Availability of Academic Program	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Availability of Opportunities at a Large Research University	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cost	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Assistantship/Fellowship/Other Financial Aid Award	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**21. How has USF met your expectations?**

- Exceeds Expectations
- Meets Expectations
- Has Not Met Expectations

**Graduate Student Life Survey 2013<BR>**

**22. Would you recommend USF to others for graduate studies?**

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

**23. Questions 21-23 pertain to Fall Graduate School Orientation (not your College or Department Orientation, but the Graduate School's separate Orientation).**

**Did you attend Fall Graduate School Orientation?**

- Yes
- No

**24. How would you rate the effectiveness of the Fall Graduate School Orientation?**

- Very Effective
- Moderately Effective
- Neither Effective/Ineffective
- Moderately Ineffective
- Very Ineffective

**25. What suggestions do you have to improve the Graduate School Orientation?**

**Graduate Student Life Survey 2013<BR>**

**Graduate Student Life**

**26. To what extent do you find the following factors challenging?**

	4 - A major challenge	3 - Somewhat of a challenge	2 - A little challenge	1 - Not at all a challenge
Academic/Course-work Load	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Research	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Finances	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Physical Health	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mental Health	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social Life	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Isolation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Time Management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Balancing Studies and Family Life	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Transportation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Parking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify)

**27. To what extent do you feel safe in the following situations?**

	Very Safe	Moderately Safe	Neither Safe or Unsafe	Moderately Unsafe	Very Unsafe	N/A
Walking alone on campus during the day	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Walking alone on campus at night	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Walking alone off-campus during the day	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Walking alone off-campus at night	<input type="checkbox"/>					
In on-campus parking lots/garages	<input type="checkbox"/>					
In your place of residence	<input type="checkbox"/>					

## Graduate Student Life Survey 2013<BR>

### 28. How satisfied are you with graduate student life at USF?

- Very Satisfied
- Satisfied
- Neither Satisfied/Dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Very Dissatisfied

### 29. What recommendations would you make to improve graduate student life at USF?

### 30. How would you rate your transition to graduate school when you first started studies?

- Very Easy
- Moderately Easy
- Easy
- Neither Easy/Difficult
- Difficult
- Moderately Difficult
- Very Difficult

### 31. What information did you wish you knew before coming to or just starting at USF?

**Graduate Student Life Survey 2013<BR>****Demographics****32. What is your level of study?**

- Certificate/Non-Degree
- Specialist
- Masters
- Doctoral

**33. What is your primary college?**

- Arts & Sciences
- Behavioral & Community Science
- Business
- Education
- Engineering
- Graduate Studies (Global Sustainability)
- Marine Science
- Medicine
- Nursing
- Public Health
- The Arts

Please indicate your department.

**34. What is your enrollment status?**

- Full-time (9 credit hours or more in Fall/Spring, 6 credit hours in Summer)
- Part-time (less than 9 credit hours in Fall/Spring, less than 6 credit hours in Summer)

**35. What is your primary program mode?**

- On-campus classes
- Online/distance classes
- Hybrid (both on-campus and online)

**Graduate Student Life Survey 2013<BR>****36. Did you complete undergraduate or other studies at USF?**

- Yes  
 No

**37. What is your gender?**

- Male  
 Female

**38. What is your age?**

- under 22  
 22-25  
 26-29  
 30-33  
 34-37  
 38-41  
 42-45  
 over 45

**39. What is your spousal status?**

- Single  
 Partnered  
 Married  
 Divorced  
 Widowed

**40. Do you have children living with you?**

- Yes  
 No

**41. What is your employment status?**

- Employed full-time  
 Employed part-time  
 Not employed

**Graduate Student Life Survey 2013<BR>**

**42. Do you work at USF?**

- Yes
- No

**43. If you work at USF, what is your position?**

- Graduate Assistant
- Teaching Assistant
- Research Assistant
- Staff Employee (Full-Time)
- Staff Employee (Part-Time)

Other (please specify)

**44. What is your race/ethnicity?**

- African American/Black
- American Indian
- Asian/Asian American
- Hispanic
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White (Non-Hispanic)
- Prefer Not to Respond

Other (please specify)

**45. What is your U.S. citizenship status?**

- U.S. Citizen
- U.S. Permanent Resident (green card)
- International Student (student visa)
- Prefer Not to Respond

Other (please specify)

**Graduate Student Life Survey 2013<BR>**

**46. If international student, what was your admissions entry to graduate school?**

- Regular Admit
- Former INTO-USF Academic English Program Student
- Former INTO-USF Pathway Program Student

**47. Where do you live?**

- On-campus
- Off-campus

**48. If off-campus, how far away do you live from campus?**

- 5 miles or less
- 6-15 miles
- 16-30 miles
- More than 30 miles

**49. What is your main source of funding?**

- Self
- Graduate Assistantship (Teaching Assistant, Research Assistant or Graduate Assistant)
- Fellowship
- Loans
- Employer
- Family

Other (please specify)

**50. Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey! If you wish to participate in a random selection for lunch for two at The Top of The Palms restaurant in the Marshall Student Center, please provide your University ID number in the box below.**