SUMMARY

- **70%** of students are **satisfied** with the number of campus activities provided during the week.
- **59%** are **satisfied** with the number of campus activities provided on the weekend.
- **82%** of students are involved in campus activities with more than half **wanting to become more involved**.
- **Over three-quarters** of students learned to **balance** social activities with academic obligations as a result of participating in campus activities.
- **62%** believe that campus activities and programs are **effectively promoted**.
- In Spring 2015, **70%** of respondents were a **member of at least one student club** or organization.
- **Two-thirds** were involved in at least one **intramural group**, club sport, or organized fitness activity.

OBSERVATIONS: BY THE NUMBERS

**70%** of students were satisfied with the number of campus activities available on campus during the week (Monday-Thursday). (Unchanged since 2012)

> UAlbany students were more satisfied with the number of campus activities offered during the week (2.12) than the national average (2.08).

**59%** of students were satisfied with the number of campus activities available on campus on weekends (Friday-Sunday). (Compared to 61% in 2012)

> UAlbany students were as satisfied with the number of activities offered on weekend (2.23) as the national average (2.23).

**70%** of respondents were a **member of at least one student club or organization during Spring 2015.** (Compared to 53% in 2012)

> UAlbany students were more involved than the national average (68%).

**29%** of respondents were involved in at least one intramural group, club sport, or organized fitness activity. (Compared to 24% in 2012)

> UAlbany students were less involved than the national average (34%).

**16%** were a member of a Greek organization (Compared to 10% in 2012)
11% of respondents an intercollegiate athletic team. (Compared to 4% in 2012).

**INVolvement in Campus Activities & Organizations**

- 53% of UAlbany students attend campus events/activities (49% in 2012)
- 17% of UAlbany students do not attend or participate in campus activities. **(33% in 2012)**
- 16% of UAlbany students actively participate/help to plan campus events/activities. (10% in 2012)
- 14% of UAlbany students hold a leadership position in campus events/activities. (7% in 2012)

**Figure 1: Involvement in Campus Activities**

- When asked, “How do the number of campus activities available on campus during the week (Monday-Thursday) compare to what you need?” UAlbany students said:
  - 70% - The number of activities meets what I need.
  - 21% - I need more activities.
  - 9% - I need fewer activities.

- When asked, “How do the number of campus activities available on campus during weekends (Friday-Sunday) compare to what you need?” UAlbany students said:
  - 59% - The number of activities meets what I need.
  - 32% - I need more activities.
  - 9% - I need fewer activities.

- When asked, “Are you as involved in campus activities as you would like to be?” UAlbany students said:
➢ 55% - I would like to be involved in more campus activities.
➢ 43% - I am content with my level of involvement in campus activities.
➢ 2% - I would like to be involved in fewer campus activities.

- When asked what factors contribute to being less involved than they would like to be, the primary reasons cited by students included being too busy (56%), conflicts with academic obligations (55%), time/days of activities are not convenient (40%), and not wanting to participate alone (34%).
- 30% of students attend community service projects. (27% in 2012)

Figure 2: Involvement in Campus Activities (Continued)

PROMOTION & AWARENESS

When asked, “What is the most common way you learn about campus events?” the top four responses from UAlbany students were:

1. Campus e-mail (30%)
2. Flyers/posters/banners/chalking on campus (22%)
3. Word of mouth (from students, faculty and/or administrators) (16%)
4. Social media (14%)

62% of UAlbany students feel that campus activities and programs are effectively promoted overall.

PERSONAL GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT
As a result of participating in campus activities:

- 80% have been able to meet individuals with similar interests to their own. (76% in 2012)
- 57% have been able to interact with faculty. (50% in 2012)
- 55% have been able to interact with staff members/administrators. (45% in 2012)
- 54% feel part of the campus community. (73% in 2012)
- 56% have become involved with additional campus activities. (46% in 2012)

74% of UAlbany students feel that their involvement with campus activities has provided them with skills and abilities that they will use after they graduate. (50% in 2012)

70% of UAlbany students gained experiences/skills relevant to their major as a result of participating in campus activities. (66% in 2012)

As a result of participating in campus activities, UAlbany students experienced personal improvement in the following areas:

- 79% - communication skills (77% in 2012)
- 77% - ability to balance social activities with academic obligations (76% in 2012)
- 77% - ability to work in a team (75% in 2012)
- 75% - knowledge about the campus community (79% in 2012)
- 76% - understanding of diverse perspectives (72% in 2012)
- 70% - self-confidence (68% in 2012)
- 54% - stress-management skills (54% in 2012)
- 78% - leadership skills (67% in 2012)
- 64% - time-management skills (63% in 2012)
- 68% - conflict management (61% in 2012)
- 65% - critical thinking/problem solving skills (59% in 2012)
- 60% - ability to make a difference in the community (59% in 2012)
- 61% - ability to make a difference on campus (56% in 2012)

39% of students would visit a Leadership Center to find more resources on leadership.

Satisfaction & Deciding Factors

As a result of participating in campus activities,

- 65% said their satisfaction with their collegiate experience has improved. (55% in 2012)
- 32% said they are more likely to donate to UAlbany after they graduate. (36% in 2012)
- 42% said they are more likely to participate in alumni events after graduation. (42% in 2012)
61% of UAlbany students said that the campus activities offered by the college/university were important when making their decision of which college to attend. (48% in 2012)

61% of UAlbany students said that the student clubs and organizations available to join were important when making their decision of which college to attend. (46% in 2012)

If given the opportunity to start over again, 67% of students would still choose to attend UAlbany. (74% nationally)

**STUDENT ACTIVITIES FEES**

92% of respondents stated they were aware of the student fees they pay per semester.

Taking into to account the quality and quantity of campus activities and programs offered on campus, 50% of students believe they get what they pay for or more. 40% of students believe they get somewhat or much less than what they pay for.

When asked how they would like to see their student fees spent, students identified the following:

- 41% want more programming and activities.
- 28% want renovations to existing facilities.
- 13% want building of new facilities.
- 9% want different types of programming than what is currently offered.
- 13% selected other, with many wanting their fees to be spent on better food and more funding for clubs, and some saying they do not want to pay any fees.

45% of students are satisfied with how student activities fees are spent, while 27% are dissatisfied.

**Environmental Sustainability**

76% of students believe it is important that UAlbany has student engagement and programing related to environmental sustainability, of that, 34% find it very important.

85% of students find it important that UAlbany considers renewable energy sources for its buildings and vehicles, of that, 44% find it very important.

These are the environmental sustainability topics UAlbany students find most:

- Health and well-being (37% of respondents)
- Climate change (30% of respondents)
- Exercise and recreation (30% of respondents)
- Recycling (29% of respondents)

77% of UAlbany students believe it is important that UAlbany serves locally-produced foods in the dining hall.
Of possible initiatives, UAlbany students selected the following programs that they would like to see the university pursue in the next couple of years:

- Put bottle return machines in the quads (57% of respondents)
- Create an on-campus local food grocery store (54% of respondents)
- Purchase 50% of food from local stores (40% of respondents)
- Create a campus farm where food is grown for use in the dining halls (33% of respondents)

**METHODOLOGY & DEMOGRAPHICS**

Findings are based on the 2015 Campus Activities Student Survey completed by 520 University at Albany undergraduate students between **April 23, 2015 and May 15, 2015**. The survey was developed in association with the National Association for Campus Activities (NACA) and was administered electronically through Campus Labs by the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs at UAlbany.

**Respondents were:**

- Mostly women (61% women, 37% men).
- Representative of different class years (25% freshman, 18% sophomore, 26% juniors, 30% seniors).
- Full-time students (94% full time students).
- Living on campus (62% live off campus).
- Attended events/activities in High School (35% attended events/activities, 32% held a leadership position(s) in events/activities, 22% actively participated in/helped to plan events/activities, 8% did not attend or participate in activities)
- Freshman admits (68% freshman admit, 21% transfer from two-year college, 11% transfer from four-year college or university)

**QUESTIONS**

Please direct any questions concerning this assessment brief to:

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