SUMMARY

• Sixty-nine percent of students are satisfied with the number of campus activities provided during the week while sixty-one percent are satisfied with the number of campus activities provided on the weekend.

• Two-thirds of students are involved in campus activities with more than half wanting to become more involved.

• Three-quarters of students learned to balance social activities with academic obligations as a result of participating in campus activities.

• Sixty-one percent believe that campus activities and programs are effectively promoted. Specifically, students cited flyers (33%), campus email (22%) and word of mouth (16%) as the three most common ways students learn about campus events.

• In Fall 2011, one-half of respondents were a member of at least one student club or organization and one-quarter were involved in at least one intramural group, club sport, or organized fitness activity.

• Eighty-seven percent of students feel that it is important to build relationships and make connections while at UAlbany.

OBSERVATIONS: BY THE NUMBERS

69% of students were satisfied with the number of campus activities available on campus during the week (Monday-Thursday). (Compared to 65% in 2009)

UAlbany students were more satisfied with the number of campus activities offered during the week (2.09) than the national average (2.05).

61% of students were satisfied with the number of campus activities available on campus on weekends (Friday-Sunday). (Compared to 48% in 2009)

UAlbany students were less satisfied with the number of activities offered on weekend (2.16) than the national average (2.21).
53% of respondents were a member of at least one student club or organization during fall 2011.

UAlbany students were less involved than the national average (67%).

24% of respondents were involved in at least one intramural group, club sport, or organized fitness activity.

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

10% and 4% of respondents were a member of a Greek organization and an intercollegiate athletic team respectively.

UAlbany students are less involved than the national average (18% and 9% respectively).

INvolvement in CAMPUS Activities & OrGANIZATIONS

- 49% of UAlbany students attend campus events/activities
- 33% of UAlbany students do not attend or participate in campus activities.
- 10% of UAlbany students actively participate/help to plan campus events/activities.
- 8% of UAlbany students hold a leadership position in campus events/activities.

Figure 1: Involvement in Campus Activities

![Figure 1: Involvement in Campus Activities](image)
• 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.
  ➢ 20% - I need more activities.
  ➢ 10% - 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:
  ➢ 61% - The number of activities meets what I need.
  ➢ 28% - I need more activities.
  ➢ 11% - I need fewer activities.
• When asked, “Are you as involved in campus activities as you would like to be?” UAlbany students said:
  ➢ 56% - I would like to be involved in more campus activities.
  ➢ 41% - I am content with my level of involvement in campus activities.
  ➢ 3% - 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%), commitments to off-campus activities (42%), and inconvenience of commuting and returning to campus (38%).
• 27% of students attend community service projects. (21% in 2009)

Figure 2: Involvement in Campus Activities (Continued)
PROMOTION & AWARENESS

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

1. Flyers/posters/banners/chalking on campus (33%)
2. Campus e-mail (22%)
3. Word of mouth (from students, faculty and/or administrators) (16%)

61% of UAlbany students feel that campus activities and programs are effectively promoted overall.

PERSONAL GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

As a result of participating in campus activities:

- 76% have been able to meet individuals with similar interests to their own.
- 50% have been able to interact with faculty.
- 45% have been able to interact with staff members/administrators.
- 54% feel part of the campus community.
- 46% have become involved with additional campus activities.

60% of UAlbany students feel that their involvement with campus activities has provided them with skills and abilities that they will use after they graduate.

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

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

- 79% - knowledge about the campus community
- 77% - communication skills
- 76% - ability to balance social activities with academic obligations
- 75% - ability to work in a team
- 72% - understanding of diverse perspectives
- 68% - self-confidence
- 67% - leadership skills
- 63% - time-management skills
- 61% - conflict management
- 59% - critical thinking/problem solving skills
- 59% - ability to make a difference in the community
- 56% - ability to make a difference on campus
- 54% - stress-management skills
87% of students agree with the statement: “It is important for me to develop relationships and make connections while at UAlbany.”

- 91% of on-campus students agree
- 86% of off-campus students living alone or with friends/roommates agree
- 77% of off-campus students living with parent(s)/guardian(s) agree
- 72% of off-campus students living with spouse/partner/children agree

57% of students agree that they have been able to develop the relationships and connections to be successful at UAlbany.

Table 1: Mentor Connections by Class Year and Sex

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Freshmen</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Seniors</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty member(s)</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advisor(s)</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member(s) of UAlbany staff</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper class student(s)</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer(s)</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None of the above</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Mentor Connections by Residence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>On-Campus (Residence Hall, apartment)</th>
<th>Off-Campus (Alone or with friends/roommates)</th>
<th>Off-Campus (With Parent(s)/Guardian(s))</th>
<th>Off-Campus (With spouse/partner/children)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty member(s)</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advisor(s)</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member(s) of UAlbany staff</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper class student(s)</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer(s)</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None of the above</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3: Formation of Mentor Connections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Freshmen</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Seniors</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Through an organized mentoring program</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Through my major</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Through a course/class</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Through residence life/where I live</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Through a club or organization</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Informally</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 4: Most Beneficial Assignments of Mentor Connections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Freshmen</th>
<th>Seniors</th>
<th></th>
<th>Freshmen</th>
<th>Seniors</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assign mentors to incoming freshmen and transfer students</td>
<td>23 %</td>
<td>29 %</td>
<td>27 %</td>
<td>18 %</td>
<td>31 %</td>
<td>26 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establish mentorship in the first semester</td>
<td>13 %</td>
<td>17 %</td>
<td>16 %</td>
<td>14 %</td>
<td>12 %</td>
<td>13 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establish mentorship in the first year, but not necessarily the first semester</td>
<td>10 %</td>
<td>20 %</td>
<td>17 %</td>
<td>17 %</td>
<td>12 %</td>
<td>14 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assign mentor within the major</td>
<td>40 %</td>
<td>31 %</td>
<td>34 %</td>
<td>28 %</td>
<td>33 %</td>
<td>31 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>5 %</td>
<td>0 %</td>
<td>2 %</td>
<td>6 %</td>
<td>4 %</td>
<td>5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No opinion</td>
<td>10 %</td>
<td>2 %</td>
<td>5 %</td>
<td>18 %</td>
<td>7 %</td>
<td>11 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SATISFACTION & DECIDING FACTORS

As a result of participating in campus activities,

- 55% said their satisfaction with their collegiate experience has improved.
- 36% said they are more likely to donate to UAlbany after they graduate.
- 42% said they are more likely to participate in alumni events after graduation.

48% of UAlbany students said that the campus activities offered by the college/university were moderately or very important when making their decision of which college to attend.

46% of UAlbany students said that the student clubs and organizations available to join were moderately or very important when making their decision of which college to attend.

If given the opportunity to start over again, 66% of students would still choose to attend UAlbany.

STUDENT ASSOCIATION BLOCK PARTY

44% of respondents attended the 2011 Student Association Block Party.

Of those who attended the SA Block Party, 82% were satisfied with the event overall. Students reported very or somewhat satisfied with the following:

- 87% - Number of student groups tabling
- 65% - Inflatable obstacle course
- 63% - Student performances
- 51% - Food

As a result of attending the 2011 SA Block Party, 52% of students reported feeling a greater sense of connection to other UAlbany students and 59% reported having a greater sense of pride in the University.

83% of students agreed that they could identify at least three student organizations they can get involved in on campus as a result of attending the 2011 SA Block Party.
68% of students said they are more likely to get involved on campus as a result of attending the 2011 SA Block Party.

88% of students would recommend the event to other students.

31% of students said they joined an organization as a result of attending the event.

**METHODOLOGY & DEMOGRAPHICS**

Findings are based on the 2011 Campus Activities Student Survey completed by 1115 University at Albany undergraduate students between **November 14 and December 2, 2011**. The survey was developed in association with the National Association for Campus Activities (NACA) and was administered electronically through StudentVoice by the Office of the Vice President for Student Success at UAlbany.

Respondents were:

- Mostly women (60% women, 40% men).
- Representative of different class years (12% freshman, 19% sophomore, 33% juniors, 36% seniors).
- Full-time students (90% full time students).
- Living off campus (67% live off campus).
- Attended events/activities in High School (38% attended events/activities, 25% held a leadership position(s) in events/activities, 24% actively participated in/helped to plan events/activities, 11% did not attend or participate in activities)
- Freshman admits (57% freshman admit, 28% transfer from two-year college, 15% transfer from four-year college or university)

**QUESTIONS**

Please direct any questions concerning this assessment brief to:

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University at Albany
TEL: 518.956.8140 EMAIL: mchristakis@albany.edu