

## **Excerpt from Executive Summary Baccalaureate Alumni Survey, 2004**

This *In the Abstract* features an excerpt from the Executive Summary of Oakton's 2004 baccalaureate alumni survey. Each year, the Office of Research surveys transfer program alumni with at least 30 Oakton credits or an associate's degree, and who were last enrolled one or three years ago. In 2004, 522 alumni responded to the telephone survey. Survey findings include the following:

### **Educational Experience at Other Colleges and Universities**

- Of the 522 survey respondents, 378 (72%) report they attended another college or university after Oakton, and 181 (48%) of the transfers say they earned a bachelor's or associate degree after transfer.
- Most alumni transferred to schools in the Chicago area. Northeastern Illinois University and University of Illinois at Chicago drew 33 percent of the transfers.
- Of students who did not already have a bachelor's degree and who transferred, 73 percent who last attended Oakton in 2000-2001 had earned their bachelor's degree since leaving Oakton, compared to 34 percent of those who last attended in 2002-03.
- The most popular majors for Oakton alumni are in business, education, social and behavioral sciences, and humanities, fine arts.
- Respondents who transferred rated the utility of skills learned at Oakton for their courses after transfer. The percent who said each skill was useful were: speech 72%, writing 66%, problem-solving 65%, teamwork 69%, mathematics 62%, and computer skills 59%.

### **Experience at Oakton**

- Respondents who transferred rated the extent to which, while at Oakton, they improved skills in several areas. The percent who said they improved in each skill was speech 67%, writing 65%, problem-solving 58%, teamwork 64%, mathematics 62%, and computer skills 51%.
- Fewer than half the alumni who transferred took courses in the same social science discipline both at Oakton and at the transfer institution. The percentage who did so was 45% in psychology, 44% in economics, 38% in history, 32% in political science, 29% in sociology, and 21% in anthropology. Most (74-86%) of the respondents did feel prepared for continuing their studies in these disciplines after transfer.
- Alumni perceive that, overall, Oakton is living up to its core values of fairness, integrity, responsibility, tolerance and compassion.

### **General Assessments**

- Eighty-seven percent of respondents report that had they to do it over, they would again choose to attend Oakton.
- More than 100 Oakton faculty and staff members received positive comments in response to a question about there being an especially outstanding person, course or event at Oakton.

The complete Alumni Survey Report will soon be available on the Office of Research website, <http://www.oakton.edu/resource/oir/resmenu.html>