

# The University of Texas Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at Houston

## Exit Questionnaire: 2007 – 2008 Academic Year

72 Total Respondents

### COURSEWORK

**How appropriate was the available coursework to prepare you for your:**

	# of RESPONDENTS	VERY APPROPRIATE	APPROPRIATE	NEUTRAL	INAPPROPRIATE	VERY INAPPROPRIATE
QUALIFYING EXAMINATIONS?	55	32.7%	61.8%	5.5%	0.0%	0.0%
RESEARCH?	68	27.9%	54.5%	17.6%	0.0%	0.0%

**How satisfied were you with the overall quality of the lecture courses you took?**

# of RESPONDENTS	VERY SATISFIED	SATISFIED	NEUTRAL	DISSATISFIED	VERY DISSATISFIED
68	26.5%	61.8%	8.8%	2.9%	0.0%

### QUALIFYING EXAMS

**If you took the qualifying examination for the Ph.D. degree, did you feel it was a fair examination of your knowledge in your area of concentration?**

# of RESPONDENTS	VERY FAIR	FAIR	UNCERTAIN	UNFAIR	VERY UNFAIR
48	47.9%	47.9%	4.2%	0.0%	0.0%

**Was the qualifying exam a useful experience as a part of your education at GSBS?**

# of RESPONDENTS	VERY USEFUL	USEFUL	NEUTRAL	NOT USEFUL	USELESS
48	50.0%	41.7%	8.3%	0.0%	0.0%

### RESEARCH

**How effective was the research training you received at GSBS in preparation for your proposed career?**

# of RESPONDENTS	VERY EFFECTIVE	EFFECTIVE	NEUTRAL	INEFFECTIVE	VERY INEFFECTIVE
68	45.6%	48.5%	5.9%	0.0%	0.0%

### SUPPORT PERSONNEL

**What was your overall satisfaction with the services provided to you by the following people:**

	# of RESPONDENTS	VERY SATISFIED	SATISFIED	NEUTRAL	DISSATISFIED	VERY DISSATISFIED
ACADEMIC ADVISOR	67	46.3%	32.8%	10.4%	6.0%	4.5%
ADVISORY/SUPERVISORY COMM	68	42.6%	53.0%	4.4%	0.0%	0.0%
DEPARTMENT STAFF	67	37.3%	44.8%	16.4%	1.5%	0.0%
GSBS DEAN'S OFFICE STAFF	67	61.1%	29.9%	6.0%	3.0%	0.0%
PROGRAM STAFF	58	46.6%	44.8%	3.4%	5.2%	0.0%
OTHER STUDENTS	68	30.9%	60.3%	4.4%	4.4%	0.0%

## FACILITIES

What was your overall satisfaction with the following facilities?

	# of RESPONDENTS	VERY SATISFIED	SATISFIED	NEUTRAL	DISSATISFIED	VERY DISSATISFIED
CLASSROOMS	68	48.5%	45.6%	5.9%	0.0%	0.0%
LABORATORIES	68	44.1%	39.7%	11.8%	2.9%	1.5%

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

What type of financial assistance did you use to meet your educational costs?

	# of RESPONDENTS	PRIMARY SOURCE	SECONDARY SOURCE	MINOR SOURCE	NOT USED
GRAD RESEARCH ASSISTANCE	67	79.1%	3.0%	3.0%	14.9%
OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT	54	3.7%	1.9%	3.7%	90.7%
PARENTS/FAMILY	54	5.6%	7.4%	27.8%	59.2%
STUDENT FINANCIAL AID	55	14.5%	21.8%	7.3%	56.4%

## CAREER PREPARATION AND ADVICE

How satisfied are you that your GSBS education prepared you to move on to your next career step?

# of RESPONDENTS	VERY SATISFIED	SATISFIED	NEUTRAL	DISSATISFIED	VERY DISSATISFIED
68	51.5%	38.2%	7.4%	2.9%	0.0%

How satisfied were you with the career counseling you received from:

	# of RESPONDENTS	VERY SATISFIED	SATISFIED	NEUTRAL	DISSATISFIED	VERY DISSATISFIED
GSBS CAREER PROGRAMS	40	27.5%	45.0%	25.0%	0.0%	2.5%
GSBS WEB SITE	43	25.6%	37.2%	30.2%	4.7%	2.3%
YOUR ADVISOR	63	43.0%	25.4%	19.0%	6.3%	6.3%

## STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

What is your overall satisfaction with the following support services at GSBS:

	# of RESPONDENTS	VERY SATISFIED	SATISFIED	NEUTRAL	DISSATISFIED	VERY DISSATISFIED	NOT USED
ACADEMIC COUNSELING	68	29.4%	27.9%	11.8%	1.5%	1.5%	27.9%
DINING SERVICES	68	8.8%	29.4%	23.5%	5.9%	2.9%	29.5%
RECREATIONAL FACILITIES	67	32.8%	35.8%	9.0%	1.5%	3.0%	17.9%
SCHOLARSHIPS	68	20.6%	19.1%	13.2%	11.8%	5.9%	29.4%
TRAVEL AWARDS	68	36.8%	26.5%	5.9%	2.9%	0.0%	27.9%

## FINAL QUESTIONS

How enthusiastic are you about recommending GSBS to students interested in graduate education in the biomedical sciences?

# of RESPONDENTS	VERY ENTHUSIASTIC	ENTHUSIASTIC	NEUTRAL	APATHETIC	VERY APATHETIC
68	41.2%	50.0%	5.9%	2.9%	0.0%

## Exit Questionnaires Comments Summary

*Please suggest anything which would improve the education and training of students at GSBS:*

**Courses:** class that teaches us the basic of how to ask the right research questions, formulating hypothesis, designing experiments (philosophy) and solving problems when our results did not turn out as we expected  
lectures for our classes were not always appropriate  
Ethics class may be a little better  
Statistics class needs urgent reconstruction  
more classes on infectious disease

**Research:** Tutorial rotation plays a crucial role in defining the future of students' PhD study  
some level of fairness as to what constitutes a Ph.D. project  
Try to recruit more students who are dedicated to research

**Faculty:** some of the professors were extremely hard to understand.  
Certain professors have been poor representation of GSBS and how they treat students.  
Principle investigators need training on how to mentor graduate students.  
Many PI's would benefit from a required course on money management and on personnel management. Also, one on mentorship.

**Student Support:** attitudes of the staff of GSBS need a little tweaking  
I was not able to be part of a specific area (like Genetics or Cancer Bio) with my particular choice for research, and really did need to rely on an advisor for some of the questions that I was not able to ask my fellow peers.  
UT Auxiliary Enterprise: the leasing office personnel of the UT Housing need professionalism  
registrar could be a little more flexible  
provide more recreation service. parking is so inconvenient. email box size too small with a student body as large as it is, extra effort may be useful to help bring them together.

**Miscellaneous:** engage more of the community work such as volunteering  
Would like to see (more) scholarship opportunities for those in an MS program.  
a biophysics/medical physics/biostatistics fellowship might help increase recognition of students in those slightly-less-biologically oriented fields.  
academic scholarships and fellowships are unfairly biased towards minority students  
For GSBS fellowships, the evaluation results and comments should be open to the applicants (at least), so that students can learn from those valuable experience.