

MLIS Graduate Student Exit Survey Summary—(2008-2012)

Tami Oliphant, PhD

In 2008, Dr. Alvin Schrader initiated the MLIS Graduate Student Exit Survey on behalf of the School of Library and Information Studies in order to capture the graduating students' impressions and experiences of both the MLIS curriculum and the School's student support services at the University of Alberta. The purpose of the survey is to help guide future planning and directions at SLIS, to inform the School's recruitment and marketing plans, and to assist with MLIS reaccreditation.

This MLIS Graduate Student Exit Survey Summary highlights the data most pertinent to the Committee on Accreditation's Standards.

*All percentages have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

Curriculum

Would you recommend the UofA MLIS program to prospective students?

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Yes	91%	64%	77%	83%	85%
No	9%	36%	23%	17%	15%

The courses that are required in the MLIS program have provided a basic understanding of library and information studies and an adequate foundation for the elective courses I have taken:

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
strongly disagree	0%	0%	0%	7%	8%
disagree	5%	4%	3%	0%	8%
so-so	21%	26%	31%	43%	8%
agree	61%	63%	59%	50%	62%
strongly agree	13%	7%	6%	0%	15%

Faculty

Advising

My interactions overall with my designated faculty advisor have been:

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
abysmal	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
poor	0%	0%	6%	7%	21%*
so-so	13%	10%	21%	36%	14%
good	32%	41%	39%	29%	21%
outstanding	55%	48%	33%	29%	43%

*During the 2011-2012 academic year, a faculty member took a medical leave which disrupted our faculty advising.

Throughout my program, I was always treated respectfully by instructors:

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
strongly disagree	n/a	3%	0%	0%	0%
disagree	n/a	3%	6%	0%	7%
so-so	n/a	3%	9%	7%	14%
agree	n/a	45%	61%	71%	50%
strongly agree	n/a	45%	24%	21%	29%

Administration and Financial Support

My interactions overall during my MLIS program with School Administrative staff were:

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
abysmal	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
poor	0%	0%	3%	7%	0%
so-so	13%	3%	9%	7%	7%
good	32%	35%	36%	71%	50%*
outstanding	55%	62%	46%	14%	43%

*During the 2011-2012 academic year SLIS hired a new Senior Administrator as well as a new Graduate Student Service Administrator.

Throughout my program, I was always treated respectfully by administrative staff:

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
strongly disagree	n/a	0%	0%	0%	0%
disagree	n/a	0%	0%	7%	0%
so-so	n/a	0%	9%	7%	7%
agree	n/a	21%	46%	50%	50%
strongly agree	n/a	79%	45%	64%	29%

Physical Resources and Facilities

The School's computing and student lab facilities are:

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
abysmal	27%	10%	3%	0%	0%
poor	43%	17%	21%	36%	7%
so-so	14%	24%	21%	43%	7%
good	8%	48%	52%	14%	64%*
outstanding	0%	0%	0%	0%	14%

*During July 2011, SLIS updated the School's computing and student lab facilities and this upgrade is reflected in the much higher ranking of the School's computer lab in 2012.

The School's student commons and study space are:

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
abysmal	n/a	0%	3%	0%	0%
poor	n/a	14%	3%	0%	0%
so-so	n/a	24%	12%	57%	36%
good	n/a	48%	70%	21%	36%
outstanding	n/a	14%	6%	21%	21%