The Office of Institutional Research
Farmingdale State College

Results from the 2015-16 Graduating Seniors Survey

This report summarizes the opinions of graduating seniors regarding their experiences while attending Farmingdale State College, as well as their intended post-graduation plans.

Methodology

The Office of Institutional Research, in conjunction with the Office of the Dean of Students, administered the Graduating Seniors Survey during commencement ticket distribution in December 2015 and May 2016. Students who were expected to fulfill their degree requirements over the summer were permitted to attend May commencement, and therefore, were surveyed in May 2016.

914 surveys were completed, which represents 48% of actual graduates. The distribution of survey respondents was fairly close to the distribution of actual graduates (appendix A).
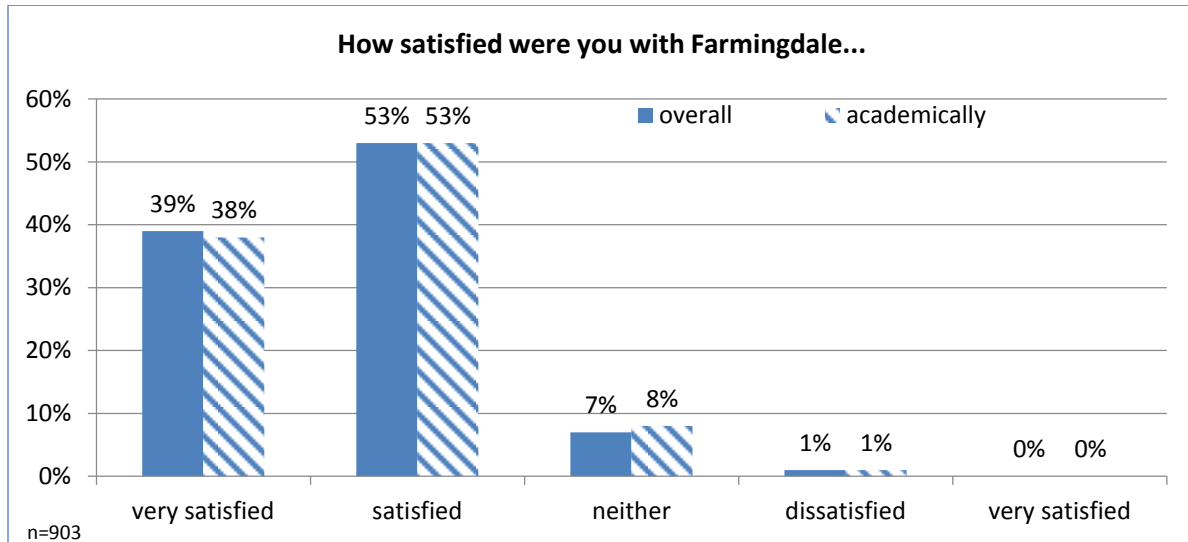
Highlights

- The vast majority of graduating seniors were either very satisfied or satisfied with their experience at Farmingdale overall (92%) and academically (91%).
- More than three-quarters (77%) of seniors graduating with a baccalaureate degree plan to look for employment after graduation while 35% of seniors graduating with an associate degree, plan to look for employment.
- Less than one-half (42%) of seniors graduating with a baccalaureate degree plan to continue their education.
    - Among the graduating seniors planning to continue their education, most of those receiving a baccalaureate degree from Farmingdale will continue on to pursue a masters or MBA degree. The most common field of study is Business. While one-quarter are undecided as to where they will study next, the named institution where the largest percentage of respondents plan to study is Stony Brook University.
- 78% of seniors graduating with an associate degree plan to continue their education.
    - Among the graduating seniors planning to continue their education, most of those receiving an associate degree from Farmingdale will continue on to pursue a baccalaureate degree and most plan to continue their education at Farmingdale. Respondents planning to attend an institution other than Farmingdale for their baccalaureate degree appear to be doing so because the program that they want is not offered here.
- When asked what they liked best about Farmingdale, faculty, by far, topped the list. Academics, campus atmosphere/environment, location/commute/convenience, and class size all made the top five.
- The top five things that respondents cited they liked least about Farmingdale were; parking, some faculty, lack of social life/interaction/school spirit, availability of courses/class schedules, and academics.
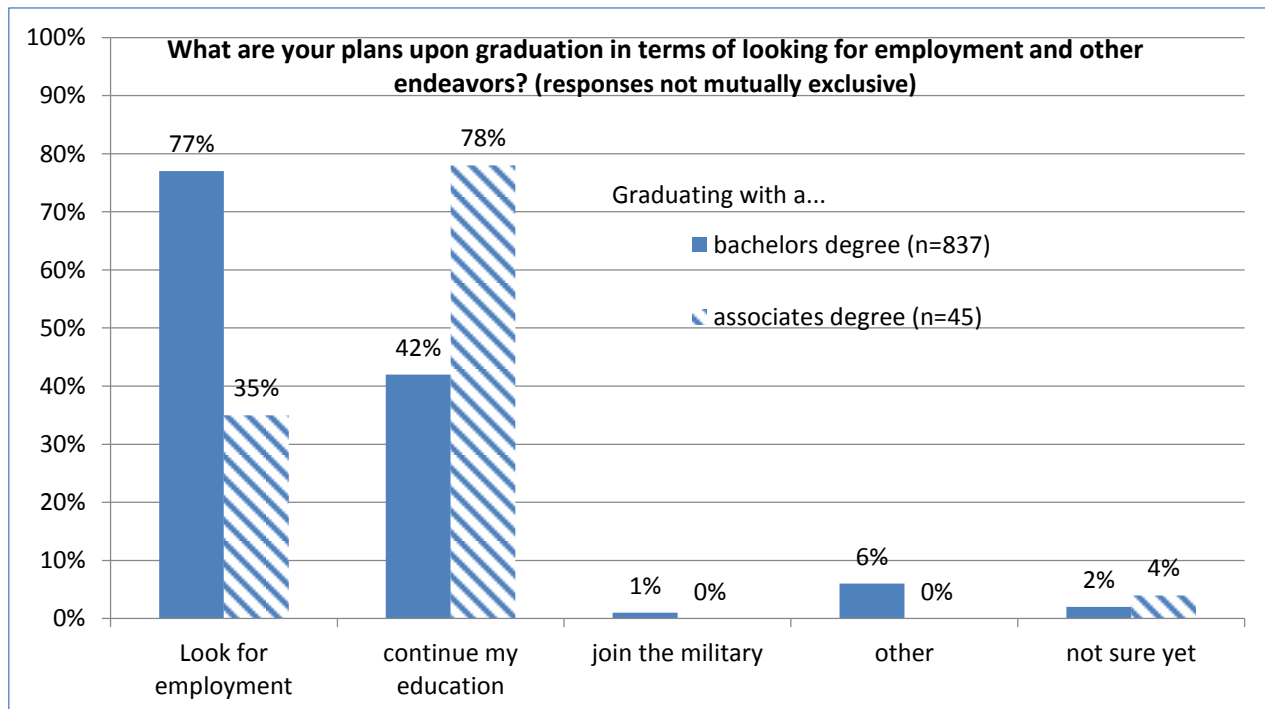
Survey Findings

Satisfaction

The vast majority of graduating seniors were either very satisfied (92%) or satisfied (91%) with their experience at Farmingdale overall and academically.

How satisfied were you with Farmingdale...

Response	overall	academically
very satisfied	39%	38%
satisfied	53%	53%
neither	7%	8%
dissatisfied	1%	1%
very satisfied	0%	0%

n=903

Post-Graduation Plans

More than three-quarters (77%) of seniors graduating with a baccalaureate degree plan to look for employment after graduation and less than one-half (42%) will continue their education. Conversely, 35% of seniors graduating with an associate degree, plan to look for employment and 78% plan to continue their education.

What are your plans upon graduation in terms of looking for employment and other endeavors? (responses not mutually exclusive)

Graduating with a...

	bachelors degree (n=837)	associates degree (n=45)
Look for employment	77%	35%
continue my education	42%	78%
join the military	1%	0%
other	6%	0%
not sure yet	2%	4%

Planned Degrees Post Graduation from Farmingdale

Seniors Graduating from FSC with a Baccalaureate Degree
Among the graduating seniors planning to continue their education, 79% of those receiving a baccalaureate degree from Farmingdale will continue on to pursue a masters or MBA degree. The most common field of study is Business (appendix B1). While one-quarter are undecided as to where they will study next, the named institution where the largest percentage of respondents plan to study is Stony Brook University (appendix C1).

Seniors Graduating from FSC with an Associate Degree
Among the graduating seniors planning to continue their education, 84% of those receiving an associate degree from Farmingdale will continue on to pursue a baccalaureate degree. The most frequently cited field of study is Dental Hygiene (appendix B2). Approximately 40% of respondents plan to continue their education at Farmingdale (appendix C2). Respondents planning to attend an institution other than Farmingdale for their baccalaureate degree appear to be doing so because the program that they want is not offered here.

Graduating with a...	Associates Degree		Baccalaureate Degree	
Planned Next Degree	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Masters	2	6%	183	70%
MBA			23	9%
Bachelors	27	84%	12	5%
JD			10	4%
Certificate			8	3%
MD/Medicine			7	3%
Doctorate			2	1%
Associates	2	6%	1	0%
Undecided	1	3%	15	6%
Total	**32**	100%	**261**	100%

Likes and Dislikes

Graduating seniors offered extensive comments when asked 'what did you like best about Farmingdale?' and 'what did you like least about Farmingdale?' The faculty was, by far, what graduating seniors liked most about Farmingdale. Their biggest complaint was parking.

What graduating seniors liked most about FSC	Count
Faculty	300
Academics	119
Campus Atmosphere/Environment	98
Location/Commute/Convenience	75
Class size	59
Peers/Social Life	47
Affordability/Cost/Value	35
Staff	29
CAB/Campus Events/Clubs	28
Availability of Classes	20
Sports/Athletics	20
Greek Life	10
Everything	9
Residence Halls/Living on Campus	7
Size of campus	5
Student Services	5
Academic Advisement	4
Diversity	4

What graduating seniors liked least about FSC	Count
Parking	65
Faculty	43
Lack of social life/interaction/school spirit	37
Availability of courses/class schedules	30
Academics	19
Academic Advisement	18
Administration (lack of communication)	15
Commute	15
Academic Departments	13
Campus activities (not enough student activities)	13
Food (selection)	12
Facilities-Old Buildings	10

What graduating seniors liked least (continued)	Count
Staff	10
Dorms/Residence Life	9
Food (expensive)	9
Registration	9
Puddles/Walkways	6
Aramark	5
Bathrooms	5
Construction	5
Dining Hall	5
Events/activities (lack of notice)	5
Classes not challenging	4
Clubs/Social activities	4
Commuter school	4
Financial Aid	4
General Education classes/faculty	4
Campus	3
Cater to residential students	3
Library hours/study space	3
No Master's program	3
Not enough computers	3
Student Accounts	3
Campus size	2
Classrooms	2
Cost of Textbooks	2
Exams	2
Geese	2
Greek Life	2
Gym hours	2
Lab hours (too short)	2
Lack of diversity	2
Lack of preparation	2
Not enough night classes	2
Online courses	2
Outdated equipment	2
Student Body	2
Student Life Office	2
Tuition cost	2
Waiting on line	2

Appendix A: Graduates by Program of Study 2015-16

Actual vs Survey Respondents

Program of Study	Actual Graduates	Distribution of Graduates	Survey Respondents	Distribution of Respondents	Survey Response Rate
Associate in Arts (AA)					
Liberal Arts	188	10%	26	3%	14%
Associates in Applied Sciences (AAS)					
Automotive Technology	2	0%	2	0%	100%
Ornamental Horticulture Management	4	0%	0	0%	0%
Ornamental Horticulture: Landscape Development	2	0%	0	0%	0%
Associate in Sciences (AS)					
Criminal Justice: Law Enforcement	24	1%	2	0%	8%
Dental Hygiene	38	2%	11	1%	29%
Mechanical Engineering Technology	4	0%	1	0%	25%
Medical Lab Technology	10	1%	2	0%	20%
Bachelors in Sciences (BS)					
Aeronautical Sciences: Professional Pilot	16	1%	4	0%	25%
Applied Economics	10	1%	6	0%	60%
Applied Mathematics	14	1%	7	1%	50%
Applied Psychology	33	2%	23	2%	70%
Architectural Engineering Technology	24	1%	17	2%	71%
Aviation Administration	49	3%	28	3%	57%
Bioscience	81	4%	35	4%	43%
Business Management	340	18%	190	20%	56%
Computer Engineering Technology	14	1%	14	2%	100%
Computer Programming: Information Systems	109	6%	51	5%	47%
Construction Management Engineering Technology	42	2%	26	3%	62%
Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement Technology	135	7%	89	10%	66%
Dental Hygiene	20	1%	1	0%	5%
Electrical Engineering Technology	47	2%	34	4%	72%
Global Business Management	4	0%	0	0%	0%
Industrial Technology Management-Automotive Management	13	1%	6	1%	46%

Industrial Technology Management: Facilities Management	6	0%	2	0%	33%
Manufacturing Engineering Technology	8	0%	3	0%	38%
Mechanical Engineering Technology	58	3%	31	3%	53%
Medical Technology	28	1%	12	1%	43%
Nursing	107	6%	22	2%	21%
Professional Communications	92	5%	58	6%	63%
Science, Technology & Society	193	10%	106	11%	55%
Security Systems	28	1%	22	2%	79%
Software Technology	3	0%	0	0%	0%
Sports Management	56	3%	38	4%	68%
Telecommunications Technology	3	0%	0	0%	0%
Bachelors in Technology (BTECH)					
Horticulture Technology Management	13	1%	3	0%	23%
Visual Communications	59	3%	38	4%	64%
Certificate (CERT)					
Accounting	1	0%	0	0%	0%
Computer Systems Technology- Business Programming & Systems	1	0%	1	0%	100%
Management	1	0%	0	0%	0%
Ornamental Horticulture	1	0%	1	0%	100%
Sciences-Health Professions	14	1%	0	0%	0%
Grand Total	**1895**	**100%**	**914**	**100%**	**48%**

Appendix B1: Subsequent degree for baccalaureate degree recipients (N=230)

Degree	Major/Study	Count	Percent
Associates	Nursing	1	**0.5%**
Bachelors	Business Management	1	**0.5%**
	Electrical Eng. Tech. & Civil Eng. Tech.	1	**0.5%**
	Mechanical Engineering Technology	1	**0.5%**
	Nursing	11	**5.0%**
	Physical Therapy	1	**0.5%**
Certificate	Paralegal Studies	3	**1.4%**
	Project Management	1	**0.5%**
	Radiology	1	**0.5%**
	Ultrasound	2	**0.9%**
JD	Law	4	**1.8%**
	Sports Law	1	**0.5%**
	Criminal Justice	1	**0.5%**
Masters	Accounting	6	**2.7%**
	Acute Care NP	1	**0.5%**
	Aerospace Engineering	2	**0.9%**
	Airport Security	1	**0.5%**
	Applied Sociology	1	**0.5%**
	Architecture	1	**0.5%**
	Athletic Administration	1	**0.5%**
	Automobile Engineering	1	**0.5%**
	Aviation	1	**0.5%**
	Biotechnology	4	**1.8%**
	CET	1	**0.5%**
	Childcare	1	**0.5%**
	Civil and Environmental Engineering	2	**0.9%**
	Communications	2	**0.9%**
	Computational Bioinformatics	1	**0.5%**
	Computer Sciences	3	**1.4%**
	Construction Management	4	**1.8%**
	Counseling/Psychology	1	**0.5%**
	Counseling and Art Therapy	1	**0.5%**
	CRJ or Sociology	1	**0.5%**
	CRT Law Enforcement	1	**0.5%**
	Cyber Security and Computer Forensics	6	**2.7%**
	Dance Education	1	**0.5%**
	Design	1	**0.5%**
	Economics	1	**0.5%**
	Education	7	**3.2%**

	Electrical Engineering Technology	6	**2.7%**
	Energy and Earth Resources	1	**0.5%**
	English	1	**0.5%**
	Exercise Science/ Physical Education	1	**0.5%**
	Finance	5	**2.3%**
	Finance/ Economics	1	**0.5%**
	Financial Engineering	1	**0.5%**
	Fine Art / Illustration	1	**0.5%**
	Forensic Psychology	3	**1.4%**
	Geography	1	**0.5%**
	Graphic Design	2	**0.9%**
	Health Administration	2	**0.9%**
	Higher Education Administration	2	**0.9%**
	Historic Preservation	1	**0.5%**
	History/ Education	1	**0.5%**
	Horticulture	1	**0.5%**
	Human Resources	3	**1.4%**
	I/O Psychology	2	**0.9%**
	Interactive Design	1	**0.5%**
	Interior Design	1	**0.5%**
	International Relations	1	**0.5%**
	Journalism	1	**0.5%**
	Lab Management	1	**0.5%**
	Law Enforcement Technology	2	**0.9%**
	Manufacturing Engineering	1	**0.5%**
	Marketing	4	**1.8%**
	Mathematics Applied Track	1	**0.5%**
	Mechanical Engineering	2	**0.9%**
	Media Studies	2	**0.9%**
	Mental Health Counseling	1	**0.5%**
	Microbiology	1	**0.5%**
	MOT	1	**0.5%**
	Networking	1	**0.5%**
	Nurse Practitioner	1	**0.5%**
	Nursing	5	**2.3%**
	Occupational Therapy	2	**0.9%**
	Optometry	1	**0.5%**
	Physician Assistant	6	**2.7%**
	Psychology	3	**1.4%**
	Public Health	4	**1.8%**
	Risk Management	1	**0.5%**
	School Counseling	2	**0.9%**

	School Psychology	2	0.9%
	Social Work	3	1.4%
	Software	1	0.5%
	Speech Pathology	1	0.5%
	Sports Management	6	2.7%
	Sports Nutrition and Strength Consulting	1	0.5%
	Strategic Design	1	0.5%
	Taxation	2	0.9%
	TSM	1	0.5%
MBA			0.0%
	Accounting	3	1.4%
	Business	17	7.7%
	Digital Management	1	0.5%
	Entrepreneurship	1	0.5%
	Finance	2	0.9%
	Healthcare Administration	1	0.5%
	International MKT	1	0.5%
	Planning Management	1	0.5%
	Strategic Management	1	0.5%
	Sustainable Business	1	0.5%
MD			0.0%
	Medical / Medicine	6	2.7%
PH.D			0.0%
	Chiropractic	1	0.5%
	Optometry	1	0.5%
	Physical Therapy	1	0.5%
	Veterinarian Science or Biology	1	0.5%
	Total	220	100%

Appendix B2: Subsequent degree for associate degree recipients (N=34)

Next Degree	Major/Study	Count	Percent
Associate	Cardiovascular Technology	1	**2.94%**
	Liberal Arts	1	**2.94%**
Bachelors	Accounting	1	**2.94**
	Bioscience	2	**5.88%**
	Business Management	2	**5.88%**
	Criminal Justice	2	**5.88%**
	Dental Hygiene	4	**11.76%**
	Diagnostic Medical Sonography	1	**2.94%**
	Economics	1	**2.94%**
	Education	1	**2.94%**
	Engineering	1	**2.94%**
	Mechanical Engineering	1	**2.94%**
	Medical Technology	2	**5.88%**
	Nursing	1	**2.94%**
	Paralegal Studies	1	**2.94%**
	Philosophy	1	**2.94%**
	Political Science	1	**2.94%**
	Professional Communications	1	**2.94%**
	Radiology	1	**2.94%**
	Social Work	1	**2.94%**
	Sociology	1	**2.94%**
Masters	Medical Technology	1	**2.94%**
	Sociology	1	**2.94%**
Certificate	Sonogram Technician	1	**2.94%**
Unknown	Medical Lab Technology	1	**2.94%**
	Labor Studies	1	**2.94%**
	Elementary Education	1	**2.94%**
	Grand Total	34	**100%**

Appendix C1: Next Institution for baccalaureate degree recipients (N= 184)

Institution	Count	%
Undecided	47	25.54%
Stony Brook University	17	11.41%
John Jay University	11	5.98%
Touro College	8	4.35%
Adelphi University	6	3.26%
Baruch	6	3.26%
RIT	6	3.26%
Farmingdale State College	5	2.72%
Hofstra University	5	2.72%
Hunter College	5	2.72%
Queens College	5	2.72%
NYIT	4	2.17%
SUNY Stony Brook	4	1.63%
NYU	3	1.09%
Boston University	2	1.09%
Columbia University	2	1.09%
LIU Post	2	1.09%
Molloy College	2	1.09%
Suffolk Community College	2	1.63%
SUNY Old Westbury	3	1.09%
Utah State University	2	0.54%
American University	1	0.54%
Binghamton University	1	0.54%
Brooklyn Law	1	0.54%
City College	1	0.54%
Cooper Union	1	0.54%
York College	1	0.54%
George Washington University	1	0.54%
Hult International	1	0.54%
Kent University	1	0.54%
LIU Brooklyn	1	0.54%
Mephs University	1	0.54%
Mercy Hospital	1	0.54%
Monroe College	1	0.54%
New York Chiropractic College	1	0.54%
NYCC	1	0.54%
Pace University	1	0.54%
Parson College	1	0.54%
SUNY Albany	1	0.54%
SUNY New Paltz	1	0.54%
SVA- Manhattan	1	0.54%
U. Mass Lowell	1	0.54%

Institution	Count	%
UCL (London, UK)	1	0.54%
UConn	1	0.54%
University of Bay Shore	1	0.54%
University of Manchester	1	0.54%
University Of Miami	1	0.54%
USF	1	0.54%
UT Austin	1	0.54%
Utica	1	0.54%
Villa ova	1	0.54%
Wilson Tech	1	0.54%
Wolver-Hampton University	1	0.54%
Total	184	100.00%

Appendix C2: Next Institution for associate degree recipients (N=29)

Institution	Count	%
Farmingdale State College	12	41.4%
Undecided	3	10.3%
Stony Brook University	2	6.9%
Boces	1	3.5%
Empire State College	1	3.5%
John Jay College	1	3.5%
LIU Post	1	3.5%
Molloy College	1	3.5%
Queens College	1	3.5%
SUNY Binghamton	1	3.5%
SUNY Downstate	1	3.5%
SUNY New Paltz	1	3.5%
SUNY Old Westbury	2	6.9%
University of Tampa	1	3.5%
Total	**29**	100.00%