

APPENDIX B

QUESTIONNAIRE

University of New England

Student Intention and Progression Survey

1998

In this survey, we are asking students who were enrolled in a University of New England course in 1998 about their plans for 1999 and the factors which may be influencing their decisions about the future. The survey is being sent to all students who were enrolled in a UNE undergraduate course of study in 1998 and who have not indicated that they intend to graduate in 1999. Depending on whether you will be (a) continuing with your studies in 1999, or (b) planning to discontinue study at UNE in 1999, you will be asked to answer some different questions. Parts I and II should be answered by ALL respondents. Part III should be answered only by students intending to withdraw from UNE in 1999.

The survey is not compulsory, but your help is being sought by the University to assist it to plan for the future and improve further the services provided to students. You can be sure that your answers will be kept strictly confidential and will be used for statistical purposes only. This form will be seen only by the research team. No information about any individual will be released or reported. Using the reply paid envelope provided, please return the completed form as soon as possible (by 31st of December at the latest).

Part I: Background Questions - All Students

Please read each question carefully and answer by ticking the appropriate box, circling the appropriate number or writing the information in the space provided.

- 1. Age, please specify number of years
- 2. You are? Male Female
- 3. What is your postcode?
- 4. Marital status while at UNE:
Married/defacto relationship Single
- 5. Type of school/college at Year 12:
Government
Non-government
Other, please specify
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- 6. Please specify the UNE faculty in which you were enrolled in 1998:
Arts
Economics, Business and Law
Education, Health and Professional Studies
Sciences

- 7. Please indicate your previous highest educational qualification prior to enrolling at UNE:
Completed high school
TAFE qualification
Bachelors Degree
Post Graduate Degree
Other (please specify)
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- 8. Please indicate the number of years you spent between leaving school and enrolling at UNE:
None 1 year
2 - 4 years 5 years & over
- 9. During 1998 you were studying:
Full-time Part-time
- 10. Please specify the UNE course in which you were enrolled in 1998 (eg BA, BSc)
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- 11. Please specify the year in which you commenced the course listed in question 10 above:
1998 1997 1996 1995 or earlier
- 12. Was the University of New England your first choice? Yes No
- 13. Was the UNE course which you specified in question 10 above your first choice?
Yes No
- 14. How many units did you start this year (1998) in your course?
WRITE NUMBER
How many units did you complete?.....
How many units did you pass?

P.T.O.

15. How important as a source of financial support was each of the following while you were studying during 1998?

	Not Important or Not Applicable					Very Important
	1	2	3	4	5	
Part-time employment	1	2	3	4	5	
Full-time employment	1	2	3	4	5	
Casual employment	1	2	3	4	5	
Youth Allowance (Austudy/Abstudy)	1	2	3	4	5	
Spouse's/partner's income	1	2	3	4	5	
Support from parent(s)	1	2	3	4	5	
Personal savings	1	2	3	4	5	
Other, please specify	1	2	3	4	5	
.....						
.....						
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Part II: Your 1999 Intentions – All Students

1. In the coming year (1999) do you intend to:
 - (a) continue study at UNE in the course in which you are presently enrolled?

Yes

No
 - (b) continue study at UNE but in a different course?

Yes

No
 - (c) continue study at UNE, but as an External Student?

Yes

No

If you have answered yes to the above questions a, b, or c, you have now completed the questionnaire. If you have any additional comments please make them on the last page before returning the questionnaire to UNE in the reply paid envelope.

2. In the coming year (1999) you intend to **discontinue** study at UNE (ie withdraw from UNE studies)

Yes

No

If you have answered yes to question 2 above, please go to part III of the questionnaire

Part III. 1999 Intentions – Only for students planning to withdraw from UNE studies in 1999

You indicated above that you do not plan to continue with your UNE studies in 1999. Please indicate below what best describes your plans for 1999 by ticking the appropriate box.

- Continue study at another university
- Find a full-time job
- Take a break from study, intending to return to UNE at a later date
- Other, please specify
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A number of factors may have played a part in your decision to withdraw from UNE, particularly those related to employment and finance, your academic preparedness, your course of study and the teaching/learning environment, accommodation and travel problems, family issues, and health and other personal problems. *Please indicate the degree of importance, if any, of each of the following factors which may have contributed to your decision not to continue study at UNE by circling one number of the scale next to each statement.*

A. Employment and Finance

	Not Important or Not Applicable					Very Important
	1	2	3	4	5	
1. Lack of full-time employment opportunities in Armidale	1	2	3	4	5	
2. Lack of part-time/casual employment opportunities in Armidale	1	2	3	4	5	
3. Necessity to leave course to look for a job elsewhere	1	2	3	4	5	
4. Lack of vacation work	1	2	3	4	5	
5. Loss of job	1	2	3	4	5	
6. Spouse/partner lost their job	1	2	3	4	5	
7. Employer not supportive of your study	1	2	3	4	5	
8. Constant worry about having enough money to get by from week to week	1	2	3	4	5	
9. Major unexpected expense (eg medical bills, expensive repairs to car, rent increase)	1	2	3	4	5	

A. Employment and Finance (continued)

	Not Important or Not Applicable					Very Important
	1	2	3	4	5	
10. Deemed ineligible for the Youth Allowance (Austudy/Abstudy)	1	2	3	4	5	
11. Youth Allowance (Austudy/Abstudy) inadequate	1	2	3	4	5	
12. Loss of Youth Allowance (Austudy/Abstudy)	1	2	3	4	5	
13. Under estimated the expense involved in living away from home	1	2	3	4	5	
14. Other factors related to employment and finance, please specify	1	2	3	4	5	

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B. Academic Preparedness

1. Lack of prerequisite knowledge relevant to the chosen course	1	2	3	4	5	
2. Inadequate counselling prior to entry	1	2	3	4	5	
3. Inability to keep up with the other students in the course	1	2	3	4	5	
4. Insufficient maths background	1	2	3	4	5	
5. Lack of orientation/bridging courses(s)	1	2	3	4	5	
6. Unsatisfactory study skills	1	2	3	4	5	
7. Other factors related to academic preparedness, please specify	1	2	3	4	5	

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C. Course and Teaching/Learning Environment

1. Lack of interest in the course	1	2	3	4	5	
2. Heavy course workload	1	2	3	4	5	
3. Dissatisfaction with the teaching of the course	1	2	3	4	5	
4. Lack of course relevance to future career plans	1	2	3	4	5	
5. Failure to satisfactory complete course requirements	1	2	3	4	5	
6. Unsatisfactory classroom/laboratory conditions	1	2	3	4	5	
7. Inadequate library facilities	1	2	3	4	5	
8. Inadequate computing facilities	1	2	3	4	5	
9. Inflexible administrative arrangements (time tabling, course structure, course requirements, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5	
10. Uncaring or uninterested administrative staff	1	2	3	4	5	
11. Uncaring or uninterested teaching staff	1	2	3	4	5	
12. Inadequate student support services (counselling, student services, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5	
13. Other factors related to course and/or teaching/learning environment, please specify	1	2	3	4	5	

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D. Accommodation/distance/travel problems

	Not Important or Not Applicable			Very Important	
1. Lack of freedom and independence in living at home	1	2	3	4	5
2. Inadequate study facilities	1	2	3	4	5
3. Tension/conflict with or among people with whom you shared accommodation	1	2	3	4	5
4. Loneliness in college accommodation	1	2	3	4	5
5. Too many distractions from study in college accommodation	1	2	3	4	5
6. Inability to travel or phone home as often as you would have liked	1	2	3	4	5
7. Difficulty in adjusting to a different lifestyle from the one at home	1	2	3	4	5
8. Travel expenses	1	2	3	4	5
9. Other factors related to accommodation and/or travel distance, please specify	1	2	3	4	5

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E. Family Relationships and Responsibilities

1. Lack of interest in and encouragement for your studies from parents	1	2	3	4	5
2. Lack of interest in and encouragement for your studies from spouse/partner	1	2	3	4	5
3. Difficulty with juggling family commitments (eg child care, general household duties) and study	1	2	3	4	5
4. Pregnancy	1	2	3	4	5
5. Problems in arranging child care to enable attendance at University	1	2	3	4	5
6. Studies disrupted by family break up/divorce	1	2	3	4	5
7. Other factors related to family, please specify	1	2	3	4	5

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F. Health, accident, stress or other personal factors

1. Care of a sick relative/friend	1	2	3	4	5
2. Severe illness or accident	1	2	3	4	5
3. Insufficient facilities for disabled persons	1	2	3	4	5
4. Tired of studying	1	2	3	4	5
5. Dislike of being a student	1	2	3	4	5
6. Stress brought about by the dual demands of work and study	1	2	3	4	5
7. Other factors related to personal decisions, please specify	1	2	3	4	5

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G. Which are the two most important factors or group of factors in your decision to withdraw?

Please circle two numbers only

1. Employment and finance
2. Academic preparedness
3. Course and teaching/learning environment
4. Accommodation/distance/travel problems
5. Family relationships and responsibilities
6. Health, accident, stress or other personal factors

If you would like to give us more detail about your reasons for withdrawing from study at UNE, please use the space below.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THE TIME AND CARE YOU HAVE TAKEN IN
COMPLETING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE