

# Results of the 2011 College Senior Survey

The College Senior Survey was administered during spring 2011 to undergraduate students who were expected to graduate in 2011<sup>1</sup>. Of the 996 students who received the survey, 28% (n=273) responded. Participants had a significantly higher grade point average than non-participants (3.37 vs. 3.28) but did not differ significantly in terms of gender, race/ethnicity, citizenship, or age. The survey included questions about graduates' college experiences, after-college plans, abilities, behaviors, attitudes, and beliefs. This report presents the results of the questions related to faculty and student interactions.

## Faculty/Student Interactions

**How did faculty and seniors interact?  
Did they have good relationships?  
How many seniors worked on  
research projects with faculty?**

### Faculty Support for Learning

Overall, seniors reported a high level of engagement with faculty. Almost all participants felt that their contributions were valued in class (93%) and at least one faculty member had taken an interest in their development (92%). The majority of participants also agreed that faculty:

- Believed in their potential to succeed academically (94%);
- Empowered them to learn (89%);
- Encouraged them to ask questions and participate in discussions (96%);
- Provided them with feedback that helped them assess their progress in class (95%); and
- Showed concern about their progress (75%).

Furthermore, 84% of participants said faculty encouraged them to meet with them outside of class, 58% had worked on a professor's research project, and 39% reported being a guest in a professor's home.

### Seniors' Efforts to Engage Faculty

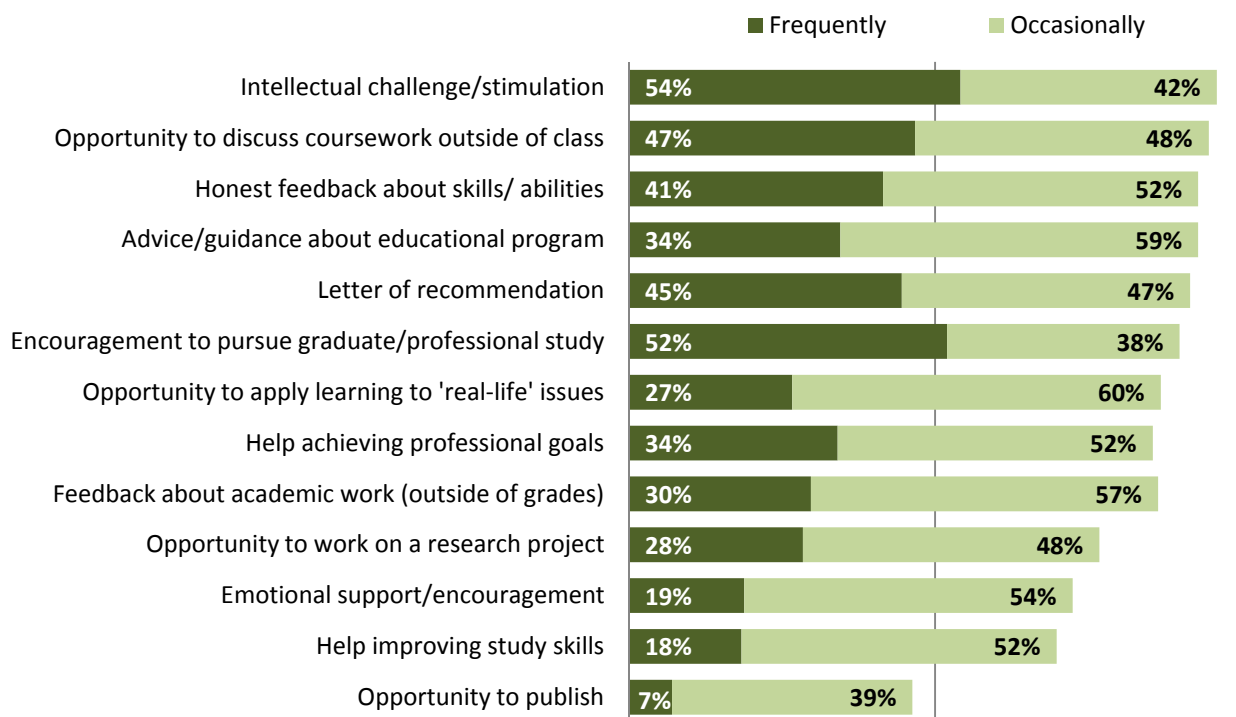
Almost all participants said they had contributed to class discussions, with 39% saying they did so occasionally and 61% saying they did so frequently.



**Table 1. Student-Initiated Interactions**

93%	Requested feedback on academic work
91%	Communicated regularly with professors
89%	Asked questions in class
87%	Met with an advisor/counselor about career plans
86%	Asked a professor for advice after class
54%	Challenged a professor's idea in class

<sup>1</sup> Students who graduated/expected to graduate in January, May, and August received an invitation to the survey.

**Figure 1. How often have professors provided you with the following:**

<b>Table 2. Interactions by College/School</b>	<b>CAS</b>	<b>ENG</b>	<b>MGMT</b>	<b>NURS</b>
Intellectual challenge and stimulation	97%	94%	95%	100%
Opportunity to discuss coursework outside of class	96%	94%	95%	88%
Honest feedback about skills and abilities	98%	88%	90%	100%
Advice/guidance about your educational program	95%	86%	100%	100%
Letter of recommendation	95%	88%	95%	100%
Encouragement to pursue graduate/professional study	94%	86%	86%	94%
Opportunity to apply learning to 'real-life' issues	88%	80%	95%	100%
Help achieving professional goals	93%	78%	81%	94%
Feedback about your academic work (outside of grades)	88%	80%	86%	94%
Opportunity to work on a research project	78%	80%	67%	63%
Emotional support/encouragement	80%	64%	71%	75%
Help improving your study skills	73%	67%	67%	88%
Opportunity to publish	51%	52%	33%	19%

**Additional Information**

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