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## Oklahoma State University

### University Assessment and Testing

2012 Graduate Student Satisfaction Survey

Survey Report –Civil Engineering

This survey targeted current graduate students at Oklahoma State University. The survey was administered online by the Office of University Assessment and Testing from February 2012 through May 2012. UAT prepared this report; departments may request additional analysis by contacting UAT.

#### Survey Questions

Respondents were asked 59 questions. These questions generally pertained to background information, program satisfaction, time to degree, financial support, satisfaction with university services, diversity, student government, career plans, and overall satisfaction.

#### Target Population / Response Rate – Civil Engineering

	Degree Program:		
	<u>Master's</u>	<u>Doctorate</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number of students	38	28	66
Number of survey respondents	11	14	25
Response rate	28.9%	50.0%	37.9%

## Background Information

Q1. When did you officially begin enrollment in your degree program?*	Master's		Doctorate	
	n	%	n	%
2004 or earlier	0	0.0	0	0.0
2005	2	18.2	0	0.0
2006	0	0.0	0	0.0
2007	0	0.0	2	15.4
2008	0	0.0	2	15.4
2009	1	9.1	4	30.8
2010	2	18.2	2	15.4
2011	6	54.5	2	15.4
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	1	7.7

Q2. Among the graduate schools that you considered, was OSU your:	Master's		Doctorate	
	n	%	n	%
first choice	8	72.7	2	15.4
second choice	2	18.2	7	53.8
third or lower choice	1	9.1	2	15.4
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	2	15.4

Q3. Did you pursue your graduate of OSU primarily part-time or full-time?	Master's		Doctorate	
	n	%	n	%
part-time	2	18.2	0	0.0
full-time	9	81.8	12	92.3
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	1	7.7

## Graduate Program Satisfaction

*To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?*

Q4. The courses I took were taught well.	Master's		Doctorate	
	n	%	n	%
strongly disagree	0	0.0	1	7.7
disagree	0	0.0	0	0.0
agree	6	54.5	6	46.2
strongly agree	5	45.5	6	46.2
n/a or don't know	0	0.0	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0



Q5. There is good communication between faculty and students regarding student needs, concerns, and suggestions.	Master's		Doctorate	
	n	%	n	%
strongly disagree	1	9.1	1	7.7
disagree	1	9.1	0	0.0
agree	4	36.4	8	61.5
strongly agree	4	36.4	4	30.8
n/a or don't know	0	0.0	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	1	9.1	0	0.0

Q6. There are many opportunities outside the classroom for interaction between students and faculty..	Master's		Doctorate	
	n	%	n	%
strongly disagree	0	0.0	2	15.4
disagree	3	27.3	2	15.4
agree	5	45.5	5	38.5
strongly agree	2	18.2	3	23.1
n/a or don't know	1	9.1	1	7.7
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0

Q7. Faculty in my department are interested in the professional development of graduate students.	Master's		Doctorate	
	n	%	n	%
strongly disagree	0	0.0	1	7.7
disagree	0	0.0	0	0.0
agree	7	63.6	5	38.5
strongly agree	3	27.3	3	23.1
n/a or don't know	1	9.1	1	7.7
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	3	23.1

Q8. Faculty in my department are helpful and supportive in my search for professional development.	Master's		Doctorate	
	n	%	n	%
strongly disagree	0	0.0	1	7.7
disagree	0	0.0	1	7.7
agree	6	54.5	7	53.8
strongly agree	3	27.3	2	15.4
n/a or don't know	2	18.2	1	7.7
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	1	7.7



Q9. Faculty in my department are well qualified to teach their courses.	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
strongly disagree	0	0.0	1	7.7
disagree	0	0.0	0	0.0
agree	4	36.4	7	53.8
strongly agree	7	63.6	4	30.8
n/a or don't know	0	0.0	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	1	7.7

Q10. Faculty in my department are willing to meet with me to discuss my academic performance.	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
strongly disagree	0	0.0	1	7.7
disagree	0	0.0	0	0.0
agree	2	18.2	5	38.5
strongly agree	6	54.5	4	30.8
n/a or don't know	2	18.2	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	1	9.1	3	23.1

*To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about students in your graduate program?*

Q11. The intellectual caliber of students in my program is high.	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
strongly disagree	0	0.0	0	0.0
disagree	1	9.1	1	8.3
agree	5	45.5	9	75.0
strongly agree	3	27.3	0	0.0
n/a or don't know	2	18.2	2	16.7
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0



Q12. My program encourages student collaboration and teamwork.	Master's		Doctorate	
	n	%	n	%
strongly disagree	2	18.2	0	0.0
disagree	0	0.0	2	16.7
agree	4	36.4	6	50.0
strongly agree	4	36.4	1	8.3
n/a or don't know	1	9.1	2	16.7
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	1	8.3

*To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about academics in your graduate program?*

Q13. My program has high academic standards.	Master's		Doctorate	
	n	%	n	%
strongly disagree	1	9.1	0	0.0
disagree	1	9.1	0	0.0
agree	5	45.5	7	58.3
strongly agree	2	18.2	4	33.3
n/a or don't know	2	18.2	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	1	8.3

Q14. My program integrates current developments in my field.	Master's		Doctorate	
	n	%	n	%
strongly disagree	1	9.1	0	0.0
disagree	0	0.0	1	8.3
agree	7	63.6	7	58.3
strongly agree	3	27.3	2	16.7
n/a or don't know	0	0.0	1	8.3
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	1	8.3



Q15. My program prepared me well for my profession.	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
strongly disagree	1	9.1	0	0.0
disagree	1	9.1	0	0.0
agree	5	45.5	6	50.0
strongly agree	3	27.3	3	25.0
n/a or don't know	1	9.1	2	16.7
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	1	8.3

Q16. My program was intellectually challenging and stimulating.	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
strongly disagree	0	0.0	0	0.0
disagree	0	0.0	0	0.0
agree	0	0.0	0	0.0
strongly agree	0	0.0	0	0.0
n/a or don't know	0	0.0	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0

Q17. I would recommend my graduate program to prospective students.	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
strongly disagree	0	0.0	0	0.0
disagree	0	0.0	0	0.0
agree	10	90.9	8	66.7
strongly agree	1	9.1	2	16.7
n/a or don't know	0	0.0	1	8.3
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	1	8.3

Q18. If I were starting over, I would enroll in this program again.	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
strongly disagree	1	9.1	0	0.0
disagree	2	18.2	1	8.3
agree	4	36.4	3	25.0
strongly agree	4	36.4	6	50.0
n/a or don't know	0	0.0	1	8.3
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	1	8.3



## Time to Degree

Q19. Will the amount of time needed for you to graduate be...	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
less than originally expected	0	0.0	0	0.0
about the same as originally expected	8	72.7	8	61.5
more than originally expected	2	18.2	2	15.4
I am not planning on graduating	0	0.0	0	0.0
unsure	1	9.1	2	15.4
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	1	7.7

\*Questions 20-31 were only asked of individuals who indicated that their time to degree was “more than originally expected”. Note: responses are not reported since  $n < 3$ .

*To what extent did the following academic reasons prevent you from progressing in your program as expected?*

Q20. Lack of course availability.	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
not at all	0	0.0	0	0.0
a little	0	0.0	0	0.0
a fair amount	0	0.0	0	0.0
a great deal	0	0.0	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0

Q21. Inadequate advising.	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
not at all	0	0.0	0	0.0
a little	0	0.0	0	0.0
a fair amount	0	0.0	0	0.0
a great deal	0	0.0	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0



Q22. Difficulty completing comprehensive/qualifying exams.	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
not at all	0	0.0	0	0.0
a little	0	0.0	0	0.0
a fair amount	0	0.0	0	0.0
a great deal	0	0.0	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0

Q23. Difficulty in my project, thesis, or dissertation research.	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
not at all	0	0.0	0	0.0
a little	0	0.0	0	0.0
a fair amount	0	0.0	0	0.0
a great deal	0	0.0	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0

Q24. Difficulty in completing coursework.	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
not at all	0	0.0	0	0.0
a little	0	0.0	0	0.0
a fair amount	0	0.0	0	0.0
a great deal	0	0.0	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0

Q25. Difficulty in fulfilling other degree requirements.	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
not at all	0	0.0	0	0.0
a little	0	0.0	0	0.0
a fair amount	0	0.0	0	0.0
a great deal	0	0.0	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0





*To what extent did the following personal/family reasons prevent you from progressing in your degree program as expected?*

Q26 Finances.	Master's		Doctorate	
	n	%	n	%
not at all	0	0.0	0	0.0
a little	0	0.0	0	0.0
a fair amount	0	0.0	0	0.0
a great deal	0	0.0	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0

Q27. Demands of my employment.	Master's		Doctorate	
	n	%	n	%
not at all	0	0.0	0	0.0
a little	0	0.0	0	0.0
a fair amount	0	0.0	0	0.0
a great deal	0	0.0	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0

Q28. Military deployment.	Master's		Doctorate	
	n	%	n	%
not at all	0	0.0	0	0.0
a little	0	0.0	0	0.0
a fair amount	0	0.0	0	0.0
a great deal	0	0.0	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0

Q29. Self/family responsibilities (health, birth, child care, elderly care, etc).	Master's		Doctorate	
	n	%	n	%
not at all	0	0.0	0	0.0
a little	0	0.0	0	0.0
a fair amount	0	0.0	0	0.0
a great deal	0	0.0	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0



**Q30. Other reasons, please specify...**

Responses are not reported since  $n < 3$ .

**Q31. Of all the reasons you have selected what was the MOST IMPORTANT REASON that prevented you from progressing in your degree program as expected?**

Responses are not reported since  $n < 3$ .

*Please rate the quality of preparation provided by your program in the following areas:*

Q32. Academic advising.	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
poor	1	9.1	0	0.0
below average	0	0.0	0	0.0
average	4	36.4	4	33.3
above average	5	45.5	5	41.7
excellent	0	0.0	3	25.0
not applicable	1	9.1	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0

Q33. Career counseling.	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
poor	1	9.1	0	0.0
below average	2	18.2	0	0.0
average	3	27.3	4	33.3
above average	1	9.1	2	16.7
excellent	2	18.2	1	8.3
not applicable	2	18.2	2	16.7
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	3	25.0



Q34. Mentoring.	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
poor	1	9.1	0	0.0
below average	1	9.1	0	0.0
average	3	27.3	2	16.7
above average	3	27.3	5	41.7
excellent	3	27.3	2	16.7
not applicable	0	0.0	1	8.3
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	2	16.7

Q35. Financial support.	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
poor	2	18.2	0	0.0
below average	1	9.1	0	0.0
average	2	18.2	5	41.7
above average	3	27.3	1	8.3
excellent	0	0.0	0	0.0
not applicable	3	27.3	2	16.7
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	4	33.3

Q36. Work/lab space on campus.	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
poor	0	0.0	0	0.0
below average	2	18.2	3	25.0
average	4	36.4	2	16.7
above average	3	27.3	3	25.0
excellent	2	18.2	2	16.7
not applicable	0	0.0	1	8.3
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	1	8.3



Q37. Social space on campus.	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
poor	1	9.1	0	0.0
below average	1	9.1	1	9.1
average	3	27.3	4	36.4
above average	4	36.4	3	27.3
excellent	1	9.1	3	27.3
not applicable	1	9.1	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0

Q38. Discipline specific software and equipment.	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
poor	1	10.0	0	0.0
below average	0	0.0	1	8.3
average	6	60.0	4	33.3
above average	2	20.0	5	41.7
excellent	1	10.0	2	16.7
not applicable	0	0.0	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0

Q39. Diversity of student population.	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
poor	1	9.1	0	0.0
below average	0	0.0	2	16.7
average	3	27.3	1	8.3
above average	5	45.5	6	50.0
excellent	1	9.1	2	16.7
not applicable	1	9.1	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	1	8.3



Q40. Preparation for non-academic careers.	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
poor	0	0.0	0	0.0
below average	1	9.1	1	8.3
average	6	54.5	7	58.3
above average	2	18.2	1	8.3
excellent	0	0.0	0	0.0
not applicable	2	18.2	1	8.3
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	2	16.7

### Financial Support

Q41. Percentage receiving support from the following OSU sources:	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
teaching assistantship	5	45.5	1	7.1
research assistantship	6	54.5	6	42.9
fellowship	1	9.1	2	14.3
scholarship	1	9.1	1	7.1
did not apply	0	0.0	2	14.3
applied but did not obtain	2	18.2	1	7.1

Q42. While enrolled, how often did you work for pay.	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
not at all	2	20.0	3	25.0
a few semesters	0	0.0	0	0.0
most semesters	7	70.0	5	41.7
prefer not to answer	1	10.0	4	33.3

Q43. If you worked on-campus (other than assistantship) did you work....	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
part-time	3	50.0	3	27.3
full-time	1	16.7	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	2	33.3	8	72.7



Q44. If you worked off-campus did you work....	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
part-time	0	0.0	2	16.7
full-time	2	33.3	2	16.7
prefer not to answer	4	66.7	8	66.7

Q45. Percentage who indicated the following as primary sources of funding for graduate studies:	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
assistantship, fellowship, or scholarship	8	72.7	10	71.4
financial aid (need based)	0	0.0	0	0.0
personal/family funding	8	72.7	2	14.3
off-campus employment	1	9.1	0	0.0
student loans	0	0.0	0	0.0
military/veterans pay	0	0.0	0	0.0
OSU faculty/staff tuition and fee waivers	2	18.2	1	7.1
employer tuition support/benefits	2	18.2	1	7.1

Q46. What is your approximate level of indebtedness related to your graduate studies at OSU?	Master's		Doctorate	
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>
none	5	50.0	4	33.3
\$5,000 or less	1	10.0	1	8.3
\$5,001 – 10,000	0	0.0	0	0.0
\$10,001 – 15,000	0	0.0	1	8.3
\$15,001 – 20,000	1	10.0	1	8.3
\$20,001 – 25,000	1	10.0	0	0.0
\$25,001 – 30,000	0	0.0	0	0.0
more than \$30,000	1	10.0	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	1	10.0	0	0.0



## Satisfaction with University Services

Q47. Not including library resources, how satisfied are you with the research resources such as facilities, equipment, and lab space?	Master's		Doctorate	
	n	%	n	%
very satisfied	0	0.0	2	16.7
generally satisfied	4	36.4	5	41.7
generally dissatisfied	3	27.3	3	25.0
very dissatisfied	1	9.1	1	8.3
not applicable	1	9.1	0	0.0
don't know	2	18.2	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	1	8.3

Q48. How satisfied are you with the library resources that are available?	Master's		Doctorate	
	n	%	n	%
very satisfied	3	27.3	6	50.0
generally satisfied	7	63.6	5	41.7
generally dissatisfied	0	0.0	1	8.3
very dissatisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0
not applicable	0	0.0	0	0.0
don't know	1	9.1	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0

Q49. Do you have any comments or recommendations for research resources or library resources at OSU? What could be improved to make it better?

Civil Engineering lacks much needed space for conducting ongoing research. The department also lacks greatly in funding which forces a sub-par performance in all research.

Lab is always full - photocopier always jam paper - toner is always low - PC's take much time in getting started the windows screen after login Solution to these problems would make research resources better

Some resources e.g. journal papers could not be obtained. For me, it was a significant number.

The civil engineering laboratories are predominantly outdated. The asphalt lab in particular needs funding. [REDACTED] is highly qualified to teach and perform research far beyond what his lab can perform. The soils lab needs funding. If you want to hire a halfway decent geotechnical professor (and you need to), then you had better put something more cutting edge than 1980 in the lab.

The library has very helpful faculty and the ability to get any information they don't already have in a timely manner. As for our lab, its more of a do what you can with what you have kind of thing. The larger equipment is WW2 era, and the building itself keeps getting gutted for asbestos problems. It would be nice if better space/equipment was available, but we seem to get by.

## Diversity



Q50. OSU is a supportive campus toward those with diverse backgrounds?	Master's		Doctorate	
	n	%	n	%
agree	8	72.7	7	58.3
agree somewhat	1	9.1	4	33.3
disagree somewhat	0	0.0	0	0.0
disagree	0	0.0	0	0.0
don't know	2	18.2	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	1	8.3

Q51. How many times have you been treated unfairly at school because of your gender, race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, disability, or veteran status?	Master's		Doctorate	
	n	%	n	%
one time	2	18.2	0	0.0
twice	0	0.0	0	0.0
more than twice	0	0.0	1	8.3
I have not been mistreated at school	8	72.7	7	58.3
prefer not to answer	1	9.1	4	33.3

\*Questions 52 and 53 are only asked to those who indicated that they were mistreated at school.  
Note: responses not reported since n < 3.

Q52. To what extent have you been upset by this unfair treatment?	Master's		Doctorate	
	n	%	n	%
a great deal	0	0.0	0	0.0
much	0	0.0	0	0.0
somewhat	0	0.0	0	0.0
a little	0	0.0	0	0.0
not at all	0	0.0	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0

Q53. Could you describe what happened?

Not reported since n < 3.





### Satisfaction with Graduate College

Q54. How satisfied are you with the helpfulness of the Graduate College staff in responding to your concerns and questions?	Master's		Doctorate	
	n	%	n	%
very satisfied	1	10.0	4	33.3
generally satisfied	7	70.0	7	58.3
generally dissatisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0
very dissatisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0
don't know	1	10.0	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	1	10.0	1	8.3

### Q55. Do you have any comments or recommendations about the services provided by the Graduate College?

Graduate college seems fine so far.  
 I have not had any problems with the graduate college.  
 Information regarding financial aid for graduate students needs to be better made known to students, ie. via email. The fact that there are tuition waivers for graduate students and the info on how to get it was not readily made known to me. I missed out on an entire semester of this financial aid due to lack of information provided by the graduate college. When I did discover the available aid, it was from another student, and the forms for it were very difficult to find.  
 Post admission assessment is something strange a little bit. It would be better if all requirements are requested pre admission/arrival to OSU.

### Satisfaction with Graduate and Professional Student Government Association

### Q56. Do you have any recommendations or suggestions about the mission and activities of the Graduate Professional Student Government Association?

I did my undergrad at OSU as well and this is the first I've heard of a graduate level SGA. So if I had a recommendation, it would be to make yourself known.  
 I did not know of their existence.  
 I have no idea what they do. Might want to work on that.  
 Very dissatisfied about GPSGA. They do not stay their position whenever you come by the GPSGA office They do not take the phone whenever you call them They do not give you a reply for your application status. Overall, it is the worst association I ever met.



## Career Plans

Q57. Which of the following best describes the employment setting for your future career plans?	Master's		Doctorate	
	n	%	n	%
private sector/industry	6	54.5	2	16.7
government	1	9.1	2	16.7
K-12 education	0	0.0	0	0.0
higher education	0	0.0	4	33.3
non-profit	0	0.0	0	0.0
military	0	0.0	0	0.0
other	0	0.0	0	0.0
undecided	1	9.1	2	16.7
don't know	2	18.2	1	8.3
prefer not to answer	1	9.1	1	8.3

## Overall Satisfaction

Q58. How would you rate your overall satisfaction with your experience as a graduate student at OSU?	Master's		Doctorate	
	n	%	n	%
very satisfied	1	9.1	2	16.7
generally satisfied	9	81.8	7	58.3
generally dissatisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0
very dissatisfied	0	0.0	1	8.3
don't know	0	0.0	0	0.0
prefer not to answer	1	9.1	2	16.7



**Q59. Do you have any final comments about your experience as a graduate student at OSU?**

I think you do a great job gathering information from students to improve the quality of education at OSU. However, I believe some of the questions were too general and there was no easy way to answer them. For instance I may be satisfied by teaching skills of one faculty but not with another one. Or, some faculty may have been very helpful helping me plan for my future career but another one was neutral. Long story short, I think some questions should come with wider answer options. Thank

I was lucky to have been able to take classes from experienced professors like Snethen, Cross and Gregory. OSU needs more national and internationally accomplished professors to keep the standard OSU used to be known for. The direction the OSU geotechnical department is headed is truly sad. [REDACTED]

I would prefer to receive notice about filling out a Plan of Study earlier in the semester and be given time to fill it out. Rather than receiving an email half way through the semester that states "a hold is put on your enrollment until you fill out a plan of study." Again, I was not informed about this by the graduate college in any way prior to the email. Thus, the hold is an inconvenience for me (a "punishment" dealt out by the graduate college) for something they failed to inform me of.

It's a good program; I just wish I saw more professors that specialized in some of the various other areas of my field of study. Our department seems to be understaffed as far as for educators and our head says he's looking for more faculty, but I haven't seen anything of it.

Some professors give assignments on topics that are either unexplained in class or out of the syllabus or both. Others don't adequately evaluate students' efforts throughout the semester by giving low grades; always each semester. The two attitudes highly depress and discourage students. They also highly affect students' academic records and future employment. Many students complain of the two mentioned attitudes. It would be great that anything could be done towards further enhancements.

The CIVE staff does exceptionally well in both the classroom and in research. However, the department suffers from a great lack of additional staff, forcing graduate students to petition for the majority of the coursework in which they desire to take. Although research has been extremely rewarding, laboratory space is quite rare which confines the amount and quality of ongoing research. The issue is compounded by a lack of up to date equipment.

