Survey of Non-Returning Graduate Students

Spring 2006

Office of Institutional Research & Assessment
Distributed July 2006

Executive Summary

In Spring 2006, the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment conducted a telephone survey of graduate students who were enrolled in Spring 2005, but were not enrolled in Spring 2006 and had not received a Masters degree from Southeastern. The goal of the survey was to gather information on why these students left Southeastern. In addition, the survey wanted to determine if they have completed their goal for attending the university, and if they plan to return in the future.

One hundred sixty-seven (167) participants were contacted and agreed to complete the survey. The survey covered five general areas of questioning: whether students intended on getting a Masters degree, if they plan on returning, reasons why students might stop attending Southeastern for a while, reasons why students might permanently leave Southeastern and demographic information not readily available in PeopleSoft. Results of the survey were then compared with results for Southeastern's Fall 2004 Non-Returning Undergraduate Student Survey to determine if there are identifiable differences between non-returning graduates students and non-returning undergraduate students.

Some highlights of the Survey of Non-Returning Graduate Students are:

- Of the forty possible reasons presented to respondents who left Southeastern permanently, "decided to attend a different college," "impersonal attitudes of college faculty and/or staff" and "academic advising was inadequate" were most often indicated as a reason. While "decided to attend a different college" was also the most indicated reason by students from the Fall 2004 Non-Returning Undergraduate Student Survey, "moved to a new location" and "tired of commuting to Southeastern" were the second and third most indicated reasons for not returning to Southeastern for undergraduates.

- Fifty-two percent (52%) of the degree-seeking students plan on continuing their education at Southeastern. Forty-six percent (46%) of these students plan on returning next semester, while thirty-seven percent (37%) plan on returning within the next year.

- Of the nine possible reasons presented to respondents who stopped attending Southeastern for a while, "had family responsibilities to take care of," "work interfered with school" and "needed a break from school" were most often cited as a reason. These responses are similar to those from the undergraduate survey where "needed to earn more money," "had family responses to take care of" and "needed a break from school" were the most cited reasons for not returning to Southeastern.

- Fifty-seven percent (57%) of the non degree-seeking students have completed their goal for attending Southeastern.

Method

Participants

The survey population was 699 graduate students who were not enrolled in Spring 2006, but had been enrolled in Spring 2005. None of these students had received a Masters degree from Southeastern. Of the population, 13.4% (n=94) had bad telephone numbers, 1.4%, (n=10) had been asked by the university not to return and 0.3% (n=2) were deceased. Institutional Research and Assessment attempted, but was unsuccessful, in contacting 56.2% (n=393) of the population. Of the 200 contacted, 16.5% (n=33) refused to complete the survey. One hundred sixty-seven (167) participants completed the survey, for a response rate of 83.5%.

Table 1 provides a comparison of the demographics between the survey sample and the population.

Table 1
Demographic Characteristics of the Sample and Population

	Sample	Population
Group Size	167	699
Gender		
Male	19.8%	21.5%
Female	80.2%	78.5%
Ethnicity		
White, Non-Hispanic	*85.0%*	*82.4%*
Male	16.8%	18.0%
Female	68.3%	64.4%
Black, Non-Hispanic	*13.2%*	*13.7%*
Male	1.8%	2.0%
Female	11.4%	11.7%
Other Minority	*0.6%*	*3.1%*
Male	0.6%	1.1%
Female	0.0%	2.0%
Not Reported	*1.2%*	*0.7%*
Male	0.6%	0.3%
Female	0.6%	0.4%
Type of Program Enrolled In		
Masters	40.7%	39.6%
Non-Degree Seeking	59.3%	60.4%

Procedure

The survey was administered by telephone, using trained and experienced IR staff and student workers. The survey was conducted Monday-Friday, during the day and evening, from March 15th – April 21st, 2006.

Instrument

The first section of the survey asked participants if they had intended to get a Masters degree when they began as a graduate student at Southeastern. Respondents who indicated they did not intend to get a Masters degree were then asked if they had completed their goal for attending Southeastern, while those who indicated that they did intend to get a Masters degree were then asked a series of questions to determine if they planned on returning to Southeastern in the future. Participants who indicated they did not plan on returning to Southeastern were given a list of forty possible reasons why a student might leave college, and were asked to rate whether it was a major reason, a minor reason, or not a reason at all in their decision to leave Southeastern. Students who indicated that they did plan to continue their education at Southeastern were first asked when they planned to return to Southeastern. They were then given a list of ten possible reasons why a student might stop attending Southeastern for a while, and were asked to rate whether each item was a major reason, a minor reason, or not a reason at all in their decision to "stop-out." The final section asked for demographic information that is not collected as part of the application or registration process, such as how far they had to travel (one way) to Southeastern's main campus. The entire survey can be found in Appendix A.

Results

Comparison of Survey Participant Responses to University Records

The first question of the survey instrument asked participants if they intended to get a Masters degree when they first enrolled as a graduate student at Southeastern. Based on the responses, 52.7% (n=88) said they did intend to get a Masters degree and 47.3% (n=79) said they did not. However, the students' responses to their degree intentions do not necessarily agree with Southeastern's official records. According to official Spring 2005 records, 40.7% (n=68) of the respondents were enrolled in a degree seeking program, while 59.3% (n=99) were not. Table 2 provides a comparison of the degree seeking status of the participants based on their responses and the type of degree program they were enrolled in.

Table 2
Comparison of Participant Responses to
Introductory Question 1 and Official University Records

Degree-Seeking According to University Records	1) Did you intend to get a Masters Degree when you started as a graduate student at Southeastern?		
	Yes	No	Total
Yes	60	8[*]	68
No	28[*]	71	99
Total	88	79	167

[*] Indicates a discrepancy between university records and participant responses.

As can been seen in the above table, of the eighty-eight (88) respondents who indicated they intended to obtain a masters degree when they enrolled at Southeastern, twenty-eight (28) where not enrolled in a degree-seeking program. According to Southeastern records, 35.7% (n=10) of these (28) students were seeking Add-On certification, while an additional 35.7% (n=10) were categorized as Graduate Non-Degree seeking.

Likewise, eight (8) of the respondents who indicated they did not intend to get a masters degree were actually enrolled in a degree seeking graduate program the last semester they were enrolled at Southeastern. These students were majoring in Administration and Supervision, Curriculum and Instruction, English, Health and Kinesiology, or Special Education. Three (3) of the above eight respondents also indicated they had completed their goal for attending the university.

What are Degree-Seeking Students' Intentions?

Of the 167 survey participants, 40.7% (n=68) were officially enrolled in a degree-seeking program in Spring 2005. However, 11.8% (n=8) of these students indicated that they did not intend to get a Masters degree when they started as a graduate student at Southeastern. Five of the above eight students indicated that they had completed their goal for attending Southeastern.

The remainder of the degree-seeking students (n=60) can be classified into two groups: 1)Drop-Outs, those respondents who no longer plan on continuing their education at Southeastern, including those who plan on or have transferred elsewhere; 2)Stop-Outs, those respondents who

plan to return to Southeastern to complete their degree. Based on these definitions, 41.7% (n=25) are Drop-Outs and 58.3% (n=35) are Stop-Outs.

Degree-Seeking Stop-Outs

The majority of the Stop-Outs (45.7%, n=16) plan on returning to Southeastern in Fall 2006, with 37.1% (n=13) planning on returning within the next year, 2.9% (n=1) planning on returning in the next five years and 11.4% (n=4) not sure when they will be returning.

Stop-Outs were then asked to indicate whether each of ten possible reasons was a Major Reason, a Minor Reason, or Not a Reason for their decision to stop attending Southeastern for a while. The two most cited reasons for their decision not to return to Southeastern were "had family responsibilities to take care of" (76.5%, n=26), "needed a break from school" (47.1%, n=16) and "work interfered with school" (44.1%, n=15).

Table 3 provides the percentage of endorsement for Major Reason, Minor Reason, and Not a Reason for each item.

Table 3
Percentage of Endorsement for Major Reason, Minor Reason, and Not a Reason

	Major Reason	Minor Reason	Not a Reason
Had family responsibilities to take care of	64.7%	11.8%	23.5%
Needed a break from school	14.7%	32.4%	52.9%
Work interfered with school	29.4%	14.7%	55.9%
Needed to earn more money	23.5%	11.8%	64.7%
Dealing with hurricane related problems	14.7%	17.6%	67.6%
Health reasons	14.7%	5.9%	79.4%
Could not schedule the classes you needed	11.8%	5.9%	82.4%
Academic problems	2.9%	2.9%	94.1%
Religious obligation	2.9%	0.0%	97.1%
Military obligation	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%

Degree-Seeking Drop-Outs

Most of the Drop-Outs (80.0%, n=20) intend to finish their education elsewhere. Of these students, 65.0% (n=13) have already enrolled in another institution. When asked what institution they have or will enroll in, the most commonly cited were Southern University and Louisiana State University.

Table 4 provides the institutions respondents identified as having enrolled in or planning to enroll in.

Table 4
Institutions Where Respondents Have or Plan to Enroll

Institution	Number of Respondents	Percent of Respondents
LSU	4	20.0%
Southern University	4	20.0%
University of New Orleans	2	10.0%
A school in Colorado	1	5.0%
LRCE (Louisiana Resource Center for Educators)	1	5.0%
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary	1	5.0%
Nicholls State University	1	5.0%
Southern University or LSU	1	5.0%
University of Denver	1	5.0%
University of Illinois	1	5.0%
University of Phoenix	1	5.0%
University of South Alabama	1	5.0%
Webster University or University of Phoenix Online	1	5.0%

Respondents were then asked what was their main reason for deciding to attend another school. Twenty percent (20.0%, n=4) of the respondents indicated they were either dropped from the program they were in or not accepted into the program they wanted in, with an additional 15.0% (n=3) of the respondents signifying they decided to attend another school because the major or program they were interested in was not available at Southeastern.

Next, Drop-Outs were asked to indicate whether each of forty possible reasons was a Major Reason, a Minor Reason, or Not a Reason in their decision to leave Southeastern. "Decided to attend a different college" was the item with the largest endorsement, with 52.0% (n=13) of the respondents indicating it was a reason they left Southeastern. This was followed by "Impersonal attitudes of college faculty and/or staff," which 32.0% (n=8) of respondents endorsed as a reason they left.

Table 5 provides the percentage of endorsement for Major Reason, Minor Reason, and Not a Reason for each item.

Table 5
Percentage of Endorsement for Major Reason, Minor Reason, and Not a Reason

	Major Reason	Minor Reason	Not a Reason
Decided to attend a different college	41.7%	12.5%	45.8%
Impersonal attitudes of college faculty and/or staff	16.7%	16.7%	66.7%
Had problems scheduling classes	16.7%	8.3%	75.0%
Tired of commuting to Southeastern	16.7%	8.3%	75.0%
You were disappointed with the quality of instruction at Southeastern	12.5%	12.5%	75.0%
Academic advising was inadequate	16.7%	4.2%	79.2%
Dealing with hurricane related problems	12.5%	8.3%	79.2%
Unhappy with Southeastern's rules and regulations	12.5%	8.3%	79.2%
Problems with the graduate coordinator or your advisor	8.3%	12.5%	79.2%
Wanted a break from graduate studies	0.0%	20.8%	79.2%
Too much conflict between the responsibilities of work and school	16.7%	0.0%	83.3%
Could not get into the program you wanted	12.5%	4.2%	83.3%
Moved to a new location	12.5%	0.0%	87.5%
Southeastern did not promote an atmosphere that was conducive to learning	8.3%	4.2%	87.5%
Too much conflict between the responsibilities of family and school	8.3%	4.2%	87.5%
Did not feel like you fit in	4.2%	8.3%	87.5%
Encountered unexpected expenses	4.2%	8.3%	87.5%
Accepted a full-time job	8.3%	0.0%	91.7%
The major you wanted was not available at Southeastern	8.3%	0.0%	91.7%
Dissatisfied with your grades	4.2%	4.2%	91.7%
Too much stress	4.2%	4.2%	91.7%
There were too many required courses	0.0%	8.3%	91.7%
Wanted to get work experience	0.0%	8.3%	91.7%
Did not have the study skills required to succeed in graduate school	4.2%	0.0%	95.8%
Did not receive enough financial aid	4.2%	0.0%	95.8%
Dissatisfied with your major	4.2%	0.0%	95.8%
Experienced racism, prejudice or sexism	4.2%	0.0%	95.8%
Health-related problem (family or personal)	4.2%	0.0%	95.8%
Suspended or placed on probation	4.2%	0.0%	95.8%

	Major Reason	Minor Reason	Not a Reason
Courses were too difficult	0.0%	4.2%	95.8%
Family responsibilities were too great	0.0%	4.2%	95.8%
Could not find affordable housing you liked	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Could not find and/or afford child care	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Could not find part-time work	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Courses were not challenging	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Did not intend to get a graduate degree when you started at Southeastern	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Inadequate facilities for physically handicapped students	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Southeastern was too large for you	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Southeastern was too small for you	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Your relatives influenced you to quit	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%

What are Non Degree-Seeking Students' Intentions?

Fifty-nine percent (59%, n=99) of the 167 survey participants were officially enrolled as non degree-seeking students in Spring 2005. Seventy-two percent (72%, n=71) of the non degree-seeking students indicated that they indeed did not intend to get a Masters degree when they started as graduate students at Southeastern. Of these students, 78.9% (n=56) have completed their goal for attending Southeastern. For the students who have not completed their goal for attending Southeastern, "to get additional certification" was most often stated as their goal.

On the other hand, of the ninety-nine non degree-seeking students, 28.3% (n=28) indicated that they did intend to get a Masters degree when they started as a graduate student at Southeastern. These students can be classified into two groups: 1)Drop-Outs, those respondents who no longer plan on continuing their education at Southeastern, including those who plan on or have transferred elsewhere; 2)Stop-Outs, those respondents who plan to return to Southeastern to complete their degree. Based on these definitions, 39.3 % (n=11) are Drop-Outs and 60.7 % (n=17) are Stop-Outs.

Non Degree-Seeking Stop-Outs

The majority of the Stop-Outs (41.2%, n=7) plan on returning to Southeastern within the next year, with 29.4% (n=5) planning on returning in Fall 2006, 5.9% (n=1) planning on returning within the next two years and 17.7% (n=3) not sure when they will be returning.

Stop-Outs were then asked to indicate whether each of ten possible reasons was a Major Reason, a Minor Reason, or Not a Reason for their decision to stop attending Southeastern for a while.

The two most cited reasons for their decision not to return to Southeastern were "had family responsibilities to take care of" and "work interfered with school".

Table 6 provides the percentage of endorsement for Major Reason, Minor Reason, and Not a Reason for each item.

Table 6
Percentage of Endorsement for Major Reason, Minor Reason, and Not a Reason

	Major Reason	Minor Reason	Not a Reason
Had family responsibilities to take care of	43.8%	0.0%	56.3%
Work interfered with school	18.8%	25.0%	56.3%
Needed a break from school	12.5%	25.0%	62.5%
Dealing with hurricane related problems	18.8%	6.3%	75.0%
Needed to earn more money	12.5%	12.5%	75.0%
Could not schedule the classes you needed	0.0%	18.8%	81.3%
Health reasons	6.3%	0.0%	93.8%
Academic problems	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Military obligation	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Religious obligation	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%

Non Degree-Seeking Drop-Outs

Most of the Drop-Outs (54.5%, n=6) intend to finish their education elsewhere. Of these students, 50.0% (n=3) have already enrolled in another institution. When asked what institution they have or will enroll in, the most commonly cited were Southern University and Louisiana State University.

Table 7 provides the institutions respondents identified as having enrolled in or planning to enroll in.

Table 7
Institutions Where Respondents Have or Plan to Enroll

Institution	Number of Respondents	Percent of Respondents
Southern University	2	33.3%
LSU	1	16.7%
LSU or an out of state university	1	16.7%
University of North Texas	1	16.7%
Unknown	1	16.7%

Drop-Outs were asked to indicate whether each of forty possible reasons was a Major Reason, a Minor Reason, or Not a Reason in their decision to leave Southeastern. Table 8 provides the percentage of endorsement for Major Reason, Minor Reason, and Not a Reason for the six most cited items.

Table 8
Six Most Cited Reasons for Leaving Southeastern
Percentage of Endorsement for Major Reason, Minor Reason, and Not a Reason

	Major Reason	Minor Reason	Not a Reason
Decided to attend a different college	40.0%	10.0%	50.0%
Too much conflict between the responsibilities of work and school	40.0%	10.0%	50.0%
Too much stress	40.0%	10.0%	50.0%
Family responsibilities were too great	30.0%	20.0%	50.0%
Too much conflict between the responsibilities of family and school	30.0%	20.0%	50.0%
You were disappointed with the quality of instruction at Southeastern	20.0%	30.0%	50.0%

Demographics of Degree-Seeking and Non Degree-Seeking Students

The last portion of the survey asked participants for demographic information that is not readily available as part of the PeopleSoft system. Answers to these questions help give a better understanding as the differences between degree-seeking and non degree-seeking students. Fifty-three percent (52.7%, n=88) of the respondents commuted more than 30 miles (one way) to campus, while an additional 17.4% (n=29) commuted between 21 and 30 miles (one way) to Southeastern's main campus. Of those who worked, 85.2% (n=121) spent more than 30 hours a week working, while 4.9% (n=7) spent 11-20 hours a week working. Thirty-seven percent (37.0%, n=61) of the respondents are first-generation college students, which is a student who has no parent with any college or university experience.

Table 9 provides a comparison of the demographic characteristics of degree-seeking and non degree-seeking students.

Table 9

Demographic Characteristics of Degree-Seeking and Non-Degree Seeking Participants

	Degree-Seeking	Non Degree-Seeking
Sample Size	68	99
Distance Traveled (one way) to Southeastern's Main Campus		
Live on Campus	1.5%	0.0%
Less than 5 Miles	11.8%	11.1%
Between 5 and 10 Miles	10.3%	8.1%
Between 11 and 20 Miles	2.9%	8.1%
Between 21 and 30 Miles	17.6%	17.2%
More than 30 Miles	52.9%	52.5%
Where Students Work		
Did Not Work	10.3%	15.2%
Work On Campus	8.8%	4.0%
Work Off Campus	72.1%	76.8%
Worked Both On and Off Campus	7.4%	3.0%
Number of Hours Per Week Worked (Only for those who worked)		
1-10 Hours	0.0%	3.7%
11-20 Hours	10.0%	6.1%
21-30 Hours	6.7%	3.7%
More Than 30 Hours	83.3%	86.6%
Highest Level of Parental Education		
No High School Diploma	4.4%	11.1%
High School Diploma/GED	26.5%	29.3%
Some College	17.6%	9.1%
Associate Degree	5.9%	5.1%
Bachelor's Degree	19.1%	18.2%
Graduate/Professional Degree	25.0%	23.2%
Unknown	0.0%	3.0%

Appendix A
Survey of Non-Returning Graduate Students

Survey of Non-Returning Graduate Students

Hello, my name is _____ and I am calling from the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment at Southeastern Louisiana University. May I please speak with _____? We need to get opinions from students who were previously enrolled at Southeastern but are not enrolled this semester. Your participation is entirely voluntary, you are free to not answer any question, and you may quit at any time. Your opinion is very important to us, and your answers will be completely confidential. This survey will only take a few minutes of your time.

My supervisor may call once our interview is completed to insure that I am conducting it properly.

Intro questions

1. Did you intend to get a Masters Degree when you started as a graduate student at Southeastern?
   1=No   2=Yes
   If yes, go to Transfer Questions
   If no, continue to intro 2

2. Have you completed your goal for attending Southeastern?
   1=No   2=Yes
   If yes, go to Demographics
   If no, continue to intro 3

3. What was your goal in attending Southeastern?

   Go to Demographics

Transfer Questions

1. Do you plan to continue your education?
   1=No   2=Yes
   If no, go to Non-Returning Questions
   If yes continue to Transfer 2

2. a. Do you plan to continue your education at Southeastern or somewhere else?
   1=Southeastern   2=Other
   If Southeastern, go to Stop Out questions

   b. Have you enrolled in another school yet?
   1=No   2=Yes

   c. What school have/will you enroll(ed) in?

   d. What is the main reason you decided to attend _____?

   Go to Non-Returning Questions

13

I am now going to read some reasons why a student might leave graduate school. For each reason, please tell me whether it was a major reason, a minor reason, or not a reason that you decided to leave Southeastern.

(1=Major Reason, 2=Minor Reason, 3=Not a Reason)

1. Health-related problem (family or personal)
2. Wanted a break from graduate studies
3. Moved to a new location
4. Did not intend to get a graduate degree when you started at Southeastern
5. Tired of commuting to Southeastern
6. Could not find and/or afford child care
7. Family responsibilities were too great
8. Southeastern was too small for you
9. Southeastern was too large for you
10. Did not feel like you fit in
11. Your relatives influenced you to quit
12. Dissatisfied with your grades
13. Suspended or placed on probation
14. Courses were too difficult
15. Courses were not challenging
16. Southeastern did not promote an atmosphere that was conducive to learning
17. There were too many required courses
18. You were disappointed with the quality of instruction at Southeastern
19. The major you wanted was not available at Southeastern
20. Could not get into the program you wanted
21. Dissatisfied with your major
22. Academic advising was inadequate
23. Had problems scheduling classes
24. Did not have the study skills required to succeed in graduate school
25. Could not find affordable housing you liked
26. Unhappy with Southeastern's rules and regulations
27. Impersonal attitudes of college faculty and/or staff
28. Experienced racism, prejudice or sexism
29. Inadequate facilities for physically handicapped students
30. Encountered unexpected expenses
31. Did not receive enough financial aid
32. Decided to attend a different college
33. Could not find part-time work
34. Wanted to get work experience
35. Accepted a full-time job
36. Too much conflict between the responsibilities of work and school
37. Too much conflict between the responsibilities of family and school
38. Too much stress
39. Problems with the graduate coordinator or your advisor
40. Dealing with hurricane related problems

Go to Demographic Questions

Stop-Out questions

1. When do you plan to return to Southeastern?
    1 = Next semester
    2 = Within the next year
    3 = Within the next two years
    4 = Within the next five years
    5 = Not sure at this time

For the following reasons I read, please tell me if they were a minor reason, a major reason, or no reason at all for why you decided to stop attending Southeastern for a while.
(1=Major Reason, 2=Minor Reason, 3=Not a Reason)

2. Needed to earn more money
3. Had family responsibilities to take care of
4. Needed a break from school
5. Military obligation
6. Religious obligation
7. Work interfered with school
8. Academic problems
9. Health reasons
10. Could not schedule the classes you needed
11. Dealing with hurricane related problems

Demographics

1. How far did you have to travel (one way) to Southeastern's main campus?
    1 = Live on campus
    2 = Less than 5 miles
    3 = Between 5 and 10 miles
    4 = Between 11 and 20 miles
    5 = Between 21 and 30 miles
    6 = More than 30 miles

2. Did you work on or off campus?
    1 = Did not work **(Skip to Question 4)**
    2 = Worked on campus
    3 = Worked off campus
    4 = Worked both on and off campus

3. How many hours did you work a week?
    1 = No more than ten hours
    2 = Eleven to twenty hours
    3 = Twenty-one to thirty hours
    4 = More than thirty hours

4. What was your Mother's highest level of education?
         1 = No high school diploma
         2 = High School diploma/GED
         3 = Some college
         4 = Associate Degree
         5 = Bachelor's Degree
         6 = Graduate or Professional Degree
         7 = Unknown or refused

5. What was your Father's highest level of education?
         1 = No high school diploma
         2 = High School diploma/GED
         3 = Some college
         4 = Associate Degree
         5 = Bachelor's Degree
         6 = Graduate or Professional Degree
         7 = Unknown or refused

That is all the questions I have, thank you for your time. If you have any questions regarding this survey, please contact Dr. Michelle Hall at (985) 549-2077.

Appendix B
Non-Degree Seeking Students Stated Goals for Attending Southeastern Louisiana University

1. I already have a doctorate degree. My goal was to complete a prerequisite for a Pre-Med track in chemistry. I am not enrolled at Southeastern now because we have been displaced by Katrina to West Virginia.

2. I am getting an add-on certification.

3. I am working on a Plus-30.

4. I am working on my add-on certification.

5. I am working on my Plus-30.

6. I am working to get my certification of Administration in Elementary Education.

7. I plan on going to Summer school and take one course in the Fall and I will have an add-on in Principleship.

8. I want to get additional certification.

9. I want to get certification in Administration.

10. To get a few more courses to finish my Special Education degree.

11. To get add-on certification. I am also interested in getting into the new Ed.D. program.

12. To get alternate certification in teaching.

13. To get certification in Music Education. Katrina has delayed that.

14. To get certified in Special Education.

15. To take some prerequisite courses

Appendix C
Reasons Students Stated for Deciding to Attend another University

Degree-Seeking Students

1. I had approximately 33 hours completed when I received my second "C" and was dropped from the program.
2. I moved and could not schedule online classes for the educational program.
3. I was displaced by Katrina and I have a business in Denver.
4. I was displaced by Katrina and the classes I needed were not available online at Southeastern.
5. I was kicked out of the MAT program.
6. I was not accepted into the Speech Program (CSD).
7. I was not getting anywhere in the program at Southeastern. I was able to find a mentor at UNO in the program I wanted.
8. I was tired of night classes and the classes were not offered in Denham Springs or Livingston. I commuted from Baton Rouge and I teach during the day.
9. It is closer to home.
10. My husband's job was transferred to Colorado.
11. Southeastern changed the program to one year certification.
12. Southeastern did not have program I wanted.
13. Southeastern did not have Summer school for the program I was in and I wanted to graduate sooner.
14. Southeastern has changed their masters program and my GRE was below the cutoff.
15. Southeastern would not let me do my internship at the school were I work and the other school would.
16. The commuting was becoming a problem. I am a full-time teacher and could only take one class per semester and I did not qualify for financial aid.
17. The department at Southeastern was not stable.
18. Their program was better equipped for my major.

Non Degree-Seeking Students

1. I changed my major.
2. I had a very bad experience at SLU. It was with head honchos of the department. The coordinator in particular.
3. Classes start at a more convenient time (6:00pm). Closer to home.
4. I am in the CRNA program.
5. I did not like the on-line course I was enrolled in.
6. I was in the CSD program and they pick favorites and I was not one of them.
7. Southeastern does not offer a degree in Respiratory Therapy.
8. There was too much paperwork at Southeastern and it doesn't fit my work program. There is a bunch of paperwork for no reason. A lot of repetition.