

Graduate College Council

Draft Minutes – 21 October 2019

Perkins – Ewing Room

Agenda Item – slides attached as pdf file

I. Call to order at 2:02 pm / (Parcells)

A. Council Attendance Summary is below

II. Secretary's Report

A. Acting Secretary for this meeting: Carol Steinbrecher

B. Approval of agenda => Moved, seconded, approved

C. Approval of minutes (Moved, seconded, approved)

III. Dean's Report [Doug Doren, Interim Dean and Provost]

A. Introduce Suprawee Tepsuporn, Assistant Dean for Graduate Professional Development

B. Budget Report-

1. Graduate College Base Budget - University gives Graduate College lines for tuition, a pass through to colleges.

2. FY20 Stipend Support – 205 awarded

a. Unidell Distinguished Scholars is \$2.5 million/year to support growth of doctoral programs. To make an attractive offer, we promise 5 years of 12 month support. We bring in 12 per year. Currently have 2 cohorts of 12, a total of 24.

b. Graduate Scholars Program- to help recruit underrepresented students; 80 students currently supported

c. Doctoral Fellows – 3rd or 4th year fellows are nominated by department.

d. Dissertation Fellows- for final year

3. Supplemental Budget Funds - \$1.24 million recorded in Faculty Senate minutes and approved by Board of Trustees. This is new money for Graduate College to provide better graduate student support.

a. Summer URS (Undergraduate Research Scholars) – pipeline development of historically underrepresented minority students (non-UD) (\$300k)

b. Deans Strategic Initiative Fund – Program and course development, interdisciplinary conference, training grants, etc, (\$250k)

c. Marketing – Graduate College branding, market research intern, recruiting & advertising materials (\$225k)

d. Additional staff support (\$175k)

e. Bridge funding (\$125k)

f. Student Organizations (\$60k)

C. Graduate College Innovation Grants

a. Applications open, decisions on a rolling basis

b. Supports

i. Program Development & Innovation

a. New programs, market research

b. Course development

b. Program launch

ii. Professional Development for Graduate Students

- a. Student-initiated symposia or conferences
 - b. Public communications courses or workshops
 - c. Mentoring events
- iii. Typical grants: A few \$K to \$20K; matching strongly preferred
grad.udel.edu/innovation-grants/

5. Discussion on 5 year, 12 month stipends

Is this level of commitment needed for competitive offers? What are the barriers?

IV. Standing reports

- A. gradSERU Survey by Andrew Kuczarski - Results of 2017 from 740 graduate students (approx. 20% response), shows areas that need improvement by college.
- B. Students are mostly very satisfied and satisfied with the overall graduate programs.
- C. Students reported two of the most important aspects are advisement and financial support; with consistently low satisfaction in these area. We are actively addressing these areas.
- D. Health & wellbeing and International Students' support are the next 2 highest areas of concerns. These results will be presented at the next meeting.

V. Committee Reports

- A. Staffing of standing committees – do offline, need volunteers from each college. Next meeting will have vote as to members of the committees:
 - 1. Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee – Currently proposals come from registrar's office to Graduate Studies committee.
 - 2. Graduate Student Life Committee

VI. College Liaison Report: Graduate Programs in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR) by Mark Parcells . (please refer to attached presentation for details)

VII. Introduction of new business by Councilors to be added to the agenda for November meeting:

- A. By-laws amendment committee
- B. Awards and Fellowships committee

VIII. Adjourned at 3:15 pm

Executive committee distributes agenda one week prior to upcoming meeting (November 18th 3pm)

**Graduate Council
Faculty
Representatives (*
indicates member of
Executive Committee)**

College

Representative	Alternate	Attended (Y/N)
Mark Parcells *	TBD	Parcells
Shree Inambdar	TBD	
Melinda Duncan	Erica Selva	Duncan
Don Watson	Andrew Teplyakov	Teplyakov
Richard Braun	Petr Plechac	Braun
John Xiao	Federica Bianco	Bianco
Siobhan Carroll	Will select in the fall	
Alexander Selimov	Gladys Ilarregui	
Greg Dobler	Danilo Yanich	Dobler
Amy Griffin	JP Laurenceau	Laurenceau
Gretchen Bauer	Jenny Lambe	
	Pascha Bueno-Hansen	
Tanisha Ford	Vimalin Rujivacharakul	
Owen White	Tom Powers	White
Ann Bell *	Belinda Orzada	Bell
Maria Anne Purciello	Ashley Pigford	Purciello
Nigel Caplan	Michael Fields	
Clara Chan	Saleem Ali	Chan
James Corbett *	Saleem Ali	Corbett

**Agriculture
and Natural
Resources**

**Art &
Sciences**

**Earth Ocean
and
Environment**

Education and Human Development			
	Danielle Ford *	TBD	Ford
	Bridgette Johnson	TBD	
Engineering			
	Julie Maresca	Li Liao	
	Joshua Zide *	Herbert Tanner	Tanner
	Ryan Zurakowski	Anthony Beris	Zurakowski
	Gonzalo Arce		
	Arthi Jayaraman		
	Chris Kloxin		Kloxin
Health Sciences			
	Freda Patterson	TBD	
	Karin Silbernagel	TBD	
	Regina Wright	TBD	
	Diane Chugani *	TBD	
Lerner College of Business and Economics			
	Greg Kane *	TBD	Kane
	Suresh Sundaram	TBD	Sundaram
	Siyang Wang	TBD	Wang
	Paul Laux	TBD	Laux
	Sri Beldona	TBD	
Professional and Continuing Studies			
	George Irvine	TBD	Irvine
Ex Officio (non-voting)			
	Doug Doren		Doren
	Charlie Riordan		Riordan

Graduate Student Representatives

Shiyun Yao		
Eileen Young		Young
Nicole Rucker *		Rucker
Di Liu		Liu
Ioannis Vasileios Chremos *	Joanne Norris	Norris
Andrew Kuczmariski **		Kuczmariski
Stanley Ayodeji Ohikhuemeh		Ohikhuemeh

Michael Alexo, Elizabeth Salisbury, Carol Steinbrecher, and Suprawee Tepsuporn attended from Graduate College.

Grad College Council

2nd Meeting

21 October 2019

Graduate College Council Agenda -- 21 October 2019, 2pm

Perkins – Ewing Room

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Estimated Time</u>
1. Call to order	1 minute
2. Secretary's Report	2 minutes
a. Approval of agenda	
b. Approval of minutes	
3. Dean's Report	
a. Introduce Suprawee Tepsuporn	5 minutes
b. Budget Report	10 minutes
c. Graduate College Innovation Grants	3 minutes
d. Q&A	5 minutes
4. Standing reports	
a. Current graduate programs needs assessment (Mark Parcels)	3 minutes
b. Graduate student report – Topics of concern to grad student councilors and others (including gradSERU results)	10 minutes
5. Committee reports	
a. Staffing of committees	5 minutes
i. Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee	
ii. Graduate Student Life Committee	
6. College Liaison Reports	
a. Introduction – Each meeting, a brief report from a College (1 per meeting, rotating alphabetically) on that College's programs and how the Grad College can help raise the overall grad education importance – CANR	5 minutes
b. Key achievements across Colleges that relate to our mission	
7. New business	3 minutes
a. Creation of Awards/Fellowships Committee	
b. Interest in Bylaws Task Force?	3 minutes
c. Discussion of priorities – How to start making (and measuring) progress	3 minutes
d. Introduction of new business by Councilors	10 minutes
8. Adjourn	3 minutes

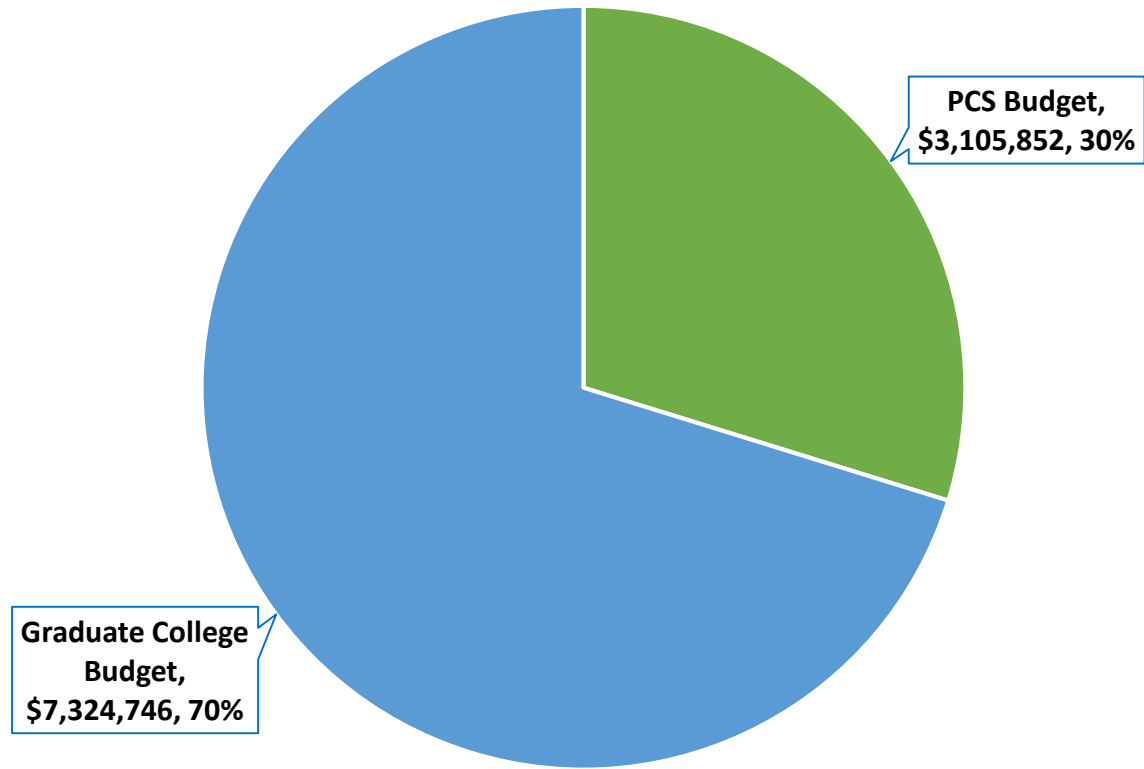
Call to Order / Secretary's Report

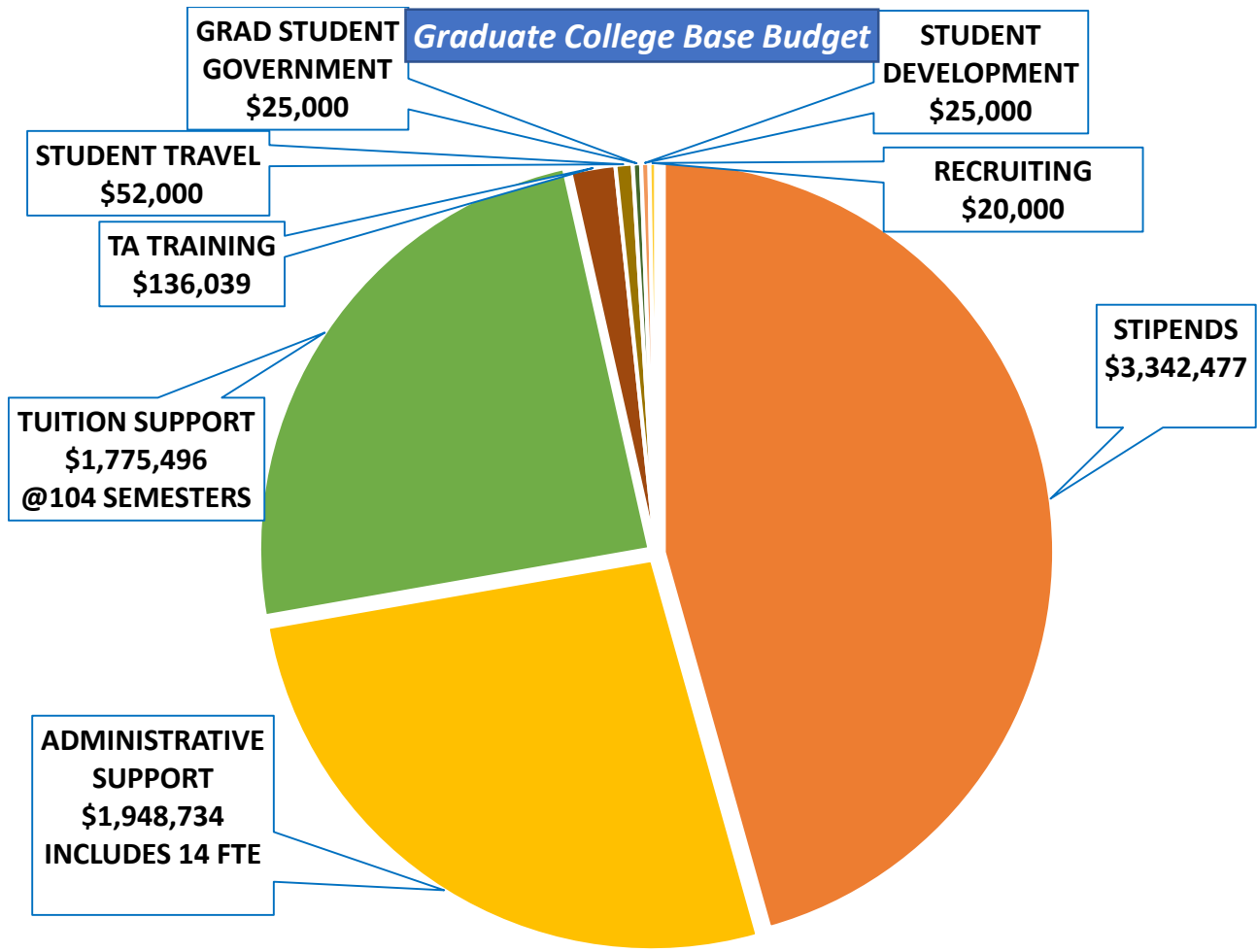
- Approval of agenda
- Approval of minutes

Interim Dean Doug Doren

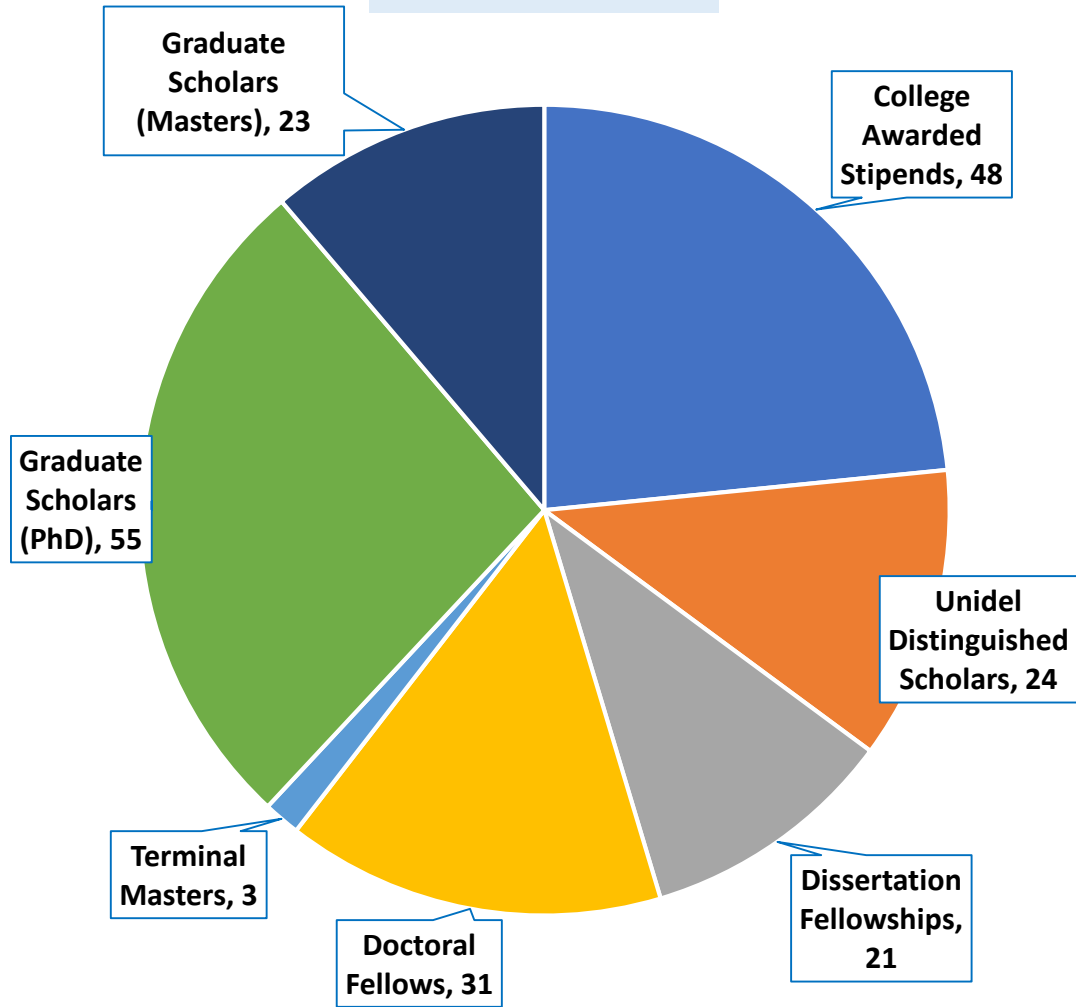
- Introduce Suprawee Tepsuporn
- Budget Report
- Graduate College Innovation Grants - update
- Q&A

FY20 GRADUATE COLLEGE TOTAL BUDGET





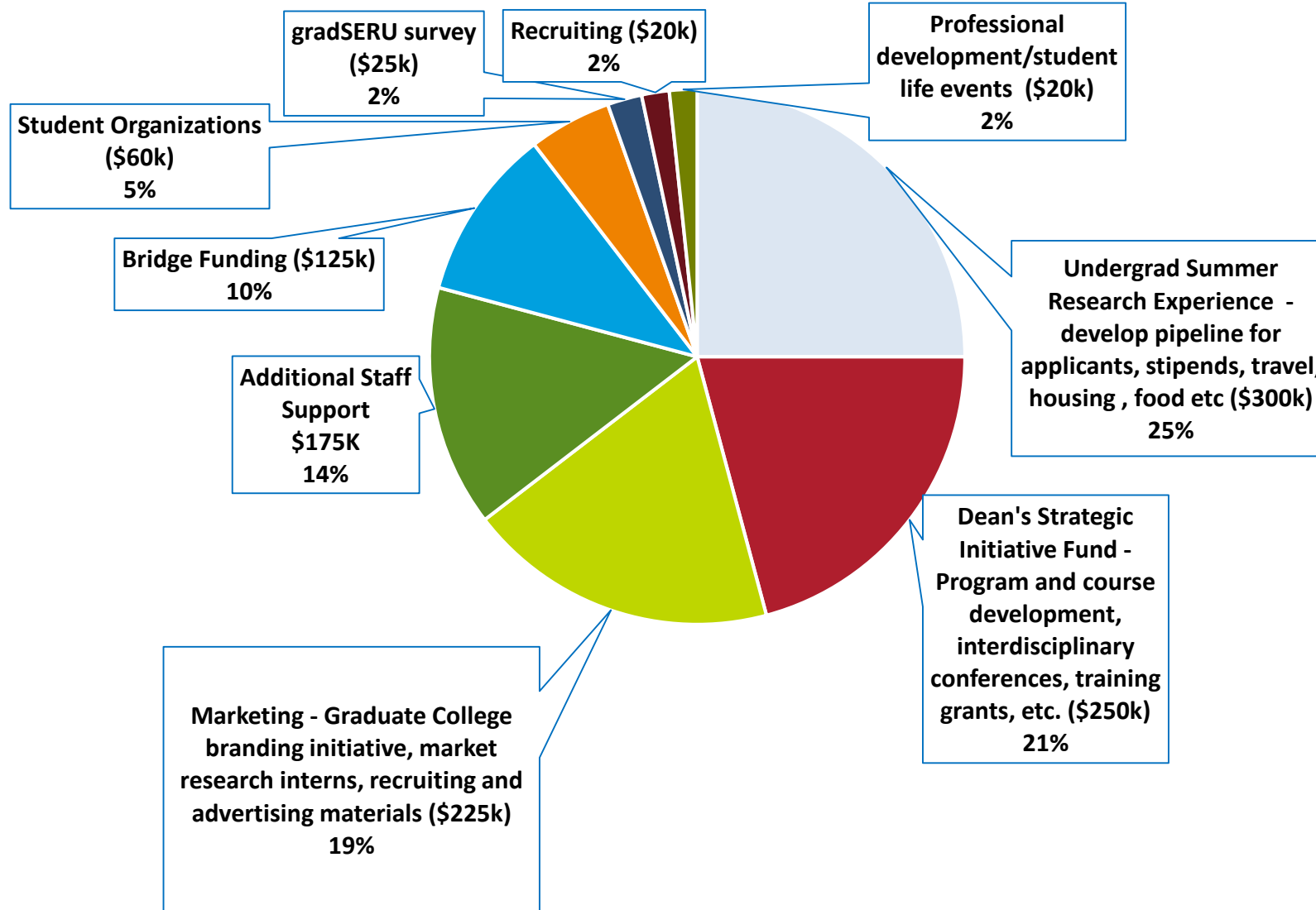
**FY20 Stipend Support
205 awarded**



Stipend support comes from the following sources:

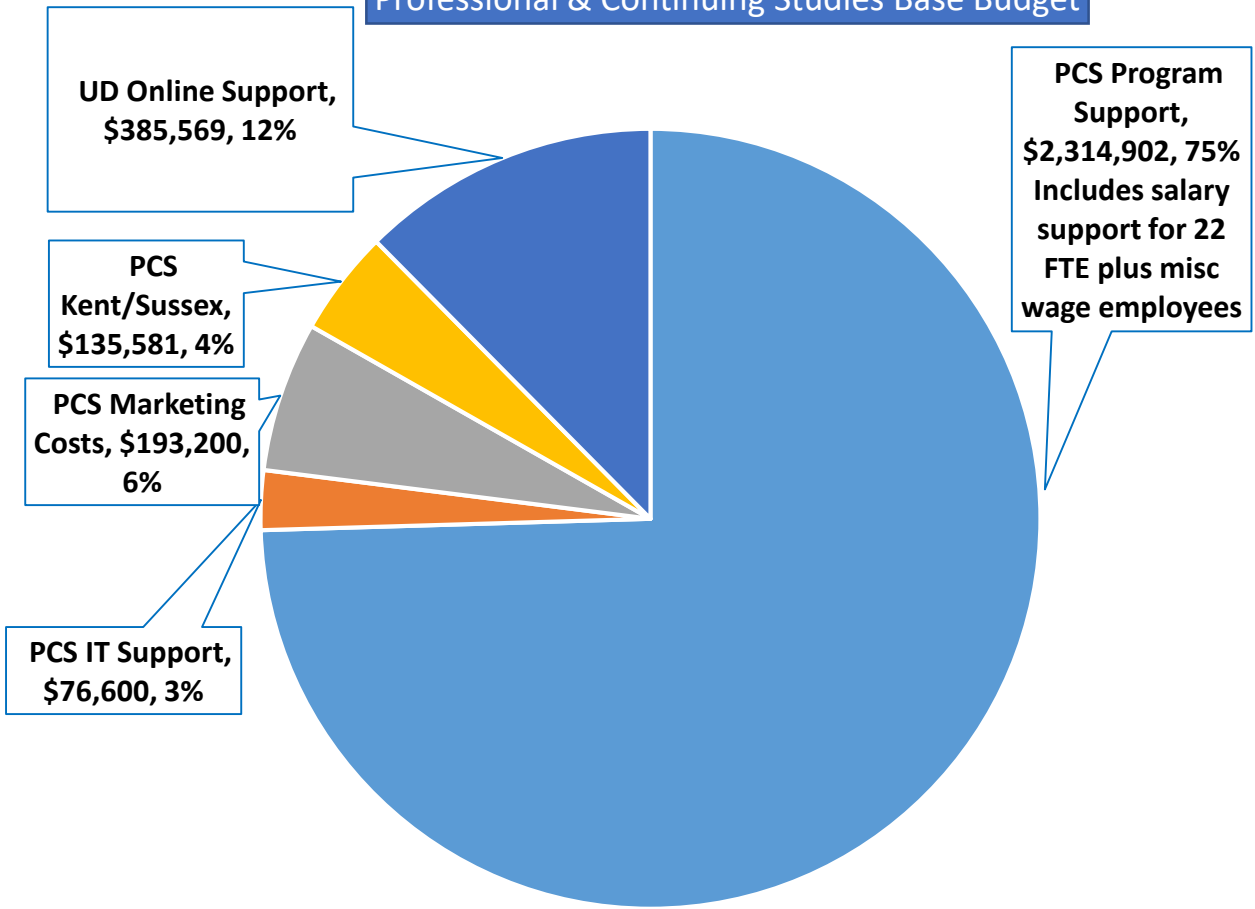
- Graduate College Base Budget
- Unidel Distinguished Grad Scholar Gift Fund
- Unidel Endowment Income Fund

\$1.2MM Supplemental Budget Funds



Undergraduate Summer Research and the Dean's Strategic Initiative funded by Unidel in FY19 (\$540K total) but those funds won't be available in FY20.

Professional & Continuing Studies Base Budget



PCS serves learners across the lifespan continuum:

2019 Statistics

- ❖ **Non-credit programs** – Self-supporting operation with gross revenue >\$1.5MM; supports six full time employees, misc. wage workers, instructors, and program expenses. Served 2,683 individuals in over 2,000 programs/conferences.
- ❖ **Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes** – Self supporting operations with gross revenue >\$1.4MM, supports ten permanent employees, part time workers, program and facilities expenses. Serves more than 3,900 members across the state of Delaware.
- ❖ **Access Center provides academic & career advisement** – over 1,100 students counseled.
- ❖ **UD Online and testing centers** – over 17,000 exams administered & more than 12,000 online enrollments.

Graduate College Innovation Grants

- Applications open, decisions on rolling basis
- Supports
 - Program development & Innovation
 - Planning for new programs, market research
 - Course development
 - Program launch
 - Professional development for graduate students
 - Student-initiated symposia or conferences
 - Public communications courses or workshops
 - Mentoring events
- Typical grants: A few \$K to \$20K; matching strongly preferred

grad.udel.edu/innovation-grants/

Discussion on 5-year, 12-month stipends

- Is this important to your recruiting?
 - Many programs feel this commitment is needed for competitive offers
- What are the barriers to making the commitment?
 - Many programs provide this level of funding in practice, but are reluctant to make the commitment in offer letters
- If the Grad College offered bridge funding, would that allow you to make commitments to your best candidates?
 - Departments and colleges would have to share some costs

Please discuss these questions with your colleagues, and let me know whether you want to discuss this further. We need agreement from departments, deans, and the provost to develop bridge funding plan.

Standing Reports

- Current Graduate programs needs assessment (Mark Parcels)
- Graduate Student Report – Topics of concerns to grad student councilors
 - gradSERU results

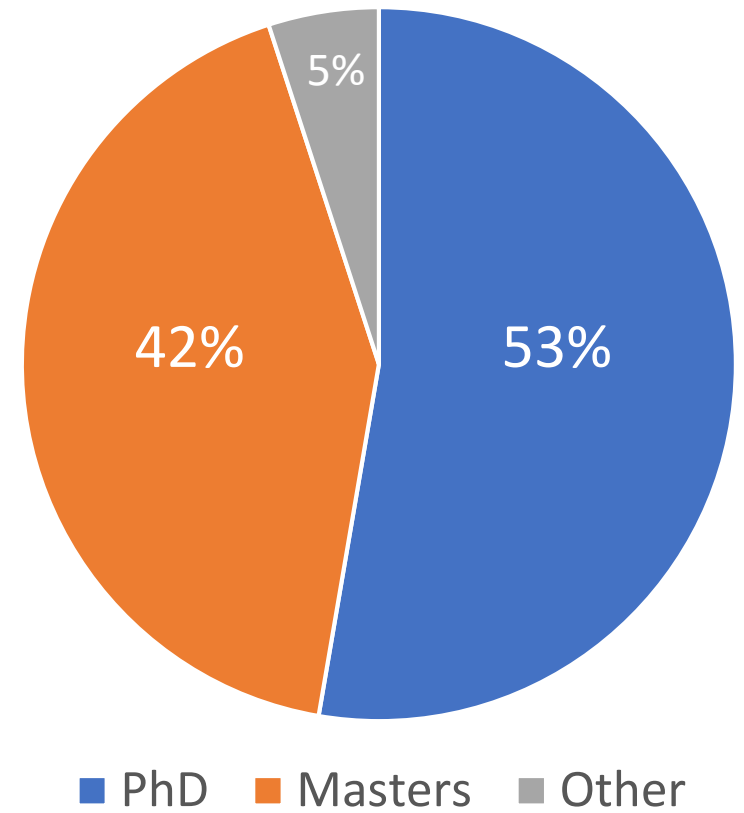
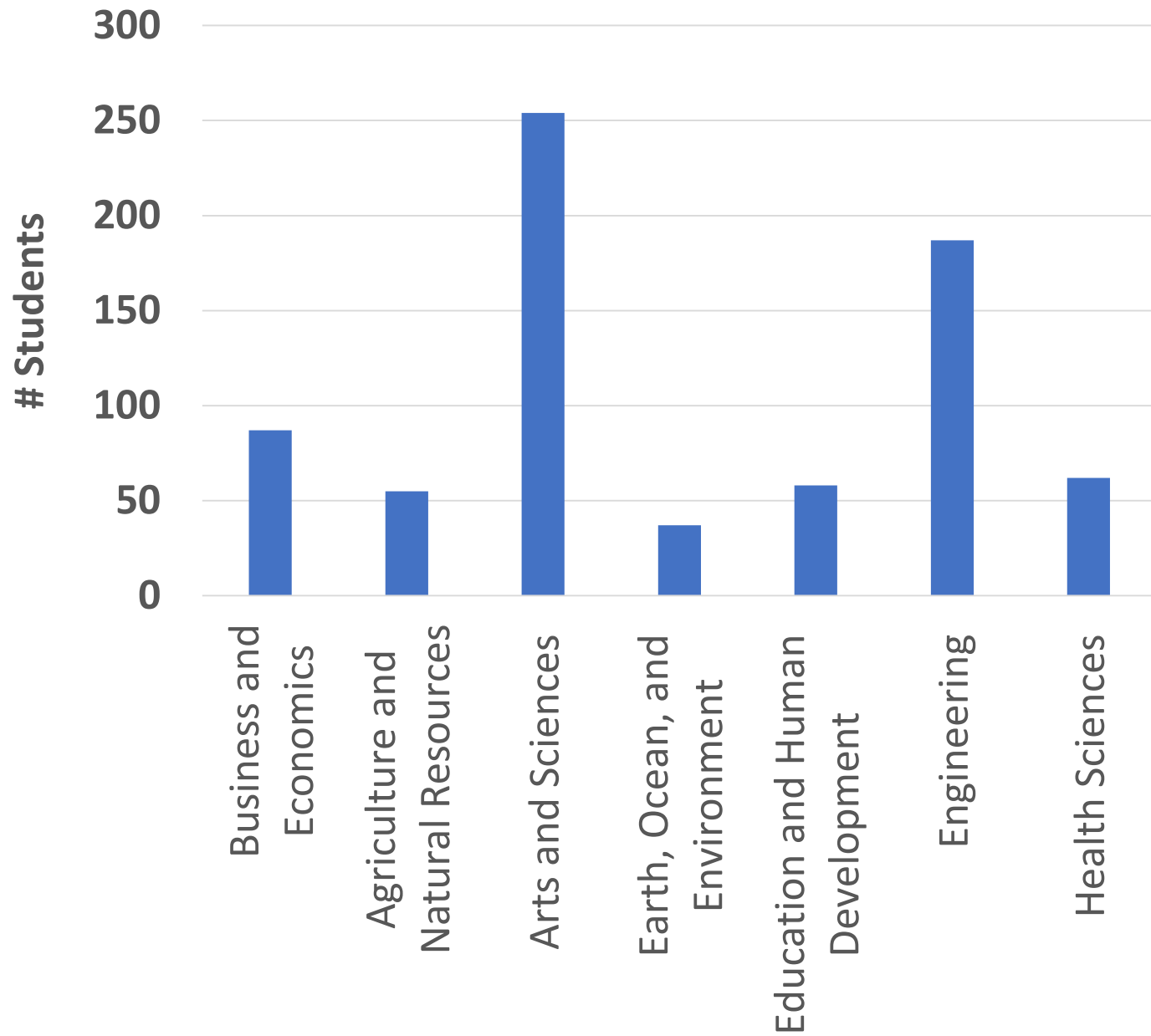
GradSERU Survey Background

- “Student Experience in the Research University” (**gradSERU**) survey administered in 2017 to all University graduate and professional students
- The objective was to define areas of success or improvement in graduate and professional education
- Report was generated in 2019 as an Urban Affairs and Public Policy Capstone project
 - Zoe Callaway, Jacob Thompson, and Dr. Katie Fitzpatrick

Focus areas of survey

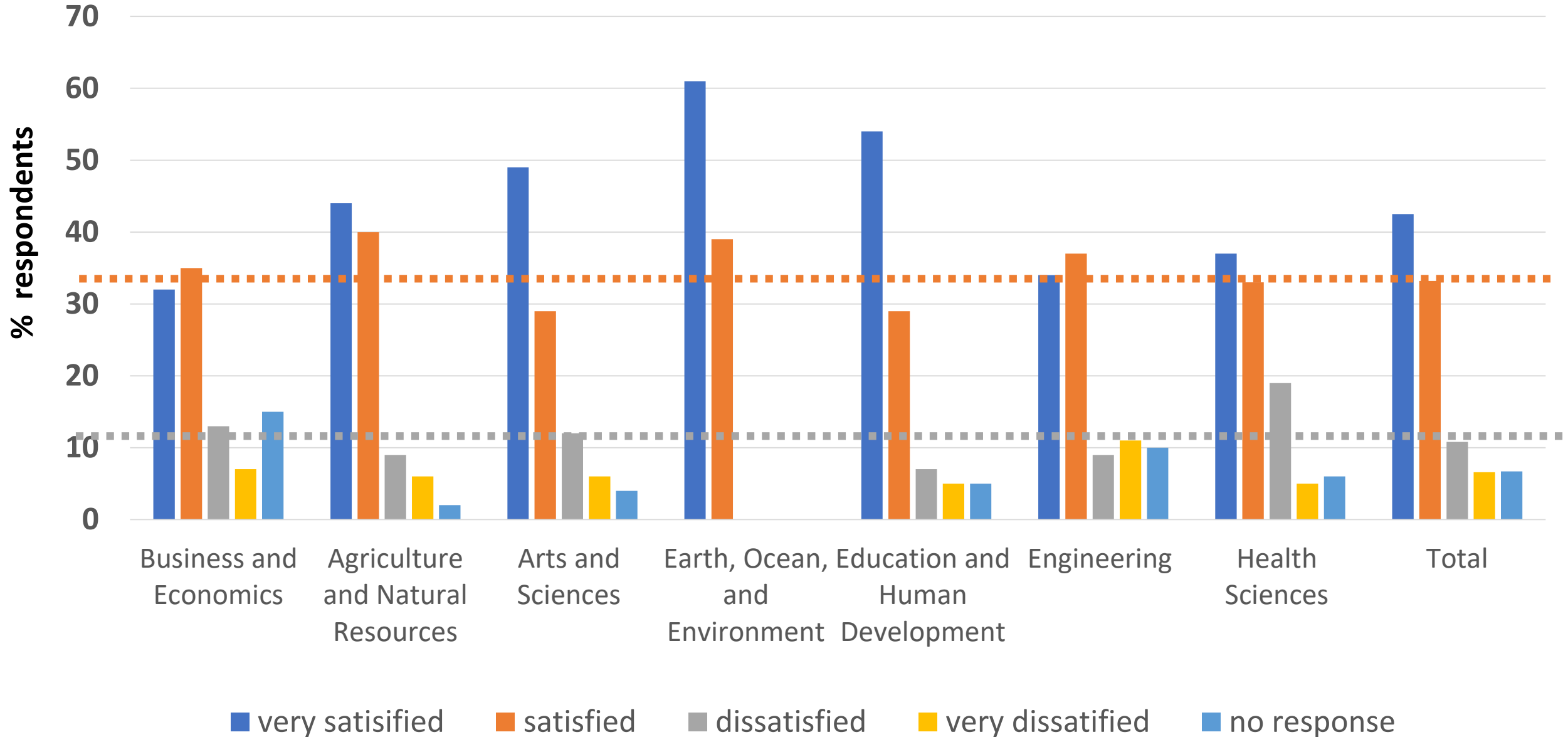
To what extent are you satisfied or dissatisfied with:

- Financial Support
 - Quality of Advising
 - Quality of Instruction
 - Knowledge Gained
 - Overall Graduate Program Quality
-
- Each question offered a Likert scale from one to four
“very satisfied” to “very dissatisfied”

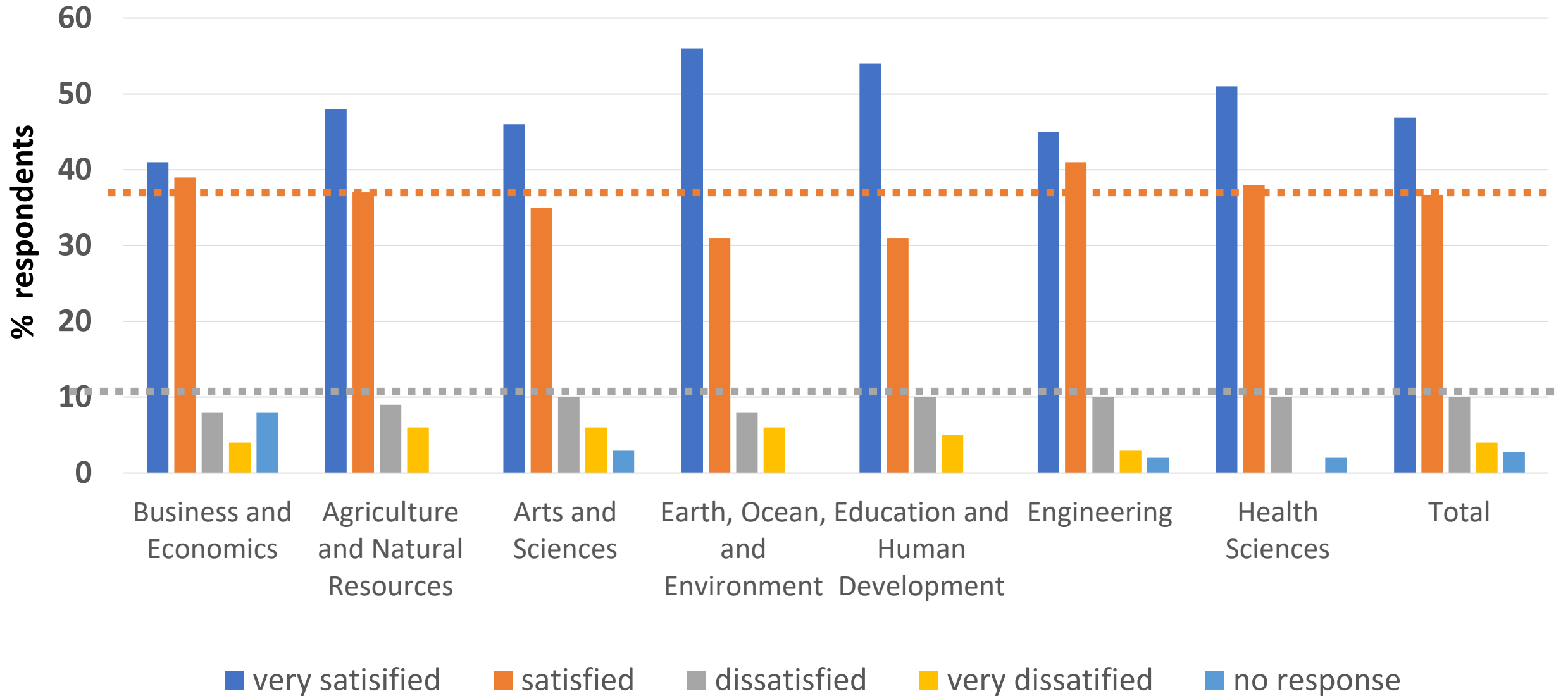


740 students responded to the survey

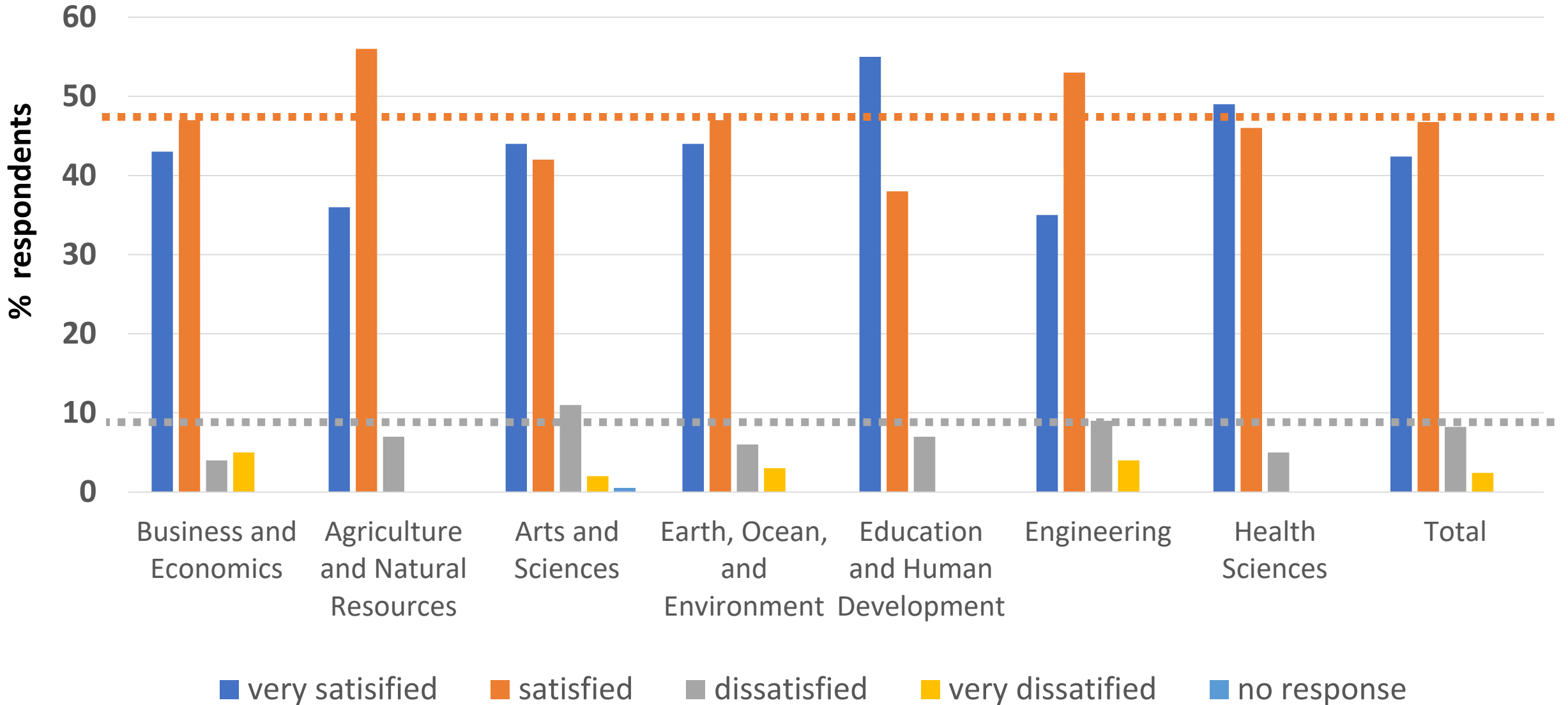
Financial Support



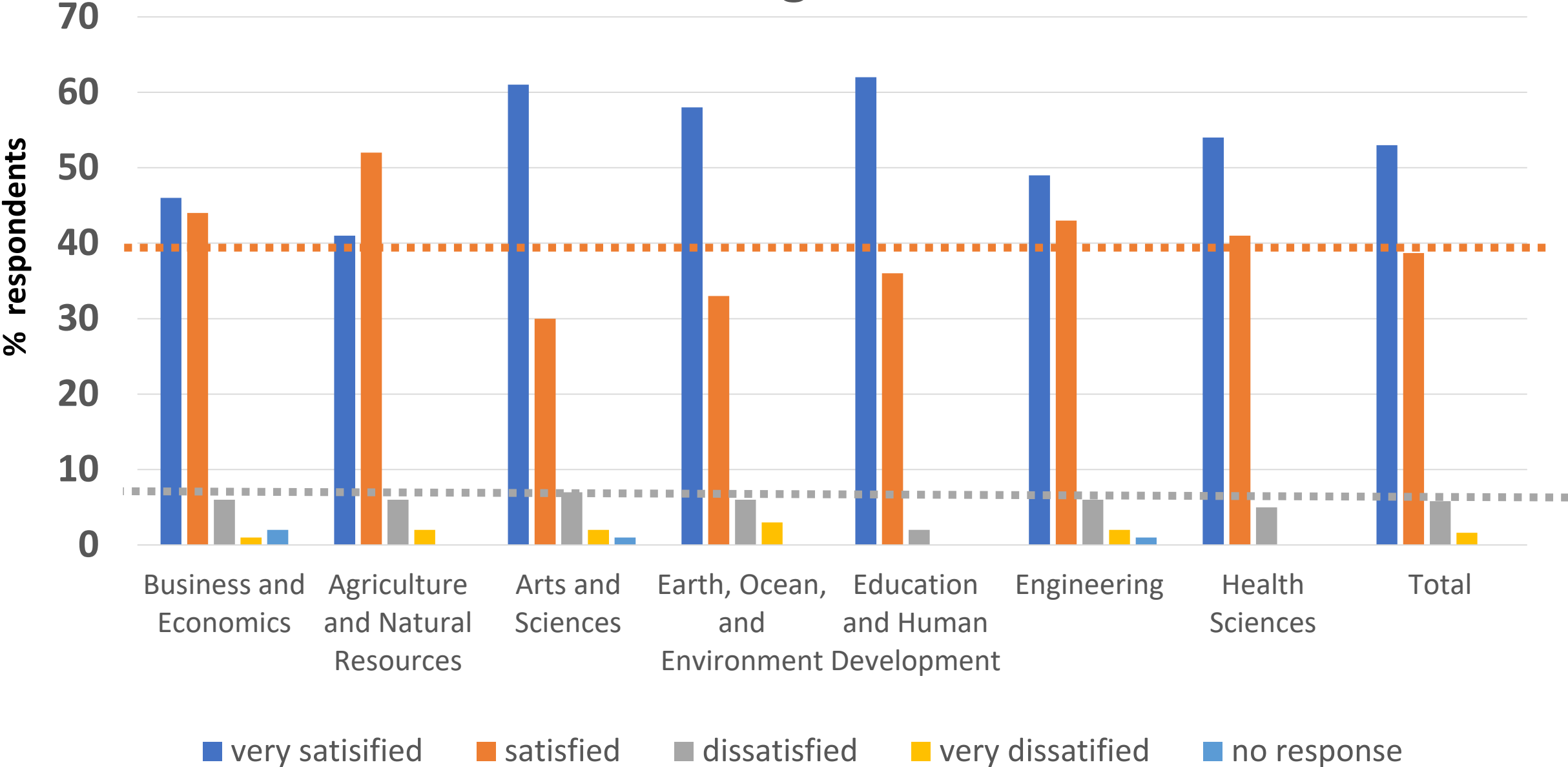
Quality of Advising



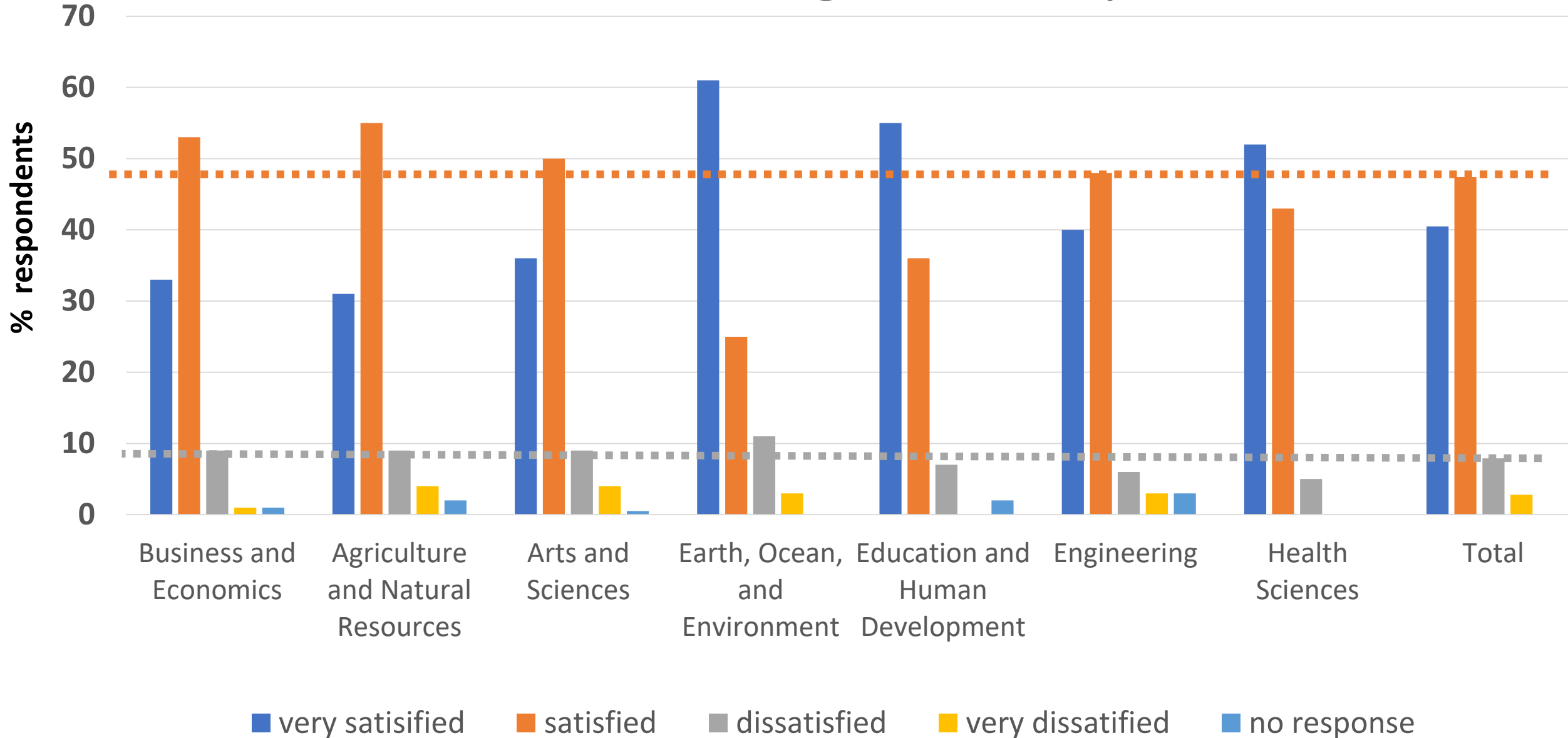
Quality of Instruction



Knowledge Gained



Overall Program Quality



Report recommendation

- **Advisement** and **financial support** are two important aspects of graduate student success and satisfaction and were the two variables that consistently scored the lowest within the index (>10% dissatisfied).
- It is recommended that the University further examine graduate student dissatisfaction with **advisement** and **financial support**.

Other components of report

(to be discussed next meeting)

Health and Well-being

- Stress due to course and workload
- Stress due to academic success
- Stress due to finances
- Stress due to relationships and personal security

International students

- Difficulties and biases with faculty and staff
- Difficulties and biases with peers and students
- International student satisfaction

- **Course availability**

Staffing of Committees

- Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee
 - Primary focus (currently) is on procedures for creating/managing Interdisciplinary programs housed in Grad College
 - One faculty member from each College, one grad student, one rep. chosen by Dean
 - **Current status:**
- Graduate Student Life Committee
 - Focus on care/support of grad students/postdocs
 - Three faculty members, three grad students, one rep. chosen by Dean, VP for Student Life (or designee)
 - **Current status:**

College Liaison Reports

- Brief report from a College: Today, CANR
 - College's programs and how the Grad College can help:
 - Raise overall grad education profile/importance/excellence
 - Share info about growing strong interdisciplinary programs
- Key achievements across the Colleges

Graduate Programs in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR)

Degree Programs and Challenges



Mark S. Parcels, Ph.D.
*ANFS Graduate Committee Chair
Professor, ANFS, BISC*

Overview of Graduate Degree Programs in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR)

- **Department and Institute Grad Programs**
 - Animal and Food Sciences (ANFS)
 - Applied Economics and Statistics (APEC)
 - Entomology and Wildlife Ecology (ENWE)
 - Plant and Soil Sciences (PLSC)
 - Water Science and Policy (WSP)



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ANFS Degree Programs

- MS in Animal Science
- MS in Food Science
- PhD in Animal and Food Sciences **Thesis-based**
- **MS in Animal Science, Business and Entrepreneurial Leadership Concentration**
- **MS in Food Science, Business and Entrepreneurial Leadership Concentration**
- **MS in Animal and Food Sciences, Veterinary Biosciences, Biotechnology and One Health (VBBOH)** **Course-based**

ANFS Degree Program Issues

- **Thesis/Dissertation-requiring programs:**
 - Primarily research-assistantship funded: ~85% RA, ~15% TA funded (very limited number of TA-lines)
 - Tuition recovery seen as detrimental to program
- **Non-thesis Options:**
 - started Fall-19, currently (4) matriculated with (6) additional applicants for Spring-20
 - Reduced tuition for program, but revenue return unclear (25%?), and how these funds can be used in program is also unclear

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APEC Graduate Programs

- Agriculture and Resource Economics MS
 - with concentration in Decision Analysis
- Statistics MS (Applied, Traditional, concentration in Decision Analysis)
- Data Science MS
- Online Statistics MS degree (non-thesis) + Certificate Program
- Statistics 4+1 (BS/MS)

APEC Graduate Programs

- **Agriculture and Resource Economics Master's Degree:** Focused on the general fields of economics, resource economics, agricultural, environmental, or applied economics, or agribusiness
- **Applied Statistics MS Degree:** The “applied” aspect of our program will be focused on using real data and making real decisions in analysis
- **Statistics MS Degree:** provides a balance of a foundation in theoretical statistics, applied coursework in statistical techniques, and opportunities for application of statistical knowledge through the StatLab and internships with local companies

APEC Graduate Program Issues

- Online and non-thesis Statistics revenue return unclear under new budget model
- Heavy teaching loads for many APEC faculty

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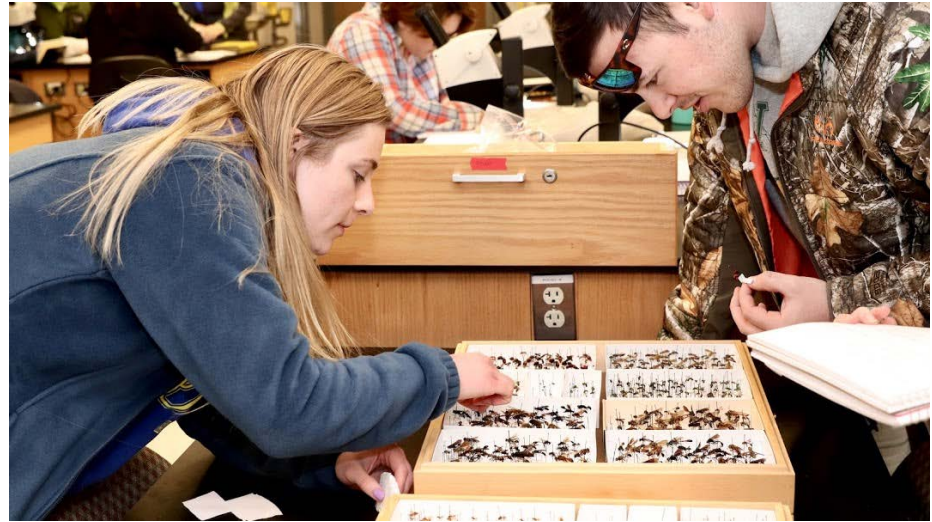
Program Overview

- MS in Entomology
- MS in Wildlife Ecology
- Ph.D. in Entomology and Wildlife Ecology



MS in Entomology

- Training in insect ecology, taxonomy and physiology
- Goal being to prepare students for a Ph.D and/or placement in the workplace in the field of entomology
- 30 credits of course work and a research thesis project



MS in Wildlife Ecology

- Training in wildlife policy, ecology, conservation, taxonomy, physiology and human dimensions of wildlife
- Goal being to prepare students for a Ph.D and/or placement in the workplace in the field of wildlife biology
- 30 credits of course work and a research thesis project



Ph.D. in Entomology & Wildlife Ecology

- Entomology concentration
- Wildlife ecology concentration
- Coursework in all aspects of ecology, conservation, physiology, taxonomy and policy
- Research project with faculty member
- Students are prepared to enter the workforce as upper level scientists and/or faculty at colleges and universities



Overview of Graduate Degree Programs in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR)

- **Department and Institute Grad Programs**
 - *Animal and Food Sciences (ANFS)*
 - *Applied Economics and Statistics (APEC)*
 - *Entomology and Wildlife Ecology (ENWE)*
 - **Plant and Soil Sciences (PLSC)**
 - *Water Science and Policy (WSP)*



PLSC Graduate Programs

- MS in Plant Science (thesis and non-thesis)
- PhD in Plant Science
 - Programs are in multiple disciplines: plant molecular biology, plant breeding, plant pathology, plant tissue culture, horticulture, crop science, plant anatomy and/or plant physiology
- MS in Soil Science (thesis and non-thesis)
- PhD in Soil Science
 - Programs are in multiple disciplines: soil chemistry, soil fertility and management, soil physics, soil microbiology and biochemistry, environmental microbiology, soil and water quality and soil formation and biogeochemistry



Additional PLSC Graduate Programs

- As with ANFS, APEC and ENWE faculty, numerous PLSC faculty serve as advisers for interdisciplinary programs at MS and PhD levels:
 - Environmental Sustainability
 - Bioinformatics and Computational Biology
 - Biological Sciences
 - Microbiology
 - Water Science and Policy



Overview of Graduate Degree Programs in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR)

- **Department and Institute Grad Programs**
 - *Animal and Food Sciences (ANFS)*
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 - *Entomology and Wildlife Ecology (ENWE)*
 - *Plant and Soil Sciences (PLSC)*
 - **Water Science and Policy (WSP)**





Water Science and Policy Program (WSP)

University of Delaware
Dr. Shreeram



Academic components

- Program activated – Spring 2012
- 3 degree options :
 - PhD in Water Science;
 - PhD – Water Policy;
 - MS with thesis in Water Science and Policy
- **PhD program – 36 credits total**; 18 credits of coursework + 18 credits of research and Dissertation
- **MS – 30 credits total – 24 course credits + 6 thesis credits** (emphasizes both the science and policy aspects).



Unique Features

- University-wide - affiliated faculty from 4 colleges – CANR, CAS, COE, CEOE
- **Student can be in any department/college to pursue this program**
- Degree awarded by advisor/student's college
- Students required to meet only WSP program requirements

A vertical photograph on the left side of the slide shows a sunset over the ocean. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow and reflecting on the water's surface. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds in shades of orange, yellow, and blue.

Current Status (Fall 2019)

- 23 students **GRADUATED** since 2014 – 20 MS and 3 PhD
- 100% employment for MS students – private, government, and non-profit environmental orgs.
- 19 students currently in program – 12 PhD and 7 MS
- Established a strong pipeline for our program – students from regional colleges and universities – Towson, Franklin & Marshall, Temple, Acadia, U. of Maryland, etc.
- We are **especially attracting strong MS students**. All MS students do thesis research and most write publications.

Current Number of Graduate Students

- ANFS MS: **10** ANFS non-thesis MS: **3** ANFS PhD: **15**
- STAT MS: **19** STAT online MS: **45** AREC-MS: **7**
- Entomology MS: **3** Wildlife MS: **12** ENWE PhD: **7**
- PLSC MS: **22** PLSC PhD: **24**
- WSP MS: **7** WSP PhD: **12**
- **Current total for CANR graduate students: 196**, Total trained in CANR: **212** for a total of 878 undergrads and 75 faculty
- Joint-appointment faculty: BISC-MS (**6**), BISC-PhD (**3**), BINF-MS (**4**), BINF-PhD (**2**), GEOG-MS (**1**)

Major Challenges for CANR Graduate Programs

- **Administrative Support (consistency long-term):** programs are run by faculty committees with other workload commitments , consistency of programs varies with committee composition
- **Assessment Support (very ad-hoc):** tools are provided by CTAL, but again, no consistency of application across programs
- **Funding (tuition-generating, foundational):** for revenue-generating programs – have revenue return (>25%) to department to help provide source for assistantships/fellowships
- **Oversight and Coordination of Interdisciplinary Programs**



New Business

- Awards/Fellowships Committee
 - Scope
 - Recommendations on structure of awards
 - Help evaluating candidates
 - Interest in creating this committee?
 - Who should be on it?
 - Numbers? Representation? GCC members preferred or no?
- Bylaws Task Force
 - Do we want to start modifying our “draft” bylaws?
 - Can a task force draft changes for the GCC to consider?
 - Who should/will be on it?

Prioritizing Activities – and how to measure progress (Open Discussion)

GC Administration

Recruit Dean
Clarify scope of Council
Fundraising campaign
Organizational issues/efficient staffing

Cross-campus Initiatives

Strategic marketing to attract high-quality grad students / unified template
PhD enrollment at the expense of MS students (stipends)
Dual counting of credits for MS
Internal awards for recognition of grad students [internal to department, or GC awards?]
Streamline funding of grad students (multiple sources, etc.)

Information gathering/dissemination

Survey of various types of programs at UD
Specific ways for GCC members to share info within Colleges/across Colleges
Collect info on admissions practices (especially time to decision for international, etc.)
How needs vary across departments [and whether they're being met]

Interdisciplinary Programs

Existing interdisciplinary programs into GC **with admin support**
Common forms for new interdisciplinary programs
Promote interdisciplinary research
Sustainable model for funding
Promoting interdisciplinary granting opportunities
Recruiting in interdisciplinary programs

Professional Development for Grad Students

Writing support classes for all grad students
Tertiary education teaching certificate (PhD/junior faculty)
Workshops and seminars
Mentoring network across campus
Postdoc professional development
Responsible Conduct of Research offerings

Grad student life

Time off / vacation / leave policies (and resources)
Disability policies (and resources)
Work/life balance – EMPOWER
Mental health issues
Support staff for grad student needs
Grad student housing

Introduction of New Business

- All Councilors have the right to introduce new business
 - If possible, let Executive Committee know ahead of time so we have slide, but not required
 - Intro should be brief. Generally, ideas will be referred to a committee (or Exec.) for discussion at a future meeting.

Closing business

- Timing of next meeting
 - Monday, November 18, 3pm
- Adjourn