How do freshmen who plan to enroll in Applied Science and Technology differ from other freshmen?

Freshmen who plan to enroll in Applied Science and Technology are more likely to be male.

Men and women differ in their responses to survey questions, as do participants in special programs. This brief focuses on the differences between freshmen who plan to enroll in Applied Science and Technology majors and other members of the freshmen class, after allowing for gender.

Why do freshmen in Applied Science and Technology go to college?

Applied Science and Technology freshmen name the following as very important reasons for going to college:

- To get a better job: 83%
- To make more money: 82%
- To gain a general education and appreciation of ideas: 55%

These are the same reasons given most frequently by the freshmen class as a whole. Men tend to cite "get a better job" and "make more money" most frequently, while women tend to cite "gain a general education and appreciation of ideas" most often.

Why do Applied Science and Technology freshmen choose Buffalo State.

Applied Science and Technology freshmen name two reasons as very important in their decision to choose Buffalo State:

- Low tuition: 40%
- Buffalo State graduates get good jobs: 37%
These reasons are also cited by freshmen as a whole; other freshmen also cite "Buffalo State has a good academic reputation."

**How do Applied Science and Technology majors rank Buffalo State among other institutions they considered?**

More than half (57%) rank Buffalo State first among the colleges they considered, and just over one-fourth (28%) rank Buffalo State second. The remaining 15% rank Buffalo State third or lower. These rankings are similar to those given by other freshmen.

**What predictions do Applied Science and Technology majors make about their careers at Buffalo State?**

Freshmen in Applied Science and Technology have mixed academic expectations; most (94%) say there is a very good chance or some chance they will graduate with a "B" average. At the same time, 22% think there is a very good chance or some chance they will fail one or more courses. Like other freshmen, these students think there is a very good chance or some chance they will change majors (41%) or career choice (44%) while in college. About one-third (32%) of these freshmen think there is a very good chance they will be satisfied with Buffalo State and another 57% think there is some chance they will be satisfied; nevertheless almost half say there is some chance or a very good chance they will transfer to another institution.

**What are the long-term academic goals of Applied Science and Technology freshmen?**

Freshmen who plan to enter Applied Science and Technology have high long-term academic goals. Only 37% expect the baccalaureate to be their highest degree; 47% expect to get a master's degree, and 13% say they will earn a doctoral or first-professional degree. **Applied Science and Technology freshmen are the least likely of all freshmen group to plan to earn a degree beyond the master’s level.**

**How do Applied Science and Technology freshmen see themselves?**

Freshmen were asked to rate themselves on nineteen traits by comparing themselves with "the average person your age." Their responses can be compared to those of a large norm group of freshmen who entered four-year public colleges in Fall 1998. Generally speaking, Buffalo State freshmen rated themselves somewhat lower than the norm group. Freshmen who intend to enter Applied Science and Technology are most likely to rate themselves above average on the following traits:
• Cooperativeness 68%
• Drive to achieve 64%
• Understand others 59%
• Competitiveness 58%
• Physical health 56%
• Self understanding 55%
• Intellectual self-confidence 53%
• Creativity 53%

Applied Science and Technology freshmen are slightly more likely than other freshmen to rate themselves above average in competitiveness and drive to achieve. In general, men rate themselves higher than women; Applied Science and Technology has a large proportion of men.

What are the long-term personal goals of Applied Science and Technology freshmen?

Freshmen were asked to rate the personal importance of eighteen long-term goals. There are the long-term goals rated essential or very important by the greatest number of Applied Science and Technology freshmen.

• Be very well off financially 85%
• Raise a family 70%
• Become an authority in my own field 64%
• Help others in difficulty 58%
• Obtain recognition from colleagues 52%
• Have administrative responsibility 51%

Although "being very well off financially" was cited very often by all freshmen, Applied Science and Technology freshmen were more likely than other
freshmen to rate this goal as essential or very important. Applied Science and Technology freshmen were much less likely than other freshmen to rate "helping others in difficulty" as an essential or very important long-term goal.

*All data reported here is from the Freshmen Survey administered during Summer, 1998 orientation.

For more information, contact
Rosalyn Lindner
Senior Advisor to the Provost
102 Bulger Communication, 878-6939
lindnera@bscmail.buffalostate.edu