

Selected Summary of Results from the Alumni General Education Survey

Average score on items: importance to General Education for SU students (Very Important = 4; Moderately Important = 3; Somewhat Important = 2; Not Important = 1; No Opinion/Not Sure = 0).

Score (Rank)

Item/Majors by School	Fulton school majors	Henson school majors	Purdue school majors	Seidel school majors	All Majors
Scientific Thinking	3.2164 (3)	3.5238 (1)	3.0845 (4)	3.2164 (3)	3.2762
Environmental Sustainability	3.1053 (3)	3.3333 (1)	2.8310 (4)	3.0194 (2)	3.0385
Social Sustainability	3.3083 (1)	2.9762 (3)	2.8429 (4)	2.9762 (2)	3.1108
Climate Change	2.8271 (1)	2.6905 (2)	2.2857 (4)	2.5829 (3)	2.6130
Number of responses	134	42	71	103	350

The other information that is vaguely interesting is which cohort perceived these issues to be more or less important:

Environmental Sustainability: Highest for those who graduated before 1980 (3.1875); lowest for those who graduated between 1980 and 1989 (2.8611)

Social Sustainability: Highest for those who graduated between 2000 and 2009; lowest for those who graduated between 1980 and 1989 (2.9444)

Climate Change: Highest for those who graduated before 1980 (2.7872); lowest for those who graduated between 1980 and 1989 (2.4028)

Scientific Thinking: Highest for those who graduated before 1980 (3.3750); lowest for those who graduated between 2000 and 2009 (3.1216)

Recent grads (since 2010) = 87 respondents; graduated between 2000 and 2009 = 74 respondents; graduated between 1990 and 1999 = 92 respondents; graduated between 1980 and 1989 = 71 respondents; and graduated before 1980 = 48 respondents.

The sociologist in me is very aware that those who graduated before 1980 would be in their 50s and 60s and likely grandparents; those who graduated in the 1980s are likely to be dealing with aging parents and college aged kids at the same time (in other words, might well have a few other issues on their minds) and at the same time, as might those who graduated between 2000 and 2009 (because they are in their 30s and early 40s with growing families). In addition, those who graduated before 1980 might have been the last generation of politically active college students . . .