Tools and Resources

CARNEGIE FOUNDATION SURVEY OF DOCTORAL STUDENTS

Developed by the Carnegie Initiative on the Doctorate (CID) Fall 2003

51 Vista Lane Stanford, CA 94305 • telephone: 650.566.5100 • fax: 650.326.0278 • www.carnegiefoundation.org

THE CARNEGIE FOUNDATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF TEACHING

Tools and Resources

About the Survey

This survey was originally administered in 2005 by The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as part of the <u>Carnegie Initiative on the Doctorate</u> (CID), a research and action project which works with over 80 departments around the country that are committed to examining and improving their doctoral programs.

The purpose of this survey was to examine the relationship between student experiences in a doctoral program and the outcomes of doctoral education. The survey addressed the full range of responsibilities which may be expected of a holder of the doctorate, including research, teaching, and the application of knowledge and skills in the discipline to practical problems in the world outside of the university.

The findings of the study were reported in the 2008 book *The Formation of Scholars: Rethinking Doctoral Education for the Twenty-First Century* by George Walker, Chris M. Golde, Laura Jones, Andrea Conklin Bueschel, and Pat Hutchings.

About Carnegie Tools

Carnegie research tools were developed and piloted as part of the Carnegie Foundation's internal projects, with our own research frameworks and design considerations. Please be aware when you adapt our tools (i.e., expand, reorder, translate into a different language, rephrase individual items, apply to different populations, or implement different data collection methods), you will need to conduct a pilot test of your adaptations and re-evaluate the reliability and validity of the new versions of the tools.

More information at:

http://www.carnegiefoundation.org/carnegietools

Copyright Information

This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-Share Alike 3.0 Unported license. To view the details of this license, go to:

http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/

CARNEGIE FOUNDATION SURVEY OF DOCTORAL STUDENTS

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. It is being administered by The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as part of the Carnegie Initiative on the Doctorate (CID), a research and action project which works with over 80 departments around the country that are committed to examining and improving their doctoral programs. Your department/program is a participating department in the CID.

The purpose of this survey is to examine the relationship between student experiences in a doctoral program and the outcomes of doctoral education. The survey addresses the full range of responsibilities which may be expected of a holder of the doctorate including research, teaching, and the application of knowledge and skills in the discipline to practical problems in the world outside the university.

Some items ask you to describe the experiences you have had to date in your doctoral program; if you have been enrolled for a short time, you may have had fewer such experiences. Indeed, we expect considerable variation in these areas across the disciplines as well and many of you may find some of these experiences unfamiliar. In any case, the questions are intended to inquire about opportunities provided by your program and not to evaluate your personal achievements.

Your individual responses to the survey are anonymous and confidential and will not be shared with your department or program. Your department will receive aggregated results from its students. You will be notified when the survey results are made available on the CID web page.

INSTRUCTIONS

There are 7 sections of questions in this survey and it will take approximately 25-35 minutes to complete. You may elaborate on any answer by using the space at the end of each section of questions.

At any point you may return to prior sections of the survey to change your responses by clicking on "previous" at the bottom of a page. If you do not complete the survey, you can "exit the survey," reopen it later and it will return you to the point where you left off. Your answers are submitted when you click "done" at the end of the survey.

After you complete the survey, you have the option to provide your email address to us. This will enter you in a drawing for one of ten \$100 gift certificates from Amazon.com. Your email address will not be connected to your survey responses.

If you have any questions, please contact us by email at cid@carnegiefoundation.org.

GLOSSARY

When answering the questions, please use the definitions below:

Doctoral program: Your current program at your current university. In some cases a program is the same as a department, sometimes a program crosses several departments, and sometimes a department includes several programs. In some programs, students start in a master's degree program that flows into a doctoral program; in this case refer to your experiences in both programs collectively.

Advisor: The faculty member serving as your academic advisor, dissertation chair, or research supervisor whom you consider to be your primary formal advisor. If you have co-advisors, answer questions in reference to the one person with whom you work most closely.

Research: The research and scholarly work that is the primary focus of your training and related to your own dissertation.

Discipline: Your primary field of study: English, mathematics, education, history, neuroscience or chemistry.

Subfield: The specialty area of your expertise (the novel, algebra, math education, American history, analytic chemistry).

These activities might be required or optional parts of your program, and may have taken place in the summer or during a time when you were not formally enrolled. Please do not include activities from the time before you enrolled in this doctoral program. There are 11 questions in this section.

1. While pursuing doctoral studies, which of the following have you discussed with faculty or fellow doctoral students? (Check all that apply.)

- I have discussed the historical progression of ideas and approaches in my discipline.
- I have discussed controversies in my discipline.
- I have discussed current issues of importance in my discipline.
- I have discussed the contributions of my discipline to society.
- I have discussed ethical dilemmas that might arise in research (e.g., intellectual property, plagiarism, confidentiality).
 - I have discussed ethical dilemmas that might arise in teaching (e.g., cheating, sexual harassment).
 - I have discussed ethical dilemmas that might arise in non-academic work settings (e.g., freedom of expression, intellectual property, issues of conscience, conflict of interest).

2. While pursuing doctoral studies, which of the following teaching activities have you engaged in? (Check all that apply.)

- I attended a workshop/course on teaching in my discipline.
- I attended a general workshop/course on teaching.
- My teaching was observed by a faculty member or fellow doctoral student with the goal of providing me constructive feedback on my teaching.
- I used the resources of the campus teaching and learning center.
 - I discussed teaching philosophy and strategies with a faculty member.
 - I discussed teaching philosophy and strategies with fellow graduate students.

3. While pursuing doctoral studies, which of these teaching activities have you performed? (Check all that apply.)

- I led a discussion section or lab section.
- I gave a lecture.
 - I prepared a syllabus.
 - I experimented with a variety of instructional strategies.
 - I designed assignments or examinations.
 - I evaluated and graded assignments or examinations.
 - I used information technology in teaching (e.g., Powerpoint, animations, digital video).
 - I defined learning objectives for my students.
 - I held office hours.
 - I developed a written teaching philosophy.
 - I had successive teaching opportunities in which I took increased responsibility (e.g., from grader to section leader to independent instructor; or from lab assistant to head lab manager to developing labs).



- I was the primary instructor for an undergraduate course at my university.
- I was the primary instructor for an undergraduate course at another college or university.



4. While pursuing doctoral studies, which of the following community service activities related to your discipline have you engaged in? (Check all that apply.)

- I took part in civic or advocacy activities related to my discipline (e.g., writing legislation, writing an opinion piece, giving testimony).
- I gave a formal talk about my research to an audience of people outside of my discipline (e.g., alumni, civic organizations).
- I took part in an educational event aimed at the public (e.g., museum display, Brain Awareness Week, a public history project).
- I took part in an educational event aimed for K-12 students or undergraduates (e.g., majors day, tutoring, literacy programs).

5. Prior to starting work on your dissertation, which of these research-related activities have you engaged in? (Check all that apply.)

- I discussed what makes a good research question.
 - I critically evaluated or reviewed published work in my field.
 - I helped others develop a research or funding proposal.
 - I independently developed a proposal for a research grant or fellowship.
 - I analyzed and interpreted data (or text).
 - I wrote up research findings.

6. While working on your dissertation, which of these research-related activities have you engaged in? (Check all that apply.)

I discussed what makes a good research guestion.

- I critically evaluated or reviewed published work in my field.
- I helped others develop a research or funding proposal.
- I independently developed a proposal for a research grant or fellowship.
- I analyzed and interpreted data (or text).
- I wrote up research findings.
- I haven't yet begun my dissertation research.

7. Have you started work (e.g., literature review, proposal development, data collection) on your dissertation?

□ Yes □ No

8. While pursuing doctoral studies, I engaged in collaborative intellectual work (research, teaching, outreach, writing) with colleagues in other disciplines:

□ Never □ On two occasions or fewer □ On three occasions or more

9. While pursuing doctoral studies, how many research presentations (including poster presentations) have you made at conferences? (Enter number below.)

_____On my campus

_____At regional or national meetings

10. While pursuing doctoral studies, how many research papers have you authored or co-authored (including pieces accepted for publication but not yet published)? (Enter number below.)

11. Please use this space to elaborate on your answer to any question in this section, or to tell us anything else you would like us to know about your experiences as a doctoral student. (Please limit your response to 250 words or less.)

II. YOUR EXPERIENCES WITH ADVISING AND MENTORING

This section asks questions about the faculty members who are responsible for guiding you through your program. Your Primary Advisor is the faculty member formally serving as your academic advisor, dissertation chair, or research supervisor. If you have co-advisors, answer questions in reference to the one person with whom you work most closely. If you have no advisor, you can skip the question. There are 4 questions in this section.

12. Which of these behaviors describes your primary advisor:

My advisor is available to me when I have questions related to my research. Not at all To a great extent						
My advi Not a		s me regu	ılar feedk	oack on n	ny research. To a great extent	
NOT 2						
My advi Not a		s me regu	ılar feedk	back on n	ny progress toward degree completion. To a great extent	
NOU						
My advis Not a		dback is v	aluable t	o me.	To a great extent	
NUL 2						
My adviso Not a		me deve	lop profe	ssional re	elationships with others in the field. To a great extent	
NUL 2						
My advi Not a		cates for	me with	others.	To a great extent	
NOT 2					To a great extent	
My advi Not a		lenges me	e intellec	tually.	To a great autom	
NUL 2					To a great extent	
My advi Not a		ides info	rmation a	ibout aca	demic career paths open to me. To a great extent	
NUL 2						
My adviso Not a		les inforr	nation ab	out non-	academic career paths open to me. To a great extent	
NUL 2						
My advis Not a		orts me ir	n the care	eer path	of my choosing. To a great extent	
NUL 2						
My adviso Not a		ls good p	rofession	al relatio	nships. To a great extent	
NUL 2						
My adviso Not a		y keeps r	ny persor	nal and pi	rofessional interests in mind. To a great extent	
NUL 2						

13. How many faculty members do you consider to be your advisors or mentors?

□ None □ One □ Two □ Three □ Four or more

14. If there are people who consistently provide you with advice that you find helpful, who are they?

Check all that apply.

- My primary or formal advisor
- Another faculty member (who is not my formal advisor)
- A doctoral student in my program
- A post-doctoral fellow
- My spouse or partner
- Another family member
- A friend (who is not listed above)
- No one
- Other (please specify)

15. Please use this space to elaborate on your answer to any question in this section, or to tell us anything else you would like us to know about your experiences with advising and mentoring. (Please limit your response to 250 words or less.)

III. YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF YOUR DOCTORAL PROGRAM

A doctoral program consists both of formal written requirements (e.g., courses, examinations, the dissertation, some number of terms one must be registered) and informal expectations (e.g., to participate in meetings or conferences, to advise younger students, to apply for outside fellowships). Some doctoral programs make the formal requirements and informal expectations very clear, in other cases they are less clearly understood. In this section we want to determine the degree of clarity in your program regarding the requirements and expectations you must fulfill in order to receive the Ph.D. There are 4 questions in this section.

16. How well do you know the formal requirements for successful completion of your program?



I know the requirements well enough to explain them to someone else.

I know the requirements well enough to make it through the program but I could not fully explain

them to someone else.

I have an incomplete understanding of the requirements.

I have no idea what the requirements are.

17. How well do you know the informal (or unspoken) expectations for successful completion of your program?



I know the expectations well enough to explain them to someone else.



I know the expectations well enough to make it through the program but I could not fully explain

them to someone else.

- I have an incomplete understanding of the expectations.

I have no idea what the expectations are.

18. Has the educational purpose of each of the following requirements or expectations been clearly conveyed to you? (Check N/A if not an expected part of your program.)

Introductory first year ov No	verview course	□ N/A
Cumulative exam(s) (usu D No	ally in first two ye Yes	ears, demonstrating subject mastery)
Qualifying exam or proces No	ss (the requiremen Yes	nt for Advancement to Candidacy)
The dissertation prospec	tus/proposal	□ N/A
Oral presentation or defe	ense of the dissert	ation □ N/A
Annual review of your pr	ogress	□ N/A
Preparation of a researc	th or funding proper The Yes	osal □ N/A
Development of a resear No	ch program (a stre	eam of research projects) □ N/A
Development of a career	plan Yes	□ N/A

19. Please use this space to elaborate on your answer to any question, or to tell us anything else you would like us to know about your understanding of your doctoral program. (Please limit your response to 250 words or less.)



Departments and disciplines can contain communities of scholars: groups of colleagues who interact socially and intellectually. Participation in these communities includes formal interactions (in classrooms, seminars, labs and offices) and activities that are informal (for example, eating lunch together); and activities that may be primarily social in nature (potluck dinners, a softball team). Some of these interactions may take other forms than face-to-face exchanges (e.g., email, letters, telephone calls). This section has 5 questions.

20. While pursuing doctoral studies, which of the following activities related to participating in your departmental community have you engaged in? (Check all that apply.)

- I served on a departmental committee with faculty.
- I played a formal role in faculty hiring (e.g., served on a search committee, interviewed candidates).

- I played a formal role in graduate student admissions (e.g., served on an admissions committee, hosted potential students during campus visits).
- I participated in graduate student events (e.g., social events, orientation for new students, study groups).
- I organized graduate student events.
- I mentored other graduate students.
- I mentored undergraduate students.
- I gave or received feedback on ideas or work in progress to/from a fellow student.
- I am part of an intellectual network that goes beyond my immediate classmates and includes colleagues senior or junior to myself.
- I know a significant proportion of people in my department (faculty and students) outside my subfield.

21. While pursuing doctoral studies, which of the following activities related to participating in the broader disciplinary community have you engaged in? (Check all that apply.)

- I subscribed to a professional journal.
- □ I joined a professional association.
- I served on a committee for a professional association.
- I attended a regional or national professional meeting.
- I read professional journals regularly.
 - I have given or received feedback on ideas or work in progress to/from a faculty member or researcher outside of my university.
- I have given or received feedback on ideas or work in progress to/from a student outside of my university.
- I am part of a professional network that extends beyond the boundaries of my department or university (e.g., keeping in touch with former classmates or colleagues, corresponding with colleagues at other institutions with similar interests).

22. In your doctoral program, to what extent do the following groups operate as intellectual and social communities?

Cohorts of stuc Not at all	lents (en	tering in	the same		NI / A	
				To a great extent □	N/A D	
Cross-cohort g	roups of s	students		To a great extent	N/A	
				To a great extent		
Lab groups Not at all				To a great extent	N/A D	
Subfields or an	eas of stu	ıdy				
Not at all				To a great extent	N/A D	
The department or program as a whole Not at all To a great extent						
				To a great extent	N/A D	

23. To what extent do you participate in these communities?

Student coho Not at all	rt 🗖			To a great extent	N/A □
Cross-cohort g		udents		To a support output	NI / A
Not at all				To a great extent	N/A
Lab group Not at all				To a great extent	N/A □
Subfield or are	ea of stud	у		- · · ·	NI (A
Not at all				To a great extent	N/A
The departme Not at all	nt or prog	jram as a	whole	To a great extent	N/A

24. Please use this space to elaborate on your answer to any question, or to tell us anything else you would like us to know about your sense of belonging to a community. (Please limit your response to 250 words or less.)

V. OUTCOMES OF YOUR DOCTORAL PROGRAM

At the end of your doctoral program, regardless of the career you pursue, you will be joining a disciplinary community. There are norms and standards for the knowledge, skills, and habits of mind you ought to learn and develop over the course of your doctoral studies. We want to understand how well you believe you have internalized them at this stage in your career. We also want to understand your overall assessment of your doctoral experiences to this point. There are 8 questions in this section.

25. To what extent have your experiences in your doctoral program contributed to your knowledge, skills and habits of mind in the following areas:

l have a broad נ Not at all	understar	nding of n	ny discipl	ine as a whole.	N/A				
				To a great extent					
	oertise in	at least o	one speci	alized area of knowledge.					
Not at all				To a great extent	N/A D				
	in some	research	techniqu	es commonly used within my discipl					
Not at all				To a great extent	N/A D				
	ith most	of the re	search te	chniques used in my field.					
Not at all				To a great extent	N/A D				
	major iss	ues and c	ontrovers	sies in my discipline.					
Not at all				To a great extent	N/A D				
	I am aware of major issues and controversies in my discipline about methodological approaches.								
Not at all				To a great extent	N/A D				
I have knowled	lge of the	e history o	of my disc						
Not at all				To a great extent	N/A D				
I can locate my	y work in	the intel	lectual la	indscape of my discipline.					
Not at all				To a great extent	N/A D				
I understand he	ow knowl	edge in n	ny discipl	ine is relevant to public issues.					
Not at all				To a great extent	N/A D				
I can work coll	aborative	ely with c	olleagues						
Not at all				To a great extent	N/A □				
	le explai	ning basic	concept	s of my discipline to someone outsid					
Not at all				To a great extent	N/A D				
	ethical	standards	of practi	ce in my discipline.					
Not at all				To a great extent	N/A D				

I can design AND teach a course in my field.										
Not at all				To a great extent	N/A D					
	I can use a variety of instructional strategies when teaching.									
Not at all				To a great extent	N/A D					
	classroom	n climate	inclusive	of a diverse population of students						
Not at all				To a great extent	N/A D					
	ommunic	ate my id	leas in or	al forms expected by my discipline.	NI / A					
Not at all				To a great extent	N/A D					
I can state and Not at all	defend a	a position	to a grou	up of colleagues that includes collea To a great extent	gues senior to me. N/A					
	interesti	ng questi	ons that a	are worth investigating.	NI / A					
Not at all				To a great extent	N/A D					
	search tl	nat meets	s the star	dards of credible work in my discipl						
Not at all				To a great extent	N/A □					
I can design Al Not at all	ND carry	out a line	e of resea	rch or scholarship of my own devisir To a great extent	ng. N∕A					
l feel prepared Not at all	d to beco	me a lea	der in my	disciplinary community. To a great extent	N/A					
l can apply my Not at all	skills and	d knowled	lge to im	portant social issues.	N//A					
				To a great extent	N/A D					

26. Which three areas of development should your program pay more attention to? (Choose three.)

- A broad understanding of my discipline as a whole. Deep expertise in at least one specialized area of knowledge. Proficiency in some research techniques commonly used within my discipline. Familiarity with most of the research techniques used in my field. Awareness of major issues and controversies in my discipline. Knowledge of the history of my discipline. Locating my work in the intellectual landscape of my discipline. Understanding how knowledge in my discipline is relevant to public issues. Working collaboratively with colleagues. Confidence when explaining basic concepts of my discipline to someone outside of it. Ability to apply the ethical standards of practice in my discipline. Ability to design AND teach a course in my field. Using a variety of instructional strategies when teaching. Creating a classroom climate inclusive of a diverse population of students and diverse learning styles. Communicating my ideas in oral forms expected by my discipline. Stating and defending a position to a group of colleagues that includes colleagues senior to me. Generating interesting guestions that are worth investigating. Designing research that meets the standards of credible work in my discipline. Designing AND carrying out a line of research or scholarship of my own devising. Participating as a member of the intellectual community of my department.
 - Participating as a member of the intellectual community of my discipline.
- 27. If you could go back in time, knowing what you know now, would you enter doctoral studies again?

Yes	Maybe	🗖 No
-----	-------	------

28. If you would choose to pursue the doctorate again, would you change your choice of the following:

Discipline	Yes	Maybe	🗖 No
Subfield or Area	Yes	Maybe	🗖 No
University	Yes	Maybe	🗖 No
Department	Yes	Maybe	🗖 No
Advisor	Yes	Maybe	🗖 No

29. At this point in your studies:

How sat	tisfied a Not at	ith the e	ducationa	al experi	ences you have had in this To a great extent	program?	N/A
					5		
How w	ell prepa Not at	 you feel 1	to begin a		in your discipline? great extent	N/A □	

30. What is your primary career goal?

- I would prefer a research-intensive faculty position.
- I would prefer a teaching-intensive faculty position.
- I would prefer a non-teaching academic research position.
- I would prefer to work in business, government, or a non-profit organization.
- I would prefer to be self-employed.
- Undecided
- Other (please specify)

31. How many faculty members in your department personify the principles and life you aspire to, regardless of your career goals?

□ None □ One or two □ Three or more

32. Please use this space to elaborate on your answer to any question, or to tell us anything else you would like us to know about the outcomes of your doctoral program. (Please limit your response to 250 words or less.)

We would like to know your impressions of how much influence participation in the CID (Carnegie Initiative on the Doctorate) has had in your department during the last year. There are 4 questions in this section.

33. Have you been invited to participate in activities related to your department's CID work?

□ Yes □ Not sure □ No

34. Do you feel that your opinions and those of other doctoral students are influencing the decision-making process in your program's CID work? (Check N/A if you haven't participated or don't know.)

To what exten	nt?			
Not at all			To a great extent	N/A

35. Do the proposed changes to the doctoral program appear significant to you? (Check N/A if you haven't participated or don't know.)

How significa	nt?			
Not at all			To a great extent	N/A

36. Please use this space to elaborate on your answer to any question, or to tell us anything else you would like us to know about your program's participation in the Carnegie Initiative on the Doctorate. (Please limit your response to 250 words or less.)

VII. INFORMATION ABOUT YOU

Please tell us a little more about yourself. Your identity is completely private. You are of course free to skip any questions that you do not wish to answer. There are 9 questions in this section.

37. What ם ם	is your discipline? Chemistry Education		English History			Mathematics Neuroscience
38. What	is your university?					
 Bost Colu Dart Duke Geo How India Kent Mich Mich Nort Pent Ston Texa The Univ Univ	ona State University on University School of Medicin imbia University mouth College e University rgetown University vard University tate University to State University theastern	am Impaign re you con dy do you	anticipate bef	Unive Unive Unive Unive Unive Unive Unive Unive Unive Unive Unive Unive Virgin Wash Wash	ersity of ersity of	Kentucky Louisville Maryland, Baltimore Michigan Minnesota Nebraska-Lincoln New Mexico North Carolina at Chapel Hill Oklahoma Pittsburgh Rochester Southern California Texas at Austin Toronto Utah Vermont College of Medicine Wisconsin-Madison tate University niversity in St. Louis University
	Required courses Qualifying exams Advancement to candidacy Approval of proposed disserta Dissertation defense None of the above	ation proje	ect			
42. Sex:	D Male	Female	è			
43. Age:						
44. National	ity: 🗖 U.S. citizen	Reside	nt alien	🗅 Ot	her (plea	ase specify)
45. Race/eth	nicity: (If more than one app	lies, chec	k all that apply	(.)		
	White, non-Hispanic Black, non-Hispanic Hispanic/Latino				Islander	Hawaiian/Other Pacific In Indian/Alaskan Native

REGISTER TO WIN!

Now we need to know who you are...

Thank you for completing the Carnegie Foundation Survey of Doctoral Students! We know that you took the time to do this because it was the right thing to do. Your participation will strengthen the work of your department and contribute to the national dialogue on the future of doctoral education. Before you leave us, remember that we promised prizes. So, if you'd like to register to win one of the \$100 Amazon.com gift certificates, you need to provide us with contact information. Your survey responses have already been recorded anonymously. This information cannot be linked to your survey information (you're in a whole new information world now).

What is your name?

What is your discipline?

- Chemistry
- Education
- English
- History
- Mathematics
- Neuroscience

What is your university?

- Arizona State University
- Boston University School of Medicine
- Columbia University
- Dartmouth College
- Duke University
- Georgetown University
- Howard University
- Indiana University
- Kent State University
- Michigan State University
- Northeastern University
- Pennsylvania State University
- □ Stony Brook University (SUNY)
- Texas A&M University
- The Ohio State University
- University of Alabama at Birmingham
- University of California, Davis
- University of Colorado at Boulder
- University of Connecticut
- University of Georgia
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- University of Iowa

What is your email address?

Can we contact you for a follow-up interview?

□ Yes □ No

- University of Kansas University of Kentucky University of Louisville University of Maryland, Baltimore University of Michigan University of Minnesota University of Nebraska-Lincoln University of New Mexico University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill University of Oklahoma University of Pittsburgh University of Rochester University of Southern California University of Texas at Austin University of Toronto University of Utah University of Vermont College of Medicine University of Wisconsin-Madison Virginia Tech Washington State University
- □ Washington University in St. Louis
- Wayne State University