

Engagement and High Impact Practices: Select questions from the 2025 Memorial University Student Experience Survey

Background

The Memorial University Student Experience Survey is an annual survey of students at all campuses of Memorial University. The survey collects information about all students' academic and non-academic experiences at Memorial to help the university identify and improve upon aspects of the student experience across different programs, campuses and academic levels.

This summary report focuses on survey questions related to ENGAGEMENT AND HIGH IMPACT PRACTICES. To capture different academic stages, the total population of respondents is categorized in the summary according to the groups shown in Table 1.

TABLE 1. Respondent Summary: Support and Engagement	
	Respondents Total
Undergraduate (UG) First Year	232*
Undergraduate (UG) Middle Years	684
Undergraduate (UG) Graduating	205
Graduate (GR) Current (<i>current = not graduating this year</i>)	372
Graduate (GR) Graduating	243
Total	1,736

* For the purpose of this summary report, 3 first year students at Marine Institute who also identified as graduating this academic year are not included in this total and are instead included in the "Undergraduate – Graduating" group only.

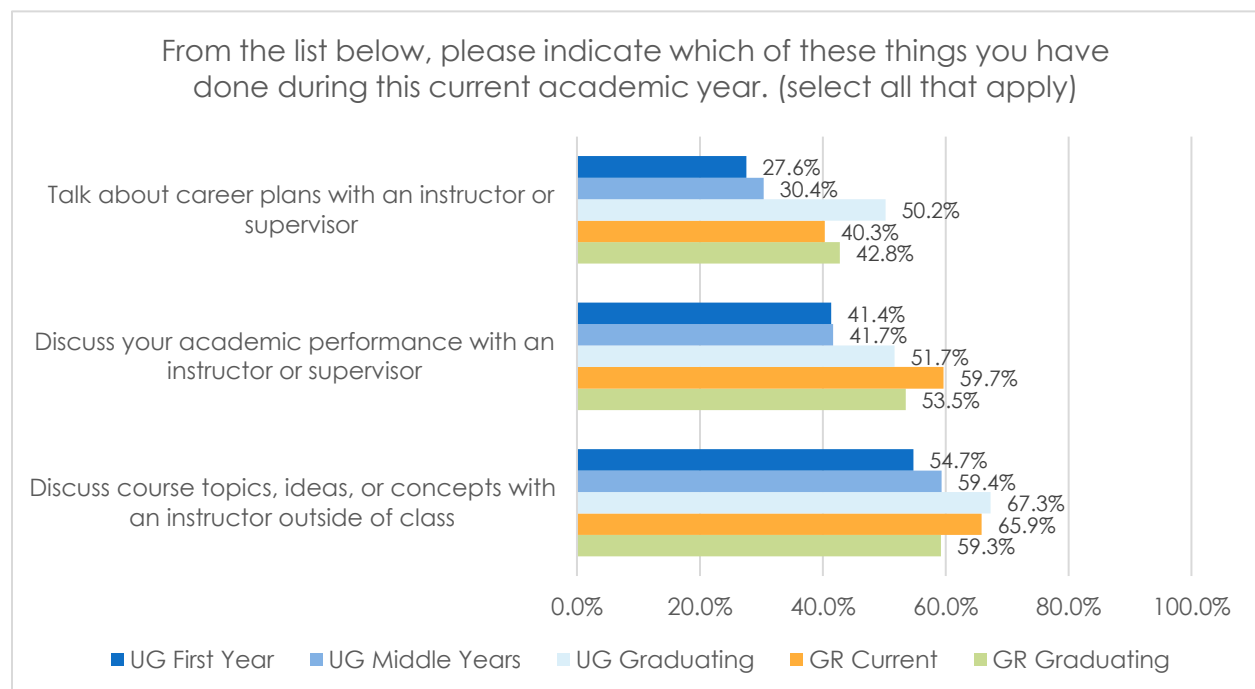
Notes:

- For the purpose of this summary report, first year undergraduate numbers include students pursuing a diploma or certificate program at the Marine Institute.
- Results are shown as frequencies (%) or means (average) as appropriate (missing values and values of "not applicable" are excluded from calculations). Percentages are rounded to one decimal point and in some cases may not total exactly to 100%. For multiple selection questions where participants could choose more than one item, percentages are based on the total number of students who could have responded to the question. Respondent totals used in chart calculations are noted in square brackets.
- Due to the limited size of the respondent group(s) readers should be cautious when reviewing and interpreting the results as they may not be representative of the larger population(s). The occurrence of extreme ratings will have a larger impact on summary statistics when they are based on small group sizes.

Survey Results*

Survey participants were asked a series of questions related to engagement activities during the past academic year and impactful practices associated with the student experience.

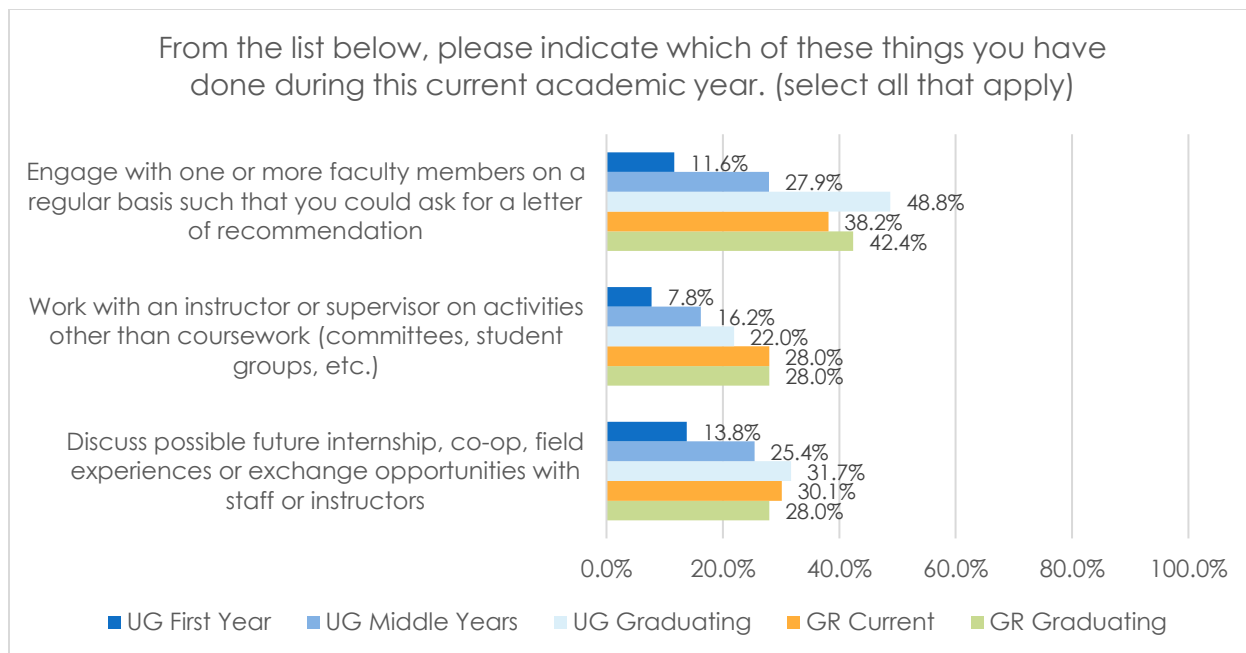
A majority of students in all categories had discussed course material with an instructor outside of class. Many graduate students and senior undergraduates (50-60%) had discussed academic performance with an instructor as well. Half of the graduating undergraduates had talked to an instructor about career plans, while less than half of the other groups had done so.



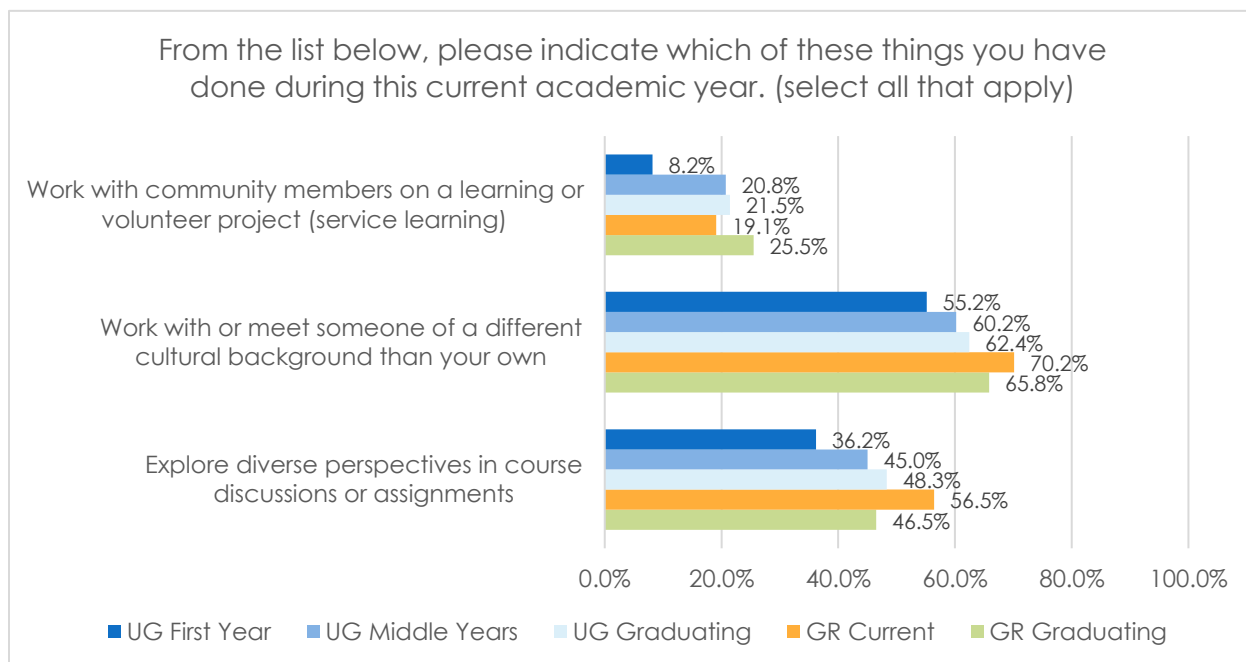
Less than half of the respondents in all student groups said they had discussed experiential learning opportunities with instructors/staff or worked with instructors on non-course activities. Similarly, less than half of the respondents said they knew a faculty member well enough to ask for a letter of recommendation, although 49% of undergraduate students who are graduating this year had engaged with a faculty member such that they could ask for a recommendation letter. First year students were least likely to have engaged in these particular activities in the past year compared to the other student groups.

A majority of students in all groups indicated that during this academic year they had interacted with others of a different cultural background than their own, with graduate students most frequently engaging in these interactions.

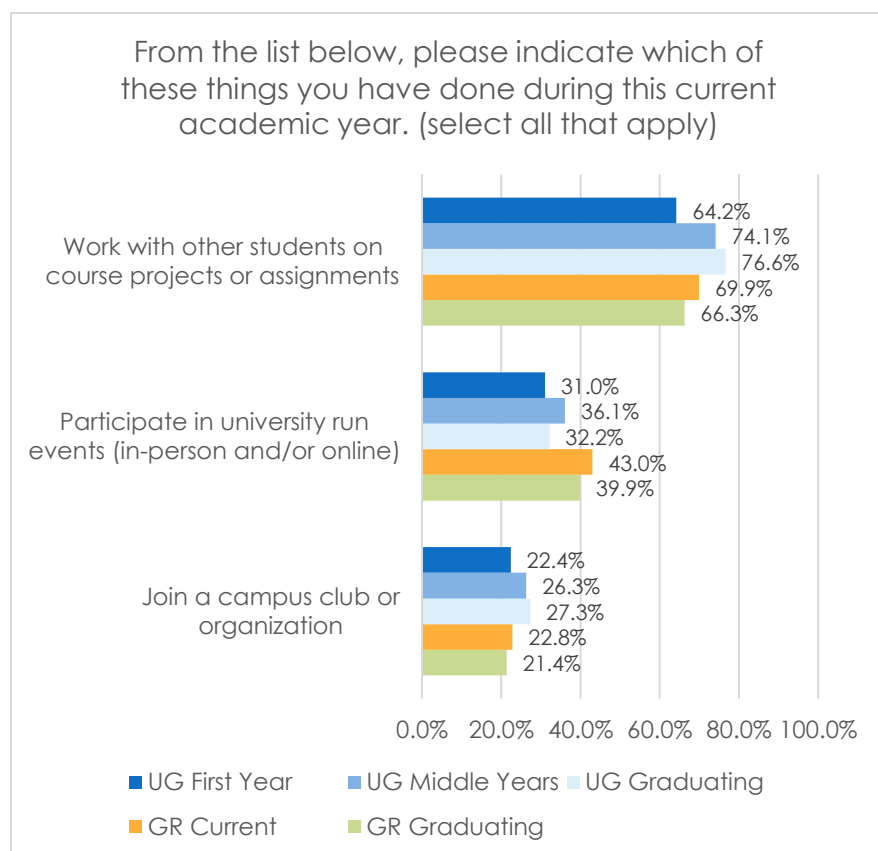
* For the 'select all that apply' questions in this report, percentages are based on respondent counts shown in Table 1.



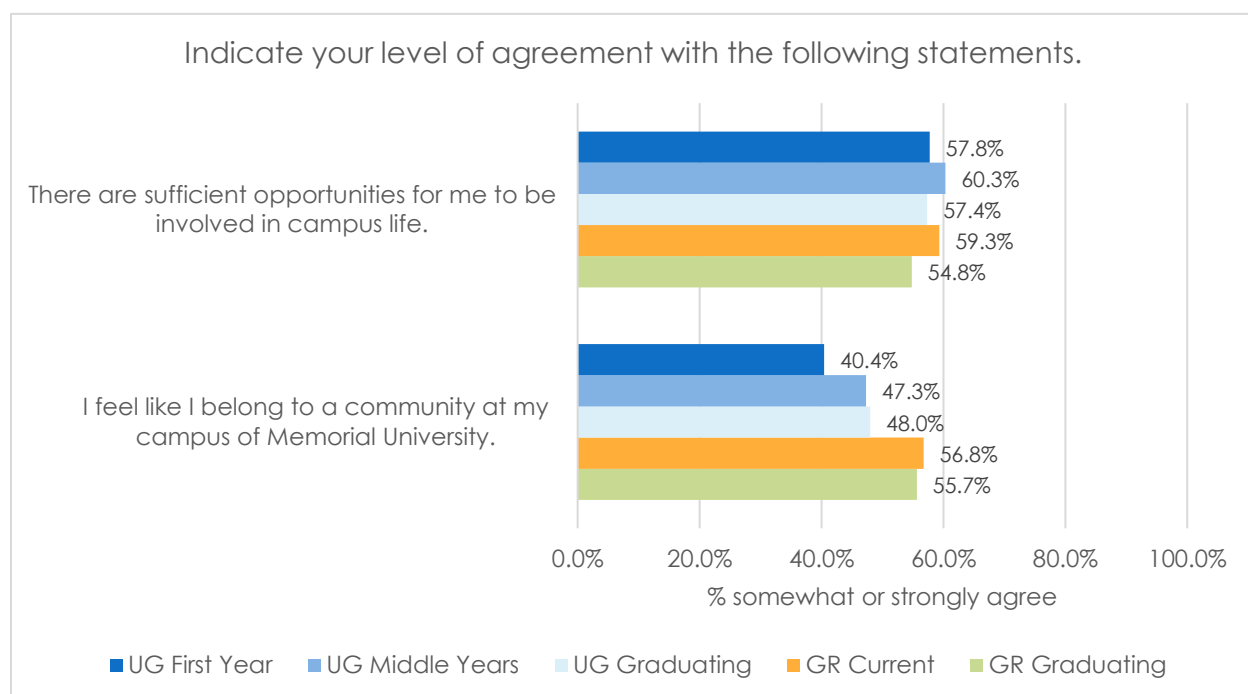
While 57% of current graduate students said they had explored diverse perspectives through coursework, less than half the respondents in the other groups did so. Service learning work in the community was not a common activity for respondents, particularly among first year students (8%).



A high proportion of students in all groups indicated that during this academic year they had worked with other students on course related activities. Less than half of the respondents noted they had participated in university events, and fewer still had joined clubs or organizations on campus.



Other survey questions within the theme of engagement related to perceptions of campus life and community. There was a consistent level of general agreement—between 50%-60%—among the student groups that there were opportunities for them to get involved in campus life. A similar proportion of graduate students said they felt they belonged to the Memorial community, but less than half of the undergraduate respondents indicated a sense of belonging to the community.



The Focus on the Student Occasional Paper Series is prepared by the Centre for Institutional Analysis and Planning (CIAP) at Memorial University to share information with the university community about student related topics of interest. For additional information regarding this topic, or to suggest topics for future documents, please contact CIAP at ciap@mun.ca.