# TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY MAY 2013 GRADUATE SURVEY RESPONSES Findings as of 12.05.13

#### 1. From which college did you graduate?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Agriculture and Environmental Sciences	18	15%
2	Business	47	38%
3	Education	28	23%
4	Liberal and Fine Arts	18	15%
5	Science and Technology	12	10%
	Total	123	100%

#### 2. Which degree did you most recently receive from Tarleton?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	undergraduate	90	74%
2	graduate	32	26%
	Total	122	100%

## 3. What was your major?

Text Response
Counseling
Bachelors of Applied Science - Business Administration
Animal science
Applied Science
Criminal Justice
BAAS
kinesiology
Management and Leadership

Ag Services and Development
ANIMAL SCIENCE
Counseling Psychology
Criminal Justice Administration
Kinesiology
Human resource management
Information systems
Business management
Psychology
Business Administration
Counsleing Psychology
Counseling
Business
Music Education
General Studies
Psychology
Music
Business Management
Bachelors in Science
Psychology
Sociology
Horticulture
Animal science
Chemistry
Interdisciplinary studies for middle school math/science
Criminal Justice
Business Administration
Agriculture Education
Interdisciplinary business
Agriculture Services and Development with an emphasis in Agriculture Extension & Industries
Animal Production
criminal justice
Accounting
business
4-8 math/science
Psychology and Sociology

Fashion
Geosciences-Geology
Applied Science
Business
Business Administration
Social work
Agriculture Education
MBA
Marketing
Criminal justice
Master's in Curriculum and Instruction
Sociology
Interdisciplinary Studies
Psychology
Psychology
Business Administration
Agronomy-crop science
Kinesiology
Psychology
Business Administration
Social Work
Counseling
Management
MBA
Bus. Management
Criminal Justice
Business Administration
Agridultural & Enviromental Sciences
Biology
Psychology
Masters Science Management and Leadership
Accounting
Manufacturing Quality and Leadership
Computer Information Systems
Agronomy and Range Management (Concentration in Soil Science), minor in Geology
Counseling

ACS- Option 1
Applied science
Master of Science in Management and Leadership with Public Administration Emphasis
Nursing
Kinesiology
social work
Computer Science
ACR
Information Systems
Business Administration
Business Administration
Social Work
business
interdisciplinary business
Psychology
Agricultural Communication
Criminal justice
Information Systems
music
Counseling Psychology
Animal Science

## 4. Which Tarleton location did you primarily attend?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Stephenville	73	60%
2	Fort Worth	28	23%
3	Waco	19	16%
4	Midlothian	2	2%
	Total	122	100%

## 5. What is your gender?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Female	85	69%
2	Male	38	31%
3	Prefer not to answer	0	0%
	Total	123	100%

#### 6. Did you graduate in the time frame you expected?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Yes	104	85%
2	No	19	15%
	Total	123	100%

## 7. Did it take you longer than expected?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Yes	18	100%
2	No	0	0%
	Total	18	100%

## 8. Which of the following barriers were applicable to your situation?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Financial	5	29%
2	Family commitments	4	24%
3	Academic preparedness	3	18%
4	Availability of courses	9	53%
5	Change of major	5	29%
6	Other	5	29%

Other
work schedule
changing job schedule
transferred from community college still gad basics to cover.
career commitment

## 9. Did you work (on or off campus) during your enrollment at Tarleton?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Yes	98	80%
2	No	24	20%
	Total	122	100%

## 10. How many hours per week?

Text Response	
40	20
40	a minimum of 40 at primary job plus 9 hours per weekend part time.
25	10 to 20
40	28-35
25	10
40+	20
40	50
20-30	40
30	20
40	40+
20	20
40	40
40	40+
25	30
45	40
40-50	40
50+	40
40	20

5-10	60+
40	20-30
39	32
5	55-60
30-40 hours per week.	21
30	50
30+	40
20	20
40	25
10-20	50
10	50
~40	12
20	50
40	30-35
25-30	20
24	30
40	40 hours
30	30-40
16	20
36	20
50	25
40	40+
35	35
30	~15
40	40
40	50+
15	55
40-45	25
20	15
30	32
40	25-40

## 11. Did you have an internship?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Yes - Required for my degree	36	30%
2	Yes - Not required for my degree	10	8%
3	No	76	62%
	Total	122	100%
Total Respon	ses		122

## 12. Since leaving Tarleton, which statements are applicable to you? (check all that apply)

#	Answer	Response	%
1	I found employment in an area related to my degree.	65	54%
2	Other	12	10%
3	I am pursuing additional undergraduate study	3	2%
4	I am employed in an area unrelated to my degree.	22	18%
5	I am still searching for employment.	19	16%
6	I started or assumed ownership of a business.	7	6%
8	I have started or am raising a family	13	11%
9	I am serving in	1	1%

	the military		
10	I am pursing volunteer service	5	4%
11	I am pursuing graduate study	39	32%

#### Other

Interim-about to start employment

Obtaining my teaching certification

continued at my current job

in same job

searching for a career change

still teaching

Looking for employment in my degree field

I am employeed with agency and will complete required hours.

I was employeed prior to starting my Masters

Already owned business

I am currently working but being paid well below what I should be with a degree. I would like to find a job that utilizes my degree and experience, and pays enough for me to support my family.

I am employed in an area related to my degree.

#### 13. When did you obtain your first career related position?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Before graduation.	22	28%
2	One month after graduation.	11	14%
3	Two months after graduation.	6	8%
4	Three months after graduation.	13	16%
5	Remaining with the same employer as during my undergraduate education.	13	16%

6	Remaining with the same employer as during my graduate education.		10	13%
7	Other		4	5%
	Total		79	100%
Other				
Still waiting to	start			
Four months after graduation				
N/A				

# 14. If you are NOT working in a job related to your major, please check ONE statement which best describes why you are not working in a job related to your major.

#	Answer	Response	%
1	I am continuing my college education.	1	20%
2	I am unable to find a job in my field.	1	20%
3	I am working in another field while continuing to look for a position related to my major.	1	20%
4	I have not seriously sought employment.	0	0%
5	I have found another job in another field.	0	0%
6	I am caring for my family.	0	0%
7	Other	2	40%

	Total		5	100%
Other				
working in job related major.				

## 15. Total number of years employed at current business:

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Less than 1 year	60	61%
2	1 to 5 years	27	27%
3	6 to 10 years	5	5%
4	11 to 15 years	5	5%
5	16 to 20 years	2	2%
6	20 to 25 years	0	0%
7	More than 25 years	0	0%
	Total	99	100%

## 16. Approximate salary earned per year:

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Less than \$20,000	19	19%
2	\$20,000 - \$29,000	19	19%
3	\$30,000 - \$39,000	23	23%
4	\$40,000 - \$49,000	14	14%
5	\$50,000 - \$59,000	8	8%
6	\$60,000 and over	15	15%
	Total	98	100%

## 17. After Graduation, did you remain within a 50 mile radius of Stephenville?

### No (If no, Why?) I don't live near Stephenville Did not go to the campus there. I have always lived in Waco. Attending Graduate school at Texas A&M attended Waco only and stayed in Waco Never lived there online student Grad school Returned to hometown I was not close to Stephenville when attending Tarleton. live in Waco I already lived further than that went back to my hometown The graduate school I chose was far away Fort Worth Campus - But I love Stephenville I am currently attending Texas State moved where family is Not enough job opportunities in the surrounding area Moved to DFW for work. Work Moved to college station Followed teaching opportunity Returned back to my home town. I moved back home with my parents. Not near family already settled in other area I'm from Waco and I found a job in waco I live in fort worth too small for me. commuted to school stayed where I was living live near fort worth

My job required me to move.

Better career opportunities elsewhere

DFW more job opportunities Fort Worth campus I live in fort worth closer to home I didnt live with in a 50 mile radius while going Utilized Waco campus as I live in the Waco area I live in fort worth I still remain fairly close, we are from the Cleburne area. But our business work throughout the DFW/Burleson area I always lived in Arlington and attended some classes in Waco and Stephenville Was never in a 50 mile radius **Employment** Never lived within radius of Stephenville, live in radius of Waco There are not many prestigious public accounting firms that hire often Military Husband transferred job locations Already in Peaster Moved to the town of my fiancé Employment Employeed in Waco. Online Current internship in Iowa I was never that close, I did online I live in Waco never lived near stephenville Not enough job opportunities spouses job live in Waco Remained where I lived about 60 miles from Stephenville. job searching Family remain closer to waco campus never lived close to Stephenville, went to Waco campus Went to waco campus

Received online degree, remained in hometown

Job is in dallas
NA NA
family
I did not live in Stephenville while pursuing me education

## 18. Do you intend to pursue another degree, license, or certification?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Yes	80	66%
2	No	42	34%
	Total	122	100%

## 19. What other schools or universities are you considering?

Text Response
UTD, UTA, Texas Tech
Texas A&M University is where I am working towards my Master of Science degree
undecided
Texas A&M
Texas Woman's University
I am again attending Tarleton for my Masters in HRM
Doctoral programs at Tarleton if you had one
UNT, Texas Women University
Texas state
Sam Houston, University of North Texas
Oregon / Boston College
Texas A&M
Tarleton
none
Tarrant County College, Howard Payne University
Texas a&m commerce
Baylor, Dallas Baptist University
Rice
haven't thought about it
TCU

None. TSU all the way. None, only Tarleton Texas Weselyn, UTA Southern Methodist University University of Texas at Arlington University of Texas in Dallas **Hardin Simmons University** Tarleton, University of Texas Arlington Texas Weslyan NASM **Texas Tech Univ** Currently getting my real estate license Baylor University or Texas Tech TSU Graduate School, UNT, Texas A&M N/a **Texas Tech Tarleton** College for Financial Planning University of North Texas Northern Illinois University University of Denver Texas A M Kingsville Purdue, Carnegie Mellon, University of Arkansas, Universit of Washington, University of Cinncinnati, and Louisiana State University. None. University of Texas at Arlington none None None None Brazosport College, Houston College None None Oklahoma State University None MIT, Harvard, TCU, SMU Many options

## 20. Did you apply to a professional school (i.e. law, medical, veterinary, etc.)?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Yes	2	3%
2	No	77	97%
	Total	79	100%

## 21. Did you get accepted to the professional School?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Yes - (What school)	0	0%
2	No	1	100%
	Total	1	100%

#### 22. How much debt did you incur to finance your Tarleton education?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	0-\$2,499	37	31%
2	\$2,500-\$4,999	3	2%
3	\$5,000-\$9,999	8	7%
4	\$10,000- \$14,999	14	12%
5	\$15,000- \$19,999	12	10%
6	\$20,000- \$24,999	14	12%
7	\$25,000- \$29,000	10	8%
8	\$30,000 or more	23	19%
	Total	121	100%

## 23. Would you refer a friend or family member to Tarleton State University based on your experience?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Yes	117	96%
2	No	5	4%
	Total	122	100%

#### 24. What would you change about your Tarleton experience?

#### **Text Response**

quality and quantity of adjunct professors

I would have picked another university

I went through the TMATE/Tarleton program and I felt we took alot of additional unnecessary classes. I had someone start at Region xx the same I started TMATE and they finished a year and half before I did and they were better prepared. In Oct 2009 I had to withdraw from the univeristy due to my mother's death. I had to take all those classes over again from even though I provided proof that I indeed had a family emergency. Then, when I took the classes again, I turned in the same papers and received harsher critique on the exact same paper I had received an B on previously. I could go on and on, but to summarize I had a horrible experience with Tarleton and I would not recommend anyone to attend.

needed more help finding a job after graduating. still unemployed

## 25. Did you have a life-changing experience while at Tarleton, and, if so, would you briefly describe it?

#### **Text Response**

#### No

I was able to get involved on campus which allowed me to be a leader in the organizations I became a part of

YES. GOT PLUGGED IN WITH COLLEGE LIFE AND ROCKY POINT CHURCH AND WAS SAVED. I THOUGHT I WAS A CHRISTIAN BUT LEARNED I WASNT.

I attended Tarleton in Stephenville. I then moved back home after 3 years. I am so thankful that I was allowed to finish my degree via online.

#### no

I love Tarleton. I am currently a College and Career Readiness Coach at xxxxxxxx. And I am always recommending Tarleton (Stepehville) to my students and Fort Worth Campus to their parents to continue their education. I believe that Tarleton offers something different from the big universities. A more intimate family-like experience. And people are much friendlier than most people can believe. And when you finish each class you know you worked hard and earned it. No one gave you anything.

#### no

Joining Kappa Delta Rho Fraternity, and working at Animal Health and Medical center.

Yes. I met my lovely wife and made many life-long friends

The professors and students alike made a great impact on my life and made me sad to leave.

Tarleton was a life changing experience, the culture and family of it. Being a part of the A&M system people form A&M except us as siblings. Also knowing I have the backing of such a well know university like Tarleton has given me the confidence to move on with my career.

no

The ability to participate in things like the aeronautical team and cubic Academy truly created a unique experience u would not have received anywhere else.

I received the most incredible guidance at Tarleton State University. Dr. XXXX was an extraordinary professor who shared a great deal of wisdom throughout my undergrad. She is my mentor and life coach through my graduate studies as well as the head chair of my committee. What made her so different than any other professor is that she connected with me. She understood my life, how hard I work, and the dreams I had. She has taught me the greatest lesson anyone can learn, your dreams are attainable.

My entire time at Tarleton was life changing. My professors were all excellent and encouraging to me and all of my class mates to do our best and were usually very easy to contact and meet with.

I am a 33 year old husband, father of 2, commute 3 hours a day, coach 2 soccer teams, and work 50 hours a week. You bet being able to set a good example for my kids and getting my degree was a life changing experience. I have shown my sons that you can do anything if you A) want to & B) work your butt off to get it done. That's is all that matters to me. I am well established in my professional, lucrative, rewarding career and my degree will have no impact on my life (financially). However, I hope it has a major impact on my sons life and will make them want pursue their degree. I am the first person on either side of my family tree to obtain their degree. I hope I have started a new family trend. Thank you TSU!

#### Towards the end of the program my spouse passed away but I kept pushing and finished my degree.

Tarleton was the best decision I made pertaining to my career. Not only was I prepared for my career, but I made life long friends and memories that I will cherish forever. I'm currently an educator and I encourage my students to consider Tarleton for their higher education. Bleed purple!

#### No

My mother passed while taking courses and all I was told was I had to enroll in the courses again the following year, even though the semester was almost completed. Also I was placed on academic probation for withdrawing. No I'm sorry for your loss or anything.

#### I met my fiancee when we had class together.

The Math Department pushed me everyday to become a better person and educator. I was pushed to research and present my findings at multiple conferences around the country. In the Education Department, Dr. XXXXX pushed us in our writing abilities. She helped me realize my potential as an author. I have since had a published short story and have a manuscript in the works. I love Tarleton and miss it everyday!

I absolutely loved the Fort Worth campus. The teachers and my classmates were amazing and made the experience memorable. The schedule worked very well around my full-time day job. I finished my bachelors in two years and am so thankful for the convenience of the FW campus so that it was possible! I hope to enter grad school in the near future.

Was able to meet very nice professors.

Tarleton provided the perfect environment for me to graduate without having to quit my full-time job or unattend my full-time family.

Yes, tarleton changed me a lot, for the better! I learned a lot and contribute all if my success to them

I got married my last year of my undergrad, I also graduated with my little brother who also attended TSU.

I was apart of the rodeo team at Tarleton and if you have never experienced college rodeo you're really missing out. Was some of the best time of my life and also qualifying for the CNFR twice made the experience that much better. But the people you meet and relationships you build with friends is something that will last a life time.

#### **Tarleton Football**

I had several, different life-changing experiences from one that almost every student experiences of learning how to become independent from parents to learning how to handle difficult situations of which I was pushed into, making me nearly quit working on my degree, but I continued to pursue with help from some amazing professors.

#### Yes, I got married the semester I graduataed. (Spring 2013)

Yes. Student organizations, both academic and social shaped me ethically, expanded my social horizons, and pushed me academically. I participated in a sorority, Greek council, math club & acctng society to name a few. They all kept me in line and helped me grow in one way or another. I wish everybody was actively involved in student life!

#### No

I learned responsibility, and found my husband

I had the unique experience of attending college with one of my children.

Yes. Between hands-on experience at the ag center and new friends through Greek life completed my

undergrad and stayed to continue grad school. Through my masters program I attended a study abroad to Thailand and found my passion in agriculture abroad

I learned to research in a way I wish I had learned in my undergraduate program. It has helped me immensely in teaching IS courses and pursuing my PhD in either MIS or IS.

The professors on the Waco campus where amazing!! Mr. XXXXX made me passionate about social work! He was continued to be in contact with us and I know its because he cares about our success! He made me love social work and want to be the best social worker possible. While on the job, if in a situation, I think back to class and how the discussion might have been and what Mr. X would have said or done in the situation.

I am a mother of two, working full-time and going to school full-time. During my last two years at Tarleton I went though a very rough divorce. It affected my grades greatly and is now causing difficulty for me to attend graduate school. I also have a father who spent the last 14 years on the liver transplant list so much time has been spent in and out of hospitals. He recently received his new liver... but life is more difficult now than before.

no

I did have a life changing experience at Tarleton. The opportunities I was presented with at Tarleton were great and helped me explore different aspects of student as well as professional life.

Yes but I would not like to describe it

#### Divorce

Joined a Sorority! Sigma Alpha!!!

Not sure that this would be life-changing experience but I realized that I love learning and pushing myself to achieve more than I thought possible. I graduated with my Bachelor's with a 3.76 GPA and about the same for both of my Masters. Another experience i had while at Tarleton was that when I started this journey, my middle daughter was attending Tarleton through Distance Learning and when I graduated this year, my youngest daughter will be graduating in May 2014. I had the most wonderful experience of attending college with two of my three children and watching all three of us grow during our time at Tarleton.

N/A

In my first year of attending Tarleton was exciting. I met new people and learned new material (business related) that will carry on through life.

It taught me the value of staying focused.

N/a

No

Basicly I learned more about myself...both good and bad.

While attending Tarleton-Waco, I changed employers after 22+ years with the same company.

Finally being able to transfer to the Stephenville campus allowed me to grow in so many ways. Forever and always a Tarleton Texan! :)