

## Engagement Survey

**Group:** Graduate Students on Liberal & Applied Arts

**SPT Partners:** Paul Davis & George Franks

**Design:** Survey

**Date:** November 20, 2014

**Participants:** 4

The questionnaire was emailed to all graduate students in the programs within the College. Only four respondents made submissions.

### **Q1. What makes SFA special? Unique?**

- R1. SFA is a liberal college found deep in East Texas. Collectively the school demonstrates the support for a diverse group of students.
- R2. SFA is the right size. It is not too big and not too small. The professors are also able to communicate at a high level with students.
- R3. *SFA has a unique atmosphere of students and professors who strive to engage each other in academics and school spirit. I am always encouraged to work hard and learn as much as I can.*
- R4. I would say it is the diversity of not only the programs and organizations available, but the student body as well.

### **Q2. What could SFA do or be to encourage you to support the university?**

- R1. *SFA could encourage more community involvement.*
- R2. *Increasing the size of our digital library.*
- R3. *Have a bigger brand in sports and marketing. The way SFA gets its name outside of Texas is by playing bigger schools in sports and marketing SFA.*
- R4. *I think SFA could put more emphasis on sporting events. It is a great way to bring all students together to cheer for our peers. (i.e. the recent Basketball game on ESPN)*

### **Q3. What is one innovative idea SFA should implement?**

- R1. SFA should provide more shuttles to different locations in town. Many students are unable to vote, participate in community service or explore the

town because of a lack of transportation.

R2. *SFA could have more graduate student events. I don't think I've ever heard of any. It would be nice to get to know other students who are pursuing an even higher level of education.*

R3. Spending less on athletics and more on academics.

R4. SFA should become more Greek orientated and support Greek life. If one truly looks at successful Alum who donate it is the ones who were involved in Greek life that had the University's support.

**Q4. What do students need to get from a college education/experience to be successful in life?**

R1. Students need to leave with critical thinking skills, writing skills, the ability to present ideas clearly and effectively through communication, and to be constantly challenged (just like they would be in the real world).

R2. *Students need to learn how to work well with others, including professors. This can lead to successful careers. Learning hard work ethics is important and can carry over in every aspect in life. The ability to be self-reliant and motivated is important to acquire if not innately learned. Networking is essential to begin at the college level.*

R3. They need to be advised efficiently and they need to be involved in organizations.

R4. Students need a balance of academics as well as a decent amount of networking.

**Q5. What have we not asked you that you would like to discuss?**

R1. Stop putting unrealistic passing expectations on the professors. You are ruining and diluting the name of SFA and my degree and it's not appreciated. By asking professors to have a higher pass rate you are putting more uneducated and inept people into society and unfortunately that reflects badly on SFA by passing idiots. Furthermore, you will lose intelligent and passionate students because of this fact. Also raise graduate admission standards.

R2. Nothing.

R3. *It is important for students to experience a well-rounded university, which I think SFA does a great job of creating. The only improvements I can think of are minor and only to improve quality of engagement, which is already satisfactory.*

R4. Greek life! It is a vital organization that needs to be supported by SFA.