2010 Alumni Survey Results

Overview

In 1989, the first class of graduate students in Speech was admitted into the M.A. program. Since then, the Department of Speech has graduated 86 M.A. students. Of those, contact information was obtained for 85% of all students who ultimately earned their M.A. degrees (n=73). These students were sent email/facebook messages requesting participation in two alumni surveys, administered via surveymonkey.com.

Alumni completed the first survey instrument anonymously. This survey asked about their experiences in the Speech Department. The second survey was not anonymous because this survey asked for job history information from each former graduate student.

To date, 59 graduates responded to both surveys. This is a response rate of about 81% (59/73), or the opinions of 69% (59/86) of all students who earned an M.A. in Speech are represented in the sample. Students who were and were not supported through teaching and research assistantships responded to the survey. With the exception of one year, all cohorts of students who graduated with a Speech M.A were represented in the sample.

Results

The alumni reported that the Speech M.A. program was extremely helpful, useful, and important (see Table 1). Past graduate students also reported that the Speech program was highly effective in mentoring/advising, preparing them for a teaching position, and creating a sense of community while they were in the M.A. program. The program was additionally reported as being effective in preparing students for a Ph.D. in Communication and a professional career, outside of a teaching position as well as fostering long-term identification with the Speech Department (See Table 2).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Standard Deviation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Helpful?</td>
<td>6.31</td>
<td>0.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Useful?</td>
<td>6.24</td>
<td>0.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Important?</td>
<td>6.24</td>
<td>1.01</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TABLE 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mentoring/advising</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparation for a PhD in communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparation for a teaching career</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparation for a professional career (other than a teaching position)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Creating a sense of community/colllegiality/‘ohana while you were in the M.A. program in Speech</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fostering long-term identification/relationship/connection with the Speech Department</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The results pertaining to the job history of alumni who completed the survey showed that about half of the M.A. in Speech alumni (n=29, 49%) continued with their education in another degree program and about half did not (n=30, 51%). Of those who continued in another degree program, 16 (55%) pursued a Ph.D. in Communication (in programs at Arizona State University, Purdue University, Michigan State University, Regent University, University of Arizona, University of California at Santa Barbara, University of Georgia, University of Southern Mississippi, University of Texas at Austin, and University of Washington, Seattle) and the rest worked toward Ph.D.s in other fields (n=5, 17%), another M.A. degree (n=4, 14%), and other degrees (n=4, 14%).

Data on the current occupations of alumni showed that a significant proportion of Speech graduate students hold positions in education, particularly teaching and research. Speech M.A. graduates reported that they are presently employed as lecturers, instructors, assistant professors, associate professors, and full professors in speech communication programs within the State of Hawai‘i, across the continental U.S., and one in an international locations. Those Speech M.A. students who did not pursue careers in academia indicated that they are employed as coordinators, managers, and advisors in various public and private organizations (see Appendix A and B for a listing of current occupations).
APPENDIX A
List of Current Occupations In Academia

LOCAL - HAWAI‘I
Lecturer, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, Honolulu, HI
Assistant Professor, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, Honolulu, HI
Professor, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, Honolulu, HI
Instructor, University of Hawai‘i at Hilo, Hilo, HI
Lecturer, Honolulu Community College, Honolulu, HI
Instructor, Honolulu Community College, Honolulu, HI
Instructor, Kapiolani Community College, Honolulu, HI
Associate Professor - Retired, Kapiolani Community College, Honolulu, HI
Lecturer, Leeward Community College, Pearl City, HI
Instructor, Leeward Community College, Pearl City, HI
Assistant Professor, Leeward Community College, Pearl City, HI
Associate Professor, Leeward Community College, Pearl City, HI
Lecturer, Maui Community College, Kahului, HI
Assistant Professor, Maui Community College, Kahului, HI
Assistant Professor, College Preparation Coordinator, Director of Academic English Language Program, Hawai‘i Tokai International College, Honolulu, HI

NATIONAL
Professor, California State University at Chico, Chico, CA
Adjunct Faculty, Canada Community College, Redwood City, CA
Instructor, MiraCosta College, Oceanside, CA
Administrator, Fuller Seminary Brehm Center for Art, Pasadena CA
Instructor, University of Georgia, Athens, GA
Assistant Professor, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL
Associate Professor, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
Associate Dean for Research & Associate Professor, College of Communication Arts and Sciences, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
Assistant Professor, William Paterson University, Wayne, NJ
(2) Assistant Professor, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK
Adjunct Instructor, Portland Community College, Portland, OR
Assistant Professor, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN

INTERNATIONAL
Associate Professor, Aoyama Gakuin University, Tokyo, Japan
APPENDIX B
List of Current Occupations Outside of Academia

LOCAL - HAWAI‘I
Oahu Community Coordinator, Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai‘i, Honolulu, HI
Statewide Training Coordinator, Catholic Charities Hawai‘i, Honolulu, HI
Executive Assistant, Forest City Hawai‘i, Honolulu, HI
Case Manager, Catholic Charities Hawai‘i, Hilo, HI
Behavioral Health Director, Na Pu‘uwai Native Hawaiian Healthcare System, Kaunakakai, HI
Volunteer Services Manager, Hawaiian Islands Ministries, Honolulu, HI
Flight Attendant, Hawaiian Airlines, Honolulu, HI
Owner, Your Perfect Party, Honolulu, HI
Commercial Property Manager, Fergus & Company, Honolulu, HI
Coordinator & Assistant Specialist, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa-First Year Programs, Honolulu, HI
Maui Program Coordinator & Advisor, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa-Outreach College, Kahului, HI
Research Support, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, Honolulu, HI
Academic Advisor, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, Honors Program, Honolulu, HI
Coordinator of Adult Learner Program, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, Honolulu, HI

NATIONAL
Senior Manager, Franchise Development and Marketing, The Walt Disney Company - Disney Consumer Products, Glendale, CA
Senior Market Researcher, TiVo, Alviso, CA
Long-Term Care Ombudsman & Volunteer, State of California Department of Aging, San Diego, CA
Business Owner & Teacher, The Nova Studio, Point Richmond, CA
Writer, Editor self employed Ashland, OR, USA
Substitute Teacher, Clark County School District, Las Vegas, NV
Intern, Sewell-Belmont House & Museum, Washington, DC
Senior Consultant, Deloitte, Washington, DC

INTERNATIONAL
English Teacher in Companies, American Forum, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Minister, Iglesia Ni Cristo/Church of Christ, Rome, Italy