2017

Springfield Technical Community College

Department of Institutional Effectiveness

[GRADUATING STUDENT SURVEY RESULTS]

Executive Summary

Survey Respondents and Response Rate: 478 graduating students took survey
Of the 633 students at Cap & Gown Pick-Up, 478 participated in this survey for a 76% response rate. Of these respondents, 416 (87%) reported that they would be receiving an associate degree and 61 (13%) reported receiving a certificate. There were 1064 students receiving degrees in FY2017.

Employment Plans: 57% of new graduates are seeking new employment and 12% have already secured new positions
Graduates were asked about their current employment status which includes military service. If graduates responded that they were either continuing employment or beginning new employment, they were asked about the relationship of their work to their STCC education as well as whether their work is or will be full- or part-time. Of graduates responding to this question, about 69% report being currently employed. Notably, about 12% of students have secured new positions as they graduate, whether they were already employed or not. Nearly 57% of graduates are seeking new positions, whether they are currently employed or not. Many graduates are pursuing further education instead of or in addition to employment.

Continuing Education Plans: 68% of new graduates expect to continue their education
Graduates were asked about whether they will be continuing their education within the next year and whether they will do so in a full- or part-time capacity. About 70% of graduates receiving associates degrees plan to continue their education within the year, with most planning to attend a 4-year college or university. About 53% of certificate graduates plan to continue their education with the majority returning to STCC.

Perceived Educational Preparation: 97% of graduating students feel that STCC prepared them for continuing education
We asked graduates several questions about their educational experience at STCC including their overall preparedness, how their education at STCC had improved their academic and personal skills, and the barriers and supports they experienced in their efforts to complete their credentials. In response to a question about how well their STCC education had prepared them for employment or further education, only 8 students reported being either somewhat or very unprepared.

Perceived Educational Barriers: Family responsibilities, finances, and being out of school for a long time are most frequent barriers to student success
We also asked graduates about the barriers they faced as they worked to obtain their credential. For associate degree recipients, more than 50% of students experienced either minor or major barriers to their education because of: family responsibilities, financial difficulties, and job demands. More than 50% of certificate recipients experienced either minor or major educational barriers due to: not being academically prepared when they started, their academic or career goals were unclear, and it took a while for them to find the program they wanted to complete.

Perceived Educational Supports: Family, faculty, and classroom activities pave the way for success
Finally, we asked students about the factors that helped them succeed in completing their credentials. For students receiving their associate degree, more than 90% cited faculty and/or instructors (in-class time) as well as in-class experience and activities as being a part of their completion success. For students receiving certificates, more than 90% cited family inspiration, support, and encouragement, in-class experience and activities, faculty and/or instructors (in-class time), and classmate inspiration, support and encouragement as being part of their completion success.

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STCC Graduating Student Survey Results: 2017

Since 2013 the Department of Institutional Effectiveness has conducted a graduating student survey at Cap & Gown Pick-Up. All survey questions can be found in Appendix I. (Please note that not all totals equal 100% due to rounding.)

Survey Respondents and Response Rate: 478 graduating students took survey

Of the 633 students at Cap & Gown Pick-Up, 478 participated in this survey for a 76% response rate. Of these respondents, 416 (87%) reported that they would be receiving an associate degree and 61 (13%) reported receiving a certificate. There were 1064 students receiving degrees in FY2017.

Of the respondents who answered the questions on race/ethnicity, 30% identified as Hispanic, 42% as white and 19% as black; 10% identified as other races or as multi-racial. There were 36% of respondents who identified as male and 63% who identified as female. We also asked students how old they were when they started their STCC education: 22% were 19 years old or younger; 30% were 20-24; 15% were 25-29, and 32% reported being 30 or older when they began their program.

Graduates were asked how long it took them to complete their credential and from which program they were receiving it. The majority of students graduating with an associate's degree graduated in 3 years or less. The majority of students graduating with a certificate graduated in 2 years or less. The list of programs represented by credential type can be found in Appendix II of this report.

Time to Completion	Associates		Certificates	
	N	**%**	**N**	**%**
Less than 1 year	3	1%	24	39%
1 year to less than 2 years	32	8%	24	39%
2 years to less than 3 years	214	51%	10	16%
3 years to less than 4 years	96	23%	2	3%
4 years to less than 5 years	41	10%	1	2%
5 years to less than 6 years	12	3%	0	0%
6 or more years	18	4%	0	0%
Total	416	100%	61	100%

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Employment Plans: 57% of new graduates are seeking new employment and 12% have already secured new positions

Graduates were asked about their current employment status which includes military service. If graduates responded that they were either continuing employment or beginning new employment, they were asked about the relationship of their work to their STCC education as well as whether their work is or will be full- or part-time. Of graduates responding to this question, about 69% report being currently employed. Notably, about 12% of students have secured new positions as they graduate, whether they were already employed or not. Nearly 57% of graduates are seeking new positions, whether they are currently employed or not. Many graduates are pursuing further education instead of or in addition to employment.

Students of color were more likely to be currently employed but seeking a new position (black: 42%, Hispanic: 37%, white: 28%).   Graduate students who identified as Hispanic were more likely to currently be employed and not seeking a new position (Hispanic: 32%, white: 29%, black: 20%). Students identifying as white were more likely to have secured a new position (white: 15%, Hispanic: 9%, black: 8%).

Work Status	Associates (n = 412)	Certificates (n = 61)
Currently employed, SEEKING new position	35%	26%
Not employed, SEEKING position	21%	33%
Currently employed, NOT seeking new position	27%	28%
Currently employed, SECURED new position	8%	3%
Not employed, NOT seeking position	4%	3%
Not employed, SECURED position	4%	5%
Entering or continuing military service	0%	2%

Graduating students who reported being currently employed or having secured a new position were asked about their full-time versus part-time status. Fifty-five (55) students had secured new positions as of Cap & Gown Pick-Up (May 2017).

Work Hours	Associates		Certificates	
	Current Position (n = 291)	New Position (n = 50)	Current Position (n = 34)	New Position (n = 5)
Full Time Work	55%	74%	44%	100%
Part Time Work	45%	26%	56%	0%

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Graduates were also asked whether their current and/or new employment was related to the academic work they completed at STCC.

Work to STCC Relationship	Associates		Certificates	
	Current Position (n = 291)	New Position (n = 49)	Current Position (n = 35)	New Position (n = 5)
Work Directly Related to STCC Education	27%	86%	31%	60%
Work Somewhat Related to STCC Education	24%	4%	17%	20%
Not Related	49%	10%	51%	20%

Lastly, graduates were asked how prepared they felt for their current and/or new employment as a result of the academic work they completed at STCC.

Work Preparation	Associates		Certificates	
	Current Position (n = 290)	New Position (n = 48)	Current Position (n = 35)	New Position (n = 5)
Very well prepared	55%	81%	60%	60%
Somewhat prepared	26%	15%	31%	40%
Somewhat unprepared	1%	0%	0%	0%
Very unprepared	2%	0%	3%	0%
STCC education played no role in preparation for position	17%	4%	6%	0%

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Continuing Education Plans: 68% of new graduates expect to continue their education

Graduates were asked about whether they will be continuing their education within the next year and whether they will do so in a full- or part-time capacity. About 70% of graduates receiving associates degrees plan to continue their education within the year, with most planning to attend a 4-year college or university. About 53% of certificate graduates plan to continue their education with the majority returning to STCC.

Education Status	Associates (n = 415)	Certificates (n = 60)
At a 4-year college/university	54%	3%
In a new program at STCC	9%	40%
At a different 2 year college	6%	10%
At another non-degree educational program	0%	0%
I'm not beginning any additional education this year.	30%	47%

More students identifying as black plan to attend a 4-year college or university (black: 58%, white: 49%, Hispanic: 39%). White students were more likely to respond that they did not have immediate continuing education plans (white: 38%, Hispanic: 31%, black: 20%). Hispanic students were most likely to have plans to continue in another program at STCC (Hispanic: 22%, black: 13%, white: 8%).

Of those students pursuing additional education, about 63% plan to attend full time. This percentage remained similar when the responses were broken down by race/ethnicity (black: 66%, white: 62%, Hispanic: 61%).

Hours	Associates (n = 290)	Certificates (n = 32)
Full Time Schooling	65%	47%
Part Time Schooling	35%	53%

Perceived Educational Preparation: 97% of graduating students feel that STCC prepared them for continuing education

We asked graduates several questions about their educational experience at STCC including their overall preparedness, how their education at STCC had improved their academic and personal skills, and the barriers and supports they experienced in their efforts to complete their credentials.

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In response to a question about how well their STCC education had prepared them for employment or further education, only 8 students reported being either somewhat or very unprepared. Over 73% of all award recipients said they were very well prepared. All students reported a similar level of being very well prepared to continue their education (black: 76%, Hispanic: 75%, white: 73%).

Educational Preparation	Associates (n = 290)	Certificates (n = 32)
Very well prepared	73%	72%
Somewhat prepared	23%	28%
Somewhat unprepared	1%	0%
Very unprepared	2%	0%
STCC education played no role in preparation for continuing education	0%	0%

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To learn more specifically about the preparation of the graduates, we provided a list of educational and personal skills and asked students to rate how much their STCC experience had improved these abilities. Mean improvement responses were somewhat lower for certificate than associate degree holders as might be expected given that they have spent less time at STCC to complete their credential. All mean scores were between 3 (some improvement) and 4 (a lot of improvement). Of all the skills, graduates reported the largest gains in their abilities to think critically, to get along with many different kinds of people, to better serve their community or society in general, to research a problem and assess information to address it, to contribute to group discussions and work, and to consider a subject from multiple points of view. Students of color reported the greatest gains in each of these skills.

Associate Degree Recipients:

Rate how your experience at STCC improved your ability to:	No Improvement (1)	A little (2)	Some (3)	A lot (4)	Tremendous (5)	Mean
Think critically	3%	4%	16%	44%	32%	3.98
Get along with many different kinds of people	4%	5%	17%	40%	34%	3.95
Research a problem and assess information to address it	3%	8%	19%	41%	29%	3.84
Better serve my community or society in general	3%	8%	21%	38%	30%	3.84
Make and justify decisions	3%	7%	19%	46%	24%	3.82
Contribute to group discussions and work	4%	7%	20%	42%	27%	3.82
Consider a subject from multiple points of view	4%	7%	20%	44%	25%	3.80
Use evidence to support/ oppose a point of view	4%	7%	23%	42%	24%	3.76
Use computers and common software, mobile devices or internet or cloud-based applications	6%	8%	23%	33%	30%	3.74
Give oral presentations	5%	8%	23%	41%	23%	3.68
Examine assumptions	5%	7%	28%	46%	14%	3.59
Use math to address day-to-day issues or problems	8%	10%	27%	33%	22%	3.52
Persuade others of your view	5%	11%	27%	40%	16%	3.52
Write clearly	9%	9%	27%	39%	15%	3.42

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Certificate Recipients:

Rate how your experience at STCC improved your ability to:	No Improvement (1)	A little (2)	Some (3)	A lot (4)	Tremendous (5)	Mean
Get along with many different kinds of people	2%	7%	7%	42%	43%	4.18
Consider a subject from multiple points of view	2%	3%	15%	43%	37%	4.10
Better serve my community or society in general	5%	7%	7%	37%	44%	4.08
Think critically	3%	5%	8%	48%	35%	4.07
Contribute to group discussions and work	2%	7%	13%	47%	32%	4.00
Use computers and common software, mobile devices or internet or cloud-based applications	8%	7%	7%	42%	37%	3.92
Examine assumptions	3%	3%	18%	52%	23%	3.88
Research a problem and assess information to address it	3%	8%	12%	52%	25%	3.87
Persuade others of your view	2%	8%	18%	47%	25%	3.85
Make and justify decisions	2%	7%	18%	52%	22%	3.85
Give oral presentations	5%	8%	7%	56%	24%	3.85
Write clearly	5%	7%	20%	38%	30%	3.82
Use evidence to support/ oppose a point of view	3%	8%	12%	57%	20%	3.82
Use math to address day-to-day issues or problems	7%	16%	24%	38%	16%	3.40

Perceived Educational Barriers: Family responsibilities, finances, and being out of school for a long time are most frequent barriers to student success

We also asked graduates about the barriers they faced as they worked to obtain their credential. For associate degree recipients, more than 50% of students experienced either minor or major barriers to their education because of: family responsibilities, financial difficulties, and job demands. More than 50% of certificate recipients experienced either minor or major educational barriers due to: not being academically prepared when they started, their academic or career goals were unclear, and it took a while for them to find the program they wanted to complete.

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Students identifying as black or Hispanic reported family responsibilities (Hispanic: 29%, black: 29%, white: 10%) as a significant barrier more often than students identifying as white. Students of color also reported unclear academic or career goals (Hispanic: 18%, black: 16%, white: 7%), personal and/or health challenges (Hispanic: 16%, black: 13%, white: 5%), taking a while to find the program they wanted to complete (Hispanic: 14%, black: 11%, white: 5%), not being academically prepared (Hispanic: 12%, black: 12%, white: 8%), trouble finding the best path for completing their program (black: 12%, Hispanic: 11%, white: 5%), low expectations of them (Hispanic: 9%, black: 6%, white: 2%), not enough access to advisors (Hispanic: 8%, black: 8%, white: 1%), not enough access to tutors and other academic support (Hispanic: 8%, black: 7%, white: 1%), and not having a good place to study (Hispanic: 6%, black: 5%, white: 2%) as major barriers more often than students identifying as white. Hispanic students reported housing issues as a significant barrier more often than students identifying as white or black (Hispanic: 14%, black: 9%, white 3%).

Associate Degree Recipients:

Which barriers did you have to overcome to complete your STCC education?	Not a barrier (1)	Minor barrier (2)	Major barrier (3)	Mean
Family responsibilities	44%	35%	21%	1.77
Financial difficulties	41%	40%	18%	1.77
Job demands	48%	42%	10%	1.62
I had not been in school for a long time	57%	24%	19%	1.62
I was not academically prepared when I started	55%	36%	9%	1.54
My academic or career goals were unclear	59%	29%	12%	1.53
Personal and/or health challenges	63%	27%	10%	1.48
My course load was too heavy	59%	34%	6%	1.47
It took me a while to find the program I wanted to complete	66%	26%	8%	1.43
Expectations of me were too low	68%	27%	5%	1.37
After selecting my program, I had trouble finding the best path for completing it	71%	21%	8%	1.37
Housing issues	72%	21%	8%	1.36
I had difficulty completing courses for my program	71%	24%	5%	1.34
It was difficult to get into the classes I needed	76%	20%	4%	1.27
I didn't have a good place to study or complete my work	76%	20%	3%	1.27
Not enough access to advisors	77%	18%	4%	1.27
Not enough access to tutors or other academic support	83%	13%	4%	1.20

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Certificate Recipients:

Which barriers did you have to overcome to complete your STCC education?	Not a barrier (1)	Minor barrier (2)	Major barrier (3)	Mean
I had not been in school for a long time	50%	22%	28%	1.78
I was not academically prepared when I started	40%	45%	15%	1.75
My academic or career goals were unclear	48%	36%	16%	1.69
Family responsibilities	52%	28%	20%	1.67
It took me a while to find the program I wanted to complete	49%	38%	13%	1.64
Financial difficulties	51%	38%	11%	1.61
My course load was too heavy	59%	28%	13%	1.54
Expectations of me were too low	56%	38%	7%	1.51
Job demands	62%	26%	11%	1.49
Personal and/or health challenges	64%	26%	10%	1.46
After selecting my program, I had trouble finding the best path for completing it	64%	28%	9%	1.45
I had difficulty completing courses for my program	65%	27%	8%	1.43
Housing issues	70%	22%	8%	1.38
I didn't have a good place to study or complete my work	74%	20%	7%	1.33
Not enough access to tutors or other academic support	77%	15%	8%	1.32
It was difficult to get into the classes I needed	74%	23%	3%	1.30
Not enough access to advisors	74%	23%	3%	1.30

Perceived Educational Supports: Family, faculty, and classroom activities pave the way for success

Finally, we asked students about the factors that helped them succeed in completing their credentials. For students receiving their associate degree, more than 90% cited faculty and/or instructors (in-class time) as well as in-class experience and activities as being a part of their completion success. For students receiving certificates, more than 90% cited family inspiration, support, and encouragement, in-class experience and activities, faculty and/or instructors (in-class time), and classmate inspiration, support and encouragement as being part of their completion success.

Students who identify as Hispanic reported college staff (not faculty or advisors) as critical for their success more frequently than students identifying as black or white (Hispanic: 52%, black: 45%, white: 28%). Students

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identifying as black identified out-of-class homework and projects (black: 63%, Hispanic: 56%, white: 44%) as more important for their success than students identifying as Hispanic or white. Students of color also identified campus activity groups or clubs (Hispanic: 37%, black 31%, white: 18%), other non-family inspiration, support or encouragement (Hispanic: 56%, black: 54%, white: 42%), and being a role model for others (Hispanic: 68%, black: 62%, white: 49%) as major success factors more frequently than students identifying as white.

Associate Degree Recipients:

What factors helped you succeed in completing your STCC education?	Not a factor (1)	Minor factor (2)	Major factor (3)	Mean
Faculty and/or instructors (in-class time)	4%	20%	76%	2.71
In-class experience and activities	5%	29%	67%	2.62
Family inspiration, support, or encouragement	11%	27%	62%	2.52
Out-of-class homework and projects	8%	42%	50%	2.42
Being a role model for others	14%	31%	55%	2.41
Faculty and/or instructors (out-of-class time)	14%	34%	52%	2.39
Classmate inspiration, support, or encouragement	13%	37%	51%	2.38
Academic advisors	16%	37%	47%	2.31
Other, non-family inspiration, support, or encouragement	20%	34%	46%	2.26
College staff (not faculty or advisors)	23%	42%	35%	2.13
Internship, clinical placements, or other career/program-related experience	30%	28%	42%	2.12
Campus activity group or club	46%	30%	24%	1.78

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Certificate Recipients:

What factors helped you succeed in completing your STCC education?	Not a factor (1)	Minor factor (2)	Major factor (3)	Mean
Family inspiration, support, or encouragement	5%	15%	80%	2.75
In-class experience and activities	3%	23%	74%	2.70
Faculty and/or instructors (in-class time)	8%	20%	72%	2.64
Classmate inspiration, support, or encouragement	7%	27%	67%	2.60
Being a role model for others	10%	20%	70%	2.60
Out-of-class homework and projects	5%	38%	57%	2.52
Academic advisors	13%	23%	64%	2.51
Faculty and/or instructors (out-of-class time)	12%	28%	60%	2.48
Other, non-family inspiration, support, or encouragement	13%	33%	53%	2.40
College staff (not faculty or advisors)	21%	21%	57%	2.36
Internship, clinical placements, or other career/program-related experience	23%	25%	52%	2.30
Campus activity group or club	24%	37%	39%	2.15

Graduate Survey Trends: Improved abilities, decreased barriers, and changes to success factors

We now have five years of graduate student survey data. The graduate student survey was first implemented in 2013 and has been done annually at cap and gown pickup. Though data changes every year on most of the variables, below is a summary of some noteworthy and continuing trends for 2017.

In 2017, most abilities remained similar to last year's results with most increasing slightly. Two that have continued to show continual increase over the five year period are writing clearly and getting along with many different kinds of people. Writing clearly has increased every year since the first graduating student survey, from a mean of 3.28 in 2013 to a mean of 3.46 in 2017, a percentage increase of 5.3%. Getting along with many different kinds of people has increased from 3.71 in 2013 to 3.98 in 2017, a percentage increase of 6.5%. Giving oral presentations has also been increasing since the question was first asked in 2014. In 2014 the mean was 3.57. The mean of giving oral presentations in 2017 was 3.70, a percentage increase of 3.6%.

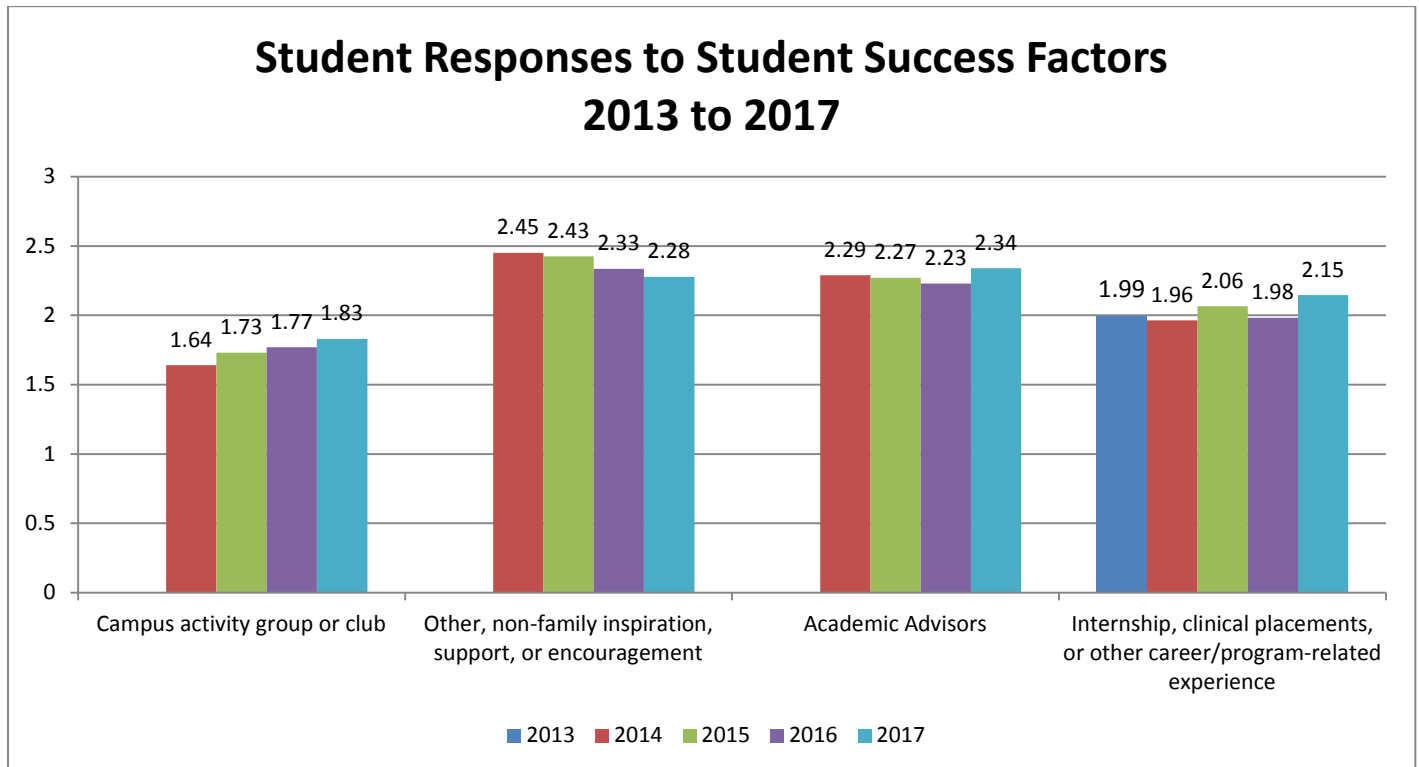## Student Responses: STCC Improved My Ability to...
2013 - 2016
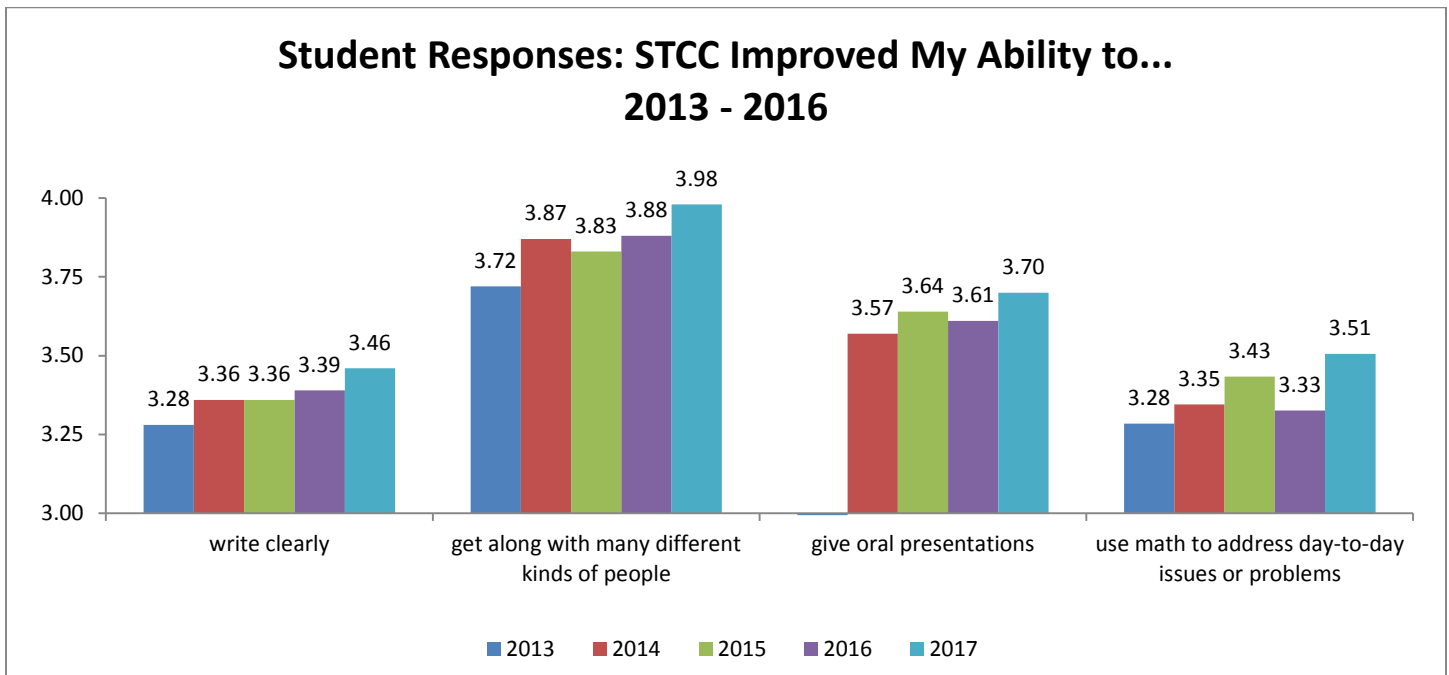
Since last year most barriers have decreased except financial difficulties (percentage increase of 1%), not being academically prepared when they started (percentage increase of 2%) and having not been in school for a long time (percentage increase of 3%). Those barriers that decreased the most since last year are job demands (percentage decrease of 7%), not enough access to advisors (percentage decrease of 7%), not enough access to tutors or other academic support (percentage decrease of 6%), and not having a good place to study or complete their work (percentage decrease of 5%).

Student Responses to Top Decreased Barriers
2016 to 2017

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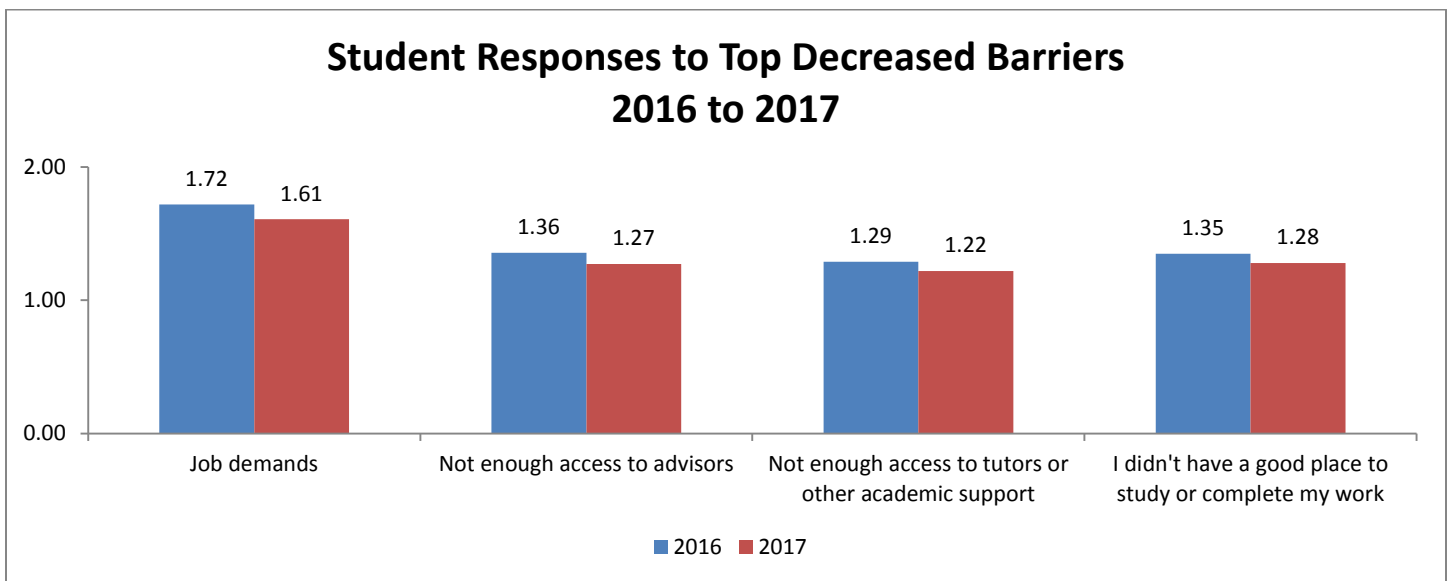
Since 2014, when graduating students were first asked if campus group activities and clubs were a success factor for them, there has been a noticeable increase in the number of students who have reported this is indeed a factor that figures into their success. In 2014 the mean for campus group activities and clubs was 1.64. In 2017 that had increased to 1.83, a percentage increase of over 10%. Another change has been the number of students who have responded that "other, non-family inspiration, support, or encouragement" is a success factor for them. It has been decreasing since 2014 from a mean of 2.45 to 2.28 (a percent decrease of 7.5%).

Two success factors that have shown an increase since last year's graduate survey are academic advisors and internships, clinical placements, or other career/program-related experiences. In 2016 the mean of academic advisors as a success factor was 2.23. This increased to 2.34 in 2017 for a percent increase of 4.8%. The mean of internships, clinical placements, or other career/program-related experiences was 1.99 in 2016. In 2017 this increased to 2.15, a percent increase of 7.6%.

Student Responses to Student Success Factors 2013 to 2017

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Appendix I: Graduate Survey

Congratulations on your degree! We want to learn more from you to improve the college, programs, and courses so that even more students can be successful at STCC. Thank you in advance for sharing your thoughts and experiences!! As you graduate, you become a STCC alumni member. We hope you will become an active STCC alumni member and continue to provide feedback and guidance to the college. Happy graduation, Class of 2016!

Q1 What is the PRIMARY degree you are receiving? If you are receiving more than one degree or certificate, please answer based on the degree you consider to be your main area or focus.
- ○ Associates Degree
- ○ Certificate

Based on their response to this question, students saw one version of Q2 and a corresponding drop-down menu listing all Associates Degrees or Certificates.

Q2: In which program are you receiving your PRIMARY associates degree?

OR

Q2: In which program are you receiving your PRIMARY certificate?

Q3 About how long did it take you to finish this degree or certificate?
- ○ Less than 1 year
- ○ 1 year to less than 2 years
- ○ 2 years to less than 3 years
- ○ 3 years to less than 4 years
- ○ 4 years to less than 5 years
- ○ 5 years to less than 6 years
- ○ 6 or more years

Q4 Rate how your experience at STCC improved your ability to:

	No improvement	A little improvement	Some improvement	A lot of improvement	Tremendous Improvement
write clearly	❍	❍	❍	❍	❍
give oral presentations	❍	❍	❍	❍	❍
persuade others of your view	❍	❍	❍	❍	❍
examine assumptions	❍	❍	❍	❍	❍
think critically	❍	❍	❍	❍	❍
use evidence to support/oppose a point of view	❍	❍	❍	❍	❍
make and justify decisions	❍	❍	❍	❍	❍
use math to address day-to-day issues or problems	❍	❍	❍	❍	❍
research a problem and assess information to address it	❍	❍	❍	❍	❍
use computers and common software, mobile devices or internet or cloud-based applications	❍	❍	❍	❍	❍
contribute to group discussions and work	❍	❍	❍	❍	❍
consider a subject from multiple points of view	❍	❍	❍	❍	❍
get along with many different kinds of people	❍	❍	❍	❍	❍
better serve my community or society in general	❍	❍	❍	❍	❍

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Q5 Continuing Education: If you are pursuing additional education (within the year) upon receiving your degree or certificate from STCC, where are you continuing?
- ○ In a new program at STCC
- ○ At a different 2 year college
- ○ At a 4-year college/university
- ○ At another non-degree educational program
- ○ I'm not beginning any additional education this year.

If students answered that they would be continuing their education, they were also asked Q6 and Q7.
Q6 Will you be attending college full or part time?
- ○ Full Time
- ○ Part Time

Q7 As a result of your education at STCC, how prepared do you feel to pursue your post-graduation education plans?
- ○ Very well prepared
- ○ Somewhat prepared
- ○ Somewhat unprepared
- ○ Very unprepared
- ○ STCC education had no role in preparing me for my post-graduation education plans

Q8 Employment Activity: If you are currently employed or seeking employment upon receiving your degree or certificate at STCC, what is your status?
- ○ I am currently employed and not seeking a new position
- ○ I am currently employed and seeking a new position
- ○ I am currently employed and have secured a new position
- ○ I am not currently employed but am seeking employment
- ○ I am not currently employed but have secured a new position
- ○ I am not seeking employment
- ○ I am entering or continuing military service

If students answered that they were currently employed, they were also asked Q9, Q10, and Q11.
Q9 Is your CURRENT position full or part time?
- ○ Full Time
- ○ Part Time

Q10 Is your CURRENT job related to the STCC degree/certificate you completed?
- ○ Yes, it is directly related.
- ○ It is somewhat related.
- ○ No, it is not related.

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Q11 As a result of your education at STCC, how prepared do you feel in your CURRENT employment?

○ Very well prepared
○ Somewhat prepared
○ Somewhat unprepared
○ Very unprepared
○ STCC education had no role in preparing me for my CURRENT employment

If students answered that they had secured new employment, they were also asked Q12, Q13, and Q14.

Q12 Is your NEW position full or part time?

○ Full Time
○ Part Time

Q13 Is your NEW job related to the STCC degree/certificate you completed?

○ Yes, it is directly related.
○ It is somewhat related.
○ No, it is not related.

Q14 As a result of your education at STCC, how prepared do you feel in your NEW employment?

○ Very well prepared
○ Somewhat prepared
○ Somewhat unprepared
○ Very unprepared
○ STCC education had no role in preparing me for my NEW employment

Q15 Which barriers did you have to overcome to complete your STCC education? Please indicate if each was: Not a barrier, Minor barrier, or Major barrier.

	Not a barrier	Minor barrier	Major barrier
I was not academically prepared when I started	○	○	○
I had not been in school for a long time	○	○	○
My academic or career goals were unclear	○	○	○
Expectations of me were too low	○	○	○
It took me a while to find the program I wanted to complete	○	○	○
After selecting my program, I had trouble finding the best path for completing it	○	○	○

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It was difficult to get into the classes I needed	○	○	○
I had difficulty completing courses for my program	○	○	○
My course load was too heavy	○	○	○
I didn't have a good place to study or complete my work	○	○	○
Not enough access to advisors	○	○	○
Not enough access to tutors or other academic support	○	○	○
Financial difficulties	○	○	○
Job demands	○	○	○
Housing issues	○	○	○
Family responsibilities	○	○	○
Personal and/or health challenges	○	○	○
Other (please describe)	○	○	○

Q16 What factors helped you succeed in completing your STCC education? Please indicate if each was: Not a factor, Minor factor, or Major factor.

	Not a success factor	Minor success factor	Major success factor
Faculty and/or instructors (in-class time)	○	○	○
Faculty and/or instructors (out-of-class time)	○	○	○
Academic advisors	○	○	○
College staff (not faculty or advisors)	○	○	○
In-class experience and activities	○	○	○
Out-of-class homework and projects	○	○	○
Internship, clinical placements, or other career/program-related experience	○	○	○

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Campus activity group or club	○	○	○
Classmate inspiration, support, or encouragement	○	○	○
Family inspiration, support, or encouragement	○	○	○
Other, non-family inspiration, support, or encouragement	○	○	○
Being a role model for others	○	○	○
Other (please describe)	○	○	○

Q17 Ethnicity (This information is used for statistical purposes only and is optional.) Please choose one answer.
○ Hispanic or Latino/a
○ NOT Hispanic or Latino/a

Q18 Race (This information is used for statistical purposes only and is optional.) Please choose one or more answers.
❑ American Indian or Alaska Native
❑ Asian
❑ Black or African American
❑ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
❑ White

Q19 Gender Identity (This information is used for statistical purposes only and is optional.) Please choose one answer.
○ Male
○ Female
○ Other

Q20 WHEN YOU BEGAN your education at STCC, how old were you? (This information is used for statistical purposes only and is optional.) Please choose one answer.
○ 19 or Younger
○ 20 to 24
○ 25 to 29
○ 30 or Older

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Appendix II: Graduate Respondents by Credential and Program

No. Associates by Program	
NURS.AS	48
LTGS.AA	47
LECJ.AS	32
LTTR.AA	23
CITS.AS	23
BUSN.AS	15
BTCM.AS	15
CHLD.AS	13
MECH.AS	12
DHGY.AS	12
DMIR.AS	10
HTHC.AA	10
PTAS.AS	9
ARBT.AS	9
AUTM.AS	8
SURG.AS	7
CSET.AS	7
HIIM.AS	7
ENGY.AS	7
RSPC.AS	6
MANG.AS	6
CART.AS	6
ELEC.AS	6
ENGR.AS	6
MOAA.AS	6
MCBS.AS	5
OCCP.AS	5
FIRE.AS	5
FINE.AA	4
TPRD.AS	4
BIOT.AS	3

No. Associates by Program	
POAA.AS	3
DAUD.AS	3
CLLS.AS	3
DPHO.AS	3
HTHC.GS	3
LAND.AS	3
PROG.AS	2
ENTM.AS	2
DMIS.AS	2
BIOL.AS	2
MRKT.AS	2
ENGS.AS	1
ACCT.AS	1
CNST.AS	1
MDVT.AS	1
EDSE.AA	1
ESET.AS	1
ENGC.AA	1
EDEL.AA	1
CSCI.AS	1
No Response	3
Total	416

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No. Certificates by Program	
CSVC.COC	8
COSM.CRT	7
DAST.CRT	6
AUTO.COC	5
CLER.CRT	5
MEDA.COC	5
MEDC.COC	5
MOAA.COC	5
CNST.COC	2
ENGY.COC	2
PROG.COC	2
ARCH.COC	1
CADM.COC	1
DPHO.COC	1
EROB.COC	1
LECJ.COC	1
LEOT.COC	1
No Response	3
Total	61

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