



MONASH
University

Orientation Survey 2008

Part 1: Faculty of Business & Economics

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Report for

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Administration and Analysis

The survey was administered online following the Semester 1 orientation, which ran from Monday, 18 February to Friday, 22 February. Of the 3746 Faculty of Business & Economics students eligible to participate in this survey, 545 completed and submitted online responses, resulting in an overall response rate of 14.5%.

This report covers the student responses from the Faculty of Business & Economics orientation experience, with breakdowns by campus for items 13-17. Responses from campuses, Faculties and international students are tabled as separate reports. Each report has two parts:

Part 1: Summary Report

This comprises quantitative measures of Faculty of Business & Economics students' perceptions in three areas: overall orientation experience, student views of the e-planner and orientation website, and student views on the environment. Also included in the report is biographical information concerning response patterns of Faculty of Business & Economics students.

Part 2: Open-ended comment

Part 2 is produced as a separate document. It contains the full set of student open-ended comment concerning best aspects and aspects that could be improved in the three areas of the survey. Included in this report is also a brief overview of major issues identified by student open-ended comments in the three areas of this survey.

Part A: Student Detail

Campus Response

Of the 3746 Faculty of Business & Economics students eligible to participate in this survey, 545 completed and submitted online responses, resulting in an overall response rate of 14.5%. Response rates for all campuses are reported in Table 1.

Table 1: Campus response rates

Campus	Number of Responses	Population Size	Response rate (%)
Berwick	76	290	26.2
Caulfield	240	2043	11.7
Clayton	180	992	18.1
Gippsland	13	237	5.5
Parkville	2	32	6.2
Peninsula	24	152	15.8
Faculty of Business & Economics	545	3746	14.5

Mode of Study

A total of 92.5% reported that their main mode of study was on-campus with 0.9% indicating that their main mode of study was a mixture of on campus and off campus. 6.6% reported that their main mode of study was primarily off campus.

Study Load

A total of 91.4% reported that they were pursuing their studies on a full-time basis and 8.6% reported that they were part-time students.

Origin

Table 2 shows the origin of Faculty of Business & Economics students.

Table 2: Origin of Students

Origin	Percentage
Australian/New Zealand/Australian Permanent residents	69.2
International	30.8

Age

The age groups of Faculty of Business & Economics students completing the survey are shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Age

Age	Percentage
Under 17	0.7
17-19	56
20-22	22
23-29	14.3
30-39	5
40-49	1.7
50 and over	0.4

Gender

A total of 57.6% of Faculty of Business & Economics students participating in the survey were female compared to 42.4% male.

Intake into Faculty of Business & Economics

The student intake is shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Intake into Faculty of Business & Economics

Route	Percentage
Straight from secondary school	54.1
Transferring from another university or TAFE college	14.2
As a non-school leaver	9.7
Following deferment of one year	4
Other	17.4

Attendance at Open Day

A total of 55.4% of Faculty of Business & Economics students participating in the survey attended the Monash Open Day in 2007 with the remaining 44.6% reporting non-attendance.

Part B: Orientation Experience

Students reported three main ways that they found out about orientation activities. These were from the enrolment package, website and faculty enrolment (see Table 5). Students also reported other ways that they found about the Orientation information and activities (see Part 2).

Table 5: Student Access to Orientation Information and Activities

Access to information via ...	Percentage
Enrolment Package	44.8
Faculty Enrolment	41.1
Friends/Family	22.2
School/Teachers/CareersCoordinator	9.7
Showbag	38
Web Site	56.1
Other	1.7

Participation in Orientation Activities

The pattern of student participation over the 5 days that orientation activities were planned is shown in Figure 1.

Orientation Experience (Questions 13-17)

For the purposes of this analysis, satisfaction trends were constructed as Likert scales measuring 1 (Strongly Disagree) to 5 (Strongly Agree) and the middle term (3) being undecided. Means of responses are reported and these can be interpreted in terms of above 3 being positive and below 3 being negative. The distribution on the Likert scales is also reported. The sum of categories 4 and 5 (Strongly Agree and Agree) is taken to indicate “Agreement” and thus “good satisfaction”. Details of the breakdown by campus can be found in Appendix A.

Students generally were in agreement regarding the helpful and informative nature of the orientation activities. The general agreement, as shown in Table 6, is reflected in the means which ranged from 3.86-4.18 with percentage aggregate distribution of responses for rating in the Strongly Agree/Agree categories ranging from 75.7%-89.9%.

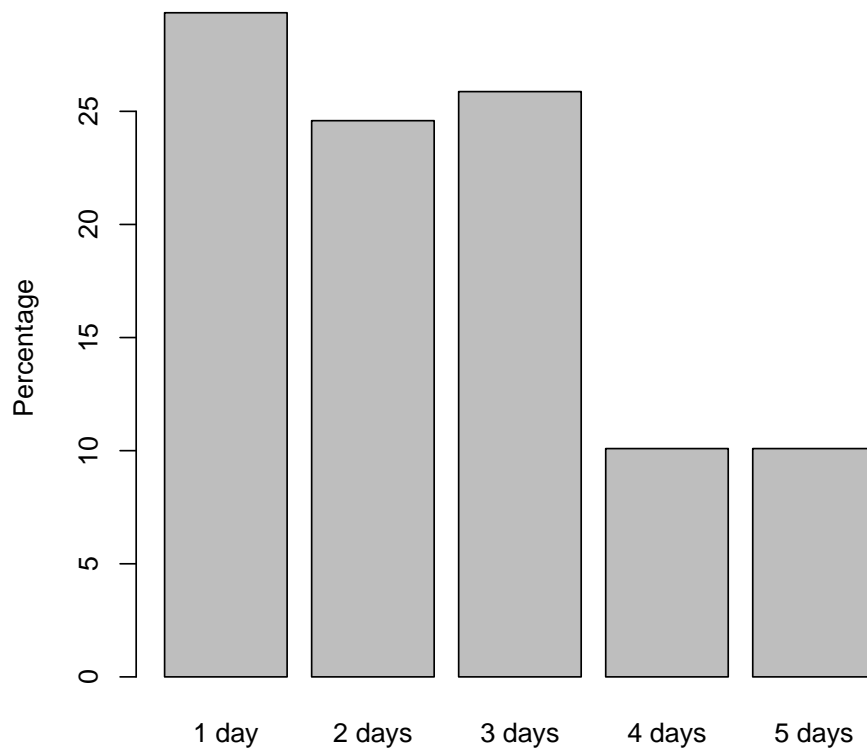


Figure 1: Breakdown of attendance for Orientation Activities

Table 6: Mean and Percentage Distribution for the Orientation Experience

No	Item	Mean	Strongly Agree, Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
13	Orientation was of benefit to me	4.175	89.9	32.1	57.7	6.1	3.7	0.4
14	The range of orientation activities helped me to adjust to the University environment	3.86	75.7	18.4	57.3	16.8	7	0.6
15	Orientation provided me with the information I needed to adjust to the University environment	3.991	83.5	21.8	61.7	10.5	5.5	0.4
16	My faculty (school or department) orientation provided me with the necessary information and confidence to begin my academic program	3.95	78.1	22.7	55.4	17.1	3.9	0.9
17	Overall I was satisfied with the Orientation program provided by Monash University	4.049	86	23.3	62.7	10.3	3	0.7

Part C: eOrientation planner and the Orientation website

eOrientation Planner

A total of 65.7% of Faculty of Business & Economics students participating in the survey reported using the eOrientation planner with the remaining 34.3% not using the planner. A number of reasons were reported by Faculty of Business & Economics students on why they did not use the planner, with the main reason being that Faculty of Business & Economics students were unaware of the availability of the planner. Other reasons included that Faculty of Business & Economics students found it confusing and hard to use.

Students were asked to give their opinion on the usefulness of the information provided via the eOrientation planner. Results are summarised in Table 7.

Table 7: Student's opinion on Usefulness of the information provided via the eOrientation Planner

Opinion	Used the e-Orientation Website			
	No	%	Yes	%
Extremely useful	10	22.7	136	39.1
Somewhat useful	10	22.7	171	49.1
Neutral	13	29.5	30	8.6
Not very useful	3	6.8	9	2.6
Did not read	8	18.2	2	0.6
Not applicable	143		10	

Use of Monash University Orientation website

A total of 81.5% Faculty of Business & Economics students who participated in this survey reported that they had used the website. The remaining 18.5% reported not using the site with some indicating reasons on why they did not use the site (see Part 2).

Uni Basics & Campus Information

Summary data showing the means and percentage "Agreement" for each of the items in this part is shown in Table 8. The items are constructed as Likert scales measuring 1 (Not at all Useful) to 4 (Extremely Useful), the middle item (2) being neutral. Means of responses are reported and these can be interpreted in terms of above 2 being positive and below 2 being negative. The sum of categories 3 and 4 (Somewhat Useful and Extremely Useful) is taken to indicate

“Agreement” and thus “good satisfaction”.

All 17 areas measured in this dimension regarding the usefulness of the information provided on the Monash University website, scored a mean of 2.514 or greater. The percentage “Agreement” ranged from 35.9%-84.1%.

Welcome Centre

A total of 42% of Faculty of Business & Economics students who participated in the survey reported that they had visited the Welcome Centre.

Table 8: Mean, Percentage Broad Agreement, and Percentile Distribution on University Basics and Campus Specific Information

No	Item	Mean	% Agreement	Not very Useful	Neutral	Somewhat useful	Extremely Useful	Did not Read	N/A
Uni Basics									
23	What is Orientation?	3.181	82.6	2	10.5	51	31.6	1.5	3.5
24	What's on during Orientation?	3.312	84.1	2.2	9.6	40.2	43.9	0.7	3.5
25	Where do I start?	3.098	73	3.3	18.2	38.9	34.1	1.1	4.4
26	Vice-Chancellor's Message	2.514	43.1	9	33.4	33.2	9.9	10.3	4.2
27	Transition to University	2.856	64.4	3.9	22.5	47.2	17.2	5.5	3.7
28	Academic Life	3.007	72.7	2.6	16.5	50.3	22.4	4.4	3.7
29	Uni Life	3.105	75.6	2.6	13.9	46.7	28.9	4.4	3.5
30	IT Services	2.988	67.3	3.7	17.1	43.9	23.5	7.5	4.4
31	The Library	3.207	72.2	2.6	9.5	40	32.2	2.2	13.5
32	Contact Us	3.055	67.2	2.7	18.6	38.4	28.8	7.5	4
Campus Specific Information									
33	Academic Director's Welcome	2.675	46.8	5.8	27.3	33.9	12.9	14.2	6
34	Student President's Welcome	2.719	51	5.2	26.5	37.3	13.7	12.1	5.2
35	Monash Postgraduate Association President's Welcome	2.56	35.9	7.2	26.5	25.6	10.3	16.4	14
36	A-Z of where to go and who to know	2.998	64.4	3.2	19.2	38.9	25.5	8	5.2
37	Six Essential things to do	3.023	64.4	2.4	17.9	39.7	24.7	9.2	6.1
38	On-campus activities	3.135	76.2	2.8	13.8	44.3	32	3	4.1
39	Key Contacts	3.01	66.4	2.8	19.4	40.4	26	6.8	4.6

Part D: The Environment

New in 2008 were a number of questions related to the environment. For the purposes of this analysis, answers to these questions were constructed as Likert scales measuring 1 (Strongly Disagree) to 5 (Strongly Agree) and the middle term (3) being undecided. Means of responses are reported and these can be interpreted in terms of above 3 being positive and below 3 being negative. The distribution on the Likert scales is also reported. The sum of categories 4 and 5 (Strongly Agree and Agree) is taken to indicate “Agreement”. Results are summarised in Table 9. Of the Faculty of Business & Economics students surveyed, 95.7% agreed or strongly agreed that the environment is important at Monash.

A total of 59.4% of Faculty of Business & Economics students who participated in the survey agreed to be contacted in 12 months time to see if/how their environmental behaviour had changed.

Table 9: Percentile Distribution on questions related to the environment

No	Item	Mean	% Agreement	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly Agree
43	The environment is important at Monash	3.512	95.7	0	0.2	4.1	40	55.7
As a Monash student, do you get the feeling that you ought to:								
44a	Save Energy	3.121	81.4	0.2	4.1	14.4	46.8	34.6
44b	Recycle	3.339	90.7	0	1.9	7.4	45.5	45.2
44c	Reduce Waste	3.226	85.6	0	2.7	11.7	45.9	39.7
44d	Use Sustainable transport	3.097	77	0	4.3	18.7	40.1	37

Appendix A: Campus Breakdown (Questions 13-17)

Table 10: Mean and Percentage Distribution for the Orientation Experience for Berwick Campus

No	Item	Mean	Strongly Agree, Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
13	Orientation was of benefit to me	4.329	92.1	42.1	50	6.6	1.3	0
14	The range of orientation activities helped me to adjust to the University environment	4.039	78.9	28.9	50	17.1	3.9	0
15	Orientation provided me with the information I needed to adjust to the University environment	4.197	88.2	34.2	53.9	9.2	2.6	0
16	My faculty (school or department) orientation provided me with the necessary information and confidence to begin my academic program	4.158	88.2	28.9	59.2	10.5	1.3	0
17	Overall I was satisfied with the Orientation program provided by Monash University	4.237	92	37.3	54.7	8	0	0

Table 11: Mean and Percentage Distribution for the Orientation Experience for Caulfield Campus

No	Item	Mean	Strongly Agree, Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
13	Orientation was of benefit to me	4.231	91.2	34.7	56.5	4.6	3.8	0.4
14	The range of orientation activities helped me to adjust to the University environment	3.929	78.7	18.8	59.8	15.5	5.4	0.4
15	Orientation provided me with the information I needed to adjust to the University environment	4.055	88.2	21	67.2	6.7	4.6	0.4
16	My faculty (school or department) orientation provided me with the necessary information and confidence to begin my academic program	4.042	82.7	24.5	58.2	13.1	3.8	0.4
17	Overall I was satisfied with the Orientation program provided by Monash University	4.076	88.2	21.9	66.2	8	3.4	0.4

Table 12: Mean and Percentage Distribution for the Orientation Experience for Clayton Campus

No	Item	Mean	Strongly Agree, Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
13	Orientation was of benefit to me	4.079	87.1	25.8	61.2	7.9	5.1	0
14	The range of orientation activities helped me to adjust to the University environment	3.753	72.1	13.4	58.7	16.2	11.2	0.6
15	Orientation provided me with the information I needed to adjust to the University environment	3.871	76.4	18	58.4	16.3	7.3	0
16	My faculty (school or department) orientation provided me with the necessary information and confidence to begin my academic program	3.805	67.6	15.9	51.7	26.1	5.1	1.1
17	Overall I was satisfied with the Orientation program provided by Monash University	3.977	81.1	17.7	63.4	14.3	3.4	1.1

Table 13: Mean and Percentage Distribution for the Orientation Experience for Gippsland Campus

No	Item	Mean	Strongly Agree, Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
13	Orientation was of benefit to me	4.231	92.3	30.8	61.5	7.7	0	0
14	The range of orientation activities helped me to adjust to the University environment	3.846	76.9	15.4	61.5	15.4	7.7	0
15	Orientation provided me with the information I needed to adjust to the University environment	4.077	92.3	23.1	69.2	0	7.7	0
16	My faculty (school or department) orientation provided me with the necessary information and confidence to begin my academic program	4.25	84.6	23.1	61.5	7.7	0	7.7
17	Overall I was satisfied with the Orientation program provided by Monash University	4	84.6	15.4	69.2	15.4	0	0

Table 14: Mean and Percentage Distribution for the Orientation Experience for Peninsula Campus

No	Item	Mean	Strongly Agree, Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
13	Orientation was of benefit to me	4.208	95.8	25	70.8	4.2	0	0
14	The range of orientation activities helped me to adjust to the University environment	4	79.2	20.8	58.3	20.8	0	0
15	Orientation provided me with the information I needed to adjust to the University environment	3.875	79.2	16.7	62.5	12.5	8.3	0
16	My faculty (school or department) orientation provided me with the necessary information and confidence to begin my academic program	4.042	75	33.3	41.7	20.8	4.2	0
17	Overall I was satisfied with the Orientation program provided by Monash University	4.208	87.5	37.5	50	8.3	4.2	0