



MONASH
University

Orientation Survey 2008

Part 1: Clayton Campus

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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 6827 Clayton campus students eligible to participate in this survey, 1039 completed and submitted online responses, resulting in an overall response rate of 15.2%.

This report covers the student responses from the Clayton campus orientation experience, with breakdowns by faculty 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 Clayton campus 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 Clayton campus 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

Faculty Response

Of the 6827 Clayton campus students eligible to participate in this survey, 1039 completed and submitted online responses, resulting in an overall response rate of 15.2%. Response rates for all faculties are reported in Table 1.

Table 1: Faculty response rates Clayton campus

Faculty	Number of Responses	Population Size	Response rate (%)
Art & Design	6	13	46.2
Arts	300	1557	19.3
Business & Economics	180	992	18.1
Education	70	935	7.5
Engineering	147	785	18.7
Information Technology	43	270	15.9
Law	88	669	13.2
Medicine, Nursing, and Health Sciences	185	1444	12.8
Pharmacy	2	26	7.7
Science	261	1041	25.1
Clayton campus	1039	6827	15.2

Mode of Study

A total of 93.7% reported that their main mode of study was on-campus with 1.8% indicating that their main mode of study was a mixture of on campus and off campus. 4.4% reported that their main mode of study was primarily off campus.

Study Load

A total of 96.3% reported that they were pursuing their studies on a full-time basis and 3.7% reported that they were part-time students.

Origin

Table 2 shows the origin of Clayton campus students.

Table 2: Origin of Students

Origin	Percentage
Australian/New Zealand/Australian Permanent residents	84.4
International	15.6

Age

The age groups of Clayton campus students completing the survey are shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Age

Age	Percentage
Under 17	0.6
17-19	67.9
20-22	18.8
23-29	9.5
30-39	2.1
40-49	0.6
50 and over	0.5

Gender

A total of 64.6% of Clayton campus students participating in the survey were female compared to 35.4% male.

Intake into Clayton campus

The student intake is shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Intake into Clayton campus

Route	Percentage
Straight from secondary school	65.4
Transferring from another university or TAFE college	9.7
As a non-school leaver	4.9
Following deferment of one year	8.8
Other	11

Attendance at Open Day

A total of 54.9% of Clayton campus students participated in the survey attended the Monash Open Day in 2007 with the remaining 45.1% 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	51.5
Faculty Enrolment	44.7
Friends/Family	29.2
School/Teachers/CareersCoordinator	10.2
Showbag	36.3
Web Site	54.8
Other	3.2

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 Faculty 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 3.75-4.1 with percentage aggregate distribution of responses for rating in the Strongly Agree/Agree categories ranging from 70.5%-87.8%.

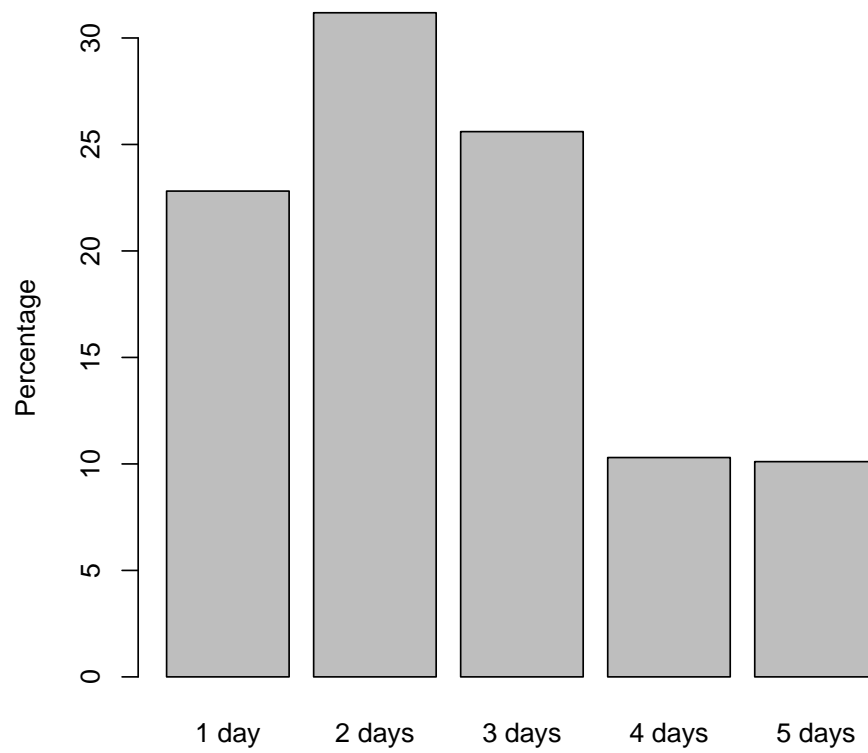


Figure 1: Breakdown of attendance for Orientation Activities

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	4.1	87.8	28.1	59.7	7	4.5	0.7
14	The range of orientation activities helped me to adjust to the University environment	3.75	70.5	15.7	54.8	19.1	9.6	0.8
15	Orientation provided me with the information I needed to adjust to the University environment	3.919	80.7	19.3	61.4	12	6.5	0.8
16	My faculty (school or department) orientation provided me with the necessary information and confidence to begin my academic program	3.961	76.9	25.9	51	17.3	5	0.9
17	Overall I was satisfied with the Orientation program provided by Monash University	4.016	84.6	23.1	61.5	9.9	4.8	0.7

Part C: eOrientation planner and the Orientation website

eOrientation Planner

A total of 64.6% of Clayton campus students participating in the survey reported using the eOrientation planner with the remaining 35.4% not using the planner. A number of reasons were reported by Clayton campus students on why they did not use the planner, with the main reason being that Clayton campus students were unaware of the availability of the planner. Other reasons included that Clayton campus 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	11.2	256	38.8
Somewhat useful	24	27	319	48.3
Neutral	20	22.5	56	8.5
Not very useful	11	12.4	28	4.2
Did not read	24	27	1	0.2
Not applicable	279		11	

Use of Monash University Orientation website

A total of 79.3% Clayton campus students who participated in this survey reported that they had used the website. The remaining 20.7% 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 2.442 or greater. The percentage “Agreement” ranged from 27.8%-85.8%.

Welcome Centre

A total of 34.3% of Clayton campus 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?	3.175	78.6	1.6	10.5	49	29.6	3.7	5.5
24	What's on during Orientation?	3.415	85.8	1.4	7.3	36.5	49.3	1.2	4.4
25	Where do I start?	3.058	71.4	3.7	15.8	42.9	28.6	3.4	5.7
26	Vice-Chancellor's Message	2.442	37	9.5	32.7	29.5	7.5	14.1	6.7
27	Transition to University	2.826	59.7	4.6	21.3	44.1	15.6	8.2	6.1
28	Academic Life	2.908	64.4	4.1	17.2	47	17.4	8.5	5.8
29	Uni Life	3.037	69.5	2.4	15.1	46.2	23.2	7.4	5.6
30	IT Services	2.946	62.9	4.6	17	41.3	21.6	9.6	6
31	The Library	3.155	72.2	4.6	9	40.6	31.5	3	11.3
32	Contact Us	3.059	64.1	2.8	16.4	37.3	26.8	10	6.7
Campus Specific Information									
33	Academic Director's Welcome	2.633	43.1	5.8	25.7	33.2	9.9	16.8	8.5
34	Student President's Welcome	2.831	51.2	4.2	21.4	34.3	16.9	15.2	8
35	Monash Postgraduate Association President's Welcome	2.447	27.8	6.8	25.9	21.9	6	19.1	20.4
36	A-Z of where to go and who to know	2.975	60.9	3.9	15.7	39.5	21.4	11.4	8.1
37	Six Essential things to do	2.974	59.7	4	15.9	37.8	21.9	11.2	9.2
38	On-campus activities	3.194	78.8	1.9	10.4	47	31.9	3.9	5
39	Key Contacts	3	61.7	2.2	19.1	38.2	23.4	10.4	6.7

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 Clayton campus students surveyed, 96.4% agreed or strongly agreed that the environment is important at Monash.

A total of 57.7% of Clayton campus 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	3.586	96.4	0.1	0.5	3	33.8	62.6
As a Monash student, do you get the feeling that you ought to:								
44a	Save Energy	3.191	82.3	0.6	3.9	13.2	42.3	40
44b	Recycle	3.491	93.6	0.3	1.3	4.7	37.3	56.4
44c	Reduce Waste	3.326	87.7	0.3	3.1	8.9	40.1	47.6
44d	Use Sustainable transport	3.139	78	1	6.3	14.7	37.1	41

Appendix A: Faculty Breakdown (Questions 13-17)

Table 10: Mean and Percentage Distribution for the Orientation Experience for the Faculty of Arts

No	Item	Mean	Strongly Agree, Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
13	Orientation was of benefit to me	4.107	89	27.4	61.5	6.4	3.7	1
14	The range of orientation activities helped me to adjust to the University environment	3.756	72.6	12.7	59.9	18.4	8.4	0.7
15	Orientation provided me with the information I needed to adjust to the University environment	3.926	84.6	16.1	68.5	8.7	5.4	1.3
16	My faculty (school or department) orientation provided me with the necessary information and confidence to begin my academic program	3.876	74.6	20.7	53.8	19.1	5	1.3
17	Overall I was satisfied with the Orientation program provided by Monash University	3.977	85.5	21.6	63.9	9.8	4.1	0.7

Table 11: Mean and Percentage Distribution for the Orientation Experience for the Faculty of Business & Economics

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	3.732	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	3.761	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	3.844	81.1	17.7	63.4	14.3	3.4	1.1

Table 12: Mean and Percentage Distribution for the Orientation Experience for the Faculty of Education

No	Item	Mean	Strongly Agree, Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
13	Orientation was of benefit to me	4.057	90	21.4	68.6	4.3	5.7	0
14	The range of orientation activities helped me to adjust to the University environment	3.729	68.6	14.3	54.3	21.4	10	0
15	Orientation provided me with the information I needed to adjust to the University environment	3.928	78.3	20.3	58	15.9	5.8	0
16	My faculty (school or department) orientation provided me with the necessary information and confidence to begin my academic program	4.171	82.9	37.1	45.7	14.3	2.9	0
17	Overall I was satisfied with the Orientation program provided by Monash University	3.986	87.1	20	67.1	5.7	5.7	1.4

Table 13: Mean and Percentage Distribution for the Orientation Experience for the Faculty of Engineering

No	Item	Mean	Strongly Agree, Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
13	Orientation was of benefit to me	4.143	88.4	30.6	57.8	6.8	4.8	0
14	The range of orientation activities helped me to adjust to the University environment	3.796	70.1	19	51	20.4	9.5	0
15	Orientation provided me with the information I needed to adjust to the University environment	3.878	75.5	21.1	54.4	16.3	7.5	0.7
16	My faculty (school or department) orientation provided me with the necessary information and confidence to begin my academic program	3.993	78.9	23.1	55.8	18.4	2.7	0
17	Overall I was satisfied with the Orientation program provided by Monash University	4.02	85.6	24	61.6	9.6	4.8	0

Table 14: Mean and Percentage Distribution for the Orientation Experience for the Faculty of Information Technology

No	Item	Mean	Strongly Agree, Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
13	Orientation was of benefit to me	4.023	81.4	30.2	51.2	9.3	9.3	0
14	The range of orientation activities helped me to adjust to the University environment	4	79.1	25.6	53.5	16.3	4.7	0
15	Orientation provided me with the information I needed to adjust to the University environment	4.256	86	41.9	44.2	11.6	2.3	0
16	My faculty (school or department) orientation provided me with the necessary information and confidence to begin my academic program	4.163	81.4	34.9	46.5	18.6	0	0
17	Overall I was satisfied with the Orientation program provided by Monash University	4	86	23.3	62.8	4.7	9.3	0

Table 15: Mean and Percentage Distribution for the Orientation Experience for the Faculty of Law

No	Item	Mean	Strongly Agree, Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
13	Orientation was of benefit to me	4.057	88.6	21.6	67	8	2.3	1.1
14	The range of orientation activities helped me to adjust to the University environment	3.545	60.2	9.1	51.1	27.3	10.2	2.3
15	Orientation provided me with the information I needed to adjust to the University environment	3.818	81.8	6.8	75	12.5	4.5	1.1
16	My faculty (school or department) orientation provided me with the necessary information and confidence to begin my academic program	3.83	77.3	13.6	63.6	15.9	5.7	1.1
17	Overall I was satisfied with the Orientation program provided by Monash University	4.057	85.2	26.1	59.1	9.1	5.7	0

Table 16: Mean and Percentage Distribution for the Orientation Experience for the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

No	Item	Mean	Strongly Agree, Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
13	Orientation was of benefit to me	4.104	87.4	30.6	56.8	6.6	4.4	1.6
14	The range of orientation activities helped me to adjust to the University environment	3.732	68.3	19.1	49.2	18.6	12	1.1
15	Orientation provided me with the information I needed to adjust to the University environment	3.918	81.9	18.7	63.2	10.4	6.6	1.1
16	My faculty (school or department) orientation provided me with the necessary information and confidence to begin my academic program	4.104	80.9	36.6	44.3	12.6	6	0.5
17	Overall I was satisfied with the Orientation program provided by Monash University	4.055	84.7	27.3	57.4	9.8	4.4	1.1

Table 17: Mean and Percentage Distribution for the Orientation Experience for the Faculty of Science

No	Item	Mean	Strongly Agree, Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
13	Orientation was of benefit to me	4.123	88.3	27.6	60.7	8	3.7	0
14	The range of orientation activities helped me to adjust to the University environment	3.693	66.9	12.3	54.6	23.9	8.6	0.6
15	Orientation provided me with the information I needed to adjust to the University environment	3.877	78.5	20.2	58.3	11	9.8	0.6
16	My faculty (school or department) orientation provided me with the necessary information and confidence to begin my academic program	3.975	77.8	27.8	50	14.8	6.8	0.6
17	Overall I was satisfied with the Orientation program provided by Monash University	4	85.2	22.8	62.3	9.3	5.6	0