



**MONASH**  
University

# **Orientation Survey 2008**

## **Part 1: Faculty of Education**

**Dr Neil Diamond**

B.Sc. (Hons), Ph.D., A.Stat.

**S Arivalzahan**

B.Sc. (Hons), M.Sc.

**Department of  
Econometrics &  
Business Statistics  
Consulting Service**

Telephone: (03) 9905 2358

Fax: (03) 9905 5474

<http://go.to/statconsult/>

ABN: 12 377 614 012

Report for

Manager, Orientation

Student & Community Services Division

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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 1683 Faculty of Education students eligible to participate in this survey, 153 completed and submitted online responses, resulting in an overall response rate of 9.1%.

This report covers the student responses from the Faculty of Education 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 Education 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 Education 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 1683 Faculty of Education students eligible to participate in this survey, 153 completed and submitted online responses, resulting in an overall response rate of 9.1%. Response rates for all campuses are reported in Table 1.

Table 1: Campus response rates

Campus	Number of Responses	Population Size	Response rate (%)
Berwick	2	0	
Caulfield	0	64	0
Clayton	70	935	7.5
Gippsland	30	322	9.3
Parkville	0	0	
Peninsula	47	362	13
Faculty of Education	153	1683	9.1

### Mode of Study

A total of 87.6% reported that their main mode of study was on-campus with 4.6% indicating that their main mode of study was a mixture of on campus and off campus. 7.8% reported that their main mode of study was primarily off campus.

### Study Load

A total of 90.2% reported that they were pursuing their studies on a full-time basis and 9.8% reported that they were part-time students.

### Origin

Table 2 shows the origin of Faculty of Education students.

Table 2: Origin of Students

Origin	Percentage
Australian/New Zealand/Australian Permanent residents	86.3
International	13.7

## Age

The age groups of Faculty of Education students completing the survey are shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Age

Age	Percentage
Under 17	0
17-19	28.8
20-22	22.2
23-29	30.7
30-39	12.4
40-49	5.2
50 and over	0.7

## Gender

A total of 85.6% of Faculty of Education students participating in the survey were female compared to 14.4% male.

## Intake into Faculty of Education

The student intake is shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Intake into Faculty of Education

Route	Percentage
Straight from secondary school	30.7
Tranferring from another university or TAFE college	10.5
As a non-school leaver	28.1
Following deferment of one year	6.5
Other	24.2

## Attendance at Open Day

A total of 44.4% of Faculty of Education students participating in the survey attended the Monash Open Day in 2007 with the remaining 55.6% 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	45.1
Faculty Enrolment	35.9
Friends/Family	15
School/Teachers/CareersCoordinator	6.5
Showbag	24.8
Web Site	50.3
Other	5.2

### 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, while breakdown by Campus can be found in Appendix B.

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 3.66-4.07 with percentage aggregate distribution of responses for rating in the Strongly Agree/Agree categories ranging from 63.2%-86.2%.

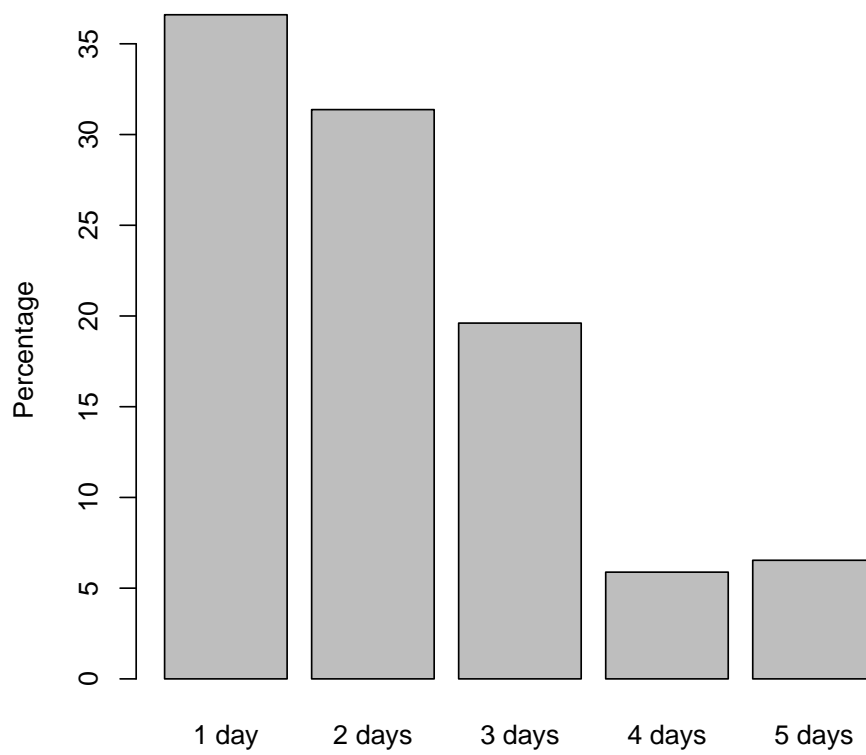


Figure 1: Breakdown of attendance for Orientation Activities

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	4.072	86.2	28.3	57.9	7.9	4.6	1.3
14	The range of orientation activities helped me to adjust to the University environment	3.658	63.2	15.1	48	26.3	8.6	2
15	Orientation provided me with the information I needed to adjust to the University environment	3.907	77.3	20	57.3	17.3	4	1.3
16	My faculty (school or department) orientation provided me with the necessary information and confidence to begin my academic program	4.013	79.6	30.3	49.3	13.8	4.6	2
17	Overall I was satisfied with the Orientation program provided by Monash University	3.921	82.1	20.5	61.6	10.6	4	3.3

## Part C: eOrientation planner and the Orientation website

### eOrientation Planner

A total of 45.1% of Faculty of Education students participating in the survey reported using the eOrientation planner with the remaining 54.9% not using the planner. A number of reasons were reported by Faculty of Education students on why they did not use the planner, with the main reason being that Faculty of Education students were unaware of the availability of the planner. Other reasons included that Faculty of Education 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	1	5	37	53.6
Somewhat useful	7	35	25	36.2
Neutral	7	35	5	7.2
Not very useful	2	10	2	2.9
Did not read	3	15	0	0
Not applicable	64		0	

### Use of Monash University Orientation website

A total of 73.9% Faculty of Education students who participated in this survey reported that they had used the website. The remaining 26.1% 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 2.438 or greater. The percentage “Agreement” ranged from 30.3%-82.4%.

### **Welcome Centre**

A total of 28.1% of Faculty of Education 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?	3.196	69.2	1.7	14.2	35	34.2	8.3	6.7
24	What's on during Orientation?	3.432	82.4	0	10.9	31.1	51.3	1.7	5
25	Where do I start?	3.136	70.6	1.7	14.3	41.2	29.4	7.6	5.9
26	Vice-Chancellor's Message	2.476	33.6	5	31.9	28.6	5	21.8	7.6
27	Transition to University	2.761	49.6	1.7	23.9	40.2	9.4	17.1	7.7
28	Academic Life	2.859	56.8	0.8	20.3	45.8	11	15.3	6.8
29	Uni Life	2.947	59.3	2.5	18.6	39.8	19.5	13.6	5.9
30	IT Services	3.05	69.2	4.3	12.8	43.6	25.6	8.5	5.1
31	The Library	3.209	64.2	3.7	11	29.4	34.9	2.8	18.3
32	Contact Us	3.14	68.4	0.9	16.2	38.5	29.9	9.4	5.1
Campus Specific Information									
33	Academic Director's Welcome	2.554	33.3	5	30.8	23.3	10	23.3	7.5
34	Student President's Welcome	2.607	35.8	6.7	27.5	22.5	13.3	21.7	8.3
35	Monash Postgraduate Association President's Welcome	2.438	30.3	6.7	30.3	24.4	5.9	19.3	13.4
36	A-Z of where to go and who to know	3.092	66.9	0.8	15.3	42.4	24.6	9.3	7.6
37	Six Essential things to do	3.052	62.7	2.5	16.1	37.3	25.4	10.2	8.5
38	On-campus activities	3.196	77.1	0.8	12.7	44.9	32.2	5.1	4.2
39	Key Contacts	3.088	68.9	1.7	15.1	42.9	26.1	9.2	5

## **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 Education students surveyed, 95.7% agreed or strongly agreed that the environment is important at Monash.

A total of 56.2% of Faculty of Education 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	3.547	95.7	0	0.7	3.6	36	59.7
As a Monash student, do you get the feeling that you ought to:								
44a	Save Energy	3.213	81.7	0.7	2.1	15.5	40.8	40.8
44b	Recycle	3.4	91.4	0	2.9	5.7	40	51.4
44c	Reduce Waste	3.268	85.2	0	4.2	10.6	39.4	45.8
44d	Use Sustainable transport	3.05	75	0.7	5	19.3	40.7	34.3

## **Appendix A: Campus Breakdown (Questions 13-17)**

Table 10: 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	4.057	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	4.043	87.1	20	67.1	5.7	5.7	1.4

Table 11: 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	4.107	72.4	34.5	37.9	20.7	3.4	3.4
14	The range of orientation activities helped me to adjust to the University environment	3.714	65.5	10.3	55.2	20.7	10.3	3.4
15	Orientation provided me with the information I needed to adjust to the University environment	3.889	71.4	10.7	60.7	25	0	3.6
16	My faculty (school or department) orientation provided me with the necessary information and confidence to begin my academic program	4.259	79.3	37.9	41.4	6.9	6.9	6.9
17	Overall I was satisfied with the Orientation program provided by Monash University	4	72.4	17.2	55.2	17.2	3.4	6.9

Table 12: 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	4.191	91.5	31.9	59.6	4.3	4.3	0
14	The range of orientation activities helped me to adjust to the University environment	3.696	55.3	17	38.3	36.2	6.4	2.1
15	Orientation provided me with the information I needed to adjust to the University environment	4	80.9	23.4	57.4	14.9	4.3	0
16	My faculty (school or department) orientation provided me with the necessary information and confidence to begin my academic program	3.936	78.7	19.1	59.6	17	4.3	0
17	Overall I was satisfied with the Orientation program provided by Monash University	4.111	82.6	26.1	56.5	13	2.2	2.2