MLIS Graduate Student Exit Survey Summary—2015
School Information
University of South Florida

The goal of the exit survey is to obtain graduating students' impressions and experiences of the MLIS Program. Survey results help to guide future planning and directions at the School, inform the School's recruitment and marketing plans, and assist with continuing accreditation of the MLIS degree program under the auspices of the American Library Association's Committee on Accreditation.

A total of 61 MLIS students completed their programs in 2015, of whom 36 participated in the MLIS Exit Survey. That is a response rate of just over 59%.

The following summary of the 2015 survey results highlights key data pertinent to each of the standards identified in the COA Standards for Accreditation of Master's Programs in Library and Information Studies (2015) and reflect students' mastery of Program Level Learning Outcomes.

Time to complete degree (years)	N	%
1 - 2	23	63.9
More than 2 - 3	7	19.4
More than 3 - 4	3	8.3
More than 4-5	0	
More than 5	3	8.3

Completed School Media Specialization

Response	N	%
Yes	5	13.9
No	31	86.7

Students with LIS experience professional experience prior to entering the MLIS program

Response	N	%
Yes	18	50
No	18	50

Primary area of interest within Library and Information Science

Response	N	%
Academic	4	11
Archiving	1	2.7
Public	7	19.4
School / Youth Services	4	11
Special	2	5.6
No preference / No response	17	47.2

How students rate their technology skill and level

Response	N	%
Advanced	9	25
Expert		
Intermediate	9	25
Novice		
No preference / No response	18	50

Systematic Planning

60% of respondents indicated that they had an opportunity to **participate in the governance** of the department (e.g., committee membership, discussion of issues with faculty and departmental chairpersons, etc.).

Curriculum

- 88.2% of respondents indicated that the **course schedule allowed students to implement a coherent program of study**.
- 94.1% of respondents indicated that the **curriculum provided knowledge of current technology**
- 76.4% of respondents indicated that the **curriculum provided a "hands on" opportunity to learn current technology.**
- 82.3% of respondents **indicated that the curriculum prepared them for an entry level professional position.**

Faculty

- 97% of respondents indicated that faculty members provided a **blend of theoretical and practical** applications in their classes.
- 97.1% of respondents indicated that faculty members provided **up-to-date information** in their classes.
- 94.1% of respondents indicated that faculty members demonstrated **respect for alternative viewpoints**.
- 88.6% of respondents indicated that the library and information science **faculty was very effective**.

Students

- 40% of respondents indicated that they participate in LIS professional organizations.

Student reporting of mastery of program level learning outcomes

Leadership and Innovation

- 94% of respondents indicated that they can **assess a library community's information needs.**
- 97% of respondents indicated that they can **build an appropriate library collection.**
- 91% of respondents indicated that they can **apply management principles in a library work setting.**

Systems and Services

- 97% of respondents indicated that they can **provide library service to diverse populations.**
- 100% of respondents indicated that they can **use a variety of resources to provide library service**.

Knowledge Representation

- 97% of respondents indicated that they can **organize information** based on the theories from library and information science.

Theory and Praxis

- 85.3% of respondents indicated that they can **use quantitative methods** and 88.2% indicated that they can use **qualitative methods for problem solving.**
- 88.2% of respondents indicated that they can **use quantitative** and 79.4% indicated that they can use **qualitative methods for research.**
- 70.6% of respondents indicated that they have completed at least one **quantitative** research project while in the program while 58.8% indicated that they have completed at least one **qualitative** research project. Just under 3% of respondents indicated that they participated in a **published research project** with a faculty member.

Administration, Finances, and Resources

- 73.5% of respondents indicated that **information about programs** in the department was accessible.
- 50% of respondents indicated that **financial aid information** was accessible in the department.
- 77.1% of respondents indicated that **information about departmental policies and procedures** (e.g., independent study, internship, etc.) was accessible.
- 61.8% of respondents indicated that **available instructional resources** (e.g., children's collection, cataloging tools, media equipment) within the department were adequate to fulfill course requirements.
- 60% of respondents indicated that **departmental placement activities** (e.g., job postings, mailings, etc.) were adequate.