THE EVERGREEN STATE COLLEGE
Excerpts from the 2006 Alumni Survey of the Class of 2004-05

OLYMPIA CULTURE, TEXT, AND LANGUAGE SUBSET

The overall response rate for locatable members of the class of 2004-05 was 31%. Respondents identified their primary areas of study as presented in the following chart.

Primary area of study (concentration) at Evergreen	Total N=360
Social Sciences (Society, Politics, Behavior, and Change)	(N=105) 29.2%
Humanities, Language Arts (Culture, Text & Language)	(N=72) 20.0%
Science, Math, Computers (Scientific Inquiry)	(N=46) 12.8%
Media, Visual Arts, Drama (Expressive Arts)	(N=43) 11.9%
Environmental Studies	(N=36) 10.0%
Liberal Arts/Interdisciplinary Study *(this category includes alumni who chose more than one primary area of study, or wrote in "Liberal Arts")*	(N=21) 5.8%
Education	(N=16) 4.4%
Business	(N=16) 4.4%
Native American Studies	(N=5) 1.4%

The following data include only responses from students who primarily attended the Olympia campus and who identified Culture, Text, and Language as their primary area of study or among their primary areas of study at Evergreen. 79 alumni respondents met these criteria.
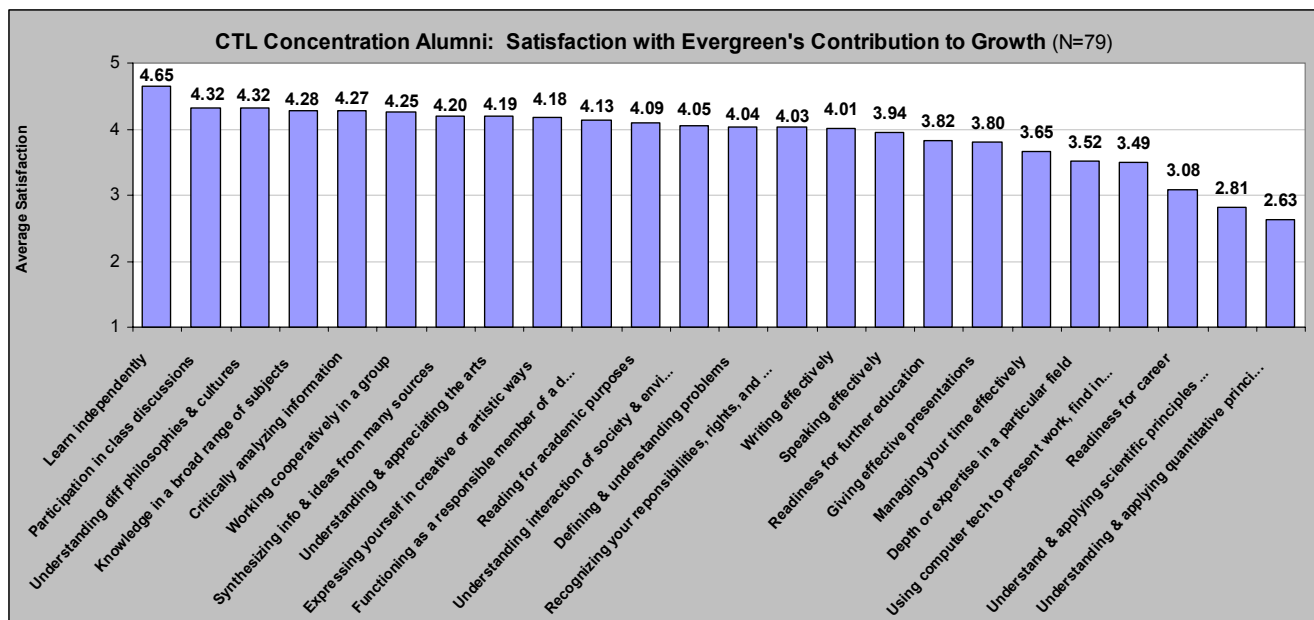- **All 79 respondents earned BA degrees**.

Evergreen's Contribution to Academic and Personal Growth

Alumni were asked to rate their satisfaction with Evergreen's contribution to their academic and personal growth in each of the following academic areas on a five-point scale from 1=not at all satisfied to 5=very satisfied.

Academic Areas	1 Not at all satisfied	2 Little satisfaction	3 Somewhat satisfied	4 Mostly satisfied	5 Very satisfied	*N missing*
Writing effectively	0	6.3%	17.7%	**44.3%**	31.6%	*0*
Speaking effectively	0	2.5%	29.1%	**40.5%**	27.8%	*0*
Critically analyzing information	0	2.5%	17.7%	30.4%	**49.4%**	*0*
Learning independently	0	0	2.5%	30.4%	**67.1%**	*0*
Understanding and appreciating the arts	1.3%	2.6%	15.4%	37.2%	**43.6%**	*1*
Understanding and applying scientific principles and methods	9.1%	**35.1%**	32.5%	13.0%	10.4%	*2*
Understanding and applying quantitative principles	20.0%	**30.7%**	24.0%	17.3%	8.0%	*4*
Defining and understanding problems	0	3.8%	21.5%	**41.8%**	32.9%	*0*
Working cooperatively in a group	1.3%	2.5%	15.2%	31.6%	**49.4%**	*0*
Readiness for a career	14.3%	19.5%	**26.0%**	24.7%	15.6%	*2*
Readiness for further education (graduate, professional, or doctoral)	5.1%	11.4%	19.0%	**25.3%**	39.2%	*0*
Understanding different philosophies and cultures	0	3.8%	12.8%	30.8%	**52.6%**	*1*
Understanding the interaction of society and the environment	3.8%	5.1%	15.2%	**34.2%**	41.8%	*0*
Recognizing your rights, responsibilities and privileges as a citizen	2.5%	3.8%	24.1%	**27.8%**	41.8%	*0*
Reading for academic purposes	0	5.1%	13.9%	**48.1%**	32.9%	*0*
Giving effective presentations	1.3%	3.8%	**39.2%**	25.3%	30.4%	*0*

Academic Areas	1 Not at all satisfied	2 Little satisfaction	3 Somewhat satisfied	4 Mostly satisfied	5 Very satisfied	N missing
Participation in class discussion	0	6.5%	7.8%	32.5%	**53.2%**	0
Knowledge in a broad range of subjects	0	1.3%	17.7%	32.9%	**48.1%**	0
Synthesizing information and ideas from many sources	0	2.5%	13.9%	**44.3%**	39.2%	0
Managing your time effectively	2.5%	8.9%	27.8%	**43.0%**	17.7%	0
Functioning as a responsible member of a diverse community	1.3%	3.8%	19.2%	32.1%	**43.6%**	1
Expressing yourself in creative or artistic ways	2.5%	5.1%	15.2%	26.6%	**50.6%**	0
Using computer technology to present work, find information, or solve problems	1.3%	14.1%	32.1%	**39.7%**	12.8%	1
Depth or expertise in a particular field	3.8%	16.5%	**27.8%**	**27.8%**	24.1%	0

The average satisfaction rating for each academic area was calculated and the results are presented in the next chart. Average ratings for learning independently, participation in class discussions, and understanding different philosophies and cultures were rated highest by the CTL alumni. Average satisfaction fell below the "somewhat satisfied" midpoint of the scale in the areas of understanding and applying quantitative principles and understanding and applying scientific principles.

Note: Satisfaction was rated on a five-point scale where 1=not at all satisfied, 2=little satisfaction, 3= somewhat satisfied, 4=mostly satisfied, and 5=very satisfied.

Work-related skills and abilities

Alumni rated their skill levels in a series of work-related activities. Then the alumni who rated their skill levels also rated how well the education they received at Evergreen prepared them in each area. The following table provides the frequencies of the alumni responses about their work-related skills. The most common rating category for each work-related skill is presented in bold print for emphasis.

Work-Related Skills	Your level of skill					Preparation from your Evergreen education		
	1= Poor	2= Fair	3= Good	4= Excellent	N/A	Not at all	To some extent	A great deal
Organize and conduct work effectively (N=77)	0%	2.6%	**51.9%**	45.5%	0%	1.3%	**72.0%**	26.7%
Work in a culturally diverse environment (N=77)	0%	2.6%	28.6%	**68.8%**	0%	7.9%	**47.4%**	44.7%
Effective communication skills (N=77)	0%	7.8%	37.7%	**54.5%**	0%	2.6%	**51.3%**	46.1%
Creative thinking skills (N=76)	1.3%	1.3%	19.7%	**77.6%**	0%	0%	47.4%	**52.6%**
Decision-making ability (N=76)	2.6%	9.2%	**55.3%**	32.9%	0%	10.7%	**69.3%**	20.0%
Independence and initiative (N=77)	1.3%	1.3%	33.8%	**63.6%**	0%	5.3%	36.8%	**57.9%**
Leadership (N=77)	2.6%	19.5%	37.7%	**40.3%**	0%	10.5%	**63.2%**	26.3%
Negotiating skills (N=76)	1.3%	21.1%	53.9%	**22.4%**	1.3%	16.2%	**67.6%**	16.2%
Research skills (N=76)	1.3%	15.8%	**55.3%**	27.6%	0%	4.0%	**57.3%**	38.7%
Willingness and aptitude to learn new skills (N=75)	0%	0%	24.0%	**74.7%**	1.3%	2.7%	43.2%	**54.1%**

Note: The number provided by each item reflects the number of alumni who rated their initial skill level; the number varies for some skill areas, since some alumni skipped questions.

Satisfaction with Evergreen Experiences

Alumni rated their level of satisfaction with a series of Evergreen educational experiences. They rated their satisfaction on a four-point scale from *1=very dissatisfied* to *4=very satisfied*. They also had the option of indicating if an educational experience did not apply to them.
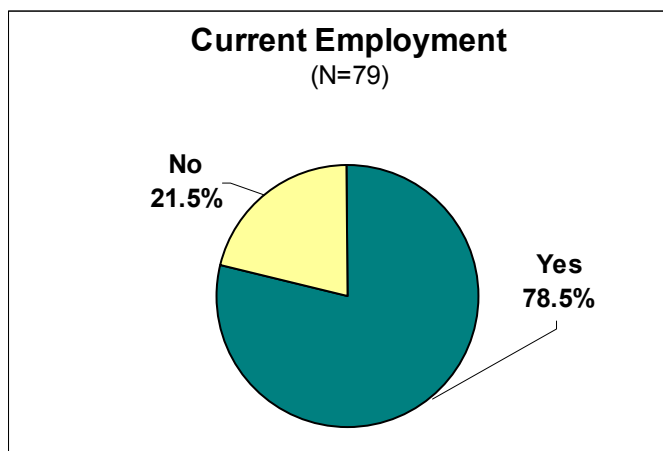
Educational Experiences at Evergreen	% Participated	1= Very Dissatisfied	2= Somewhat dissatisfied	3= Somewhat satisfied	4= Very satisfied	Missing N
Evergreen's interdisciplinary approach to education	100%	1.3%	3.8%	17.9%	**76.9%**	1
Narrative evaluations written by faculty	100%	1.3%	7.7%	28.2%	**62.8%**	1
The quality of instruction	100%	2.6%	2.6%	41.0%	**53.8%**	1
Quality of learning interaction with other students, for example, in seminars	100%	0%	14.1%	**44.9%**	41.0%	1
The education you were able to construct as an Evergreen student	100%	0%	5.3%	34.2%	**60.5%**	3
Tolerance and respect shown for different or opposing viewpoints	100%	3.8%	16.7%	**46.2%**	33.3%	1
Academic advice from faculty	100%	3.8%	12.8%	33.3%	**50.0%**	1
Opportunities for advanced undergraduate work at Evergreen	95%	1.4%	23.0%	**41.9%**	33.8%	1
Self-evaluation process	100%	0%	9.0%	39.7%	**51.3%**	1

The following table shows how many students participated in special learning opportunities while at Evergreen. Alumni who participated then rated their satisfaction with the experience. Except in the category *Culminating senior experience*, *very satisfied* was the most common response category.

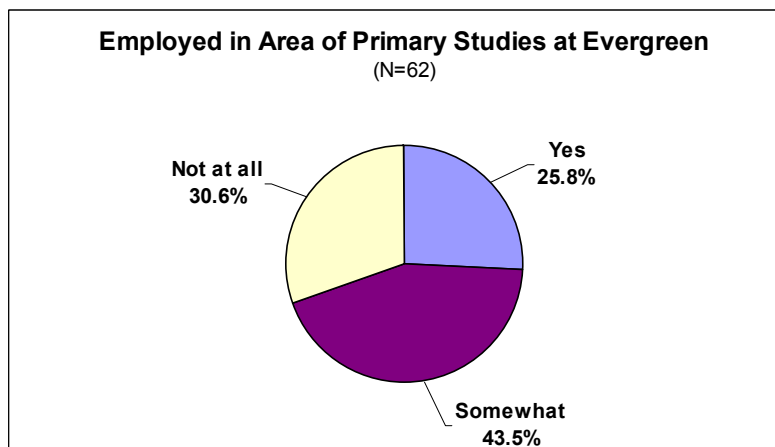| Educational Experiences at Evergreen	% Participated	1= Very Dissatisfied	2= Somewhat dissatisfied	3= Somewhat satisfied	4= Very satisfied	Missing N
Contracts and other individual work with faculty	72.2%	1.7%	3.3%	31.7%	**63.3%**	0
Community service or volunteer work	45.5%	2.9%	2.9%	28.6%	**65.7%**	2
Culminating senior experience (capstone, thesis, or senior summative self-evaluation)	29.9%	4.3%	0%	**65.2%**	30.4%	2
Internships	36.4%	0%	3.7%	37.0%	**59.3%**	2
Study abroad	48.7%	2.7%	5.4%	18.9%	**73.0%**	1

For students who participated in each activity, the most common response was that they were *somewhat satisfied* or *very satisfied*. Evergreen's "interdisciplinary approach to education" and "narrative evaluation by the faculty" were the highest in satisfaction of the common Evergreen experiences. 24.4% of alumni were dissatisfied with "Opportunities for advanced undergraduate work at Evergreen".

Alumni Employment Data

Current Employment
(N=79)

No
21.5%

Yes
78.5%

78.5% of the CTL concentration alumni were employed one year after graduation compared to 84% of all alumni respondents.
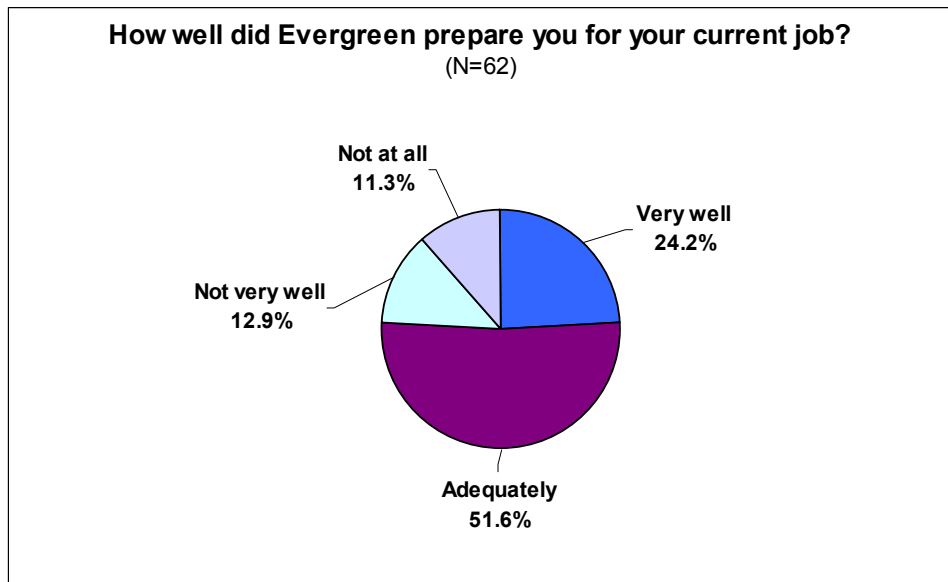
Of those who were employed, 69.3% of the CTL alumni were employed in an area that was at least somewhat related to their area of primary study at Evergreen.

Employed in Area of Primary Studies at Evergreen
(N=62)

Not at all
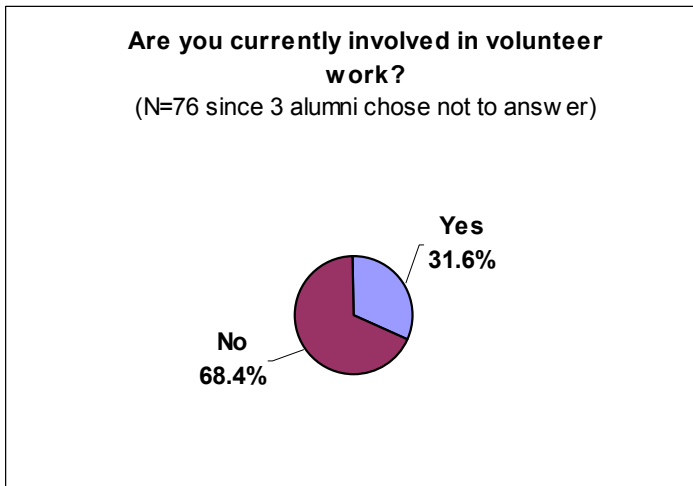30.6%

Yes
25.8%

Somewhat
43.5%

The 62 employed CTL alumni selected one category from the list below that they felt best described the type of work they were doing one year after graduation.

Education/Library	24.2%
Office/Administration support	16.1%
Business management	9.7%
Community and Social Service	9.7%
Media and Communications	8.1%
Food Preparation/Service	6.5%
Sales	6.5%
Art and Design	4.8%
Business Operations	4.8%
Entertainer/Performer	3.2%
Groundskeeper/Maintenance	3.2%
Computer/Mathematical	1.6%
Legal Occupations	1.6%

75.8% of the employed CTL alumni felt that their Evergreen experiences prepared them *adequately* or *very well* for their current employment.

How well did Evergreen prepare you for your current job?
(N=62)

Not at all
11.3%

Very well
24.2%

Not very well
12.9%

Adequately
51.6%

Volunteerism

Are you currently involved in volunteer work?
(N=76 since 3 alumni chose not to answer)

Yes
31.6%

No
68.4%

32% of the CTL concentration alumni were involved in volunteer activities one year after graduation compared to 34% of all alumni respondents

Graduate or Professional School

32% of CTL alumni applied to graduate/professional school within one year. Of the 24 alumni who applied 21 had been offered admission (87.5%) and 3 applications are still pending. No one has been denied thus far.

Of the 79 CTL alumni, 19 attended or are currently attending graduate or professional school within one year of graduating from Evergreen. The 19 alumni were continuing their work at in Washington (11), other states (6), and internationally (2). Two had enrolled graduate studies at Evergreen in this timeframe.   This rate of 25% of alumni going directly to graduate school within one year is slightly higher than the 21% of all Evergreen alumni respondents who entered graduate school within one year of graduation.

Field of graduate study	Number	%
English Language and Literature/Letters	2	10.5
Foreign languages, Literature, and Linguistics	1	5.3
Health Services, Mental Legal Professions and Studies	1	5.3
Library Science	2	10.5
Philosophies and Religious Studies	1	5.3
Public Administration	1	5.3
Social Science	1	5.3
Visual and Performing Arts	1	5.3
Business, management, Marketing, and Related Support Services	1	5.3
Education	6	31.6