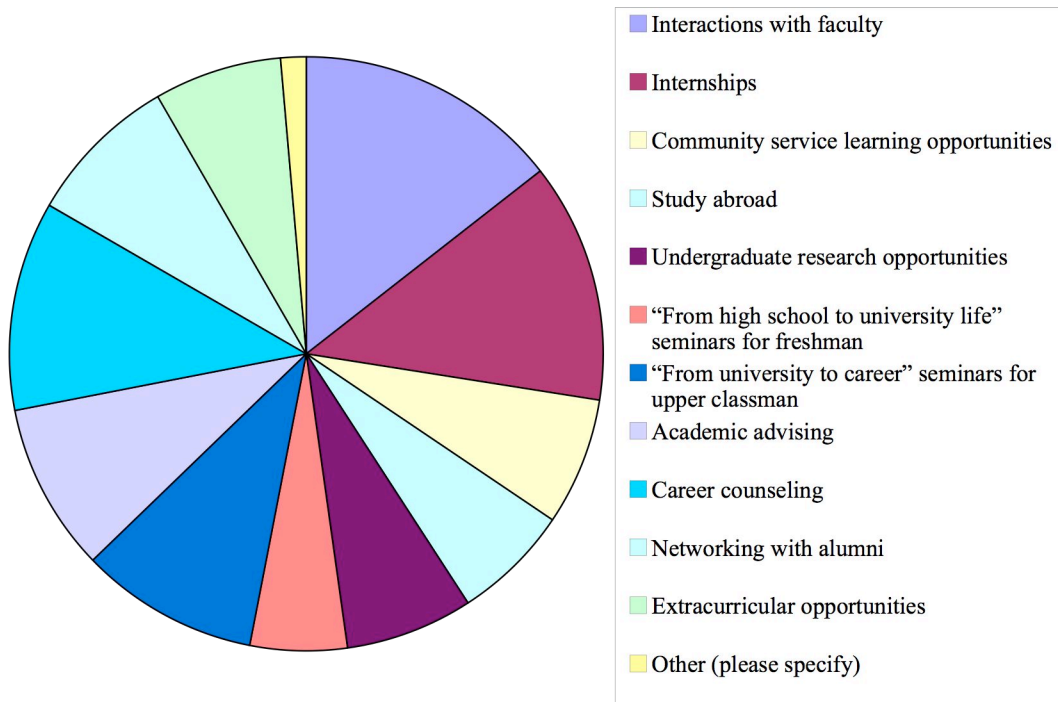


Selected 2008 Alumni Survey Results

Which of the following are most valuable for student success?



What did your department do that was unique and exceptional for students?

The professors were accessible and student-focused. The advising was helpful.

Interactive classes.

The professors were accessible and student-focused.

Lots of opportunities to participate in research studies.

I was studying to be a lawyer. The double major in Economics and Poli Sci was a perfect background. I found the teachers to be superb.

Provided a new and interesting lens for viewing the world.

The smaller size of advanced courses provided an opportunity to know the faculty and obtain personalized feedback.

Taught us to think outside the box.

Encouraged self-expression, free speech and [getting] your message across.

The Anthro department brought students and faculty together in an excellent way. It was a big family.

What one thing from your UMass Amherst experience would you change?

Wish I had studied abroad.

I would have taken a second major.

Would have been more serious about studies.

I would have done an internship.

Taken more art classes.

Spend more time doing extra curricular activities.

I would have taken a ton more classes. Different ones that were off the path of my course curriculum and taken the extra year just to learn.

I would take greater advantage of opportunities - classes, activities, study abroad, internships.

I would have sought out an advisor. I needed more guidance and was too shy to ask for it.

I would have looked for more career guidance. Knowing the variety of job opportunities would have been more encouraging post-graduation.

I would take advantage of the 5-college system.

More competitive graduate student stipends and additional funds for travel and research.

Not a thing!

More small classes

Participate in class discussions more.

More financial support. I really struggled financially and it definitely affected academics.

I would have spent more time doing community outreach.

I would have spent more time learning to use the library.

We'd like to find better ways of connecting with alumni. What suggestions do you have for us? How can we better reach out to our alumni?

Seminars or town meetings with alumni who are in [similar fields].

I'd like to know more about the current student experience.

[Social events] in different cities across the country to help alumni reconnect.

If there were a blogging area or a space for alumni to connect and network. (This came up often. A Facebook Group now exists.)

Put a stronger emphasis on alumni connections from the time students enter the school.

As I near retirement/career slowdown, I would find it interesting to have some “distance learning” opportunities over the internet.

It would be fun to have residence hall reunions....I’d come to Amherst for one.

Maybe encourage SBS departments to have periodic alumni reunions.

Lectures [around the country] that give alumni a taste of academic life.

Enlist more faculty and staff to make long-term connections with alumni.

Offer alums the opportunity to mentor present students or recent grads.

What was the best part of your experience as a student?

