East Carolina University  
Office of Institutional Effectiveness  

Survey of Non-Returning Students  
Academic Year 2005-2006  
Background and Methodology

Each semester a number of undergraduate level students who would be expected to return to ECU do not do so. These are students who were enrolled the previous semester, did not graduate, are academically eligible to return, but did not return for the current semester. The purpose of the Survey of Non-Returning Students is to gather information about why they have not returned. This information is useful to faculty and administrators who are concerned with maintaining and improving ECU’s high retention rate. This survey was conducted for the first time by ECU during the Spring 1998 semester, again during Spring 1999, and each semester thereafter.

The survey consists of a letter from the Director of Institutional Effectiveness, inquiring about the student’s educational status and plans and asking students to complete a few questions on the reverse side of the letter. Section I of the questionnaire asks about whether they (a) are currently away on a field placement, co-op, or other ECU program, etc., and do plan to return to campus, (b) have withdrawn from school, or (c) have transferred to another institution. Section II asks for more detailed reasons (e.g., financial, academic, employment reasons) why they have withdrawn or transferred. Forms were mailed to the student’s permanent address which, in most cases, is a parent’s address.

As of Fall 2005 the some sections of the questionnaire were re-ordered and new items were added to Sections II and III. New items in Section II under the “Financial” were: “Credit card debt” and “Lack of scholarships.” New items in Section II under “ECU Academic” were: “Could not do the work,” “College is not for me,” and “Desired major not offered.” In Section II under “Personal” one item was added: “Other.” In Section II under “ECU Overall” the words “Climate of” were added to an existing item to read “Climate of drug and alcohol abuse on campus.” In Section III a new item asks where the student lived while enrolled at ECU, and another new item asks in what county the student’s high school was located if in North Carolina.

This report summarizes results of the survey conducted during academic year 2005-2006 (Fall 2005 and Spring 2006). At the end of this report students’ open-ended comments are presented (Appendix B). Names of individuals, departments, and other identifying terms mentioned in the comments are omitted to preserve anonymity. A copy of the questionnaire is shown in Appendix C.

Results

Response Rates

Fall 2005. Postcards were mailed to 1261 students who were enrolled in Spring 2005 and were eligible to enroll in Fall 2005 but did not return. In response to the questionnaires subsequently sent to all non-responders, 338 were returned and 5 were removed from the survey since these were from students who were actually still enrolled in an internship or co-op, leaving 333 respondents who were “non-returning.” Of the 1261 students who were contacted, there were 93 for whom addresses were bad. Reducing the 1261 by 93 and by the 5 students who were
completing co-ops or internships resulted in a reachable and valid non-returning population of 1163. The resulting Fall 2005 response rate based on 333 returns out of a population of 1163 was 28.6 percent.

Spring 2006. Letters were mailed to 818 students who were enrolled in Fall 2005 and were eligible to enroll in Spring 2006 but did not return. There were 241 respondents, 9 of whom were still enrolled in co-ops or internships, leaving 232 “non-returning” respondents. Of 818 envelopes mailed, 33 were returned due to bad addresses, resulting in a reachable and valid non-returning population of 776. The resulting Spring 2005 response rate based on 232 returns out of a population of 776 was 29.9 percent.

Fall 2005 and Spring 2006 Combined. Because of the low response rates from Fall 2005 and Spring 2006, the results for this preliminary report were combined to reflect the academic year 2005-2006 as a whole. The overall response rate for the combined results, based on a combined population of 1939 non-returning students and 565 returns was 29.1 percent.

Section I: ECU Students Who Transferred or Withdrew

In Section I of the questionnaire students are asked to indicate whether they transferred to another institution or just withdrew from school altogether. In Table 1 these results are presented for Fall 2005, Spring 2006, and for the academic year 2005-2006 as a whole.

Table 1
Students Who Transferred or Withdrew from ECU by Semester

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>Transfers</th>
<th>Withdrawals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Community</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>College</td>
<td>Institution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AcYr 05-06</td>
<td>565</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>54.9%</td>
<td>18.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 05</td>
<td>333</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>62.2%</td>
<td>18.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spr 06</td>
<td>n 232</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>44.4%</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Section II: Reasons for Transferring or Withdrawing

Calculation of Percentages. In Section II of the questionnaire students can indicate multiple reasons for withdrawing or transferring. Because of this, the number of reasons given can exceed the number of students responding. The percentages presented in Table 2 and Table 4 (Appendix A) are based on the total number of reasons given. These divisors are shown in the bottom row of Table 4 for each category involved.
Comparison of common reasons for transferring and withdrawing. Tables 2 and 4 depict reasons for transferring and withdrawing. Table 2 helps to compare the most frequently cited reasons (having a frequency of at least 5 percent) for transferring and withdrawing. In Table 2, rows are arranged in descending order of the “Transfers” percentages and secondarily by the “Withdrawals” percentages. The percentages in Table 2 were taken from the “Total Transfers” and “Total Withdrawals” columns in Table 4. Table 2 suggests that academic and some personal reasons were associated with both transfers and withdrawals, while financial/employment reasons were more related to withdrawals than to transfers, a pattern seen in previous studies.

Table 2
Comparison of Transfers and Withdrawals in Terms of Reason Categories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reasons</th>
<th>Transfers</th>
<th>Withdrawals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other (academic)</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too far from home</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inability to get classes desired</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Reasons</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homesick</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I needed a break to reconsider goals</td>
<td></td>
<td>7.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial problems not related to student financial aid</td>
<td></td>
<td>6.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of adequate student financial aid</td>
<td></td>
<td>6.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School conflicts with current employment</td>
<td></td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal problems</td>
<td></td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (personal)</td>
<td></td>
<td>5.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Section III: Location and Method of Instruction

Students were asked to indicate the physical location and method of instruction that best described the majority of their courses. These results are shown in Table 3.

Table 3
Location and Method of Instruction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Method of Instruction</th>
<th>All Face-to-Face</th>
<th>Partly &quot;Online&quot;</th>
<th>All &quot;Online&quot;</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On Greenville Campus</td>
<td>n 360</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>399</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>% 90.23</td>
<td>9.77</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off Greenville Campus</td>
<td>n 10</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>81</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>% 12.35</td>
<td>8.64</td>
<td>79.01</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50% G'Ville/50% Off</td>
<td>n 14</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>% 60.87</td>
<td>30.43</td>
<td>8.70</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>66</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Appendix A
### Table 4
Survey of Non-Returning Students
Academic Year 2005-2006
Reasons for Transferring or Withdrawing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transfers</th>
<th>Withdrawals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section II Response Categories</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total Transfers</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Active Military Duty</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Financial</td>
<td>10.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit card debt</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of adequate student financial aid</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial problems not related to stu fin aid</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of scholarships</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ECU Academic</td>
<td>37.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inability to get classes desired</td>
<td>6.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courses closed out</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could not get desired professor</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desired course content not offered</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courses too early/too late in the day</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could not get courses on days desired</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course time conflicted with other courses</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can not obtain a degree in preferred field</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of instruction</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of advising</td>
<td>3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not enough academic prestige in my field</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in emphasis on academics</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could not do the work</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College is not for me</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desired major not offered</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Employment</td>
<td>3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School conflicts with current employment</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was offered a good job elsewhere</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I wanted to gain practical experience</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Personal</td>
<td>23.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal problems</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family problems</td>
<td>3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changed marital status</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health problems</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I needed a break to reconsolidate goals</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homesick</td>
<td>5.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic problems</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug or alcohol problems</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. ECU Overall</td>
<td>25.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School too large and impersonal</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desire to attend a larger school</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate social life</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive social life</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate of drug/alcohol abuse on campus</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too far from home</td>
<td>7.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too close to home</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in out-of-class stu dev opps</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather-related issues (hurricane, etc.)</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety issues</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Other Reasons</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL RESPONSES ( % / n)</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 In Section II of the questionnaire students could indicate more than one reason for transferring or withdrawing, so column percentages are portions of 100% based on the total number of responses listed at the bottom of the columns.
2 Percentages and n’s are from combining results in sub-columns to the right.
3 Inability to get classes desired contains the total number of responses for students choosing any of the eight sub-categories directly below it in this table.

Appendix B
“Other Reasons,” Spring 2006

Categorized by type of transfer/withdrawal
(Verbatim, with individual names or other identifying references removed)

Transferred to a Community College

Just had too much freedom—parents usually made sure I got up—my responsibility—a little overwhelmed that in high school never really had to study and did well.

No advising, no one would help me. I continued to be shuffled to different people, no guidance.

Gas, so expensive when I do drive back and forth—hard to have money for food, clothes and anything—books are unreal!

Father was diagnosed with lung cancer moved home for a while to help out with him.

Had to drive to far and not financially set to move to Greenville.

Transferred to another UNC Institution

ECU is a great school, I just needed to be closer to home. I chose UNCG.

Received late admittance to #1 choice at UNCW.

No school of [DEPT].

I felt that I was discriminated against due to age, gender and race and advise to pursue another field.

Faculty-student ratio is not of my liking. Too many students in one particular classroom setting.

[NAME] dorm room was the small one—We thought they were all the large rooms as listed on the brochure when applying.

Mother and grandmother became ill.

Did not like Greenville. Wanted a better more involved school in [DEPT].

ECU was fine, I really enjoyed the class that I took!

Transferred Elsewhere

Moved with fiance.

Nothing against the school, I just had other career goals. [DEPT] program discontinued

I discovered ECU just wasn’t where I was supposed to be. I also had to drive an hour and a half to get to school.
The parking was horrible and I could not get a decent job without getting off campus and getting off campus was very difficult.

Athletic reasons/desired different environment.

[STAFF] left - so did I - It became evident that ECU was not supporting the [DEPT] program.

Quality of students below what I expected.

Moved out of the state and out of state tuition too expensive.

**Withdraw - Temporarily**

I am tired of school, and needed a break to avoid complete burnout. I plan to return in the Fall '06

Full time employment at ECU-taking class under tuition waver.

Weekends were perfect for me. With work and a daily commute, can't fit in school. Weekend Program was ideal.

Money, if I could get setup on a payment plan that would be great. My desire is to return Fall 05.

ECU's culture seemed to be focused on everything but academics and scholastic growth and achievement.

I became pregnant and had a difficult pregnancy.

Felt like I got the run around when I tried to drop late in the semester. When my grandmother was sick. I saw this one and that one and finally someone let me drop.

Serving a mission for the LDS Church in Denver CO.

It is difficult for me to explain in the space provided, if it is necessary, I would love to come and continue my explanation at a meeting with school officials

I was pregnant and gave birth to a daughter in Feb. 2006

My father has recently passed away and I needed a semester off. My mind was not where it needed to be. I'll be back.

I was taking classes online. Enjoyed my advisor (tremendously) and my professors.

I just needed a semester off.

Thought about changing my major (masters) to [DEPT], but no one responded to my email.

Considering another online program

**Withdraw - Permanently**
Great campus, people, and opportunities are available at ECU however I had to make a decision to drop my business or come home.

I enjoy the classroom setting. There are no evening classes available to me and I tried online classes—they are awful.

“Comments,” Spring 2006

Categorized by type of transfer/withdrawal
(Verbatim, with individual names or other identifying references removed)

Transferred to a Community College

It is too expensive to live in dorms and I couldn't find a job to pay rent. Couldn't find a job in the area. As far as the school goes I liked it just fine. I came a little late and couldn't get much Fin. Aid. Which made it difficult to maintain myself off campus. If more money were made available to me then I would be more than happy to return. Please have a counselor contact me if more opportunities are available.

I have plans to return to ECU—but I am currently working on improving my GPA.

I live in New Jersey and came to ECU not knowing anyone. I had a sophomore who was from N.C. as my roommate, so they were already established and had a group of friends. While I was outgoing and tried things like a campus ministry and intramural sports, I felt like the people were nice, but already had their friends & weren't interested in getting new ones. Because I could not get socially settled, I decided to come back home to where my friends and family are.

Go back to in-state tuition.

I truly plan on returning when I get my GPA backup, I have been in touch with my advisor who has told me what to take.

More part-time employment opportunities.

Parents experiencing financial problems.

[DEPT] instructor, you could not understand anything he said. He could not speak clear English which affects understanding of lectures.

Could not find a decent job.

During my past semester I was hospitalized on and off for two months due to mono and teachers despite documentation refused to work with me. I had no advisor, horrible stuff. This is the WORST college I have ever attended.

I am planning to get into the partnership East program through ECU to major in [DEPT].

I was not satisfied with [NAME] in [COURSE]. Other than that everything was great.

Class needed not offered during AM hours, or closed out.
Need a part-time job that pays descent. Had trouble with math, I plan to take some courses and try to transfer back. I was driving home every weekend. It is just so expensive! I am going to try to find a part-time job and go to Sandhills for another year or so and then see. My parents are trying to help me but with college being so much more expensive than they thought, it is a burden- I just can't find a job or financial help.

Not able to afford housing/living expenses away from home. Satisfied w/quality of education and my experience at ECU. Withdrew for now because of financial reasons and am reconsidering my goals. Thank you for your efforts to make my educational experience a good one.

Am applying to FIT to pursue career in Accessories Design.

I do plan on coming back to ECU, but I was needed at home for a while to help with family, but I am coming back.

I plan to attend ECU again in the Fall of 2007, if not the Spring '07

I left ECU so that I could save money and take my basic classes at a community college. I'll be returning January 2007 (spring semester) and I'll be turning in my transfer application within a couple of days.

Plan to return to ECU to graduate. I have received permission form the [DEPT] to take these 2 classes. I plan to clip [COURSE] in April to be ready for graduation in May 2006.

Although I am not currently enrolled at ECU, I will be graduating from ECU this spring. I had two classes left-classes that were not offered online at ECU. I am taking those classes from a community college this semester.

I didn't mind the travel to ECU. I loved going to ECU in fact I miss going everyday. But my daughter & my father have had serious health problems and they have needed me. The days I missed resulted my horrible GPA. Before the semester all hell broke loose, I had a 3.25 GPA. I am devastated because I worked so hard for it. I would like to go back, but don't know how.

I plan on returning in the fall of 06.

Transfered to another UNC Institution

I loved ECU and wish I could have stayed but it was too inconvenient as I listed above. The school is amazing, my favorite thing about ECU is the constant, many activities that were available, my current school has barely to non activities.

ECU was a great experience, if it hadn't been for family issues I would have stayed! Go Pirates!

Never took any classes at ECU. Thank you for the opportunity to attend ECU. After receiving a late admittance letter last summer from UNCW, I mad the decision to attend that university.

[NAME] knew his [COURSE] but was horrible at teaching it and did not answer students questions. Every [DEPT] professor I had was bad. [NAME] is the best [DEPT]. Professor in the world!

Greenville has no [DEPT] base. NCSU has numerous ties to industry in and around the research triangle park.
I was hoping for something that I wouldn't have to pay back. I have a 2 year Associate's Degree in [MAJOR]. I was disappointed and mad that out of all my classes I took only a few of them transferred to ECU. I would have to take 4 years as opposed to 2 years.

I never attended ECU. I was accepted but never took a course. If ECU had a school of [DEPT], I would have attended.

Mortgage on house vacated by tenants created financial problems.

Welcome to the new millennium where equality is a good thing. I had great expectations from ECU when I applied and was accepted but I was soon disappointed when I was informed via [DEPT] orientation that if I did get into the [DEPT] Program, I still may not get accepted into their graduate school and I should look into other fields like [DEPT]. I graduate from NC State in May '07 with a BA in [DEPT] so apparently someone thought better of my potential. Your school should leave the 1960's alone.

Withdraw before school started.

We as parents, certainly which we had been notified that [name] was not attending school. We never received his grades or any warnings even when you (ECU) knew he was a dependent. He is trying to enroll at UNCW which is 20 miles from home. We co-signed for an apt. for him, which we still have to pay for until August '06. If you had notified us about his academic warnings, we would have made him stay in the dorm where at the very least he would have some social contact. He was alone at his apartment w/o any family or friends. We even contacted the school to have someone check on him and you sent a lady to his apt., but you never told us he was not going to class!!

Family health issues. I left due to illness in my family. However, I had planned to return to ECU in the Fall, but my grades at UNCW were not adequate enough to return to ECU. This is the result of building stress of my families health as well as the fact that I missed 3 weeks of school due to surgery of my own, and an additional week attending my grandmother's funeral. However, I would like to note that I really enjoyed my time at ECU and I would like to eventually return whether it be undergrad at some point or possibly grad school. Go Pirates!!

I enjoyed my time at ECU, however I wanted something different.

My job partnered up with university listed on reverse side and I will be able to take classes at my job. Cost is also cheaper. And since I am a classroom-based individual, my goal will be or seem easier to obtain.

Very Disappointed. I wanted to finish my senior year courses but found it too difficult with the lack of help from the professors for proper email of my test-none would go thru-even with technical advice from ECU-I don't know.

Transferred Elsewhere

ECU was cool!

ECU is a great school. Would have loved to stay, but under certain circumstances I could not. Thanks for everything!

Thanks for the opportunity. I didn't realize that I would miss my family and familiar surroundings so much. For me, 8 hours from home without any familiar faces was just too far.
I loved ECU and miss it very much!!! Keep up the good work! I miss my professors! They were all very helpful and best I’ve had so far!

I enjoyed attending ECU. It was just too far from home for me.

I enjoyed the school, social life was excessive at times but I enjoyed most of time, some teachers of foreign descent were hard to understand. Much of me will miss ECU.

ECU was a good school & a lot of fun. I was happy there but was easily distracted while living on campus. I am now living w/ my fiance in TX off campus to continue my education.

1. Work in salon, the industry I want to be in. [STAFF] was extremely helpful and the most welcoming and warm person-she really understood my goals and helped me realize I could reach those goals.

[NAME] did not want to fill this out-this is his mother. We did not realize that ECU is considered such a "party school" or we would not have applied. The city-wide Halloween party was the last straw.

ECU was not accommodating to me as a new parent. I could not find affordable and decent childcare that was convenient for my living conditions and academic career. OSU offers childcare to all students and has family housing on campus.

Key driver was [DEPT] but since they do not accept out-of-state students, no reason to be at ECU.

Stated in Anchorage, Alaska effective March 9, 2006.

Husband got out of military-we moved "home".

Withdraw - Temporarily

I withdrew during the fall 05 semester. As per ECU's stipulations of the withdraw, I am not allowed to return for at least 6 months.

My parent won't pay for me to go to school this semester because of my grades. Please send me re-enrollment application and forms to apply for summer school at ECU.

Unfortunately I was too late to sign up-my mistake.

1. I play in a traveling band.

Serving in Iraq right now.

1. Did not feel challenged or engaged. 2. No counselors available.

I will be coming back to ECU when things work out.

Major hassle in getting readmitted last fall, by the time papers from comm. Colleges were found/refaxed, classes to select from were very limited and a rocky start. Not interested in class right now. Not sure what I want to do; what it would take to get a degree. I live and work full-time in Goldsboro. If possible, I would appreciate a list of classes I would have to complete (whether they are online) to get a 4 yr. degree (probably in business). Thank you very much.
Joined the Army.

Am planning to return Summer 2006.

Could not afford rent. To far to commute.

Money needed to pay for school.

I am a full time staff member and hope to continue with classes in the future. I already have one undergrad degree and also a masters, planning to pursue another undergrad degree in [DEPT]. My schedule with my career and family were hectic this semester, therefore, my reason for not taking a class or two. ECU is a great learning university and the faculty are great!

I loved the weekend program. I was able to go to school most of the day. Can't afford to commute to work, leave work early (lost pay) to commute to class.

Starting my own business.

I needed this job to regain my undebtiness. That, and could not make all ends meet with what I was receiving in grants, and VA. I will plan to return to ECU as soon as I can.

I really enjoy ECU, actually my first degree from this institution. It is just a matter of finances. Financial Aid will not lend me any more money and I have to have money for tuition and books. I had a massive stroke in May 2002 and have recovered greatly, that is why I wanted to return to ECU and get my degree in [DEPT], however, I could not pay my college loans after the stroke so I received a disability discharge and VR helped my the 1st time and will not assist me in any further educational achievements. If you know of any college scholarships I could apply to, could you please send me that information. Thank You.

(Forgiveness Policy) Readmit student classified as out of state for tuition purposes.

I plan to return after the birth of our child.

Wrongly denied instate tuition, therefore I can no longer afford to attend ECU at the out of state rate. I am a fulltime N.C. resident.

I appreciate your concern about my enrollment status. If at all possible, I would like to return during the first summer session. If all goes well, I have my classes planned out so that I can graduate in December. Again I appreciate your concern and if all goes well with my financial aid, I will see you soon.

ECU employee; still unable to attend 90 min. class sessions because I am not West campus. I would very much like to continue w/ my studies as soon as possible. I have inquired w/advisors of my program [DEPT] and no one can help me get classes that are not in the middle of the day nor am I able to leave work for such a long span of time in the middle of the day. I am 42 s.h. from completion.

I am on Social Security Disability, and the cost of living keeps going up but I cannot keep pace. I simply don't have enough money to go back to school. Whatever happened to the Pell Grant? Apparently Bush cut that down to nothing. Republicans hate poor people and I hate them.

Need to work in order to pay for tuition bill. Your school needs to get back to basics and focus on teaching students well, return to students supplemental
sessions for very difficult classes, offer classes more than once a year or once every 2 years. You school needs to offer more than one section for a class per semester. Your school needs to make more of an effort to offer classes regularly that are in your course catalogue.

Mix up with registration @ tuition pay. I registered in the spring for what I thought to be the spring semester but was notified it was for the fall semester.

Divorced and unemployed. Lost my job because I took too many hours at school

Disappointed in [DEPT].

I had to work because my home situation was changing. I was offered employment here at ECU as a [STAFF]. I got the job. I will be returning to classes this fall and spring 2006-2007. Letter of acceptance to the job is attached to the original survey form.

I needed to learn some discipline in following schedules and following through with priorities. I plan on returning to ECU in the summer if I can receive financial aid by the Montgomery GI Bill during the summer; if not, I will be returning by next Fall 2006.

Low income. Trying to pay for school myself.

Delivery of baby and postnatal care for myself. Would like more information on sources as far as getting info about my major, also study tips and people on campus who I could talk with about problems whether related to school or personal.

I am working on a 2nd degree and know it is going to take me awhile because I am married with a small child. I plan on re-enrolling when things are not as hectic at home!

The first semester, Fall 05 I was enrolled in classes but since I was pregnant I stayed so sick I couldn't go to classes. I didn't formally withdraw so I received F's for all my classes. Spring semester 06 it was too late for me to enroll by the time I had my baby and recovered.

Soul provider for family. This was a very difficult choice for me and I had a real rough time with personal issues, I truly felt like no one cared. I saw one lady less than 5 minutes and all she said was -it was too late, can't do it. This was a waste of my time and my grandmother missed her radiation treatment for this?! I won't go on—but I could.

I wanted to volunteer for Habitat For Humanity and work to save money. I would like to make it abundantly clear that I have every desire to return to ECU in the fall of this year. If I have missed the sign-up for classes in the Fall, I would appreciate some form of notice for said university. I needed a lot of time to get my goals and desires in order before returning.

I think sending this survey is a very good idea. When I left I never thought this office would notice or send a survey.

ECU is a great school, and I can't wait to go back.

WIA Reneged on Financial Aid

Medical withdrawal, was injured on my job September 20, 2005 and am still recovering under doctor's care. I intend to return to school upon release from my doctors.
I attended ECU and graduated in May 2001 w/ a degree in [DEPT]. My husband and I attended at the same time. In 2004 my husband was killed in Iraq and I thought school would be something that would keep me busy. (I was going to get a degree in [DEPT]). The course load was way too heavy for me and I started having panic/anxiety attacks because I didn't feel like I had enough time to get all of the work done. Mainly there were too many memories at ECU from when my husband and I went to school together. Everything, school and memories were just too much to handle at that time. I may go back to school again sometime later in life.

Husband is reserve called to active duty. I need to be free to meet him as possible. I intend to return.

Aunt had stroke 4/15/05. Taking care of her.

Father lost job, I had to help support my family. I plan to return to ECU in the Fall of 2006.

Disappointed with [DEPT] online instead of class instruction

Basically, I needed a break to reconsider my major and to work while I was out for needed income. I plan to return Spring 2007.

Plan on returning Fall 2006.

I am working for my fathers business, do not receive enough pay to return to school. Please, lets get together in a face to face arena so I can more fully allow you to understand my situation by truthful word explanation along with my personal expression.

Unexpected medical issue was reason for withdrawal from ECU. Hope to reapply for Fall 2007. I think ECU is a great school and has an outstanding [DEPT].

I will be attending graduate school at ECU beginning in the Fall of 2006. I was accepted into the [DEPT] Program.

Signed baseball contract. I plan to return and get my degree as soon as I can.

I do not feel that the [DEPT] were adequate once I was into my major. I would be better served by fact-to-face classes in these areas. I hope to be on campus within two years. Thank you for all the help, especially [NAME].

Medical reasons. Will attend ECU Fall '06.

Transferred out of State. Other schools I've attended allowed full and complete internet classes (including online testing). I was quite surprised to learn I had to travel to Greenville to take tests for my online class.

I still want to attend ECU. I just need to be able to concentrate better on my studies. I hope my status will not change in ECU's eyes.

Scholarship suspended while out on maternity leave. I have very much enjoyed the online program and look forward to returning.

ECU is a great school. I plan to return this summer.

[STAFF] did not tell my I had to be readmitted, it was too late by the time she told. So I could not register for this semester. I decided to take more classes at community college until summer. I have already sent my readmission
application and transcripts of the classes I took at Wake Tech. Hopefully I will be able to take summer classes.

I love the opportunities that the online courses offer. I wish that more would be available each semester and without having to belong/be in a cohort. Also, my plan is to begin taking classes in spring 2007 and graduate as soon as possible.

This is just temporary. I plan to be back in the fall of this year and resume my academic career. My child and family needed and required my attention for the first part of this year-undivided attention.

Hope to return after solving family problems.

I would like to continue at ECU but am only able to attend as my schedule allows. It is a shame that I have to reapply and pay the application fee every time.

I look forward to continuing my education with ECU. I just needed a break to get my head together after my fathers recent death. Thanks for everything so far and I look forward to more.

I did not return because work conflicts with my study time. I do not have any time to devote to classes. I became general manager of several restaurants and part owner of another. It is difficult to find any personal time right now. I would like to return to ECU but I am not sure when I can. If you have any suggestions, I am open. I could only handle one class because of no time to devote to classes. I had to make a choice.

I plan to go back one day. I have a family with 3 children under the age of four. Could go back sooner if [DEPT] was all online. That would be a big help for other students just like myself; would like to finish degree but family needs me at home. Hopefully [DEPT] will be available all online. Don't worry though I will finish one day and graduate ECU.

I am emailing my advisor and continuing studies to find out what I need to do to start with summer 2006

I have only stopped at ECU until the prerequisite for my major are completed unless they all offered online by ECU. I will return as soon as I can.

Personal family situations and health problems.

I do plan to attend in the summer or fall. Hopefully my finances will be better.

Too much on test scores.

loss of employment.

I think the length of the [COURSE] is too long. With the amount of work given it makes it impossible to take more than one class, which would make a long time to earn a degree. [COURSE] (length) should be reviewed.

I plan to be able to return to classes by next January. Thanks.

I am currently waiting to apply for a the [DEPT], and am currently taking the classes I need at FTCC, but the [COURSE] was full and only had two online slots, both were full. I am at a stand still because I can't take anymore classes at ECU, until I finish my [COURSES]. I have been happy with the class I took last semester and was hoping to apply for [DEPT] this year, but unless you have a [COURSE] offered in the summer or fall, I will have to wait a whole year just
for that one course, because I was told I had to take the class at ECU. I want to continue my studies at ECU, but time is an issue. Please let me know if I can take the class somewhere else and it transfer or will I have to wait till next spring to take the class at ECU? Than you for your help in this matter.

I was supposed to take classes for work which would have interfered.

My father owns his own business. I've never really understood why I was here in the first place. My biggest problem while I was at ECU, was being shuffled from [STAFF] to [STAFF]. As a freshman, my first [STAFF] [NAME] was so mean to me at my first encounter with her that she made me cry. What was I to know? I was a freshman. Form there I went to [NAME], who was wonderful. I was then passed on to [NAME], who was also wonderful. Then back to [NAME], which was fine, because she remembered me from before. Isn't the point of an [STAFF] to follow you all the way through college? Well, then came the worst. I was given to [NAME]. I knew more about advising than he did. I have since had him about a year and a half. In that year and a half, I don't know that I have accomplished anything. I'm really not even sure that what I have done, is what I needed to do. I fell like I am so far behind that I will never finish. I'm tired of people "Well, technically I am a senior and will be for a long time." Last semester, I decided that I would finish online. I got so overwhelmed with all of it; I just stuck my head in sand. As my grades reflect, I had a horrible semester. I was working for my Dad and doing school work at the same time, which did not work out so well. I do not know if ECU can forgive me for a bad semester or what. I also often wonder if I can change majors and finish sooner. I would appreciate any help that anyone would offer. First and foremost I would really like a new advisor. Someone who can at least pretend they care. Not just make me feel like a number. I can be contacted either, by phone or email at [ADDRESS]. Thanks for inquiring about me not being enrolled.

I plan on returning back to school this summer if I can get a course I need. If not I will return in the fall.

Exhausted VA education benefits. It would be nice to offer the accounting curriculum online. As a result of my unwillingness to commute to ECU from Havelock, I'm in the process of changing my major.

See attached note from my DR. I plan to return as soon as my health improves and my DR gives his OK. This note was sent to the registrars office.

I plan to return. I am attempting to find opportunities to take the final classes I need to graduate that will mesh with my responsibilities at work, but I am having difficulties.

Medical problems. Overall satisfied with [DEPT] program.

Temporary relocation to Texas.

I withdrew because I was working 84 hours a week and was unable to keep up with my studies. I do plan to return and finish my degree, however, the position I hold at my present job has required me to work long hours. At the time I dropped out I was working 12 hour days, 7 days a week for 8 weeks. I am again on that schedule and do not know how long it will be.

Withdraw - Permanently

I feel that ECU was not the right decision for me. The staff and most of the peers were very rude and not willing to help. Some of the staff members treated the students as if they were gods. As a two year transfer student, I was disappointed in the professionalism and disrespect by the staff [DEPT].
In order to graduate, I will need to complete a degree online or possibly evenings close to home. I have a business here and simply cannot attend the classes available.

Getting married, husband in military

Did not like school. Joined the Army.

1. Currently employed but not why I left. The only thing I didn’t like about living in the dorm was drinking. A lot of students were drinking alcohol in their dorm rooms. Academically, [MAJOR] is not offered.

I enjoyed receiving my instruction of study in special education but I was highly disappointed on the manner in which I was dismissed!! The [DEPT] needs some tweaking (in the scholarship area)!

My husband changed jobs and my family moved out of state.

While I was able to take evening classes, I loved ECU. Once I was forced to take online classes I became disappointed. The instruction was terrible and in my opinion, many of the instructors were lazy (not all).

Conflict with class - Job involves travel - conflict w/ requirement to be on campus for exam - Reason I took online class was because I was unable to be on campus. So it created a severe hardship. I withdrew because I was unable to be there (on campus) for exams (3-4 times a semester).

“Other Reasons,” Fall 2005

Categorized by type of transfer/withdrawal

(Verbatim, with individual names or other identifying references removed)

Transferred to a Community College

Withdrew form [DEPT] program for another career field. I changed my major to [DEPT].

Need to be close to home.

There is nothing wrong with ECU. I do want to re-apply there and hopefully begin classes summer semester 2006. I need information, however, on the general classes for ECU or if they’re similar to the ones at Barton.

After a bad freshman year-[STAFF] should have made clear, I couldn’t catch up to become accepted my junior year, she waited until Spring 05, to inform me my Quality pts. Were too low.

Was disappointed with ECU's approach to teaching graphic design. Felt too much time was spent away from a computer.

I love ECU and am hoping to return in the next year or so.

I loved ECU just too far from home.
Just needed time to grieve and work so finances wouldn't be a problem.

Couldn't afford tuition with the grades I earned.

Didn't like staying so far away from home. Also freshmen parking was too far away.

Got into nursing school

**Transferred to another UNC Institution**

Was able to transfer in as a sophomore to NC State

ECU was great. I did well. I just really wanted to go to UNC. Thank you for everything.

Nothing to do in Greenville

Felt that UNCW offered a better education within the North Carolina System. There are also better opportunities in the workforce after college in the Wilmington area.

ECU has a different [STAFF] in 2 years-want to play for a school with a good [DEPT] program.

Pirates Cove took money and continued to bill my parents for charges that were not correct. Did not live up to what was agreed initially.

Seemed like everyone-students didn't seem line they cared about their education. They wanted to party instead of focus on school.

I am transferring two courses back to ECU. I am a special permissions student at UNCW. This should be in my records at ECU.

I just really enjoyed living in Raleigh almost my whole life. I didn't really like Greenville. It wasn't the college, just the town.

I was harassed by a fraternity & your police did nothing.

To pursue an education at the Kenan-Flagler Business School

Said my financial aid didn't go through and then sent a letter after semester started saying it did.

I needed to be closer to home to take care of my baby and ECU doesn't have family programs.

**Transferred Elsewhere**

Different way of life.

No problems with ECU. US Air Force Academy provides full scholarship.

Just didn't like the college feel. Too impersonal in all counts.

Wanted a more urban setting, a more diversified population.
Too expensive for the quality of education offered and school unwilling to help transfer students to ease the transition.

Did not feel I would be able to graduate with a degree because had to apply to program [DEPT] with many others (300 plus) with only 100 spots available.

Found quicker route to degree completion.

Not right environment for me - too Southern. Greenville not desirable town.

School was perfect. Hope to finish general studies instate. May return to receive major (financial reasons).

Need to work better for non-traditional students.

Takes too long for working adults to achieve their goals.

I moved to NC with my boyfriend to make a home for ourselves. After I was there, I decided to go to ECU. However, despite I was in NC for reasons other than school, I was still denied in -state tuition. Can't in comment section 4.

To expensive as an out of state school.

Not getting resident status was the ONLY reason why I went to another university-I loved ECU and Greenville.

I loved ECU-hated to leave!!

**Withdraw - Temporarily**

I had personal/health related problems that interfered with me academically.

As stated above, I gave birth on 10/1/05 so I had to take a semester off, but I will be returning to ECU in the spring.

I'm in Default and need Deferment.

I plan on serving a two-year mission for my church. When I return I will continue with and finish my education.

Trouble with financial aid.

I took one semester to study abroad at Queensland University of Technology (Australia). I'm coming back to ECU in January to finish my degree.

Taking time to save money for tuition in Jan.

Being too far from home isn't really a problem, it’s the daily hour and a half drive to and from that's the problem.

Considered dorm room unlivable had mold growing everywhere, made allergies unbearable.

**Withdraw - Permanently**

With the basic classes, the instructors are hard to understand because most are foreign and do not do a lot of hands-on material.
Transferred to a Community College

I felt that [DEPT] was not the right field for me to go into. I am currently working on my Associates in [DEPT].

Better pay in G'boro, family death.

I moved to Wayne Community to be close to home because I was planning on and finally did have surgery. I am taking these classes at Wayne through ECU and have spoken with and gotten permission from [NAME] several times. I plan to join the teaching program at Wayne and graduate as ECU student. Will soon be seeing [NAME] to get started with this. Thanks.

While I was attending ECU, I had a wonderful experience. Living on campus was convenient and I enjoyed staying in the dorms. I loved most of my classes and I took a lot (knowledge, study skills, etc.) from them, that will continue to help me in the furthering my education. I just simply wanted to be closer to home. ECU was very helpful while I was a student there and I would encourage anyone who was interested in the school to attend.

Hadn't applied for scholarships is listed as a reason for transferring.

Planning to enroll in Fall 2006.

I'm currently enrolled in the college transfer program @ Wake Tech. My goal is to improve my GPA and hopefully return to ECU in 1 to 1 1/2 yrs. The only problem I had @ ECU was with the lack of care from the [STAFF]. I never felt I was being given the best advice of what I needed to take in order to graduate in 4 years. I have a friend who should have graduated last year. She found out that she had to have 4 [COURSES] in order to graduate. Now she has to spend even more to finish her degree.

Hope/ intend to re-enter ECU in the Fall of 2006.

I am taking [COURSE]. All I have left to finish. I live and work full time in Raleigh. [COURSE] not offered at night.

I wish to transfer back to ECU Spring Semester 2006 or Fall Semester 2006.

I was not aware that my financial aid had not gone through until the day before classes started. I think it would be helpful if financial aid could inform people sooner.

Car payment, credit cards, rent, food, etc. Conflict w/ full time school and full time job. Have to work to live but want to do good in school also.

I am currently working on my prerequisites for the [DEPT] program. I have been taking classes at Pitt Community College as well as ECU. Because of conflicts with my work schedule, I took a class at PCC this semester. I plan to come back to ECU in the near future. I understand I may have to re-apply and pay fees to the college. Thanks.
Needed job - couldn't find one - applied several places.

ECU had some great professors but I feel that I was advised wrong in my program of study and that I was discriminated against as a transfer student and as a female. ECU advertises the best [DEPT] program around that anyone is welcome in yet after applying 3x with great grades I was not able to get in.

I was mowing the church yard when I slipped and my foot went under the mower and did considerable damage to big toe. Dr. did not recommend trying to go to ECU until after healing and surgery. I should be receiving refund from ECU and have not to date.

Change in educational career listed as reason for transferring.

It is very dissapointed to be an honor student and NC SCHOLAR in high school and still not be a [DEPT] student, junior year. I was accepted at Lenoir Thyne with SCHOLARSHIP and guaranteed [DEPT] school and at USC Columbia, but when I attended ECU the [DEPT] faculty was impressive and swayed my decision, however in hindsight, I should have chosen Wilmington because it was smaller or Lenoir Rhyne for my guarantee of a spot. I have basically wasted the past 2 years and thousands of dollars of my parents money. Now I have no choice but to get a two year degree first and then my [DEPT]. Had I been aware of all this I could have gone straight from high school to community college and already be a working [STAFF]. All high school students should be make aware of how competitive 4 year college is for [DEPT]. I have several friends in the same situation. Wasted time and money. The [COURSE] and [COURSE] are far too large at ECU, with slack professors. I have completed the same subjects I failed for barely passed at ECU and make A's and B's. I was always capable of good grades and have been successful since leaving ECU. The university schools of N.C. leave a lot to be desired in curriculum for [DEPT], especially since we supposedly have a [DEPT] shortage. There's lots and lots of very capable students missing their dream for all these same reasons.

I am majoring in [DEPT] and possibly plan on enrolling in the [DEPT] Program at East Carolina University.

Couldn't find a job at ECU/Greenville. Leaving ECU was by far the worst for me, but I needed to step back & realize that if I kept not studying/working I would be kicked out so I came home.

No complaints against the school. I was very homesick.

Don't worry, I'll be back for Summer I and stay until I graduate.

I have a chronically ill grandfather that was given only a few months to live and my family wanted me to move home to be closer to him. I have reapplied to ECU for the fall of '06 semester. I am currently waiting for admissions to process my application but hope to reattend ECU ;)

I absolutely loved ECU and enjoyed my 2 years there very much. Unfortunately, the combination of out-of-state tuition, family health problems, and my difficulty with [COURSE] led me to move back home, pay tolerable com. College tuition and change major to [DEPT]. There is nothing really that I could suggest to ECU's already balanced and lovable lifestyle. I certainly was not disappointed with my decision to attend ECU and hope to visit within the near future. I appreciate your concern and the follow up survey.

I need lower level classes. I plan to transfer back to ECU when I finish all the courses I can take at my community college.
ECU was a great school and I plan to return in the summer or next fall. My family felt that I need to get my grades up, we did not want to pay all of that tuition and me do poorly. Please send me information on how I can return and about summer courses. I would really love to return please help in anyway you can. Thanks, [NAME]

I do plan to return to ECU to obtain my 4 year degree.

I lived on and off campus. ECU is much too expensive, but I am coming back to go into debt. I was not accepted to the [DEPT] for the fall, yet am now in for spring. I am still interested in [DEPT], it would be a great program for ECU. Campus living could use improvements as well, such as on campus apartments.

I will hopefully try to attend again in a few years to obtain my bachelor's degree in [DEPT]. I really love the school, I just hated being so are away from home and not having my car near by so I could be to it in 5 to 10 minutes at the most.

I spent 2 years at ECU while applying to ECU [DEPT] program. I enjoyed the school and the teachers until I got accepted into the [DEPT] program. I felt the instructors in the [DEPT] program tried to be as unreasonable and as unwilling to help the students succeed. The [STAFF] in the [DEPT] program also seemed to project his opinion more than an objective honest opinion. I don't feel a man should be allowed to "council" [DEPT] students by telling they can handle a course load and then when he finds out he might be wrong he leaves the students to deal with the emotional roller coaster alone. Because of this man, I did not take other opportunities to lighten my load because he advised against it. Also, I do not agree with hiring a new teacher who has never taught a day in her life to teach a course where you are not allowed to fail. When this teacher may be very qualified, it does not mean she will be good. The head of the [DEPT] knew that over half of this class was failing and test were curved 20-30 pts to obtain an overall class average of barely passing, this should tell an educated person that its not the students it's the teacher. I do not agree with [STAFF], to not telling transfer students about their "point system" until they have already been there for almost been at ECU for a year. I also do not agree with someone with a lower GPA getting into the program because they started there at a freshman level. I do not appreciate been told that I need to change my major. ECU is not the only place to obtain a [DEPT] degree. As a [STAFF] already, I do not hide strong opinion of how wrongly I was treated and strong advise others to seek educational opportunities else where.

Hopefully will return for the [DEPT] to [DEPT] program.

Financial problems-housing, utilities, and living expenses.

Under Financial Reasons: "Financial aid advisor for 'T'. Have daughter at ECU at same time. Could not get financial aid to return phone calls or e-mails -3x. I am a deaf student and disability services was not forthcoming with tutor as requested.

My fiance had active military duty.

Transferred to another UNC Institution

My new address is [ADDRESS]. Please forward any more correspondence to this address. Thank you.

Request to please send my transcript for my last two semesters at ECU.
The courses were difficult, but I did not learn much. I have just recently recovered from the depression [NAME] caused me. He hung his labcoat in front of my face. He missed appointments I made with him. He made me want to commit suicide. Now, I am at UNCW maintaining an A/B average in [DEPT] which seems all new material to me.

Cannot afford to continue my education at ECU, not enough financial aid is given to me. I have to borrow $18,000 to pay for my tuition. I will like to transferred back to ECU if I will get more financial aid and I do not have to be borrowing $18,000 every year to pay my tuition.

ECU does not try to promote its [DEPT] program or recruit good [DEPT]. I was used to playing for a higher quality [DEPT] and ECU showed a total lack of concern for the game. Emphasis is on football, basketball, and baseball. Without a [DEPT] coach that knows the game ECU will continue to lose prospective [DEPT] players.

I did not like Greenville and I did not fit in when I transferred from another college. ECU was ok as a school but outside of class. I was very unhappy. Everyone has their "clicks" and do not treat transfer students equally at all.

I never knew many people at ECU. Felt isolated. Missed my friends from home.

ECU is great. Greenville is not for me.

I transferred to East Carolina University form Rockingham Community College because I thought I wanted to major in [DEPT] and go to [DEPT]. My time at your institution was not wasted. Looking back on my experience, I feel it was a vital part of my college career. I learned the valuable lesson that one has to do whatever his or her true calling is in order to be happy. My true calling was not to go to East Carolina University. My true calling was not to go to Medical School and become a physician as I had allowed some of my peers to convince me. My true calling is to go to NC State, pursue a degree in Animal Science, and pursue admission to Veterinary School. I have always loved animals and I can't picture my life without them. These are just some of the many lessons I learned during my one semester experience at ECU. The lessons I learned at your institution go far beyond the levels of academia. I learned a lot about my goals, ND I learned a lot about myself. You might be wondering why I couldn't just stay at ECU, have a cheaper tuition, and major in [DEPT] and try to get to vet school from there. Well, there were other reasons that I decided not to return to Greenville. For example, Greenville was a little further away form home than I was comfortable being, and the social scene just wasn't my taste. In a nutshell, ECU just wasn't the place for me. Despite this, I wouldn't trade the time I had there for anything because of the valuable lessons I learned while there. Thank you for caring enough to send this survey inquiring of why I left, and thank you for doing your part to help me towards reaching my ultimate goals.

I liked ECU. Can I come back sometime? Would I have to transfer back in?

Most classes were way too large, I like smaller classes and a smaller campus were everything is more personable.

I enjoyed my year at ECU, but I felt that the town of Greenville was not for me.

ECU is an excellent institution, the town of Greenville is just not the place for me.

Too far in debt with student loans. I loved ECU (and I still do), but with living on campus and the meal plan, financially, it was too much for me. The
majority of my tuition was paid through loans, and now, living at home, I am borrowing much less. That was the main reason that I transferred.

East Carolina was a great school and I would recommend it to anyone but I personally needed a change.

I did not drop out of ECU. Please correct this as soon as possible. I will be transferring two [COURSES] back to ECU in May. The [OFFICE] gave me permission to do this. I have received a certificate of completion from my department.

ECU was a gorgeous campus and I enjoyed my first year. I had a back injury in January and it really made me miserable. I got lack of sleep from it and I think that partially lead to my decision of leaving.

I enjoyed my classes at ECU. I just wanted a degree that wasn't offered online. I will probably come back to ECU to get my Masters in [DEPT] if it is still offered online when I am ready to take it in about 5 years.

ECU is a wonderful school all around. But, I needed to get closer to friends and family here in Western NC. I also needed to do better academically and the social life at ECU and in Greenville didn't help. Thanks.

Mother couldn't afford to keep helping me. Moved back home. Couldn't have my car on campus to get a job and needed to work. I needed my car so I could get a job but I couldn't afford 200.00 parking and it would defeat the purpose having to spend more time on the bus going to my car and back than I would work. (aside from being dangerous at night.)

I have to pay for my own education. ECU was great until the harassment started. Your [STAFF] needs to get on the ball. PS: [NAME] deserves a MAJOR raise!

I would like to return to ECU in the future.

ECU is a great school; I really enjoyed my 2 years there.

Dear [NAME], I am the mother of a past student at ECU. I have saved this survey since October, until I had enough time to answer with honesty and concern. I hope you will read this letter form beginning to end. My daughter began her journey at ECU in the fall of 2003. She entered as a hopeful [DEPT] major, having discovered an expressive outlet through five semesters of art in high school. This media was all new and fresh to her. I guess she was looking for her own way in the [DEPT], since her father and I are [STAFF] and church [STAFF], her sister is a certified [STAFF], and her brother, who lives in [LOCATION], created his own lyrics and music via live guitar, voice, and computer generated music. It was a demanding first semester, as we knew it would be. Along with help from her professors, she came to the realization that, in this major, she would be working on most projects and assignments alone. She decided that if she was to spend that much time in an [DEPT] discipline, she would rather transfer to her fist love, [DEPT], giving her the opportunity to study again with groups of students, enjoy participation in the choirs, receive more piano and vocal training and follow the pursuit of a singing, dancing and acting career. Spring semester was better. [NAME] took courses for basic education and auditioned for entry into the [DEPT]. At that time, it was suggested that she begin her [DEPT] classes, take [COURSE], and join a choir for the Fall 2004 semester. She was offered another audition for the Spring 2005, if she still was interested in that major and had completed the pre-requisites. [NAME] happily began her course work in the [DEPT], was in the girl's ensemble first semester and was admitted into the [DEPT] the following semester. She also took the opportunity to audition for a production of [NAME] sponsored by the Arts Council in [LOCATION]. She appeared as one of the singers and dancers in the chorus. The
music classes seemed to be going well, as was her time spent in the drama department. [NAME] audition was in March. She received much encouragement from her voice teacher and thought that she had a great chance of being chosen to enter the [DEPT]. Again, entry was denied. [NAME] was devastated as were others who were not accepted. After several days, [NAME] mustered her courage and went to [STAFF],[NAME], and asked for an explanation and possibly some understanding as to what had happened in her audition that kept her from being selected. [NAME] discussed [NAME] progression through a successful semester, and continued by sharing how his job was to prepare his students for the cruel world. He asked if she really wanted to hear what he had to say, and of course, [NAME] said “Yes!” He began by saying that if he closed his eyes, he heard the voice of an ingénue, but when opening his eyes he needed to see some 5’7” to 5’8” and approximately 110 pounds. He said that all he could see in her was a “quirky, zany side-kick” and he really had not thought that she had shown enough of that side to even be considered for that type of role. [NAME] didn’t know what to say and was dismissed, as if she had just auditioned for a specific part in a musical, not as a student concerned about her next step toward obtaining a degree. Where was she to go from that moment? He suggested that she just wait until the fall semester to register. It was definitely time for [NAME] to make her exit. There was not an attempt to help [NAME] continue her education at ECU. [NAME] did suggest that [NAME] try again in the spring of 2006, but it’s absurd to think that she would grow 5 more inches or lose an unhealthy amount of weight just to fit a stereotype. [NAME] worried and stressed over coming back to ECU in August. She already had a room at the [LOCATION], a job at [LOCATION] and an abundance of friendships. By the first of August, [NAME] had realized that she had no schedule, no direction, no bill and no one to help. She tried to contact the [OFFICE], the [OFFICE] and the [OFFICE] and did not have an answer, so she drove 3 hours to ECU to get her transcript and enrolled the next day at [SCHOOL] and was welcomed with opened arms. By the end of the day, [NAME] was given a full schedule as a [DEPT] major and was provided with much financial help, including a [DEPT] scholarship. [NAME] is now in her second semester with a 3.3 GPA. She misses ECU and would probably have returned as a junior if she had received any communication at all from [STAFF]; however, she is very satisfied at [SCHOOL] as are we, and is well on her way toward a [DEPT] education degree. [NAME] is one of your ECU students who fell through the cracks, not because of family, health or academic problems, not because of drugs, alcohol or excessive social life, but because of the disappointment with the lack of interest shown in her as a person and in the academic process. We continue to receive mail from ECU. Information came just the other day about choosing ECU rings. She remarks each time she sees another mail-out, “they don’t even know that I am gone”. Please take [NAME] out of the system at ECU. We appreciate you attention to this matter. Thank you for reading this explanation to the survey attached. It would be good for the staff to reflect on the fact that once the words are said, they cannot be taken back. Our teaching profession still requires us to responsibly nurture, not neglect.

I was satisfied with my time at ECU but I prefer the triangle area, the atmosphere of UNC-CH, and I liked how UNC’s [DEPT] program did not include courses over the summer (while ECU does). I was very happy with my teachers and I felt I received an excellent education at ECU and personal attention in all my classes that I may not have received at another university.

I feel that the "no-tolerance" policy in the dorms is unfair - I was removed because of paraphenalia. I think students should receive an initial warning. I really liked ECU and I had to leave because of this stupid policy.

I had a good experience at ECU, just wanted to do something different.

Disappointed in the lack of action on campus. (also w/Greenville). Got tired of asking "so what's ECU's specialty" and hearing "Oh, we're just good at everything. Wasn't challenged enough academically.
I was very unsatisfied with the [DEPT] instructors. I am a [DEPT] major and am required to complete two [COURSES]. The instructor(s) were VERY unhelpful and acted as though they could care less. At UNCC the professors I have so far would go completely out of their way to help you understand anything. This was my main reason for leaving ECU.

I have not dropped out of ECU. I have moved to Raleigh and it wouldn't be practical to drive back and forth to take physics. So I am currently attending NCSU so I can finish my degree. If there are any more concerns of this matter please contact me.

I talked to my adviser to see if there is anything I have to take care of and he said no, so I don't know there is even a follow up letter like this, but it's very attentive though. Thank you very much.

I think ECU should have some programs for single parents and families for students who have children.

Field: Public Relations (Com).

I just didn't feel like I fit in, in my desired major or in the social climate. I was too lonely and miserable. I just couldn't stay. Overall, ECU is a good school. It's just not for me.

Would have continued at ECU if major was offered. Great experience.

**Transferred Elsewhere**

The ratio of teacher to study was ridiculously impersonal. I was a social security # therefore seeking help from a professor was virtually impossible. Not to mention security on campus wasn't great. My bike got stolen and no official seemed to care to help as well as unsafe parking lots and ECU safe ride drops you off no pick up that’s not safe.

I loved ECU, but after 4 years it was time to come home. I still visit ECU and will always consider ECU the only college I went to, even though my last 2 semesters were somewhere else.

Too expensive, couldn't afford ECU.

Excellent university! Professors were great! Greenville area - too remote.

Difficulty supporting myself.

I coordinated with the dean of school of finance to be able to xfer credits from ODU for fall semester.

I enjoyed the school very much. I preferred to be closer to home (NJ) and picked a school closely related to ECU. I am presently attending University of Delaware.

Enjoyed my time at ECU, made friends, liked my classes and teachers but did not feel the student body was diverse enough—the large majority of students were from North Carolina and being from Massachusetts was somewhat of an oddity to them.

We believed that we were N.C. residents for 16 years but were denied residency status. The [COURSE] instructor could not convey [COURSE]. Concepts-Horrible! I
was an NC resident (KDH, NC) but was denied NC residency status. We were treated unfairly by the University.

The only reason I transferred to another institution was because East Carolina University did not have the degree I desired offered at their institution. Otherwise I was happy with obtaining my education at ECU. I think it is a good idea in the future to consider providing a [DEPT] program considering the fact that the [DEPT] school at ECU is successful and the fact that many students in NC desire a [DEPT] program.

Overall ECU was a great school, I justed a school with a quicker pace to accompany with my job.

[STAFF]: very impersonal, terrible communication skills, grades given obviously did NOT reflect my true progress (made all As but wasn’t passed in [DEPT]), when asked about my progress prior to [DEPT] either gave no comment or good feedback.

More students should be accepted into the [DEPT] Program. A 2.87 GPA after 2+ years was not good enough?

The school was great however the crime in the area was relatively bad and occurred too often, however that's no why I transferred. The school I am at now gives me a lot of scholarship money and the tuition is not as demanding as ECU. I thought about coming back to ECU, but I think I'll miss the money and education at WVU! I decided to come to ECU from high school at the last minute and apparently all the scholarship money was gone. I was 10th in my graduating class with weighted 4.6 GPA. After working hard at ECU with a cumulative 3.6 GPA my freshman year and still didn't receive any scholarships for my hard work, I decided to transfer to somewhere that was willing to give me scholarship for my hard work.

Very sorry to have 'quit' [DEPT] School. Quality of instruction was very good. Professors were the 'best' encountered at ECU over 5 years. [DEPT] School is more inline with career goals.

Salisbury is a little cheaper, closer to home.

The two years I attend ECU was great. I totally enjoyed the teachers and the students. ECU enriched my life in some many ways.

Plan to go to an instate university. Loved ECU-tuition was high for out-of-state. Found university in-state with same major.

The main reason I did not return to ECU was because of the out of state fee. I have been in NC for more than 2 years now and while I was at ECU I paid the out of state fee for 3 semesters. I had plans on returning if and only if you grant me in state tuition. Thanks in advance.

Family Issues. I am a non-traditional student. While I was there my admissions was overlooked and my VA didn't set sent off until Jan. 7. [NAME] said that she didn't send my VA off cause I wasn't fully admitted. She neglected to inform me of my situation until the 1st day of classes. [OFFICE] said I was accepted but someone had forgot to change my code in the computer. Call me if you need me to better explanation. [NAME]

I had a wonderful experience at ECU and have no complaints about the school. However, I was offered the Academic Common Market Scholarship at Alabama. I am also from Atlanta so it is a much shorter drive. Go Pirates!

Offered Volunteer Grad Asst. job with Cal State Fullerton Baseball
No Conflicts. In my opinion, ECU needs a degree program that is catered to working adults.

ECU is a great school and I was very satisfied with it, but I just felt like I was too far from home (Delaware) and I felt more comfortable attending school in my hometown. I sincerely apologize for not notifying ECU about my transfer. Thank you!

Student athlete transfer

U.S. Army

Just wanted to be close to home. The school was really great just too far to drive all that way to see my family :)

I believe ECU is a very good school, but NCWC offered an accelerated program that suits me better at this stage in my academic life. I have looked into working on my [DEPT] at ECU after I finish at NCWC.

Food in dining halls was terrible. I lived in NC, paid bills there, changed my car registration and insurance, changed my driver's license. After doing all this and spending all that money, I was told that because I was claimed on my dad's last taxes (which he had to do b/c I was in high school and lived at his house for the first half of 2004) I couldn't receive in-state tuition. This is ridiculous. I completely support myself with no help from my father. For this reason my boyfriend and I have to relocate in my prior state of residence to avoid complications with school until after we graduate and will move back to NC afterwards. Thank you for all your inconvenience.

I loved my experience at ECU. I was accepted with a 3.8 average in high school, but very little financial aid or scholarship money was offered to me because I was an out of state resident. I maintained a 4.0 average my entire freshman year, was named to the Chancellor's list, ranked #1 in the freshman class and #1 in the gen. ed. Department, yet still no monies were offered to me to stay at ECU. When I learned my grandfather was diagnosed with early stages of Alzheimer's disease, I could no longer put the financial burden on my family that it would have required for me to stay at ECU. I just felt because I was an out of state student, not enough attention was given to my accomplishments nor consideration for the financial burden it brought.

Last name is now [NAME]. I am attending Barton College in Wilson, NC. Barton offers a weekend college that allows me to continue to work and go to school. I did not have any problems with ECU. I would rather continue at ECU but this is working for me thus far. If I find employment from 3pm-11pm I plan to return to ECU.

I did not think I could afford another semester so I took the first offer that came to go to [DEPT] school. I had attended ECU for the summer and fall 2004 and spring 2005, at which time I was accepted at an off-shore [DEPT] school. Three weeks prior to my finishing my first [DEPT] year, there was an announcement that the school had lost its Title IV federal funding. Those like me on the Stafford Loan were very suddenly without funds and thousands of miles from home. I had sold everything I had ever owned to come. There was no option to "return home" as both of my parents were dead. (The uncle who had been my best support had died just two weeks previously. His service was held on my birthday.) I used a credit card to buy a ticket to Washington DC, figuring "that's the capital of this country; maybe I can work things out from there." My sister informed me that a letter had come for me and was at my aunt's house. [NAME] wanted to know
"if there was anything we could have done differently to improve your educational experience at ECU." My eyes blurred with tears. As an orphan, an abused wife, a single mom, my life had been too filled with heart-breaking hardship and grief. It was too easy to believe that no-one on earth gave a spit. Here in my had was the proof that I was wrong. Someone I had never met at ECU did care-and wanted me to finish. I came back to ECU, reapplied and was readmitted as an undergraduate student. That day the [STAFF] had to delete from the record my off-shore enrollment, almost two semesters of difficult work disappeared. I went to [OFFICE] and told my story. In one dramatic hour, the [STAFF] worker filled out paperwork and said "here, take this to the [OFFICE] to get your classes." ECU paid for it all: tuition, books, parking, and student supplies. The [OFFICE] helped my sign up for the 17 units need to fulfill my Bachelor degree in [DEPT]. I participated in the 4th Annual Research Symposium, published my first abstract and presented my research idea to an audience and judges for the first time. In addition, two more poems were published while here at ECU which have both been granted Editor's Choice awards. The National Dean's List just notified me of my status among the nation's top students. But none of this would have happened or could have happened if [NAME] had not sent a letter, something physical that someone in one place could read over the phone to someone else. This was the information that saved my future. I am now headed to [DEPT] School. Where was I going before? Back to Greensboro to ask for my desk clerks job back, no college degree required. Where am I going now? After [DEPT] School, the head of [DEPT] at John Hopkins University/Applied Physics Laboratory said he wants to see me. And in my pocket will be a well-folded note reminding my that some cared that I made it through. Thank you so very much. And for the 4th year in a row-declined on NC residency for tuition purposes. Even though I work, rent, bought a car, and pay taxes to NC State and have been the last 3 years. I only wish I could have received resident status. I was paying NC taxes, and bought a care here. I work in NC (Raleigh). I would have loved to graduate from ECU but my declined decision on resident status was the only reason why I had to go some place else. I am now finishing my degree through online college-Excelsior. Thank you for the opportunity to express my reasons for leaving.

I got into the [DEPT] Program @ CCHS but not at ECU. No negative feelings.

Withdrew - Temporarily

I need assistance with my tuition.

I took some time off but I plan to return back to school in the fall (2006). I'm in the process of filling out my re-admissions application and getting my tax forms together

Serving in Iraq with USMC.

Signed contract to play professional baseball for the Chicago White Sox in June 2005

My educational experience at ECU was very great. The online instruction allowed me to remain a full time employee and get the assignments completed while at home. Thank you for the opportunity to further my education.

I was activated to Iraq for a 1 year tour.

Just gave birth in SP 05, need money for child care if I return to ECU! Need a job to support family so I can return to ECU. I hope to return either in the spring or fall of 2006. I'm not able to come back due mostly because of my
financial issues of paying to come back to school and paying for child care as well. Thanks for your time!

Returning Spring 2006 Semester

Management promotion required excessive travel and scheduled training. Intend to return Jan. '06.

It would have made more sense for [STAFF] to encourage me towards another major which I did significantly better in (3.0 GPA) than to keep promising me that "this is all you need" to graduate without taking into consideration the significantly low GPA that I had in the preferred major [DEPT]. I had an excessive social life which led to a few very bad semesters. I worked very hard, thereafter, but unable to do so within the time limitations of my financial aid. At the time that I found out that although I had completed and passed all of the required classes for a [DEPT] major, I also found out that in my minor, [DEPT], I only needed twenty something hours to earn a BS degree in [DEPT]. I had a least a 3.0 GPA in [DEPT]. I know very little about how [STAFF] works, but despite all her good efforts she could have told me sooner. I also need to work and earn enough money for my tuition.

My husband changed jobs and he wasn't available to watch our 3 children anymore, and daycare was too expensive.

Got offered a better job where I am working.

Disappointed that your website boast that you can get your degree completely online [DEPT] but have not had ability to take [COURSE]. Why advertise that you can when clearly you can't?

I was told by [STAFF] that it was in my best interest to complete my "basic" education at a community college and then transfer back to ECU for [DEPT] school.

I need night classes and internet courses. I plan to re-apply for admission in the fall of 2006.

I received aid for 1 semester and then got a letter saying I was no longer eligible due to the length/ # semesters I had spend pursuing my degree. This angers me, in that, the reason for the length was lack of funding and it is to be taken away even though I only used aid for one semester. I also have thousands of dollars due in medical bills; I do not qualify for aid and I am working full time to pay them. I do not know my academic standing. I quit going to classes, accepted the grades of "F" I deserved, but then received a letter stating I had to pay back the loans I had to ECU b/c of this. I stopped going to class at the very end of the semester (as opposed to withdrawing). The reasons were personal. I would like to come back and complete my degree; however, I do no know how/what is required. Assistance would be appreciated.

Birth of child. I have a high desire to return. My choice of not returning this semester reflects nothing on the institution. Hopefully I can return in the spring.

Costly tuition for out of state.

not enough $ to make up difference not covered by aid. I am taking an online class for the spring semester and may return for summer or fall semesters.

I am eager to return to ECU in the spring. I love ECU and I am very pleased with the educational services that I have been receiving from the University. I
was just way too pregnant to go back this fall semester and since the baby was
due, I needed this time to plan and prepare to return. I am checking in to
child care so I can return in the spring. Thank you!

Save money for tuition.

Deployed to Iraq for 1 year

I plan on enrolling back for Spring 2006.

I work full time. The class I needed was not offered at a time I could attend
(after 5 pm). Nor was it available online.

I wish to return for Spring Semester 2006.

I am in the [DEPT]. Did not pass math section of Praxis I for final senior
year. Planning to re-enroll as soon as successful passage of test is complete.

I was called to active duty for deployment to Iraq.

I am in the process of trying to pass the Praxis I test so I can go into my
upper division classes.

Enlisted into the United States Navy.

I love ECU! I desire to be there next semester! I need to be there next
semester. I just have to be eligible for this deferment. Can you help me?

I need to study harder for Praxis I.

I thought I had taken care earlier to notify ECU of my intent to leave for 2
years to serve a mission for my church. Please note on my record that I will be
returning to ECU or transferring to another university when I return. Sorry
about the confusion & Thanks!

My spouse is active duty, we PCS'd & moved & I then was changed out of state
tuition. Cannot afford out of state tuition. I don’t feel that as a military
spouse I should be changed out of state tuition. I have no control of my
husband’s duty station. I was a [DEPT] student and never technically at the
school.

I have filled out my re-admission form and will hopefully return to ECU in
January 2006.

I was never approved for instate tuition even though I lived in NC for a year
prior to admittance. With minimal financial aid, I was only able to go for 2
semesters-one of which was only a half load. I had all "as" both semesters but
was never offered/approved for any type of scholarship at all. I just think
that ECU should want to hold on to students who can pull all A’s and carry a
full time job.

I do plan on returning to school for more distance education classes. I have
been very pleased with the courses I have taken online so far.

Job works with schedule. Enjoyed experience but life & school became too much.
I don’t make enough money to pay for tuition. I really want to receive my
degree in [DEPT].

I am definitely planning to return to ECU next semester. I did not withdraw for
the semester for anything having to do with the school because I did love my
experience at ECU so far and hope to continue it until graduation once I resolve some personal problems I must handle at home in New Jersey.

Dx'd with chronic lyme disease and undergoing treatment since 2004.

Time on job (13 yrs) is more than enough for my current career. I own my own business and have had an extremely high rate of turnover with employees the last year and a half. I have not had time to take classes.

Lay off from work, no funds for college.

I would appreciate any help in completing my education. I would love to finish my degrees in [DEPT] and [DEPT]. I'm so close, however, it is hard for me to attend on campus during the day due to daytime employment. [DEPT] offers only 1 class for upper levels, making it difficult to attend. It would be nice if I can take remaining classes either at night, weekends, or early morning.

Personal financial problems.

Cont. at community college for electives [COURSE] and [COURSE]. Full-time employee at Craven Regional Medical Center.

I am the only male in my family and have to provide support for my little sisters and mom.

Tuition Pay's deadline for partial pay didn't coordinate with ECU's deadline, and I missed that opportunity. I very much want to return to ECU for the Spring Semester, please help me with this goal.

I was an employee at ECU and I was taking advantage of the free class. I wanted to go in the [DEPT] Program next spring and I told them to delay my enrollment until then.

Went into hospital and have no money to refund financial aid.

I am presently working while trying to remove incomplete in last course taken.

My reason for not attending ECU this fall were strictly because of financial reasons. There was an error within my FAFSA and I wasn't informed of this error until the week before fall semester began. I feel that if I'd been notified earlier I could have better handled the situation.

Financial aid was processed late. Will return Spring 2006.

Activated to operation Iraqi Freedom for 545 days beginning 9/9/05; copy of these orders were mailed to ECU registrar. Is this why his account at ECU is no longer active?

Email to professor: As you know, I will be taking your [COURSE] spring 2006. I was wondering if there is any way that you can work with me. I have recently been diagnosed with Crohn's disease, not a debilitating problem, but something that takes a while to get under control and monitor. I have been seeing a gastro-enterologist, but we are having trouble finding the right medication and getting my flare-ups under control. Right now, I really need to stay close to my doctor and continue with my follow-up appointments without interruption. I am asking you to consider letting me take the class form you over the internet. I realize that this could mean some extra work for you, but I would really appreciate your time. I know that we have days that have in-class assignments, but I would be willing to do the assignment on my own or write you a paper for that day. I realize that this might be more difficult on my part, but I am
willing to put forth the extra effort so that I can graduate this spring. When we have days that assignments are due, I can email them to you the night before so you have them before they are due that day. I still have my notes and handouts from last spring, so feel that I can keep up with the class. I also understand the importance of keeping up with the reading so I can stay on task with the class. On test days, I can have a proctor or I could come to Greenville to take the exam if you're more comfortable with that. I know that my project might be harder to complete because I won't have a classmate to interview and proof my paper, but I know that I can find someone here that would be willing to let me interview them. If you need medical information from my doctor, I will be glad to obtain that for you as well. Thank you for giving this your full consideration, I understand that this is an unusual situation, but I am anxious to complete my studies and either move on to graduate work or my career. I am also sending this to [NAME] in case he needs to approve it or if you need to discuss it with him.

Reply: I am sorry to hear about your diagnosis of Crohn's disease and hope you can get the disease under control soon. Unfortunately, I am not able to make this an Internet class due to the time it takes to prepare a class for distance education. This is not a class we plan to offer as distance education in the future.

I am returning to ECU in the Fall of 2006. The reason I left had nothing to do with the school itself. ECU is a wonderful school and I greatly miss it. Thank you for your concern!

Father is unemplo.

I was unable to gather enough money to pay the balance I owe the school. Work did not conflict with school. I loved ECU. I enjoy the professors and the classes. I have thoroughly missed attending this year and am looking forward to coming back in August with a fresh mind and ready to complete my degree.

I have relocated to Hampton, VA and intended to only miss one semester. Was going to re-attend but online courses and was told I would need to do my application as well as fee all over again. Did not agree to do so.

Financial issues were a big part of why I left. My family did not support me financially and I was unable to pay bills and keep my grades were I felt acceptable.

Couldn't pay tuition.

Please help! Any available funds to pay loan or can it be deferred so I can continue my education?

Need to pass praxis and I hurt my knee. Full time employed. I am enrolled in Wachovia Partnership East in Sp. Ed. Program. I needed some time to prepare for Praxis and I now have injured knee. I plan to re-enroll in January 2006.

I am hoping to continue my education at ECU in the future. At this time though, I'm not sure when I can return.

[DEPT]-would not allow me to be accepted b/c of my GPA. I plan to return after the 3 yr waiting period for the "Forgiveness Policy".

In process of moving, new job, and removing people from my personal life. I Do expect to return in the spring!!!

My wife and I moved across town, found out we were having another baby, & I have had a lot of overtime at work. I needed to take one semester off & take a break from school. I have re-applied & plan on starting back in January '06.
I am very upset and disappointed with ECU's policy to drop students who take a semester off. It is ridiculous for me to have to reapply for admission and pay ANOTHER $50!!! I laugh at the statement that I am a valued student. The only thing ECU values is my money! The main reason I did not attend this fall semester is because I could not get into any of the classes I need. They were either closed or offered at times that conflict with my work schedule. It is proving very difficult for me to pursue my goal to graduate from ECU. Maybe you should reconsider such policies that only serve to outrage students. I hope that as you try to reevaluate your effectiveness, you will give more thought to how difficult it is for an adult student (who must work to survive) to attend college. Anything a university could do to ease the stress would be helpful and greatly appreciated.

The reason why I didn't return to ECU was because my mom had her leg amputated. I wasn't able to get my classes [DEPT] (at least most of them). But if I am able to do that, then I wouldn't mind returning!

**Withdrew – Permanently**

d.Internship. I will either return to ECU or attend UNC-CH. I am through with my internship and currently working. I may attend community college for a semester before returning to ECU or UNC.

Active Military Duty for the U.S. Coast Guard.

As an [DEPT] student I found it extremely difficult to contact professors. Classes were jumble of half thought out teaching styles for [DEPT] student. I found getting an advisor a true nightmare and then had absolutely no feedback after repeated attempts to get advising. I think your (ECU) [DEPT] programs were just another way to add tuition without much work. I am disappointed with each professors half hearted attempts and would not return to ECU's program.

Spent the first 3 years of school in your [DEPT] program with the goal of graduating from ECU and joining the [DEPT] as an [STAFF]. The program and staff were very unorganized and without adequate support to [NAME]. After they let me spend 3 hard years in the program and thousands of dollars on classes (school) they advise me I was not "[STAFF] material". Had this been the real issue, it could have been brought to my attention with the first year. There are many more details to this story but this would be the quick version why I am not currently in school. I must re-think my entire future so that I might find a new goal.

Playing Pro-baseball with the San Francisco Giants. Loved ECU, great experience. Expect to attend classes Fall '07.

Maybe if the professors spoke English better and gave more hands-on material in order to actual learn what is being taught then it might be a little easier on students, especially ones that are coming from a small town.

My reasons for failing to attend East Carolina for further education vary. My initial withdrawal of interest from the University came when I was denied entrance into my major. At orientation my freshman year I was informed that my specific major required a Master's degree. It was my knowledge that after receiving my BA that there would be an application process into the Masters program. Imagine my surprise when I'm later informed in the Spring of my sophomore year that I would have to apply at the end of the semester for entrance into the BA program. As you probably already know I attended ECU for two years prior to applying for my selected area of study [DEPT]. In this time my Academic Advisor was changed 3-4 times. Never in these two years was I
notified that it was possible that I could be denied entry into this major. When asking [STAFF] about the process and conditions she caused no reason for concern stating that "typically everyone applying would receive entrance." My grades at the time were adequate, although I must add they could have been better citing personal and parental health problems. That summer after applying, I received the letter denying my access to the program. One of the reasons reported was an overflow of applicants and shortage of teachers. My options were to choose another major or apply again the following Spring. I was never a student who was undecided about their career path. I knew before graduating high school what I intended on studying at college. To pick another major, another career path, another life was absolutely devastating. I stayed at the University for another two semesters, however given my recent disappointment I lost all interest in the courses and the school. As a child with two siblings and a single mother I was putting myself through college and could not afford to continue paying for school on a gamble of whether or not you would allow me to further my education in my selected area of study. I am currently working at a part time job in order to pay my personal bills and attempt to repay school loans that never bought me a degree. I not only blame the school, or the inadequate [STAFF], I blame myself for being naïve enough to believe that I could receive the education I was paying for.

I really enjoyed my time at ECU. I just don't want to continue to spend money for a degree that I'm not sure I will want. Thank you so much for letting me attend ECU, it was definitely a pleasure!

Coming from an area with more forgiving consequences I feel it is necessary for you to inform your students not just of your university policies about alcohol and drug abuse but the state and county regulations and punishments.

School is good, all my undergraduate courses are taken, I need the [DEPT] school.

Appendix C
John Doe   
65 Main Street   
Anytown NY 22535

Dear John,

Another semester has begun at ECU and we noticed that you did not return, even though you were academically eligible to return. We are concerned that you have discontinued your education at ECU prior to graduation. We would like to know if you have dropped out temporarily or permanently, or if you have transferred elsewhere.

We would especially like to know if there was anything we could have done differently to improve your educational experience at ECU or if there is something we can do now to help you return.

Please help us gather this information by completing the brief questionnaire below and on the reverse side of this letter. Then please return it to us in the enclosed postage-paid envelope.

Thank you for helping us to make ECU’s programs more effective for valued students like you!

Sincerely,

G. Michael Poteat

G. Michael Poteat
Director of Institutional Effectiveness

Survey of Non-Returning Students

(Please respond using check marks or comments in the spaces provided)

1. Current Status (in Section 1 please respond to only one of the following categories: a, b, or c):
   ___ a. I am currently participating in a co-op, work study program, internship, or foreign study and plan to return to ECU to graduate.
   ___ b. I withdrew from school (check option 1 or one category from option 2):
       ___ (1) Permanently
       ___ (2) Temporarily (select the one best response):
       __ (a) For one semester ___ (b) For one year ___ (c) For more than a year ___ (d) Unknown length of time
   ___ c. I transferred to another college or university (check one response and indicate name of the institution):
       ___ (1) Another campus in the University of North Carolina system (Name: ________________________________)
       ___ (2) A Community College (Name: ________________________________)
       ___ (3) Elsewhere (Name: ________________________________)

2. Reasons for withdrawing or transferring (check all categories that apply):
   ___ a. Active Military Duty: (please explain):
       ___ b. Financial (check all that apply):
           ___ (1) Credit card debt
           ___ (2) Lack of adequate student financial aid
           ___ (3) Financial problems not related to student financial aid (Please explain) ________________________________
           ___ (4) Lack of scholarships ___
c. ECU Academic (check all that apply):

(1) Inability to get courses desired/needed (check all that apply):
   ___ (a) Courses closed out ___ (d) Courses too early/too late in day ___ (g) Other (specify):____________________
   ___ (b) Could not get desired professor ___ (e) Could not get courses on days desired
   ___ (c) Desired course content not offered ___ (f) Course time conflict with other courses

(2) Can not obtain a degree in my preferred field of (specify): ______________________________________________________
(3) Disappointed with quality of instruction
(4) Disappointed with quality of advising
(5) Not enough academic prestige in my field of (specify): _______________________________________________________
(6) Disappointed with level of emphasis given to academics
(7) Could not do the work
(8) College is not for me
(9) Desired major not offered (specify):____________________________________________________________________
(10) Other (please explain): ______________________________________________________________________________

d. Employment (check all that apply):

(1) School conflicts with current employment ___ (2) I was offered a good job elsewhere ___ (3) I wanted to gain practical experience
(4) Other (please explain): ________________________________________________________________________________

e. Personal (check all that apply):

(1) Personal problems ___ (4) Health problems ___ (7) Academic problems
(2) Family problems ___ (5) I needed a break to reconsider goals ___ (8) Drug or alcohol problems
(3) Changed marital status ___ (6) Homesick ___ (9) Other (please explain below): ________________________________

f. ECU Overall (check all that apply):

(1) School too large and impersonal ___ (6) Too far from home ___ (10) Safety issues
(2) Desire to attend a larger school ___ (7) Too close to home
(3) Inadequate social life ___ (8) Disappointed with opportunities for student development outside the classroom
(4) Excessive social life ___ (9) Weather-related issues (hurricane, etc.)
(5) Climate of drug and alcohol abuse on campus __________________________________________________________________

3. Location and Method of Instruction at ECU (this information will help us plan and best use your feedback)

a. Your physical location while receiving instruction (in class or on the web, etc.) (please check the one most accurate option):

   ___ (1) While receiving instruction I was most often on the Greenville campus.
   ___ (2) While receiving instruction I was most often at a location away from the Greenville campus.
   ___ (3) For about half of my instruction I was on the Greenville campus, and for about half I was away from the Greenville campus.

b. Method of instruction at ECU (please check the one most accurate option):

   ___ (1) In most of my classes the instruction was delivered completely face-to-face.
   ___ (2) In most of my classes the instruction was delivered partly “online” (web-based, via video tape, etc).
   ___ (3) In most of my classes the instruction was delivered completely online.

c. Where did you live while enrolled at ECU? (please check only one)

   ___ (1) On campus
   ___ (2) Off campus but within 25 miles of campus
   ___ (3) Off campus and more than 25 miles from campus

d. If you are a North Carolina high school graduate, in what county was your high school located?

   County Name: ______________________________________________________________

4. Comments (feel free to attach additional sheets if needed):
East Carolina University
Office of Institutional Effectiveness

Survey of Non-Returning Students
Academic Year 2004-2005

Background and Methodology

Each semester a number of undergraduate level students who would be expected to return to ECU do not do so. These are students who were enrolled the previous semester, did not graduate, are academically eligible to return, but did not return for the current semester. The purpose of the Survey of Non-Returning Students is to gather information about why they have not returned. This information is useful to faculty and administrators who are concerned with maintaining and improving ECU’s high retention rate. This survey was conducted for the first time by ECU during the Spring 1998 semester, again during Spring 1999, and each semester thereafter.

The survey consists of a letter from the Director of Institutional Effectiveness, inquiring about the student’s educational status and plans and asking students to complete a few questions. Section I of the questionnaire asks about whether the student (a) is currently away on a field placement, co-op, or other ECU program, etc., and does plan to return to campus, (b) has withdrawn from school, or (c) has transferred to another institution. Section II asks for more detailed reasons (e.g., financial, academic, employment reasons) why they have withdrawn or transferred. Forms were mailed to the student’s permanent addresses which, in most cases, is a parent’s address.

As of Fall 2004 several minor changes were made to the questionnaire and new items were added. Under “Reasons for withdrawing or transferring,” “Safety Issues” was added to the “ECU Overall” sub-section (see Table 4). A new major section “Location and Method of Instruction at ECU” was added for students to indicate whether their instruction at ECU was mostly on-campus, off-campus, or half-and-half, and whether their primary method of instruction was completely online, partly online, or completely face-to-face (see Table 3).

Two equivalent versions of the survey were used: an online form and a paper questionnaire. In Fall 2004, the students were contacted initially via postcards which asked them to complete the survey at the web location specified on the postcard. Due to a low response rate to the postcard invitation, the paper questionnaire was sent several weeks later to those who had not yet responded online. In Spring 2005 both versions of the survey were available, but the only notification sent was the paper questionnaire containing a link to the online form which they could use instead.

This report consists of four summary tables of results gathered during the academic year Fall 2004 through Spring 2005. Primary results for each of the questions are summarized in Table 4 (Appendix A). At the end of this report are students’ open-ended comments citing “other reasons” for not returning and general “comments” (Appendix B). Names of individuals, departments, and other identifying references mentioned in the comments are omitted to preserve anonymity. The paper version of the questionnaire is shown in Appendix C.
Response Rates

**Fall 2004.** Postcards were mailed to 1266 students who were enrolled in Spring 2004 and were eligible to enroll in Fall 2004 but did not return. There were 99 respondents who responded via the online version of the survey, and 1 of these was a student still enrolled in an internship or co-op, leaving 98 “non-returning” respondents. In response to the questionnaires subsequently sent to all non-responders, 138 were returned and 2 were removed from the survey since these were from students who were actually still enrolled in an internship or co-op, leaving 136 respondents who were “non-returning.” The total number of respondents replying either by the web form or letter was therefore 234. Of the 1266 students who were contacted, there were 105 for whom our addresses were bad. Reducing the 1266 by 105 and by the 3 students who were completing co-ops or internships resulted in a reachable and valid population of 1158. **The resulting Fall 2004 response rate based on 234 returns out of a population of 1158 was 20.2 percent.**

**Spring 2005.** Letters were mailed to 790 students who were enrolled in Fall 2004 and were eligible to enroll in Spring 2005 but did not return. There were 139 respondents, 3 of whom were still enrolled in co-ops or internships, leaving 136 “non-returning” respondents. Of 790 envelopes mailed, 32 were returned due to bad addresses, and 6 students were away completing coops or internships, leaving a reachable and valid population of 752. **The resulting Spring 2005 response rate based on 136 returns out of a population of 752 was 18.1 percent.**

**Fall 2004 and Spring 2005 Combined.** Because of the low response rates from Fall 2004 and Spring 2005, the results for this preliminary report were combined to reflect the academic year 2004-2005 as a whole. **The overall response rate for the combined results, based on a combined population of 1910 non-returning students and 370 returns was 19.4 percent.**

Section I: ECU Students Who Transferred or Withdrew

In Section I of the questionnaire/online survey form students are asked to indicate their academic status, that is, whether they transferred to another institution or just withdrew from school altogether. Table 1 presents these results for academic year 2004-2005 (students who could have returned in Fall 2004 or Spring 2005 but did not) and results from 2003-2004 for comparison.
Students Who Transferred or Withdrew from ECU by Semester

Section II: Reasons for Transferring or Withdrawing

Calculation of Percentages. In Section II of the questionnaire students can indicate multiple reasons for withdrawing or transferring. Because of this, the number of reasons given can exceed the number of students responding. The percentages presented in Table 2 and Table 4 (Appendix) are based on the total number of reasons given. These divisors are shown in the bottom row of Table 4 for each category involved.

Comparison of common reasons for transferring and withdrawing. Tables 2 and 4 depict reasons for transferring and withdrawing. Table 2 helps to compare the most frequently cited reasons (having a frequency of at least 5 percent) for transferring and withdrawing. In Table 2 rows are arranged in descending order of the “Transfers” percentages and secondarily by the “Withdrawals” percentages. The percentages in Table 2 were taken from the “Total Transfers” and “Total Withdrawals” columns in Table 4.

Table 2
Comparison of Transfers and Withdrawals in Terms of Reason Categories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reasons</th>
<th>Transfers</th>
<th>Withdrawals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inability to get classes desired</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Reasons</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too far from home</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal problems</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of student financial aid</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homesick</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School too large and impersonal</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I needed a break to reconsider goals</td>
<td></td>
<td>8.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial problems not related to student financial aid</td>
<td></td>
<td>8.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School conflicts with current employment</td>
<td></td>
<td>6.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Section III: Location and Method of Instruction
Students were asked to indicate the physical location and method of instruction that best described the majority of their courses (Table 3).

**Table 3**
*Location and Method of Instruction*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Method of Instruction</th>
<th>All Face-to-Face</th>
<th>Partly &quot;Online&quot;</th>
<th>All &quot;Online&quot;</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On Greenville Campus</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>%</td>
<td>93.3</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off Greenville Campus</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>%</td>
<td>44.4</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>44.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50% G'Ville/50% Off</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>%</td>
<td>53.9</td>
<td>34.6</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>284</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Appendix A
### Table 4
Survey of Non-Returning Students
Academic Year 2004-2005

Reasons for Transferring or Withdrawing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section II Response Categories¹</th>
<th>Transfers</th>
<th>Withdrawals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Community College</td>
<td>Other UNC Institution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A. Financial</strong></td>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>8.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of adequate student financial aid</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial problems not related to stu fin aid</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **B. Employment**             | 2.8 | 2.1 | 2.8 | 2.1 | 3.7 | 11.1 | 53 | 11.2 | 10.6 |
| School conflicts with current employment | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 1.2 | 6.7 | 32 | 6.6 | 6.1 |
| I was offered a good job elsewhere | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 1.2 | 6.7 | 32 | 6.6 | 6.1 |

| **C. Personal**               | 25.0 | 167 | 32.2 | 19.3 | 17.4 | 34.9 | 166 | 35.5 | 30.3 |
| Personal problems             | 7.0 | 52 | 9.1  | 6.8 | 6.2 | 8.4 | 40 | 8.3 | 9.1 |
| Family problems               | 2.7 | 18 | 3.2  | 3.6 | 0.6 | 4.8 | 23 | 5.1 | 3.0 |
| Changed marital status        | 1.2 | 8 | 1.6  | 1.0 | 0.6 | 1.7 | 8 | 1.9 | 0.0 |
| Health problems               | 2.1 | 14 | 4.4  | 0.0 | 0.0 | 4.8 | 23 | 5.1 | 3.0 |
| I needed a break to reconsider goals | 2.8 | 19 | 3.5  | 2.6 | 1.9 | 8.6 | 41 | 8.6 | 7.6 |
| Homesick                      | 5.7 | 38 | 6.3  | 4.2 | 6.2 | 1.3 | 6 | 0.7 | 4.5 |
| I wanted to gain practical experience | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9  | 0.6 | 1.2 | 2.7 | 13 | 2.7 | 3.0 |

| **D. ECU Academic**           | 24.9 | 168 | 24.9 | 22.4 | 28.6 | 17.5 | 84 | 17.5 | 18.2 |
| Inability to get classes desired² | 10.0 | 67 | 11.4 | 7.8 | 9.9 | 10.7 | 51 | 11.4 | 6.1 |
| Courses closed out            | 1.8 | 12 | 2.2  | 1.6 | 1.2 | 1.9 | 9 | 2.2 | 0.0 |
| Could not get desired professor | 0.4 | 3 | 0.3  | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 3 | 0.5 | 1.5 |
| Desired course content not offered | 2.1 | 14 | 2.2  | 2.1 | 1.9 | 0.8 | 4 | 1.0 | 0.0 |
| Courses too early/too late in the day | 0.6 | 4 | 0.3  | 1.0 | 0.6 | 2.3 | 11 | 2.4 | 1.5 |
| Other                         | 0.4 | 3 | 0.6  | 0.0 | 0.6 | 1.5 | 7 | 1.7 | 0.0 |
| Could not get courses on days desired | 0.6 | 4 | 0.9  | 0.0 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 4 | 1.0 | 0.0 |
| Course time conflict with other courses | 4.0 | 27 | 4.7  | 2.6 | 4.3 | 2.7 | 13 | 2.7 | 3.0 |
| Can not obtain a degree in preferred field | 4.0 | 27 | 4.4  | 4.2 | 3.1 | 0.8 | 4 | 0.7 | 1.5 |
| Disappointed with quality of instruction | 3.7 | 25 | 3.2  | 4.2 | 4.3 | 1.9 | 9 | 1.5 | 4.5 |
| Disappointed with quality of advising | 4.5 | 29 | 4.7  | 2.6 | 5.6 | 3.4 | 16 | 3.2 | 4.5 |
| Not enough academic prestige in my field | 0.9 | 6 | 0.3  | 0.5 | 2.5 | 0.4 | 2 | 0.5 | 0.0 |
| Disappointed in emphasis on academics | 2.1 | 14 | 0.9  | 3.1 | 3.1 | 0.4 | 2 | 0.2 | 1.5 |

| **E. ECU Overall**            | 27.9 | 188 | 20.5 | 40.6 | 28.0 | 10.1 | 48 | 8.8 | 18.2 |
| School too large and impersonal | 5.1 | 34 | 6.3  | 4.2 | 3.7 | 1.5 | 7 | 1.0 | 4.5 |
| Desire to attend a larger school | 1.3 | 9 | 0.0  | 4.2 | 0.6 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| Inadequate social life         | 2.5 | 17 | 2.8  | 1.0 | 3.7 | 0.8 | 4 | 0.7 | 1.5 |
| Excessive social life          | 2.8 | 19 | 2.5  | 5.2 | 0.6 | 1.7 | 8 | 1.5 | 3.0 |
| Drug and alcohol abuse on campus | 3.0 | 20 | 1.9  | 5.2 | 2.5 | 1.7 | 8 | 1.5 | 3.0 |
| Too far from home              | 8.2 | 55 | 5.0  | 11.5 | 10.6 | 1.7 | 8 | 1.7 | 1.5 |
| Too close to home              | 0.9 | 6 | 0.0  | 2.6 | 0.6 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.0 | 1.5 |
| Disappointed in out-of-class stu dev opps | 1.9 | 13 | 0.6  | 3.6 | 2.5 | 1.7 | 8 | 1.5 | 3.0 |
| Weather-related issues (Hurricane, etc.) | 1.0 | 7 | 0.3  | 2.6 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 2 | 0.5 | 0.0 |
| Safety issues                  | 1.2 | 8 | 0.9  | 0.5 | 2.5 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.2 | 0.0 |

| **F. Active Military Duty**   | 0.3 | 2 | 0.0  | 0.5 | 0.6 | 1.0 | 5 | 1.2 | 0.0 |

| **G. Other Reasons**          | 10.0 | 67 | 7.3  | 12.0 | 13.0 | 10.1 | 48 | 10.0 | 10.6 |

| TOTAL RESPONSES (% / n)       | 100% | 670 | 100% (317) | 100% (192) | 100% (161) | 100% | 477 | 100% (411) | 100% (66) |

¹ In Section II of the questionnaire students could indicate more than one reason for transferring or withdrawing, so column percentages are portions of 100% based on the total number of responses listed at the bottom of the columns.

² Percentages and n's are from combining results in sub-columns to the right.

³ Inability to get classes desired contains the total number of responses for students choosing any of the seven sub-categories directly below it in this table.
“Other Reasons,” Spring 2005

Categorized by type of transfer/withdrawal
(Verbatim, with individual names or other identifying references removed)

Transferred to a Community College

Heavy foreign accent of one professor made it very difficult to understand him.

Am attending Durham Tech so I can live at home, go to school, and work. Plan to return to ECU after I make some money.

The [DEPT] at this school is ridiculous. I work in a hospital and know for a fact that I will not need [COURSE] in the depth that is required at ECU. Because I had trouble in this 1 class I was advised to switch majors or switch schools.

Went to school that accepted me into their [DEPT].

got pregnant, can not commute right now

Didn't like my major and it would have taken too long to graduate with a 4-year degree.

Transferred to another UNC Institution

Please read comments below

Withdrew for a semester to help out with family problems & figure out what I wanted to do, went to ECSU but plan to return to ECU.

[Marked, with no explanation]

I could not continue to drive 2.5 hours per day, each way, five days a week.

Transferred Elsewhere

I am a full time wife and mother and I am employed full time in the Nursing field and my GPA was not high enough with the current competition

See Comments

Switched to instate college. Employer reimbursing.

Withdraw - Temporarily

Psychological withdraw

Gave birth to 1st Child, over extended myself w/ job, child & school

Does not fit into my life at this time.
My husband and I were married Feb. of 2004. I moved back to Raleigh. We are now expecting our first child in July 2005. I plan to return to ECU to complete my degree.

I don't think I qualify for financial aid but unable to afford classes right now. Have a family and it's a financial strain. Plan to resume as soon as possible.

Pregnant. Only taking one semester off.

Mainly because I'm currently working in Williamston and will be keeping my grandmother soon.

I needed a break from the exhausting 2-hour commute and also needed to make some money.

To much on my plate needed some time to destress! Busy life; just taking a few months off will be back in fall or spring.

Withdraw - Permanently

Assigned to Junior roommate who was never there. No Freshman experience.

I'm having a baby boy on June 18 & need to be w/ my family in Raleigh.

“Comments,” Spring 2005

Categorized by type of transfer/withdrawal
(Verbatim, with individual names or other identifying references removed)

Transferred to a Community College

[OFFICE] - really needs to be expanded and should be more available for parents/students to phone in with questions. Very impersonal. Overall, I enjoyed my experience at ECU! [NAME]

I love ECU! It is my dream school! I, however, can not afford to attend, so I had to come home.

ECU is the most strict university when it comes to dorms. If someone wants an overnight guest it should be up to the people in the rooms. Just have people sign in! Also there is no available parking and the [STAFF] are natzis.

I loved ECU, but got so homesick I started having health issues. Thank you so much!

Should have brought my car. Transportation around the city was limited, last bus at 9pm. Couldn't get part time job or pursue interests off campus because had to be back by 9 on last bus.

I loved ECU. It is just I changed my major to something that they don't have. I wish I could have stayed.

I withdrew from ECU at the beginning of the Fall 2004 semester. I was having personal problems that caused health problems. I felt that to solve these
problems I needed to withdraw and enroll in college at home. I may return to ECU after getting my associate's degree.

Would love to attend ECU online and receive [DEPT] completion degree.

In my experience I have seen that the case of residency status for tuition purposes is more tight at ECU that any other University. The [OFFICE] should give wider chance on helping students to continue their education.

While at ECU, I felt like I received poor advising and as a freshman, not knowing anything about college life, I feel if I'd have known, my academic quality would not have fallen below average. Not that you or anyone else cares to hear my situation, I feel it is necessary to fully express my feelings via the situation. As a freshman, I came to ECU to pursue a [DEPT] undergrad degree. I placed into [COURSE], but did not place out of [COURSE]. Well I was never told by an advisor that I had to have [COURSE] in order to take [COURSE]. So, I was GIVEN a schedule that consisted of [COURSE], [COURSE] and [COURSE], with NO [COURSE]. I totally failed [COURSE] because of my lack of [COURSE] and a horrible professor [STAFF].

I was stressed and placed on academic probation. For many ECU freshman, that is expected, but I didn't party at all, so I felt very down. Anyways, my next semester I took [COURSE] and was advised by my advisor to retake [COURSE] without a [COURSE]. Still had no clue [COURSE] was required. (I thought the class would be blocked to those without the essential [COURSE]). It wasn't until after drop that I informed my [COURSE] teacher of my situation, and she dropped it for me and it didn't require a drop. So for her, I am thankful. But it's sad it took 1 1/2 semesters for one person to let me know what to do. So after I failed [COURSE], my [DEPT] dreams were ruined. I in turn had changed my major to [DEPT], which I hated. So, I decided on [DEPT], but with my grades and academic background at ECU, it would be almost impossible for me to get into the [DEPT] program, so I decided to move home and drive 45 minutes to a community college where I can get an education in something I love. ECU was a great experience, but for some people its just too much. I feel I need better advice and straightforward advice. Not to mention more one on one attention. Thanks for your time and letting me express my feelings.

Sincerely, [NAME]

P.S. Thank you for the opportunity.

I like the school, just thought for my personal sake that I'd be better to start off at a community college then transfer back later.

Hoped that there were more opportunities to get in [DEPT]. Alternative list X3 times.

I loved ECU, but it just didn't work out for me.

Transferred to another UNC Institution

The school seemed too involved with more fun activities than a quality education.

My son was a high-school student (graduating in May 2005) who had to take a college class because his school didn't have classes for him. He will be attending UNC - Chapel Hill.

But only for 1 semester, will return

Joined USMC Reserves. Duty Station is in Wilmington. Moving there and transfering into UNCW.

8
Transferred Elsewhere

Hardly any scholarships presented. Step up the academics a few more levels. Get students more involved in academics.

1. The drug and alcohol abuse is out of control. 2. The food is horrible. Very Unhealthy. 3. Terrible freshman welcoming/mentoring the first month. Felt completely on my own. No feeling of help with adjusting.

I like ECU a lot. It was a good school, I just needed a change, and I desired to be closer to home.

I love ECU! I think it is a great school academically. Unfortunately, due to [NAME], I decided it wasn't the best place for me any longer.

I'm sorry ECU is not in Raleigh. I loved the campus and the teachers and people were nice, but there's just not enough to do in Greenville to satisfy me at this time.

ECU was a great school, It was just not for me.

When considering the [DEPT] students, experience in the [DEPT] field should be a great consideration. There are some excellent [STAFF] who are trying to further their careers in [DEPT]. When we are wives, mothers, and [STAFF], we cannot always have the highest GPA but we can still do well in the classes if we are given the chance. Just because we don't have a 4.0 GPA does not mean that we cannot do just as well as the single students, who live on campus or with their parents who pay their bills.

I lost 15 credit hours in my major when I transferred to ECU [DEPT] from Barton College, Wilson, NC. The [STAFF] at Barton, and my instructor, [NAME] is renowned in his field and was an FBI Agent. I find it hard to believe that credits earned under an instructor of his caliber would not be accepted by ECU.

Withdrawn - Temporarily

This brief letter is to explain why I have had to temporarily withdraw from the University. According to school policy, I must pass the Praxis test before I am admitted into upper division of the [DEPT] program. I have attempted the test several times, but have unfortunately been unable to pass the test so far. I am within one point of passing the math section, and several points below on the reading section. I have passed the writing section, and am working with a tutor in order to pass the test. I understand that passing the test is a requirement of the program; however, I am extremely concerned that I have invested so much time and effort to reach this point, and may be unable to graduate. I fail to see how passing the Praxis will make me a more effective [STAFF] when I have several years experience working with young children and feel I am ideally suited to this calling. I do hope you will give my letter careful consideration and share it with those who might be able to reconsider this policy.

More options should be available other than withdrawal for off campus students going through personal problems.

I would love to continue my education at ECU in the future. Currently, I am a single mother struggling with my finances. Hopefully, once I have resolved these issues I will be able to return.

[NAME] is now living in England.
My online experience was excellent as were all instructors. Am not attending @ present solely due to finances. [NAME]

Signed baseball contract. Planning to return to ECU to complete my degree after minor league baseball season.

I have kidney failure and had to go back on dialysis. The commute to dialysis and ECU was too much for me. I want to return to ECU but do not know when I'll be able to do it.

Thanks for the follow up. I was disappointed with the way I left. I was not a 100% ready for online classes. I had a full time job, personal problems, and a change of marital status. All of these factors have taken a toll on me. I absolutely would like to get back to pursue an online degree from ECU. I flunked the two classes I was taking [COURSE]. I hope I didn't ruin my GPA. I would like to change my major from [DEPT] to [DEPT]. I realized [DEPT] is not for me. I will do better in [DEPT]. I'm sure ready to pursue my degree in the Fall '05. I really do not know which step to take next. Sorry this letter is so long. I need help getting back on track. I don't want to lose my student status. Thanks for reading this. I'm not sure what to do. My e-mail: [ADDRESS]

Hope to return fall 2005. Had a brain tumor that was successfully removed and treatment will hopefully be completed by Sept 2005.

I felt that [STAFF], as well as [STAFF] were impersonal and unwilling to help. Also, locations where students can receive counseling services should be more fully developed and advertised.

[COURSE] need improvement as well as [COURSE] layout. [COURSE] has problems— I had very little free time. Data seemed scattered—spent time to gather it to find out what needed to be done.

I am a full time ECU staff member and plan to return when my schedule permits.

Plan to reapply for Summer sessions 2005

I've got a job recently. I am not sure if I can manage a job and study at the same time. If I am get used to work, I'm thinking about going back to ECU for [DEPT].

I really enjoyed my online classes and am looking forward to attending again in the near future. Thank you for your concern! [NAME]

I would like to see more online and night classes offered related to [DEPT]. I will probably have to obtain this degree elsewhere as a result of this. I would also like to see improved parking options of "C's" and an improved [STAFF] and their operating hours.

Joined the Air Force

I enjoyed the class I took and gained valued information; however, I had a change in work classification and have too many "home chores" to keep up with to maintain a good grade average.

I'm taking time out because of mainly my family change. By keeping my grandmother more and working in Williamston eliminates me to go to school now.

Spouse passed away.
I needed a break for personal reasons, it had nothing bad to do w/ ECU at all. I plan to return for the Fall 2005 Semester

I want to come back but due to financial problems it may be in the fall. I'm presently at [ADDRESS]

Plan to return and reenroll. Personal issues arose this semester.

[NAME] was very disappointed when [STAFF] left [DEPT]. And, from what I've heard, drug and alcohol abuse on campus is a chronic problem. Hopefully, [NAME] will return to study next fall. He likes ECU and his major.

I would like to take/finish with [DEPT], but not sure how to go about it.

I decided to apply to the ECU grad school. I needed to take a semester off. I will start again in the Fall (hopefully).

I loved my classes at ECU - the professors are terrific, the quality of [DEPT] instruction was tops and my fellow students were interesting and smart. I hope that my absence is just for a semester, but I am not sure. I did need a break from the long commute (2 hrs each way) and while I was in school, I had less time to commit to my work. My family income falls in that gray area - we make too much for most financial aid and yet while I'm in school, I don't make enough money or have enough time to commit to my art business. Are there funds available for students like me? I realize for [COURSE] it is not possible to have online courses, but it would be nice if some of the other required courses were available online. I was thinking of one example specifically - [COURSE] - that would lend itself wonderfully to an online course. I have taken other [COURSE] online and they work well because all students are required to participate in on-line discussions. Thanks for asking my opinion - it's nice to know you noticed!

Very excited about ECU but because my husband is active duty, we were transferred and I didn't want to lose any more credits by only staying at ECU for one semester.

Dear [NAME],

I welcome the opportunity to respond to your Survey of Non-Returning Students. My son was enrolled for his first semester at ECU this past fall. He was an above-average high school student, but did not do well at ECU. There were personal issues, such as a part-time job and a respiratory illness that contributed to his academic failure. However, there were also educational challenges which I feel could have been avoided with proper advising.

In an attempt to get off on the right foot, he attended the summer orientation. He went on his own to get a feel for what it would be like once he was there. During that time, he was registered for classes. Whoever signed him up placed him into an upper-level [COURSE] (although he didn't realize it until he got home), causing him to have to drop-add and try to find a replacement class right from the start. I think the [STAFF] should attempt to get these beginners into the right classes, considering they are coming well in advance of the regular registration period and making a good effort to begin their college career by doing things the right way. He said that the [STAFF] didn't consult him about the classes, but just signed him up and sent him on his way. I realize that it must be a very busy time, but if the students are not counseled properly, what is the purpose of your orientation?

He was then put into a situation where his [STAFF] was new to the college, his first semester. I don't understand why the freshmen aren't put with more seasoned employees who can help them to avoid many of the pitfalls that freshmen encounter just out of sheer ignorance. I teach at a community college, and I did my best to caution my son about not taking too many classes, and about the
withdrawal procedure, and other situations, but he was being counseled on the other end by someone who didn't know the proper procedures and several problems occurred. First of all, [STAFF] allowed him to sign up for seven classes. Seven classes for a freshman who is working part-time sounds ridiculous, and I can't believe that the [STAFF] didn't counsel him better. Of course, the course load proved to be too demanding, and my son dropped two of the classes.

My son developed a respiratory infection in September, which lasted for several weeks. He attempted to attend all classes, but due to his illness, was getting behind in his homework. Needless to say, he didn't do well, and went to [STAFF] again to drop classes.

I will be attending ECU soon! I am selling a house, buying a new one, working full time, planning a wedding, and moving. I could not take on school as well. Will be back!

I live in New Bern and commute. I have elderly parents that have been sickly and I have needed to help. (I am a second degree student & 47 yr. old)

I want to return in the Fall, maybe even summer school. I will be needing help and advice.

Withdrew - Permanently

Nothing went right from Day One. I was told I was registered/completed all necessary paperwork to be told in my first class that I wasn't supposed to be there. Long letter of explanation left with [OFFICE], and [STAFF].

I need to start taking classes online, but I don't know where to look, any help? I really want and need to graduate with a degree.

I had no problems on the school's part. I just decided the degree I was pursuing wasn't for me. I have recently started something new. Thanks.

I was already frustrated with this past semester then I come to find out that this semester, someone I work with taking the same class, under the same instructor, grades were curved. She made the same grades that I did on exams and came out of the class.

“Other Reasons,” Fall 2004

Categorized by type of transfer/withdrawal
(Verbatim, with individual names or other identifying references removed)

Transferred to a Community College

Love ECU but had trouble getting a cosigner for loans needed if there was a way I would be back

[OFFICE] sucks! They can't get anything right. They always mess up my financial aid.

Changed majors, not offered @ ECU

did not get into [DEPT]
I was in a automobile accident December 30, 2003. My most serious injury was a tremendous brain injury, I couldn't even do things for myself. I have gone to, and received from, my [DEPT], the permission to take a few classes at Pitt. To get my degree from ECU, I am only 3 classes short. I really hope that this will get me where I'm going.

Tested positive for ADD when I came home. That's why school was harder.

Want to be a paramedic so switched to go to school for that and it was not offered at ECU

I was physically abused by fiance and was unable to afford tuition after we seperated

**Transferred to another UNC Institution**

No good paying summer jobs in the area

Offered scholarship by Forestry Dept. @ State

No problem with the school but love mountain area for camping hiking

I just always wanted to attend UNC-CH.

Wanted to attend UNC Chapel Hill

dorms are awful! Too many rednecks!

Too often I saw students attend class while under the influence after a late night of parties. This is not exactly conducive to high academic success.

ECU campus was too far removed from civilization. Wanted to be closer to the beach and city life.

Already enrolled at Western Carolina University. I just wanted some enrichment classes at ECU

**Transferred Elsewhere**

Had always wanted to attend C of C have no criticism for ECU

Moved with my father to Hawaii because the Air Force relocated him

In state tuition

[DEPT] was too stressful - that w/ the combination of being away from family and friends was too much.

Safety

I was only in the pre-college program, taking [COURSES] while attending DH Conley. After graduation in May '04, I was appointed to the USAPA in Colorado Springs, Colorado for academics and career choices.

Wanted to be in area with stronger economy for part time work/girlfriend also

ECU could not fulfill my career goal
Withdrew – Temporarily

I have studied music since I was six years old and always wanted to be a musician. I went to college to explore other options.

Health made it hard to commute alone.

Suspended

Need courses in book conservation.

1) Internet dial-up connection was too slow – downloading/uploading was a problem. 2) I was PETRIFIED that I wouldn't do well.

I was offered a position with benefits at my place of employment.

Online classes, conflict with work hours.

Parking - not able to park anywhere on campus after dark or after 5 p.m., this is not safe (some have 5-8 classes).

need more online

Poor advising - I wasn't allowed to change my advisor, I was also instructed and enrolled in courses I don't need.

No guided direction

Because of the lack of employment opportunities in my area of study I had to re-evaluate my education path.

gave birth to my daughter.

I thought my courses would be online. The summer session required me to be there in person from 6 - 9:45 3 nights a week. I could not pay my health insurance since my summer employment was already set up to be nights. Because I could not meet all requirements for the scholarship by the Oct. 1st deadline of acceptance into the upper school I was forced to give up my scholarship, with a cochlear implant. I simply cannot afford to loose or risk my health insurance policy. I just was very sad that the requirement turned out to be requiring all students to be in their seats. I also had to go to school 4 days a week from 7:45 - 10 and then from 11:30 - 2:00 for a lab to meet one last ECU requirement in science when they refused to accept [COURSE].

My job pays all tuition, books, and fees for my distance learning classes. However, it does not pay the internet fee (connection charge and monthly payments). This is my only hindrance toward continuing to study at E.C.U.

Husband got accepted to graduate school and started a family

had child

I was diagnosed w/nasopharyngeal carcinoma. I have been going through extensive radiation therapy and chemotherapy.

Withdrew – Permanently

I basically fell behind on assignments after trying to correct computer problems w/new laptop.
I need to be involved with more sports related activities.

Was under teaching fellows scholarship decided did not want to teach and could not afford to continue education and pay back money

“Comments,” Fall 2004

*Categorized by type of transfer/withdrawal*

*(Verbatim, with individual names or other identifying references removed)*

**Transferred to a Community College**

Had problems with RA not being available and also he changed frequently. Had a lot of noise and conflict with suite mates

Just because I don't have a cosigner now I can't attend college

(medical office administration) Drive physically challenging. This is not especially clear to me. Thanks for your interest [NAME]. I had surgery in Jan. 2004 - long recovery. Sorry for not responding sooner. It is still on my to do list. My husband's 48 yr. old brother died in Sept. And we are still working thru grief and mourning. Your ENP was just fine.

Address changed to [ADDRESS]. Could you send me info on how to get copy of transcript.

Withdraw to take some on-line classes at the local community college to apply towards my degree as the classes were cheaper considering I was not eligible for any financial aid.

I had to withdraw and take a semester off because of medical reasons. I plan to return to ECU within a year or so.

I love ECU, and I'm planning on coming back I just want this AAS in Paralegal Technology so I can work part-time in a law office and work on completing my BS in CJ.

I think ECU is a wonderful school, I was stupid for screwing up my chances of attending such an awesome school.

I enjoyed my time at ECU but tings weren't that organized, when I would call no one could give me a straight answer.

I haven't really left ECU. This semester (Fall), ECU didn't offer any courses that I could take. Therefore, I had to go elsewhere to take courses to be transferred to ECU in order to graduate.

I was unsatisfied with the professors. They did not care if a student passed or failed. The professors did not clearly explain details on material covered for a test both in the classroom and out of class during their office hours. I felt completely safe

I have waited to respond to the survey in hopes that I could find civil words to express my family's disappointment with the educational environment that my daughter found at ECU. Due to her experience, she will never complete a four-year course of study. She is disillusioned with higher education.
She had the misfortune of being assigned to a dorm whose RA had emotional issues. This girl chose favorites and when angry would choose to berate those that she did not like. She would go weeks and refuse to speak to others. On one instance, she reported my daughter for being too loud when my daughter was not even in the dorm at the time. There was no mentoring in this hostile environment. There was constant fear of retaliation.

My daughter, [NAME], had a second misfortune when she was assigned to a [COURSE] in which the professor had no intention of teaching the students anything. His sole purpose must have been to draw salary. Student after student complained to the department head. They were told that the professor would not be returning another semester. Indeed, that was a positive move but it did not do anything to help the students that were failing. My daughter was assured that if she retook the course the following semester that everything would be better. It may have been if her professor had not had such a thick accent that she could not be understood. Again, the students' complaints fell on deaf ears. [NAME]'s roommate's mother attended one of the classes to judge for herself if our girls were overstating the problem. She, too, could not understand the majority of the lecture due to the accent of the professor. This professor may have been brilliant but if she could not be understood by the students, she failed the main objective: to teach, to facilitate learning.

I graduated from a four-year institution and I earned a MBA. I fully understand that part of the experience is to be exposed to new environments, different cultures, and have unique experiences. [NAME] just could not comprehend that there would be professors that had no genuine interest in the actual education of their students. Her first [STAFF] was very honest when he told the entire class that he did not care one bit if the whole class failed.

I hope that some mechanism can be put in place to give the students a real, and active voice when they go up the chain of command to ask for help when they feel that they are not getting the opportunity to learn that they deserve.

I would like to here from the University if there are opportunities for scholarships

Great school, love it, had to leave for personal reasons.

Overall I was pleased with ECU the reason I left was the lack of help from teachers and I had problems in certain subjects I needed for my major. If I had or was able to take my [COURSE] last in my JR. year it would have been better.

If so many [STAFF] are needed everywhere then why are so many being denied to [DEPT] school. ECU needs to make more room for many more [DEPT] students.

I enjoyed the classes I took at ECU and felt the level of instruction was excellent; it is more convenient for me now to take courses here (at home) which will transfer later. Thank you, [NAME]

I feel that the [DEPT] should look at other criteria other than GPA to admit students. I am currently in my second semester of [DEPT] school at craven and two girls that got into ecu's [DEPT] are in my class because they flunked ou

I plan on returning to ECU in the summer of 2005

[COURSE] was very demanding and required a lot of out of class time and became very stressful and I could not keep up with my studies and so I opted to do my #1 choice in life and that is to be a paramedic, so that is why I left ECU.

I would be interested in returning to ECU if more courses in [DEPT] program was offered on-line.
After experiencing extreme physical and emotional abuse in a relationship I allowed myself to slip in my academics. Therefore my parents would no longer fund my schooling. I want badly to come back. However with the bills I have now I can't afford it.

after graduating from Pitt and becoming a NC resident i hope to return to ECU

I was very unhappy with ECU forgetting to grade replace one of my classes: messed up my GPA and deferred me from the [DEPT] program. I applied there 3 times and was never accepted and I was accepted the first time @ Pitt. I thank you for your concern but I feel it is a little too late to care. [NAME]

**Transferred to another UNC Institution**

I really liked ECU, but did not like atmosphere of Greenville, also wanted to be closer to home.

Prefer cooler mountain environment

I may apply to attend Fall 05 - Miss ECU and want to comeback!

My 2 years at ECU were great! No problems. Go Pirates!

I did not have any general problems w/ECU besides its reputation as a party school, but my reason for transferring was b/c I wanted to go to a school outside of Greenville

Instruction, is a problem. I have one degree one East Carolina and I cannot recall such poor instruction. This comment is directed towards [COURSE]. The class was simple. I received average grades on tests and high grades up to 100 on other assi

I withdrew from ECU for personal reasons, it had nothing to do with the school, which I really enjoyed!

Impersonal and Poor instruction

(prof would not return calls or emails) Note: ASU was 1st choice all along. Dealing with the administration was horrible - The [OFFICE] did not know what [DEPT] was doing and vice versa (apparently no uniform computer accessibility of same data!) Deans of dorms not emphasized. [STAFF] never returned calls.

I left to look for another opportunity to participate in cheerleading. I was extremely disappointed with your lack of communication regarding your requirements to tryout. I have been cheerleading since the age of 5 years old. I was never made aware of the

There was a shocking lack of orientation once on campus. Didn't feel like I met enough people outside of class

ECU is a great school, and is where my dad attended college, played football, and baseball. I will always love the Pirates!

I loved ECU and was getting a good education. I completed most of my general education requirements during my two years at ECU. I chose to leave since I was accepted to the [DEPT] program at UNC-CH.

I loved ECU and wish my situation hadn't required me to move elsewhere.
While at ECU I was a dual enrollment student - still in high school

I had a good experience at ECU

Needed to leave Greenville - have been here since 5th grade

Transferred Elsewhere

I had a satisfactory experience at ECU. However, I am from New York and found the south to be a very different and uncomfortable environment for me. I wanted to be closer to my family, have access to my car and my part-time job, and I wanted to be back in

A university closer to home is more convenient for the time being.

The school itself was not the reason I left. For the most part I was homesick. It was a culture shock also for me, being from N.J. The facilities of the school were exceptional.

To difficult to graduate in 4 years from ECU. Even with transferring I will graduate in 4 from my new school.

My husband is in Air Force stationed in Tucson.

Satisfied with overall academic programs and the University in general

ECU does a great job at making its students feel at home. If there was a better program offered for my major I would have loved to stay.

Disappointed in impersonal attitude of ECU personnel w/ regard to advising. Passed from one person to another always via email when attempting to get help/guidance from advisor

I loved ECU, and it was my sincere hope to graduate from ECU! I wish that I could afford to attend, however, the out of state tuition on my father's income is not enough. Due to loss of job, he had to take money from his retirement to send me to ECU last

I have always wanted to go to UVA, so I transferred.

ECU was a great university

ECU was a good school for my freshman year but I wanted to return to Virginia where I had a large base of family and friends.

Very pleased with the instructors.

I feel that North Carolina residents were given preferential treatment over out of state students especially when it came to financial aid. That is something I do not understand when the monies are Federally issued. I was also concerned over the lack of s

[NAME] Changed majors, tired of Greenville, CIAO!

When I needed help in my area it was limited. I went to other resource. Even now I need help to get back in school "WILL SOMEBODY HELP ME PLEASE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
I chose to do weekend college. I currently reside in Wilson
I already graduated, please stop sending me this postcard

Adequately prepared me for higher [COURSES] at other Universities - [COURSE]

I enjoyed my time at ECU I just wasn't going to get into my desired major. Thank you for everything you do to make it such a great school.

I loved the school, ECU, however Barton College offered more in the [DEPT] field.

I would love to return to ECU this coming spring semester. However, I wanted to know if there was any way possible I could obtain in-state tuition. Like I said my father is in the military and my family moved with him to New Mexico, but I feel that I wo

**Withdrew - Temporarily**

But I realized I needed to persue my goals. I have remained in greenville and may someday return to ECU.

I need to check into online instruction to complete my degree.

I am enrolled at ECU. Due to financial aid mess up I was dropped from classes that I had enrolled in. With taking only 2 courses I might not be able to return next semester.

I wish to return to ECU to finish my degree, but I must first take care of problems that have affected my academic performance while attending school here. I must also find a way to pay for school.

National Guard unit was activated - plan to return to ECU when I return from Iraq.

some teachers DON'T TEACH ANYTHING WORTHWHILE

I love ECU and plan to return and finish my degree. I am currently playing minor league baseball. I had to make a choice, baseball or school, and I chose to pursue my dream of becoming a professional baseball player.

I am attending a community college at home, and I was wondering if I had to reapply to school? If so, do I fill out the normal undergraduate forms?

I need help with financial aid.

I really enjoyed the class I took online

I could not get classes in the [DEPT] and they are so very unflexable. It is a shame because I work and only had about five courses to go but have to work as long as I could. Also I had no advising about my portfolio (the second one) and it is lik

I hope to be attending again as soon as possible. Hopeful praxis will go away! or Students will be able to complete their degrees.

I hope to return to ECU to pursue my MBA at some point in the future

I believe the university could draw many people to our growing town if there was more variety in the Masters Programs. This is a wonderful place to raise a family and continue your education!

[NAME]
Dear Sir:

The reason I have not returned to ECU for the last semesters was because on April 30, 2004 I had foot surgery to repair a broken bone in which I'm now left with four surgical pins in my foot and was told by the doctor that I could not have any strenuous activity for 3-4wks. I stayed on crutches form April 30, 2004 to August 26, 2004 followed by a surgical shoe until September. Along with this time of my life, came the death of my father passing away on July 11, 2004. Then with this stress, I had abdominal surgery on October 18, 2004, which was another 6-8 wks of no stress or strenuous activities. Before this, I sent my online continuing studies advisor [NAME] a email on Friday April 24, 2004 explaining my new job work load and reentering the IT field since from being laid off from the bit IT plunge back in 2001. I was told it's a little late to withdraw from these classes now. So, she gave me the [DEPT] number [PHONE] and was told to talk and explain to them my situation. And in order to drop those classes at this late date it would need to go through these people. Well, needless to say they told me that it was two late too drop. Being that these two classes [COURSE] and [COURSE] was being paid for through Finical Aid, I continue to work to pay back $462.00 in tuition, in which I paid the balance out on March 8, 2005 of this year. So, these are the reasons why I have not been back to school.

I have documents to support all of my statements if needed.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

April 21, 2005

I plan on finishing school; I have about 8 classes left. I do think the parking issue needs great revision, as it only reflects greed and unconcern for student safety and well being (the students DO PAY to go to ECU). Maybe something that reflected concern for the paying customers (all students). (You can take it out of the football fund)

I can only attend through financial aid. Without it, it is impossible for me to finish my degree.

I plan to return for classes for fall of 2005.

I will be returning to ECU in 2 years and have every intention of graduating and furthering my degrees with ECU.

[NAME] has been in Iraq since March. He is hoping to return to ECU for Fall 2005. I tried to respond to this on line, but was not successful. I apologize for not returning this sooner.

[NAME]

I got too involved with [DEPT] before I realized I couldn't move to another dept nor could I go anywhere in life with an [DEPT]!

I didn't realize that she school system would think that I dropped out. I do plan to come back. Sincerely, [NAME]

None of the above questions are related to why I left ECU. I graduated in 2003 with [DEGREE] after 4 years. I went back to take 2 semesters of [COURSE]. I may or may not return to get a minor in [DEGREE] or I may just apply to gr

Too many hours of credit with no direction to focus on without starting over.

I will say that I didn't have many problems with any of my instructors. I was fortunate enough to have professors who were concerned with the academic efficiency of their students and who seemed to have a passion for their jobs. I also want to say that I
I loved ECU. The school is wonderful. I just needed to be closer to home. The education that I received while there is priceless. Thank You.

I responded to the survey because I am hopeful that you can do something to help.

I had to commute sixty miles for two days a week, which were spent from 8:00am to 4:00 or 5:00pm to have appropriate studio time, some days extra outside of class. Upper level [COURSE] meeting times had to be arranged with Professor. Most of time was spent

ECU is a great school, I am pleased with the experience I had and plan to return to further my education.

I am curious in whether I am able to receive financial aid for spring 05'.

[NAME] has moved to Australia where her father is now the [STAFF]. [NAME]

I really need to finish school. It is just very difficult to do so.

please help! I want to return as a nondegree seeking student until I can get admitted into graduate school and I need to know what application to fill out to get readmitted. please email me back at [NAME]

Please note that I fully intend to return to ECU. Please let me know what I need to do to help facilitate this. Thank you!

I hope to return.

I would like to continue and finish the [DEPT] program at E.C.U. I have a capable computer and accessories, but cannot afford internet service at this time. I work at [LOCATION] in Sanford, N.C. My employer pays 100% of tuition and books and fees as long as I obtain a C or higher. I feel I can receive a quality education and give back to the community and state if I had help with the internet fees.

[DEPT] demands I take certain courses, yet all three slots were filled and professors and chair were unwilling to work anything out.

I had knee replacement surgery over the summer. I will be returning in the Spring.

I need to return to school this Spring 2005 and need to re-register again. How do I do this? I guess there will be another fee for re-entry?! Thanks for your help.

I have had a string of incidents that conflicted with what I want to accomplish. I needed some time to help solve those problems and rethink what i wanted to do. I have decided that continuing with my education with East Carolina is the best option for m

I hope to return after my husband completes his program in 2007.

I would like to finish my degree at ECU while living in Raleigh, but not enough resources available online for my field of study [DEPT]. As a result, I will have to transfer to another school. I wish this was not the case.

You need to have more evening and online courses for working students/adult students that work full time
I will not be returning to ECU due to the fact that my doctors want me to attend a school closer to them.

I was offered a job in S. Carolina and decided to take it. I have been looking at online courses at ECU to finish degree, but they are limited in my field!

**Withdraw - Permanently**

Residence/Housing

ECU is not too large, yet it is very impersonal. I felt shut out from my teachers and fellow students. Being a small town, the personal life one has is often well known by far too many students. I do not appreciate my entire life made known to the entire city. The opportunities afforded at ECU are far too few. Over enrollment/large class size in certain courses is a huge turn-off.
Dear Jane,

We miss you!
Another semester has begun at ECU and we noticed that you did not return. We have tried to contact you with this information by sending two postcards. If you have already completed this survey please disregard this letter.

We are concerned whenever a student in good academic standing discontinues his/her education at ECU prior to graduation. We would like to know if you have dropped out temporarily or permanently, or if you have transferred elsewhere.

We are particularly concerned to know if there was anything we could have done differently to improve your educational experience at ECU or if there is something we can do now to help you return.

Please help us gather this information by completing the brief questionnaire on the reverse side of this letter and returning it to us in the enclosed envelope. You may, instead, complete the survey by going to the following website:

http://www.ecu.edu/ipre/nonreturn/survey.cfm

where you will be asked to enter your ID number (above your name on this letter).

Thank you for helping us to make ECU’s programs more effective for good students like you!

Sincerely,

G. Michael Poteat

G. Michael Poteat
Director of Institutional Effectiveness
Survey of Non-Returning Students
(Please indicate responses by placing a check mark on the line to the left of the appropriate option)

1. Current Status (in Section 1 please respond to only one of the following categories: a, b, or c)
   ___ a. I am currently participating in a co-op, work study program, internship, or foreign study and plan to return to ECU to graduate.
   ___ b. I withdrawal from school (check option 1 or one category from option 2):
       (1) Permanently
       (2) Temporarily (select the one best response):
           (a) For one semester       (b) For one year       (c) For more than a year       (d) Unknown length of time
   ___ c. I transferred to another college or university (check one response and indicate name of the institution):
       (1) Another University of North Carolina Campus (Name: __________________________)
       (2) A Community College (Name: ______________________________________________________________________)
       (3) Elsewhere (Name: ______________________________________________________________________________)

2. Reasons for withdrawing or transferring (check all categories that apply)
   ___ a. Financial (check all that apply):
       (1) Lack of adequate student financial aid       (2) Financial problems not related to student financial aid
   ___ b. Employment (check all that apply):
       (1) School conflicts with current employment       (2) I was offered a good job elsewhere       (3) I wanted to gain practical experience
   ___ c. Personal (check all that apply):
       (1) Personal problems       (2) Family problems       (3) Changed marital status       (4) Health problems       (5) I needed a break to reconsider goals       (6) Drug or alcohol problems
   ___ d. ECU Academic (check all that apply):
       (1) Inability to get courses desired/needed (check all that apply):
           (a) Courses closed out       (b) Could not get desired professor       (c) Desired course content not offered
           (d) Courses too early/too late in day       (e) Could not get courses on days desired
           (g) Other (specify:_______________________)
       (2) Can not obtain a degree in my preferred field of (specify:_______________________)
       (3) Disappointed with quality of instruction
       (4) Disappointed with quality of advising
       (5) Not enough academic prestige in my field of (specify:_______________________)
       (6) Disappointed with level of emphasis given to academics
   ___ e. ECU Overall (check all that apply):
       (1) School too large and impersonal       (2) Desire to attend a larger school
       (3) Inadequate social life       (4) Excessive social life
       (5) Drug and alcohol abuse on campus       (6) Too far from home
       (7) Too close to home       (8) Disappointed with opportunities for student development outside the classroom
       (9) Weather-related issues (hurricane, etc.)
       (10) Safety issues
   ___ f. Active military duty (please explain in Section 4)
   ___ g. Other Reasons (please explain):

3. Location and Method of Instruction at ECU (This information will help us plan and use your feedback to best advantage)
   ___ a. Your physical location while receiving instruction at ECU (please check the one most accurate option):
       (1) While receiving instruction I was most often on the Greenville campus.
       (2) While receiving instruction I was most often at a location away from the Greenville campus.
       (3) For about half of my instruction I was on the Greenville campus, and for about half I was away from the Greenville campus.
   ___ b. Method of instruction at ECU (please check the one most accurate option):
       (1) In most of my classes the instruction was delivered completely face-to-face.
       (2) In most of my classes the instruction was delivered partly "online" (web-based, via video tape, etc).
       (3) In most of my classes the instruction was delivered completely online.

4. Comments (feel free to attach additional sheets if needed):
East Carolina University  
Office of Institutional Effectiveness

Survey of Non-Returning Students  
Academic Year 2003-2004

Background and Methodology

Each semester a number of undergraduate level students who would be expected to return to ECU do not do so. These are students who were enrolled the previous semester, did not graduate, are academically eligible to return, but did not return for the current semester. The purpose of the Survey of Non-Returning Students is to gather information about why they have not returned. This information is useful to faculty and administrators who are concerned with maintaining and improving ECU’s high retention rate. This survey was conducted for the first time by ECU during the Spring 1998 semester, again during Spring 1999, and each semester thereafter.

The survey consists of a letter from the Director of Institutional Effectiveness, inquiring about the student’s educational status and plans and asking students to complete a few questions on the reverse side of the letter (see Appendix C). Section I of the questionnaire asks about whether they (a) are currently away on a field placement, co-op, or other ECU program, etc., and do plan to return to campus, (b) have withdrawn from school, or (c) have transferred to another institution. Section II asks for more detailed reasons (e.g., financial, academic, employment reasons) why they have withdrawn or transferred. Forms were mailed to the student’s permanent address which, in most cases, is a parent’s address.

This report summarizes results of the survey conducted during academic year 2003-2004 (Fall 2003 and Spring 2004); results from Fall 2002 and Spring 2003 are included for comparison purposes. Appendices are included at the end of this report and include a copy of the questionnaire as well as students’ open-ended comments citing “other reasons” for not returning and “general” comments. Names of individuals and departments, which were originally mentioned in the comments, are omitted in this report to preserve anonymity.

Results

Response Rates

Fall 2003. Survey materials were mailed to 1090 students who were enrolled in Spring 2003 and were eligible to enroll in Fall 2003 but did not return. Sixty-five forms were returned by the Post Office, because addressees had moved with no forwarding addresses. Of the remaining 1025 forms, 300 were returned and 3 were removed from the survey since they were actually still enrolled in an internship or co-op. These 3 students should not have been listed as “non-returning.” This resulted in a total of 1022 deliverable surveys and a total of 297
respondents, yielding a response rate of 29.1 percent. By way of comparison, the response rate from Fall 2002 was 28.9 percent based on 322 respondents out of 1113 deliverable surveys.

**Spring 2004.** Survey materials were mailed to 820 students who were enrolled in Fall 2003, were eligible to enroll in Spring 2004, but did not return. Thirty-four of the forms were returned by the Post Office because addressees had moved with no forwarding addresses. Of the remaining 786 forms, 236 were returned. Four forms were removed from the survey as the students were actually still enrolled in an internship or coop. These students should not have been listed as “non-returning.” This resulted in a total number of 782 deliverable surveys and a total of 232 respondents, yielding a response rate of 29.7 percent. For comparison, the response rate from Spring 2003 was 26.1 percent, based on 186 respondents out of 712 deliverable surveys.

**Section I: ECU Students Who Transferred or Withdrew**

In Section I of the questionnaire students are asked to indicate their academic status, that is, whether they transferred to another institution or just withdrew from school altogether. In Table 1 these results are presented for Spring 2004 (students last enrolled in Fall 2003), Fall 2003 (students last enrolled in Spring 2003), Spring 2003 (students last enrolled in Fall 2002), and Fall 2002 (students last enrolled in Spring 2002). Spring 2003 and Fall 2002 results are included for comparisons.

In Table 1, it can be seen that for Fall 2003 and the previous two semesters, the percentage of students who transferred was steady, averaging about 59.1 percent and ranging from 57.6 percent to 61.9 percent. However the percentage of transfers decreased to 40.9 percent during the Spring 2004 semester, while withdrawals reached their highest percentage of the four semesters at 59.1 percent. These shifts could be a result of increased military presence both domestic and abroad. For example, in the open-ended comments from Spring 2004 semester, there was noticeable mention of military deployment/activation as a reason for withdrawal. Transfers to community college were the most common, followed by transfers “elsewhere” and other UNC schools, except during the Fall 2003 semester. For the Fall 2003 semester, transfers to another UNC school were the most common, followed by transfers “elsewhere” and transfers to community college. The percentage of those who withdrew was stable for Fall 2003 and the previous two semesters, averaging about 40.9 percent and ranging from 38.1 percent to 42.4 percent. However, this percentage increased for the Spring 2004 semester to 59.1 percent. Again, this could be a result of more students leaving school for military duty. The vast majority of withdrawals were temporary. It can also be seen that in these semesters the number of non-returning respondents was greater during the fall semesters than during the spring semesters. This may have to do with the fact that the fall survey reflects the effects of the longer period of summer between when the student last attended in spring and when the survey was conducted in fall. However, in the spring surveys there is much less time between the time last enrolled and when the survey is conducted.
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Students Who Transferred or Withdrew from ECU by Semester

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Appendix D. The most significant change made to this version of the survey was to clarify the instructions for the students. In this version, instructions were placed at the beginning of each section and sub-section, while, in the previous version, instructions were only placed at the beginning of each section. The second significant change made to this version of the survey occurred in section II, sub-section D, for item 1. In the new version item 1 was expanded to include eight reasons for not getting courses desired/needed. Examples of the eight new responses are: “courses closed out,” “could not get desired professor,” “conflict with work,” etc. The previous version of item 1 consisted of only “Inability to get courses needed” and “Inability to get into classes with the desired time or desired professor,” which were combined in the past for reporting purposes. The number of responses for “Inability to get classes desired” may increase as a result of the eight new response choices.

Comparison of common reasons for transferring and withdrawing. Table 2 was created to identify and compare the most frequently cited reasons for transferring and withdrawing. To this end, the percentages in the “Total Transfers” and “Total Withdrawals” columns in Tables 3-4 were simply averaged across the two tables for each reason category; this was done separately for transfers and withdrawals. For example, the 13.0 percent of Spring 2004 “Total Transfers” citing “Other” reasons for leaving and the 14.0 percent of Fall 2003 “Total Transfers” citing “Other” reasons were simply added together and divided by 2 to estimate 13.5 percent for the combined semesters. “Reasons” categories with average percentages of 5 percent and higher were included in Table 2. In Table 2 rows are arranged in descending order of the percentages under “Transfers” and secondarily by the percentages under “Withdrawals.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reasons</th>
<th>Transfers</th>
<th>Withdrawals</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other Reasons</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inability to get classes desired</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Too far from home</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal problems</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homesick</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>I needed a break to reconsider goals</td>
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<td>9.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Financial problems not related to student financial aid</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health problems</td>
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<td>5.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lack of adequate student financial aid</td>
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<td>5.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>School conflicts with current employment</td>
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<td>5.0%</td>
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</table>

In Table 2 it can be seen that the most frequently cited reasons tended to be different when comparing transfers and withdrawals but with three exceptions, namely “Other Reasons,” “Inability to get classes desired,” and “Personal problems,” which were frequently cited by both those who transferred and those who withdrew. “Other reasons” included a broad mix of responses, the most frequent of which had to do with academic, personal, or family reasons. Students who transferred also cited as reasons “Too far from home” and “Homesick.” Students who withdrew cited reasons such as “I needed a break to reconsider goals,” “Financial problems not related to student financial aid,” “Health problems,” “Lack of adequate student
financial aid,” and “School conflicts with current employment.” While there was much overlap between reasons for transferring and withdrawing, it appears that financial and employment reasons were more associated with withdrawing than transferring.

Changes over time among transfers. In Tables 3-6 the “Total Transfers” percentages for the major reason headings (e.g., Financial, Employment, Personal, ECU Academic, ECU overall, and Other Reasons) were inspected to see if there were clear trends in transfers over the four semesters. It was observed that, over the four semesters, four of the six major reason headings received their highest percentages during Spring 2003. The two major reason headings that had their lowest percentages during Spring 2003 were “ECU Academic” and “Other” reasons. What caused the unusually high percentages during Spring 2003 is unclear (though possibly related to military duty), and the Spring 2003 results may mask trends occurring over the other three semesters. Considering results from Fall 2002, Fall 2003, and Spring 2004, there were three steady trends in the data. For example, the percentage of “Total Transfers” that cited “Financial” reasons for transferring declined steadily from Fall 2002 to Spring 2004 (from 9.0 percent to 6.2 percent). There was also a steady decrease in the number of transfers that cited “Employment” reasons from Fall 2002 to Spring 2004 (from 2.8 percent to 1.5 percent). Finally, there was a steady increase in “Personal” reasons from Fall 2002 to Spring 2004 (from 24.6 percent to 27.7 percent). While there were slight variations in percentages among the other major headings (ECU Academic, ECU Overall, and Other Reasons), no other trends were observed.

Changes over time among withdrawals. In Tables 3-6 it can be seen that among the percentages for “Total Withdrawals,” there were overall decreases from Fall 2002 to Spring 2004 in responses citing “Financial” as a reason to withdraw (from 16.8 percent to 8.8 percent) and in responses citing “Employment” as a reason to withdraw (from 10.0 percent to 5.6 percent). From Fall 2002 to Spring 2004 overall increases occurred in the percentage of students citing “ECU Academic” reasons for withdrawing (from 13.3 percent to 17.5 percent) and in students citing “ECU Overall” reasons for withdrawing (from 7.4 percent to 12.7 percent).

Open-ended Responses

In Appendix B open-ended responses are presented from the Fall 2003 and Spring 2004 surveys. These are responses to items “F. Other Reasons” and “G. Comments” in Section II of the questionnaire (see Appendix C). Responses are verbatim except that some names of people and departments have been omitted to preserve anonymity. Responses are identified as to whether they are from students who transferred to a community college, another UNC school, or elsewhere, or withdrew on a temporary or permanent basis. An examination of the open-ended responses may help explain quantitative results.

Mr. Nick Wilson prepared this report with the assistance of Dr. Chuck Rich, Office of Institutional Planning, Research, and Effectiveness. Questions should be directed to Dr. Rich (richc@mail.ecu.edu) or Dr. Michael Poteat (poteatg@mail.ecu.edu).
### Table 3
Survey of Non-Returning Students
Spring Semester 2004
Reasons for Transferring or Withdrawing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section II Response Categories</th>
<th>Total Transfers</th>
<th>Community College</th>
<th>Another UNC Institution</th>
<th>Elsewhere</th>
<th>Total Withdrawals</th>
<th>Temporary</th>
<th>Permanent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Financial</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of adequate student financial aid</td>
<td>6.2% 21</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial problems not related to stu fin aid</td>
<td>2.9% 10</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Employment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School conflicts with current employment</td>
<td>1.5% 5</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was offered a good job elsewhere</td>
<td>0.9% 3</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I wanted to gain practical experience</td>
<td>0.0% 0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Personal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal problems</td>
<td>6.8% 23</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family problems</td>
<td>2.7% 9</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changed marital status</td>
<td>1.2% 4</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health problems</td>
<td>2.1% 7</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I needed a break to reconsider goals</td>
<td>4.7% 16</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>10.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homesick</td>
<td>5.9% 20</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic problems</td>
<td>4.1% 14</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug or alcohol problems</td>
<td>0.3% 1</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. ECU Academic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inability to get classes desired</td>
<td>11.5% 39</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>11.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courses closed out</td>
<td>1.8% 6</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could not get desired professor</td>
<td>0.0% 0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conflict with work</td>
<td>0.9% 3</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desired course content not offered</td>
<td>1.2% 4</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courses too early/too late in the day</td>
<td>1.2% 4</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2.4% 8</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could not get courses on desired</td>
<td>2.4% 8</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course time conflict with other courses</td>
<td>1.8% 6</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can not obtain a degree in preferred field</td>
<td>3.5% 12</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of instruction</td>
<td>4.1% 14</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of advising</td>
<td>5.0% 17</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not enough academic prestige in my field</td>
<td>1.5% 5</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in emphasis on academics</td>
<td>2.1% 7</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. ECU Overall</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School too large and impersonal</td>
<td>4.1% 14</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desire to attend a larger school</td>
<td>0.3% 1</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate social life</td>
<td>1.5% 5</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive social life</td>
<td>2.7% 9</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug and alcohol abuse on campus</td>
<td>3.8% 13</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too far from home</td>
<td>7.7% 26</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too close to home</td>
<td>0.0% 0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in-out-of-class stu dev opps</td>
<td>3.2% 11</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather-related issues (Hurricane, etc.)</td>
<td>0.6% 2</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Other Reasons</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inability to get classes desired</td>
<td>13.0% 44</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
<td>14.0%</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL RESPONSES (% / n)</td>
<td>100% 339</td>
<td>100% (142)</td>
<td>100% (76)</td>
<td>100% (121)</td>
<td>100% 411</td>
<td>100% (366)</td>
<td>100% (45)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 In Section II of the questionnaire students could indicate more than one reason for transferring or withdrawing, so column percentages are portions of 100% based on the total number of responses listed at the bottom of the column.

2 Percentages and n's are from combining results in sub-columns to the right.

3 Inability to get classes desired contains the total number of responses for students choosing any of the eight sub-categories directly below it in this table.
### Reasons for Transferring or Withdrawing

**Survey of Non-Returning Students**  
**Fall Semester 2003**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section II Response Categories</th>
<th>Transfers</th>
<th>Withdrawals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Community College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Transfers</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A. Financial</strong></td>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of adequate student financial aid</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial problems not related to stu fin aid</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>B. Employment</strong></td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School conflicts with current employment</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was offered a good job elsewhere</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I wanted to gain practical experience</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C. Personal</strong></td>
<td>24.8%</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal problems</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family problems</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changed marital status</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health problems</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I needed a break to reconsider goals</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homesick</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic problems</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug or alcohol problems</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>D. ECU Academic</strong></td>
<td>25.0%</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inability to get classes desired</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courses closed out</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could not get desired professor</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conflict with work</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desired course content not offered</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courses too early/too late in the day</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could not get courses on days desired</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course time conflict with other courses</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can not obtain a degree in preferred field</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of instruction</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of advising</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not enough academic prestige in my field</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in emphasis on academics</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>E. ECU Overall</strong></td>
<td>25.4%</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School too large and impersonal</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desire to attend a larger school</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate social life</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive social life</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug and alcohol abuse on campus</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too far from home</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too close to home</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in-out-of-clst stu dev opps</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather-related issues (Hurricane, etc.)</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. In Section II of the questionnaire students could indicate more than one reason for transferring or withdrawing, so column percentages are portions of 100% based on the total number of responses listed at the bottom of the columns.
2. Percentages and n’s are from combining results in sub-columns to the right.
3. Inability to get classes desired contains the total number of responses for students choosing any of the eight sub-categories directly below it in the table.
### Table 5
Survey of Non-Returning Students
Spring Semester 2003

Reasons for Transferring or Withdrawing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section II Response Categories</th>
<th>Transfers</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Withdrawals</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Transfers</td>
<td>Transfers</td>
<td>Transfers</td>
<td>Transfers</td>
<td>Transfers</td>
<td>Transfers</td>
<td>Withdrawals</td>
<td>Withdrawals</td>
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<td>Withdrawals</td>
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<tr>
<td>%</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A. Financial</strong></td>
<td>10.0%</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>14.7%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
<td>22.0%</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>22.8%</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of adequate student financial aid</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial problems not related to stu fin aid</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section II Response Categories</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>Community College</strong></td>
<td><strong>Another UNC Institution</strong></td>
<td><strong>Elsewhere</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>Community College</strong></td>
<td><strong>Another UNC Institution</strong></td>
<td><strong>Elsewhere</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>B. Employment</strong></td>
<td>32.3%</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>36.2%</td>
<td>31.6%</td>
<td>27.5%</td>
<td>44.0%</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>45.6%</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>School conflicts with current employment</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was offered a good job elsewhere</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I wanted to gain practical experience</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C. Personal</strong></td>
<td>22.0%</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>21.6%</td>
<td>23.2%</td>
<td>21.3%</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Inability to get classes desired</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can not obtain a degree in preferred field</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of instruction</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of advising</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Not enough academic prestige in my field</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in emphasis on academics</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>D. ECU Academic</strong></td>
<td>27.8%</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>19.6%</td>
<td>35.8%</td>
<td>30.0%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School too large and impersonal</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desire to attend a larger school</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate social life</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive social life</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug and alcohol abuse on campus</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too far from home</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too close to home</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in out-of-class stu dev opps</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather-related issues (Hurricane, etc.)</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Responses (%) / n</strong></td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>291</td>
<td>100% (166)</td>
<td>100% (95)</td>
<td>100% (80)</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>100% (136)</td>
<td>100% (14)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 In Section II of the questionnaire students could indicate more than one reason for transferring or withdrawing, so column percentages are portions of 100% based on the total number of responses listed at the bottom of the columns. Within each column the percentages in bold from each major row heading (A–F) sum to 100%. Percentages in the sub-categories under each major row heading sum to the percentage in bold.

2 Percentages and n’s are from combining results in sub-columns to the right.

---

8
Table 6
Survey of Non-Returning Students
Fall Semester 2002
Reasons for Transferring or Withdrawing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section II Response Categories¹</th>
<th>Transfers²</th>
<th>Withdrawals²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>%</td>
<td>n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Financial</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of adequate student financial aid</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial problems not related to stu fin aid</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Employment</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School conflicts with current employment</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was offered a good job elsewhere</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Personal</td>
<td>24.6%</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal problems</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family problems</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changed marital status</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health problems</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I needed a break to reconsider goals</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homesick</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic problems</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug or alcohol problems</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. ECU Academic</td>
<td>27.0%</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inability to get classes desired</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can not obtain a degree in preferred field</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of instruction</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of advising</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not enough academic prestige in my field</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in emphasis on academics</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. ECU Overall</td>
<td>25.3%</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School too large and impersonal</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desire to attend a larger school</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate social life</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive social life</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug and alcohol abuse on campus</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too far from home</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too close to home</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in out-of-class stu dev opps</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather-related issues (Hurricane, etc.)</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Other Reasons</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL RESPONSES (% / n) | 100% | 533 | 100% (211) | 100% (157) | 100% (165) | 100% | 309 | 100% (293) | 100% (16) |

¹ In Section II of the questionnaire students could indicate more than one reason for transferring or withdrawing, so column percentages are portions of 100% based on the total number of responses listed at the bottom of the columns. Within each column the percentages in bold from each major row heading (A–F) sum to 100%. Percentages in the sub-categories under each major row heading sum to the percentage in bold.

² Percentages and n’s are from combining results in sub-columns to the right.
Appendix B

“Other Reasons,” Spring 2004

Categorized by type of transfer/withdrawal
(Verbatim, with individual’s names or department references removed)

Transferred to a Community College

Also: 1) Did not really like the south as much as anticipated. 2) Could not find a job. 3) Was not compatible with roommate. 4) Had trouble finding friends with similar interests.

Having come from out-of-state, I expected more opportunities to get to know other students and the college. Would not return if education at ECU was cheaper.
ECU didn't feel like a home away from home, but an impersonal environment.
I saw my advisor once, during pre-registration for Spring 2004.
Rained all the time.

I enjoyed my time at ECU, but felt going in state would be better.

I could not attend school because of medical reasons. Then my hospital bills made it hard for me to pay for school.

The nursing program does not allow enough people in that apply. There as over 300 students, maybe 90 slots to fill. I have a better chance where I am!

N. C. State next fall of 04'

Did not like being at ECU. Did not know many people there, & the school was too large for me to meet people and become close w/them.

It is a hard place to be. Me & my friends found it hard to be ourselves some place where people were more focused on drugs & sex then on school.

I want to get in Nursing School. There is not enough openings for the amount of applicants

Suspended 1 sem.

Blow Me!

Rude, unconcerned, inept advisor - no personal interest in me or my education.

Greenville as a town, it was not a very nice place for me to live. ECU was fine.

Party scene was overwhelming - couldn't concentrate on academics.

My roommate and I didn’t get along & I just would rather be at home.

Just needed a semester back at home to get my grade point average back up. My roommate and I needed a break from each other and our social life.

My dad had open heart surgery & is still sick. I Loved ECU! And miss it! But I feel my place is with my family.
Transferred to another UNC Institution

I found the quality of students, achievement, academic standards, and motivation to be considerably higher elsewhere, and I desire that environment.

felt unsafe

I received a better scholarship at Shaw-A full academic scholarship.

Roommate situation not working out.
Close friends were back @ State.
Preferred Raleigh over Greenville.

Grandmother was sick and didn't have long to live.

Football Program

No complaints I miss ECU!

teachers do not CARE about their students

P.S. Greenville NC is the most Ghetto town I've been to!
Your school sucks and is one of the worst schools I been to in 3 yrs & believe me I've been to 7 different schools. Your staff needs better people skills & I would not recommend it to anyone thinking of going there.

I had a great business opportunity open up.

Transferred Elsewhere

Access to get around was horrible living on the hill wouldn't be so bad if the bus ever came on time. My room tiles were always failing off, and furniture was in horrid conditions.

Got accepted to a dual-degree Bachelor & Masters Program for OT.

I honestly enjoyed my time at ECU, but I found my classes difficult due to conflicts with instructors and their lack of enthusiasm. I also did some thinking and decided the major I was working towards really wasn't what I wanted to be doing with my life, and therefore was lax about getting work done.

In state tuition at JMU versus out of state tuition at ECU.

Did not like to be around of those around me - yuk!

Construction on campus was horrible. Also, being out-of-state, my ECU one card didn't work for the first month, when everything was paid. Just a bad experience. Also, I didn't feel safe on campus.

Too uninterested in assisting when asking for help

Out of state tuition too expensive.

P.A. program switched from BS to Masters. I am getting my B.S. closer to home & will go back to ECU for a Masters in P.A. Study.

I was on the ECU baseball team, I decided to go elsewhere to get more playing time, also I was offered some financial aid.
Unable to obtain a private room on campus caused numerous problems.

Lack of technology in the classrooms as well as a poor online registration system.
Poor transit system
Terrible processing in the financial aid office - wait, inability to resolve issues (staff incurred)

Wait listed twice while staff indicated chances were good to enter program. Suggest that I continue w/additional coursework outside my major. I believe this strategy to detract from my focus of specific degree. Hard to get sincere, straight-forward opinions about academic standing.

Athletic (Baseball)

dissatisfied with volleyball program

The school was not quite diverse for me and I felt secluded from a lot of the activities.

ECU made little or no attempts at connecting students from out of geographic area with other students out of geographic area. Also, higher functioning students were not connected with other high functioning students. Many Univs. Do these things. Smoking all over campus was a big turnoff.

**Withdraw - Temporarily**

Having my first child with my husband!

Financial reasons.

I had to move to another state to take care of my sick grandfather. He passed away and I needed time to become stable again.

Needed time to find out what I really want to do with my life.

Surgery and follow-up treatment (see C4)

My son joined National Guard Reserves while taking ROTC classes. His unit was called up in September & left for Iraq 2/29 for at least 1 year service there. I hope he will return to school when he comes home. I did not answer E since I'm not sure how he felt. [NAME]

My national guard unit was activated in Sept. 2003, and sent to Fort Bragg and Ft. Polk in LA for training - Feb 24, 2004 we were deployed to Iraq for at least a year - might be longer. Am planning to re-enroll at ECU when we return to the states and to civilian life. [NAME] by [NAME](POA)

You should not have 228 students meet all the prereq. For a program that only can take 100 students per semester.

I decided to enlist in the Marines. I still plan to finish my degree, hopefully at ECU, using the GI Bill.

Courses required for my major are unnecessary for my field, (the weed out courses) Chemistry the requirement of exercise to gain admittance to school of Health & Human Performance is unrealistic. I am an older student (38yrs) who is required to run a mile in under 8 minutes.

The social life at ECU is constant. It revolves around alcohol as well as other controlled substances. I fell into this like many (if not the majority) students do. If you do not want to drink or drug, there is not much else to do at ECU or Greenville.
Greenville is just to far away from everything also I hated where I lived and I had a really big/bad breakup with a girlfriend

I am a senior citizen with undergraduate & graduate degrees.

My supervisor informed me that I was tagged. It took weeks w/ no one returning calls & emails & then I had someone (friend) go by & get info. They say I owe money that I don't. I have tried for months to get someone to return my calls & emails - no one does. I live 1 hour 10 min. away & teach so I can't make it before closing @ 5:00.

[NAME]

Due to lack of daycare and financial problems I can not return to school.

From C. Personal problems:
Our home was partially damaged during Hurricane Isabel. I have chosen to stay home this semester to try to get things back in order. I plan to return this fall.

I have a 17 month old and expecting another child any day. NO TIME

I work fulltime and my supervisor will not work with me. Unless the classes I need are at 6pm or later, I will not be able to attend.

Needed to find a job to cover my family & other expenses.

The class meets twice a week. And I was overwhelmed with the constant loads of more work, while working (8-5 M-F). The courses I plan to take at Liberty University will transfer and should count.

After working in the field of construction for 2 yrs. I have lost all desire to pursue a job in this field. I was unaware when I entered ECU's construction Mgt. Department that it was so intensive in the math department. It really is more of an Engineering program.

It is hard for me to juggle more than one class with 3 children, job and husband. I had to take an Incomplete and failed one class last semester. My advisor and I decided I should use Spring '04 to do Incomplete and then continue in fall '04.

Spouse is a graduating senior and could not work fulltime her last semester (Spring 04). Had to take a semester off to pay the bills.

I was a NC Teaching fellow and changed my major so I lost my scholarship. I went through many financial difficulties after that with no help from my father. In the fall semester of 2003 my off campus roommate was arrested for selling marijuana from our residence. I knew about the situation but was not involved but the ECU office of Student conflict resolution deemed me involved requiring that I go to counseling, and submit a urine sample before registration. This situation with my previous roommates was something that I could not tolerate to be around, and I broke our lease and left to get away from it. This time of my life was so hard because I had no money, no home and no outside help from my parents. There was no way for me to focus on school. Fall 2003 I did register for classes, but couldn't afford books because of my financial debt. I did receive a financial aid refund that semester which only did minimal damage to my debt. I couldn't find any way to keep school as a priority because I didn't have a steady home. As of this moment my plan to return is my top priority. I love ECU, and I am trying my best to return as soon as possible. I owe $1500 for my financial aid refund of fall 2003, and parking tickets/library fines. I have started a steady job and gotten my first promotion at Research Triangle Institute, and I will be using money saved up to return to ECU. It is hard to pay adult bills and balance school as well, but I have learned from my mistakes and am ready to finish school and lead a career that will make my Alma Mater proud. I thank you so much for taking the time to listen to my story. The only thing I want to do is go back to school. If there is anything I can do to attain this goal please let me know. I will do whatever it takes to continue my education here. Once again, thank you for your time and concern. Current Address: [NAME]
There are varied reasons. There is such an emphasis at ECU on the social, party scene that [NAME] did not focus on education. May not be the school's fault. I am [NAME]'s parent. He was in his last year when he stopped.

I take classes for personal enrichment and cannot take classes every semester due to finances & full-time job.

Had a Baby 12/31/03.

Financial Reasons

[NAME] has been deployed to Iraq for a minimum of 1 year

Young children, classes conflict w/ husbands work schedule.

For the next couple of years, I decided to get my bachelor's degree at a university closer to home in order to get my own family established. Then I will return for my master's degree in physical therapy.

I'm pregnant and I'm having lots of health problems. If nothing happens after baby is born this summer I'll be back at ECU this fall. ECU is a great school. Thanks for the concern. [NAME]

I have requested a retroactive withdrawal for Fall 2003 semester due to heath issues. I am awaiting ECU's decision.

Adviser not helpful in signing up for courses. Also math instructor wasn't helpful in classroom when it became difficult to understand teaching.

I did not return for the spring 2004 semester because I had a baby and decided to take a semester off.

College wasn't all I expected it to be. I just decided now is not the right time for me.

military deployment

The distance education courses offered are not "distance" friendly these courses seem geared for local students too lazy to go to class.

[NAME] is in the national Guard he is out of the country at least a year or more. He is planning to return to ECU when he gets Back.
By [NAME] Power of Attorney

Like McArthur said. "I Shall Return"

Personal Reasons

got a job & moved out on my own

Father died of cancer - Dealing with grief - Plus stress with school & employment became to over whelming.

The future rise in tuition.

My health has taken a turn for the worse; I'm now on heavy chemo and are in and out of the Hospital. To sick to attend any thing.

I will be returning to school, I have (AML) and was hospitalized the day of the Christmas break. My cancer had fallen out of remission. I am now back in remission and do plan to return next semester.

Had to withdrawal from school due to military orders. [NAME]

join army reserve will be back the second session of summer semester
[NAME] is presently protecting our freedom in Iraq as his National Guard unit was activated in September 2003.

Greenville is just not for me, at this time.

Did not have $500.00 and wasn't able to qualify/receive additional financial assistance in time.

Employment reasons

see attached

I didn't feel as though I had close friends @ ECU. I was unhappy in my major, but I was also in denial about that.

I was assaulted in April 2002 & had to have brain surgery w/rehab. I am able to do college level work, but must rest for greater periods of time. I am working in Greenville now, trying to prove my status as a N.C. resident and applying for Vocational Rehab. Funds. I cannot manage a full work & school load and need more financial assistance to continue.

Withdrawn – Permanently

I'm getting married & received a job.

Having recently graduated from a community college I found it difficult to adjust to the environment of ECU, i.e., the large campus, large amount of students, and large classes. I thought that once I got there that I would adjust but I did not.

I have a 12-year-old daughter attending Rocky Mt. Prep School. Because she's in an out of district school I can't pick her up and be in lab at the same time. Also, because of a family and home to care for I can only take one class at the time. I do not have the monies to pay for the expense of tuition, books, and all the gas required to drive 2 hours total to attend 1 class. If we move our rent goes up requiring me to work anyway. Some things just weren't meant to be.

Depression resulting from lack of focus on studies and a boyfriend break up.

Military

Trying to get into Dental Hygiene school at FTCC.

Lack of assurance dealing with student safety; i.e. rapes & assaults.
“Comments,” Spring 2004

Categorized by type of transfer/withdrawal
(Verbatim, with individual’s names or department references removed)

Transferred to a Community College

Good, but English Prof. not real helpful in helping improve my writing or my grade.
Employment reasons
applied for Fall to Rutgers University in NJ

ECU is a great school, just not for me.

My father has pancreatic cancer! I am studying abroad in the fall of 2004!

I was thoroughly impressed with ECU and do miss it there. I hope possibly to return in a few years. Thanks so much for caring.

I loved my RA, [NAME]. She was the nicest person I met at ECU. I disliked just about every aspect of ECU. The elevators were slow, the heat always had problems and I felt unsafe. I was constantly studying while I listened to drunken students acting out of line. I was very disappointed with the entire experience and would not recommend this university to other hopeful college graduates. I am happy to be home and will transfer to Salisbury University in a year and possibly Towson University for graduate school. I am most upset that I emptied my savings, but you learn from mistakes.

Then to Virginia Commonwealth University

You could work on lowering the cost of out-of-state tuition. I was also unhappy with my field of study (Health Information Management) all of the courses were mandatory online.

I hope to do well in my semester at Surry Community in the Spring of 2004 and return to ECU in the Fall of 2004.

At this time I am attending Comm. College that knows me and has time to know my needs in class

Honestly, going to ECU has been a great experience in my life. I love the size of the school, classes, and Greenville. I wish ECU offered Turf grass Management and other Agricultural Majors but unfortunately they don't. I really don't want to leave but I have to do what's best for my future.

I left and transferred to GTCC. I plan to attend UNCW if I am accepted for the Fall of 2004.

I would like to return to ECU after I get my RN - at a community college (possibly)

I am at Nash Community College right now but I will be returning in August 2004.
- [NAME]

After I receive my RN from PCC, I plan to return to ECU for my BSN.

Teachers don't seem to care about students either.

I think East Carolina University is a great university I do miss the teaching level (I really learned a lot)

Good luck with years to come!
I plan to return to ECU in the fall.

Transferred to another UNC Institution

Desire to be closer to home.

Overall, I have no regrets about ECU - I loved the campus, the city, and the opportunity. I had the chance to grow and develop as a student and as a person, a chance for which I am much indebted. But what I learned was that UNCG better fit what I need.

You could however do a better job w/advising freshman, I was clueless & could never get straightforward answer. I love E.C.U. & I truly miss Greenville. I just wasn't ready to leave home & make it on my own yet! ECU has a bright future & maybe I will return for Grad school later in life!

I will not recommend that anyone attend ECU with a degree in Elementary Education in mind! I have several additional credits not needed for graduation that I was told are required. Also, academic rules & regulations should remain the same for all students entering ECU in the same year. I was mislead several times when it came to registration and overall I am very disappointed in ECU. At my last advising meeting at ECU I was told I needed seven (7) classes to graduate, of course after some research of my own I found that several of these classes cannot be taken at the same time. For me this meant 7 classes would take another year and a half. (not including student teaching) I found that I could enter UNCW and graduate within the year, only need 4 classes and a semester of student teaching. So - I transferred and I am certainly glad I did!

ECU is a wonderful University and I'm sure I would have loved it and stayed if I was in a different place in my life.

Well I don't Miss your school!

I was very happy with my major. Nutrition/Diabetics The teaching techniques are very good. I would return but at this time my business venture needs me full time.

Transferred Elsewhere

I did enjoy and loved being a student at ECU, but this was more beneficial to me for my future.

I really like ECU but always wanted to go to JMU, being closer to home and in state tuition.

ECU was great and I really miss it, I just can't afford it.

VCU has a better art school & offers more languages

Great school, Wonderful town!

The North Carolina education system was not very impressive; a BS in Biology would not do me any good. A B.S. in biology from Syracuse University will do me good. There is a lack of prestige in attending ECU (party school reputation.) The classes were too large. The advising (premed) was awful; to advise future MD's you should have at least gone through the process yourself, (MCAT'S, Applying to Med School.) Not like any of my comments will be taken to heart, I was just a number and a chuck of money.

I had no problems with ECU; I loved the school and the atmosphere. But if I wanted to continue my baseball career I had to go elsewhere. Mount Olive was my choice; they also have a good Criminal Justice department. Thanks [NAME]
The Financial Aid office cut my Student Aid lower than any other institution. They gave no reason and were rude when talked with.

Student loan money arriving after the semester starts instead of before so students can prepare (rent, etc.)

I really enjoyed the ECU experience but tuition was definitely lost to a private college. I feel that my education will be of a higher level with more personal attention and smaller instructor/student ratio.

The academics at East Carolina were rigorous and challenging, however I missed the mountains and my family. East Tenn. Offered a minor course of study in bluegrass music which is very appealing to me. After completing these courses at East Tenn. State, I hope to return junior year to East Carolina.

I was very impressed with all the professors and advisors. I would recommend ECU to anyone!

My daughter won't take the time to fill this out, but as a former ECU student, I wanted to let you know how disappointed I was. The cultural shock was pretty intense for her, even though her grandmother lives in N.C. More should be done to bring in top students and help them connect with other top students.

Withdrew – Temporarily

I would like to attend ECU Fall semester 2004, and am not sure how to go about doing so. Please let me know.

I loved ECU and hope to return one day it has a great atmosphere I just wish it was a little closer to home

I'm not sure what to do to get back into school. Who do I see to plan what next?

I was very pleased w/ ECU's academic and social environment, and left because I needed to reflect on my previous years at school.

I am planning on returning, but I was offered a job offer in South Carolina I could not turn down. - [NAME]

I love ECU and will return in the Fall 2004!

[NAME]:
On behalf of my son, [NAME], I am replying to your letter of 2 March 2004 concerning his absence at ECU. For the second time since he enrolled as a Freshman [NAME] has been called to active federal service with the North Carolina Army National Guard, for duty in Iraq. We do not expect his return before May 2005. [NAME] coordinated his departure with the Construction Management staff, and is looking forward to coming back and finishing the requirements for his degree.

Sincerely, [NAME]

I want to return to ECU in the fall 2004. How do I get back in?

I love ECU. I just needed a break to gather myself, but can’t wait till the fall to rejoin the Pirates.

Parents very disappointed to have wasted their hard earned money.
Dear [NAME]:

This is to inform you that my son, [NAME], is still a student at ECU. He completed successfully his first semester in December 03 and had to go to boot camp (1/6/04-3/18/04) and will go to Advanced Training Camp (3/19/04-July 04) before returning to ECU. He has been readmitted and plans to graduate as a ROTC Student in 2007, unless his unit (he is in the Army Reserve) is deployed. [NAME]'s experience at ECU has been good so far, and he has no plans to transfer. One thing that could have been better for him is to have shared a room with an ROTC student, since his PT training is very early in the morning. He had mentioned this on this request this year and hopes to be granted this next fall. Please note his new permanent address = [NAME]

Please let me know if you need more information.  
Sincerely, [NAME]

I am looking forward to resuming the History program either during the summer session(s) or in the Fall 2004 semester. [NAME]

From Mom: Very disappointed to learn that a student (Pre-Nursing) who was also on the alternate list was admitted into the program after her Dad, who "knows someone" went and worked it out. I need to know these people! Is this common practice????

Another Question: Has ECU ever given a thought to what happens to students on the "alternate" list? Students who lose their full-time status, that have to be dropped off their parents medical & dental insurance! Students who then have to "look" elsewhere for their program. Who have to work, NOW for medical & dental insurance AND go to school!!

Do you know how hard it is to get into a Nursing Program? Anywhere in this state? A waiting list - 1-2 yrs in some places!

I'm very disappointed. My daughter works hard (maybe isn't an "A" student) but really wants Nursing. GPA isn't everything. She is an excellent NA & CVT (Nursing Assist/Cardiovascular Tech) I'm an ICU Nurse & have worked with her & worked with others who have worked with her. Maybe, ECU should look at more than the GPA!

[NAME]

Several professors were poor communicators or spoke very poor English so I had difficulty understanding them.

I filled out forms in the counseling dept. and was under the impression that these were my medical withdrawal forms. Now I see that this was wrong. Is there any way I can still medically w/d without being a "dropout"?

[NAME]

I was told that I had taken every thing I needed to graduate by my advisor, who I now understand retired at the end of the semester. I thought my diploma would be mailed to me until I received your letter. Then I was told I was short 3 hours because I was over 5 years in graduating. I had already moved away so now I have to figure how to take a course via internet because someone didn't do their job properly. I was never told this by any of my many advisors. [NAME]

I hope to return to ECU at some point and get my degree. Thanks.

[NAME]

ECU - probably the best time of my life, and the worst. If I had gotten into the art program and my ex wasn't there, then I would still be attending.

I really enjoyed my experience at ECU & feel I learned a great deal in the art dept however due to the distance (Rocky Mount) I feel it may be best to continue on locally. Thank you!

I plan to return once I complete 30 hrs of Credit to transfer.

Would like to switch the major I am work on to another. What do I do and who do I talk to?
Thank you for your concern.

[NAME]

If all goes well I should be returning next year (calendar 2004-2005)

I will be returning Fall or Summer Session. I didn't withdrawal I just had to sit out a semester.

I would like to receive a degree someday. I just don't know what direction to take. Construction Management is out of the question. I just don't have the math skills that are required.

I plan to return to ECU as soon as I possibly can. Also, I was unable to obtain necessary Handicap parking on campus.

Non-traditional student age 46

I will re-enroll for summer I & II for 2004. I plan on Graduating Fall 2005.

I will be returning in the Fall definitely, still considering the summer. Unfortunately I was having some problems & I lost site of my future. I just need to re-enroll.

I will be back in August.

I plan to return to ECU for the fall of 2004

I plan on returning to school this summer.

He will be returning upon his completion of deployment.

More night classes for adults would help.

Although most of my professors worked with me to balance school and a new baby, the demands were too much and I couldn't handle them being a single mother.

I plan to re-enroll for Summer 2004 Session 1&2.

My reason for taking a semester off is due to the fact that ECU will not allow students to take upper division education class prior to passing the PRAXIS. This can be a finical burden to those students, forcing them to switch majors or lose there desire to become teachers. With NC need of teachers it is sad that ECU doesn’t offer PRAXIS prep courses to help theses students succeed!

[NAME] got into some trouble last semester but will be coming back in the fall.

I want to return for fall 2004, and can help me do that by sending me information on how to go about returning. Thank you, [NAME]

Overall I enjoyed my ECU experience. I plan on reapplying to ECU and finishing my degree. Although I hope I can get better advising with degree options and programs this time. I was getting directed in so many different ways that it became frustrating.

I plan to re-enroll Fall 2005 after completing a year of military service in Iraq.

My overall experiences @ ECU were terrific. I would gladly return to ECU @ a later date. I just need to get some financial obligations taken care of prior to returning to school.
I plan to return in the Fall 2004 semester and I would like to know what steps I need to take in order to come back. If you could help me with this, it would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks,

[NAME]

I loved ECU. 4 year schools aren’t for everyone. I guess I fell into that category. There wasn’t enough there to make me feel I needed to stay. I will go back to school. The com. College here has my major and its right here with everything that is important to me.

will be resubmitting an application later

National Guard Currently in Iraq

Dear [NAME],

My son, [NAME], was scheduled to attend the Fall 2003 semester. We attended the orientation program in July, had [NAME]'s classes arranged and his dorm room ready. By the way, the orientation program was excellent.

[NAME]'s mother and I had suspected for some time that [NAME] had a problem with alcohol. To his credit, he realized that he could not attend college with his problem and wisely elected to go to rehab rather than waste time and money going to school. He has been in recovery since August and recently received his six month chip at Alcoholics Anonymous. We are very proud and happy for him and thankful for the decision he made. We are unsure as to when he will be ready for college, but hope that ECU will consider him again.

Thank you for your interest.

Yours truly, [NAME]

National Guard member deployed to Iraq. Wish me luck!

I was in a car wreck in Sept. 2003. I broke my right ankle and left foot. I was hospitalized in ICU in Sampson County and had to have major surgery, with pins in my ankle. I couldn't walk for 2 months, and have just started driving in March. I had to withdrawal from classes, but I sent all the doctor inf. To ECU. I am looking forward to starting my classes back.

I will be enrolling for the summer sessions to complete my degree requirements.

Need more professors to teach multiple courses!
3 of my courses were closed!

Bored with courses I took last semester.

I love ECU, and hope to return soon.
P.S. Please let me know about your distant learning program.

I will be returning fall 2004. Thank you [NAME]

[NAME] was Deployed to Iraq. He will be gone at least a year. [NAME] Dad. 3-6-04  [NAME]

Intend to pay balance off by March 30th, (Tax Return) Re-admit and be back for Summer I 2004.

[NAME], I recently received this letter from your office concerning my absence from school. I am currently serving in Iraq and had to withdraw from classes. I do plan on coming back to ECU when I return home. I don't know, however, when I will be coming home or returning to classes. I can assure you that if I weren't serving over here, I would definitely be in class and working to finish my degree. I enjoy everything about going to ECU and plan on going to graduate school there, as well. I'm sorry for any complications this deployment may have caused you and your staff concerning my absence from classes. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Sincerely, [NAME]

I doubt I'll come back to ECU. I can go to school in GA for less $ & still have some left for my future.
ECU was great & I enjoyed my experience there.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to explain my reasons for leaving ECU. It is a fine school but I realized that it simply wasn't for me.

ECU is a great school & I do miss it. I had a great experience while I was there but I made the decision to leave b/c I needed to delay my education till a further date.

I will not consider furthering my education at ECU until the student safety becomes more of a priority to the faculty, local PD, and campus PD.
“Other Reasons,” Fall 2003

Categorized by type of transfer/withdrawal
(Verbatim, with individual’s names or department references removed)

Transferred to a Community College

This is being filled out by [NAME]’s mother. Although I'm sure ECU is a wonderful college for most kids, the excessive partying, drinking, noise and lack of privacy in the dorms contributed to [NAME]’s 2.0 GPA. We felt $18,000 was too much money to pay for such lack of concentration. She is now at Pitt Comm. College working harder and has a part time job. I think ECU is a beautiful campus but most of the kids today have a very "American Pie" view of college and they don't appreciate the money that it costs.

[NAME] enjoyed ECU & still lives in Greenville, but could not maintain the academic requirements necessary to graduate from ECU. He is taking the Heating & Air Conditioning courses at Pitt Comm. College & is doing much better. We'd like for him to get his Construction Mgt. Degree at some point. I think parents should be included more in the academic standing of their students - we usually are paying the bills. Sometimes by the time we find out their grades are terrible, it's too late.

Too many students in 1 class. Could have spent a little more time w/ student to at least seem like they cared! Great programs if you’re advised of them but, how much can someone learn in a class of 130.

I decided to go to PCC & obtain my Associate Degree in Nursing first then return to ECU for my BSN

wanted to attend radiology school and Pitt had a more affordable and personal experience

Classes are too expensive, I seem to have continuing problems with FAFSA but that isn't ECU's problem, it doesn't seem to matter how early I send it in I can never get the money on time and then my classes are dropped. I owe ECU money from Spring 03 b/c of lack of financial aid. If there is any way to speed up processing of Stafford Loans from FAFSA, I’d gladly stay at ECU.

Wanted to transfer to UNCW and I found out to late that I did not have enough credits. Decided to stay home and go to local Community College and work for a year.

Transferred back to Wilson Tech to do the 2 year nursing problem. I will possibly be returning in a few years to proceed with the Renew track nursing program for a BS in nursing.

I decided that the two-year Physical Therapy Assistant program at Martin Comm. College fit my personal goals better than the PT Masters program at ECU.

The town of Greenville is filled with drugs and alcohol and I needed to leave before I got in to deep. Also there was no way I could afford it.

I really needed to take a break! I would really like information on how students could return to ECU. If you would please send some to me. I liked ECU fine, I just had to figure out some things in my head! Thanks!

[NAME]

Doing 2+2 nursing program at LCC & ECU to graduate

Disappointed with quality of advising

Family makes too much money for financial aid, but not enough to be able to afford. I am working and attending much cheaper community college and trying to save enough to go back.
Didn't feel connected w/ECU b/c I didn't live on or near campus

I was able to get into the nursing program @ ECC. Will return to ECU for Masters Program.

I was called to active military duty in the Coast Guard. I was worried about having to go active duty possibly overseas!! I would consider coming back but because I did poorly due to anxiety and depression due to the war I don't think ECU will let me come back.

I want to pursue a degree in forensic science and ECU did not have that program.

It wasn't ECU that was the problem, my health was.

I wasn't working in Greenville and back home I still had my job. They promoted me, gave me a raise and pay part of tuition.

I am not sure what I want to do, so I decided to get a 2 year degree in Physical Therapist Assistant.

2 hour parking-can only take 1 class @ a time very inconvenient 3 hour could take at least 2 in a row.

Opportunity to play college baseball for 2 years and then will transfer back to ECU or another D-1 school.

Not enough guidance for freshman

Transferred to another UNC Institution

I was given permission from ECU to take 4 classes over 2 semesters and I will transfer them to ECU. I am doing this for personal reasons.

ECU is wonderful and growing school, but with such anti-standards in place as "no-fail out freshman year," this institute will remain anchored in its party school reputation and the 0. Something gpa idiots that tear up the residence halls, puke in the bathrooms, generally spend more time downtown than in class, and make genuine students wonder why they're at a school that fosters it all. Best of luck!

ECU was a great school. I just wanted to go to school closer to home and it was easier because my brother started college this semester and we both live at home. Living expenses are cheaper than it would have been if I stayed at ECU.

I LOVE NCSU

Just wanted a change

UNC-Wilmington had been my first choice but I was not accepted from high school. My experience of ECU was great!

Greenville was not a good learning environment.

ECU was the only NC school that would not give me in state tuition - so I left. I could not afford it. Very small town & pretty conservative.

It seemed like I was paying for college but not getting the classroom experience I should have

Overall, great academic program, just simply could not afford it in the long run (cost wise).

I felt that ECU was too big. There were too many people; I found it hard to make friends. I hardly ever saw the same people twice. There was too much diversity among students. Not a friendly atmosphere.
Extremely loud dorms, no AC in dorms, didn't feel at “home”

I loved The school, but didn't prefer The city atmosphere around it.

I HAD ALWAYS WANTED TO ATTEND STATE. I NEEDED ONE YEAR OF CREDITS BEFORE I COULD TRANSFER.

TOO HOT Greenville is inadequate

Did not like ECU

I plan to attend Graduate School at UNC-CH

Dorm life was horrible; no a/c, heat was terrible, people in dorm. Too much partying & drug use in dorms.

I felt UNCG offers a better program for interior architecture and design

I really enjoyed ECU, but I just felt I needed a change & needed to be closer to home.

I lost my Athletic Scholarship after being cut from the baseball team.

Hard to find a job in Greenville

Loved ECU, hated Greenville

Transferred Elsewhere

I left ECU after one semester because of the extreme excessiveness of partying. As well as that academics took a back burner when compared to everything else that went on there. I was not going to pay $20,000 a year for a poor education, and the fact that everyone was always drunk! It’s a shame that ECU will always have a poor reputation in my mind.

Moved in w/ girlfriend (who graduated from ECU). She had trouble finding a job in or near Greenville.

Out of state tuition high. $30,000 in debts for a BA degree didn't seem sensible

Transferred to Radford to be with friends

Longwood is closer to home and I can Receive in-state tuition. I also want to student-teach in the state where I will be living after graduation.

A combination of tuition and personal reasons.

Out of State Tuition was too high-

Dorm life!

Quality of instruction in classrooms was for the most part inexperienced. Drug and alcohol on campus drove me to Jarvis Hall and then away from ECU.

I had intended to go to the Citadel upon graduation from high school. However a sports injury kept me from enrolling as a freshman. Therefore I enrolled at ECU while I healed, with the intention of returning to The Citadel as a sophomore. I'm now attending The Citadel.
I felt that ECU was not the place I needed to be. I want to grow closer with God and felt that I needed to be in a place that others share my values and beliefs.

Husband in Army and stationed in GA.

Lack of assistance from my advisor at the time [NAME] - School of Social Work

Moved back to NY when my husband was sent to Iraq

I just decided to transfer to the private school. Its smaller school and smaller classrooms. I can live at home instead of on campus. Saves a lot of money.

no NC colleges offered my degree

It was a good school but not enough aid for out of state student after graduating from ECU I would have owe out about 40-45 or more thousands of dollars if I stayed. If I was offered any extra aid or financial aid helped me move I would not have left. Good school, loved classes wish I could stay, but to expensive for me.

accepted to begin Nursing School Fall 2003-Opening not available at ECU-my GPA not competitive

I'm a self-supported student with out a car. I was unable to find an on-campus job since I am not qualified for work study. Even though I ended each semester with a 4.0, ECU was unable or unwilling to give me any kind of scholarship or in-state waiver. Therefore, I was forced to transfer back to a South Carolina University in order to take advantage of in-state scholarship opportunities. I loved ECU and would have liked to remain a student there. Perhaps I'll return for my Masters or PhD.

Father moved out of state. Didn't want to pay 18,000 a yr as o of s student.

Out of state tuition is too high

The cost for "out of state" tuition was excessive, with no consideration for well-above average students from "middle income" families.

I got forced to move to North Carolina and although I enjoyed my year at ECU I missed my home town and job along with personal friends

Transferred to be close to finance, stationed at Norfolk Navy Base.

I have asthma and was not doing well health wise. I dropped out and came home and decided to go to cosmetology school. I enjoyed ECU while I was there.

Desired greater opportunities to grow spiritually.
My father passed away during exams of my 1st year & my mother has been unemployed, therefore leaving me with no funds.

The professors in the computer science department with the exception of [NAME] and [NAME] have a problem relating to students.

[NAME] was mobilized by the Army Reserve in Feb. 2003 (171st ASG out of Garner) & deployed to Iraq on April 2, 2003. He will be staying for 1 year & plans to resume classes at ECU in Summer 2004. Thank you. [NAME], [NAME]'s mother.

Lived in fraternity and personal/social issued required I move out. Home is in Raleigh and commute makes it not feasible to complete classes. I checked into withdrawing after normal withdrawal period but was advised that would not be possible without an extreme exception documented.

I plan to return and hope I will be welcome

I recently had a baby and will be returning to school in the spring.

The main reason is financial. My wife and I are currently in the process of adopting a child and all funds have and are going toward this process.

I am taking the fall ’03 semester off to have a baby. My husband and I are expecting our first child in October. I will be back in the Spring for my final semester. Thank you for your concern, it is nice to know that my absence is noticed.

lack of Income, and really not enough time to work go, school, finding extra money for funding Books and paying Bill, put a heavy Load on me Thanks For everything.

I decided to take a semester off to care for my new baby. However, I plan to return to school to finish as soon as possible.

I am a member of the NC National Guard and was deployed on 23 JUNE 2003 for one to two years. I definitely do plan to return to ECU and resume my studies there as soon as I am released from my military service.

My parents are not helping me pay for school and I could not afford tuition and books. I didn't even receive enough financial aid to cover my tuition so I had to drop out. I want to go back to school but I will probably go to Pitt Community College because it is a lot cheaper than ECU. I also just recently moved out of my parent's house and they are not helping me pay for anything so I had to get a second job to help me with rent, car insurance, phone and other bills. Just because I was living with my parents at the time I was going to ECU does not mean they were helping me pay for it.

I didn't exactly have a family problem, but gave birth to my son on March 22, 2003. I plan to return to school in the Fall 2004 semester.

[NAME] is in the National Guard and has been deployed to go to Iraq.

So much going on this semester with 4 kids, 2 dogs my wife and my business, there was no way I could fit it in.

Active military duty

Due to mitigating circumstances, personal problems interfered with satisfactory academic progress. Involved in separation/custody battle, Abandoned by ex with 2 children and was evicted from home.
No jobs. It’s stressful to find a job in a small town, filled with 26,000 eager to work kids.

I am going to join the U.S. Air Force Reserves

I am a full time employee, mother of 3 young children and was/am suffering from family & financial problems. I live 1 1/2 hours from ECU and was commuting 2 days a week after work to attend evening classes. The cost of gas from Clinton to Greenville & being away from my children made it difficult, although I did receive some financial aid. At the present time, I am having some family problems etc and can not afford a computer to do on-line classes but I hope to return soon (Spring 2004). I made 3 A’s in the 3 classes I took last fall and I enjoy attending class. Please send me some information about any classes in Education that you may be offering at Wayne Community College in Goldsboro, which is a lot closer to me and perhaps I can begin class again with new hope of obtaining my degree in Education. I love ECU and I enjoyed my classes. This was a temporary set back. Thank you. Please send info about ECU classes offered at Wayne Community College, Goldsboro NC to my home address: [NAME] P.S. Please send me a copy of my transcripts if possible a.s.a.p. to give to my employer-Clinton City Schools- They've requested a copy. I appreciate this so much! Enclosed is $5.00 for transcripts. [NAME]

I was under the impression that I was on academic suspension (I had been on probation, and grades didn't improve); I didn't prepare to return this semester financially; I did not think that I could...

I basically did not have the resources to return to ECU. Financially it just doesn't seem practical to be attending ECU Fall Semester.

I planned to take a semester off due to military service. I then found out I was ineligible to be in the service only after deadline to pay bill.

I handle school on my own and I only have five classes left to graduate. I can only do part time because they don't offer all five classes at once. I was told that I couldn't get financial aid if I was part time. Now I am sitting out wondering how I can finish school and move back to Greenville to do so.

I was pregnant & I’ve had a baby so I don’t know when I will return. Also, when I was pregnant, I wasn’t focused on work so I’m going to wait until my mind is right for school work & wait till my baby is at least 6 mths. I want to work w/her.

I withdrew in the Spring '03, due to too much stress between school/home. Finances were also a tremendous problem, because I am a single parent.

I am on Chemo Therapy, and could not come to register or talk to financial aid consultant. My car is in bad shape and will not make it to ECU.

Praxis was required for upper division classes. Could not get required classes until Praxis test was passed.

My temporary withdraw from school was a decision I chose w/my parents; I moved back home to save money, pay off my debts, & remotivate my drive towards school. It's more or less a regrouping phase for me.

Started a family

I am presently in South Korea on a 2 yr church mission. Plan to return in Fall of 2005.

Forced out until I pass the PRAXIS exam. ECU policy discriminates against students with learning disabilities.

In addition to needing to take a little time to provide an extra income for my family, I started to rethink my major. There are many things I’m interested in but don't know which is right for me & which field is a feasible choice to pursue at this time. I need help & good advice deciding, but it's hard for me to find the time to go to career services. Since I live in New Bern. That's another reason why I took a break-the drive from New Bern to Greenville is hard on me, which is why I would prefer to take online classes. More online classes need to be offered, b/c I don't want to quit school. I want my degree, but need a feasible way of attaining it.
Did not receive adequate help/counseling with my AA condition

There are several reasons why I have not returned. The largest reason is that my financial aid appeal did not go through, even though I had a LOT of support from professors and medical bills. I have undergone some strong emotional problems that are outside of school, as well as have been directly affiliated with school. I do wish to come back and "start over", as I will declare a slightly different major. (Education instead of performance). I am currently teaching at 2 schools while I am working to gain experience and aid for school upon my return. I am currently struggling financially and will need help if I return by spring semester. Thank you, [NAME]

I am a full time employee at ECU in Admissions. I am interested in the MAT (Masters of Art & Teaching) Unfortunately this program is specifically designed for Teachers & not for the working public such as myself. I plan on finishing my Mus. Ed degree-which only lacks approx. 14 hrs to finish. ECU does not offer a Masters degree in anything else that I would be interested in.

Am in the Air Force Reserves and was activated when the war in Iraq began. Am still activated and do not know for how long.

Just financial reasons, I am returning to ECU in January

Not enough money to return, sad but true

Active Duty - Military Operation Enduring Freedom Stationed In Kuwait.

It was mainly feeling tired of classes, specifically tired of teachers, but also decided I wanted to think more about my major

Our son [NAME] suffered from a stroke on Feb. 3rd, 2003. The stroke affected his entire right side and also related in severe aphasia; which effects speech, memory and several other areas. We are uncertain at this time if or when [NAME] could return to college. Thank you [NAME] ([NAME]'s mother)

Had to attend U.S. Air National Guard Air-Med Tech School in October. Due to graduate in February followed by required hospital duty & flight school with likelihood of activation by May. Would love to re-attend upon return. Thank you, [NAME]

recent marriage and honeymoon during fall semester

Family medical conditions

The financial aid office refused to help me with options when I told them my situation. I'm an education major and will have a job therefore student loans will get paid but they will not help me finish my degree. Even in the past, I have come to realize that ECU and its Chancellor are only about money, not the students. I will never return here and will discourage further enrollment.

Just finished my prerequisites for medical college. Already graduated my BS, this is a second undergrad degree.

Pregnancy

Withdraw – Permanently

As my records show I had difficulty 1st semester with my grades and second semester I also had difficulty and left on a medical leave. I have Add with LD and got lost in the system. It is very difficult to come into college with my difficulties and be expected to be in charge of getting help; scheduling, time management, etc, etc. from the beginning. A graduated approach of taking control would have helped me.
I have taken out far too many student loans to still not know what I want to be/major in.

My overall experience at ECU was great. My main problems were poor advisors. [NAME]. When I asked to change advisors, I was denied, & so since I was forced to choose my classes myself, he didn't even take time to sign it. It was signed often by different professors who were very helpful & looked to truly care about what they were doing. If I had had a Better advisor, I would most likely be still there, pushing forward for my degree in another field of study. I love ECU & maybe one day in the near future I will be back.

I will attend a foreign medical school.

I am now a mother and a military wife.

JOINED NAVY

Decided to change what I was doing career wise.

Health problems-clinical depression. Joining Air force (apparently prior goal) all issues are acceptable-exempt.
“Comments,” Fall 2003

Categorized by type of transfer/withdrawal
(Verbatim, with individual’s names or department references removed)

Transferred to a Community College

I will not be returning to ECU.

Over sized class rooms. Honestly, how can a student ask a question in class if there are 130 students and the teacher is already over whelmed w/ not only class but other class and outside work? If you ask me, I don’t think it’s worth the money for leaving, books, and tuition when you can go somewhere cheaper.

ECU was fine, I just want to be near the beach.

I was commuting

I plan on attending once I achieve a desirable GPA. Please send information on how I can become reinstated as a Student at ECU. My mailing address is: [NAME] Thank you for your time.

I did enjoy my semester at ECU. It was a learning experience I feel has added greatly to my personality in a very positive way.

The school promotes and does nothing to change the atmosphere of drugs and alcohol.

ECU is a wonderful university-but due to family issues I had to move back home. I enjoyed the year I was there however!

Love ECU and will be back! Need time to work on short term goals & education.

Overall I enjoyed my stay and education at ECU. It’s a wonderful school, but too far from my family.

I really enjoyed my time @ ECU. I was not able come back because I was not able to receive any financial aid and my father told me he was no longer going to pay for me to go.

I realized that I can get the same degree for a ¼ of the price!

Teacher should be able to speak fluent English

[NAME] was very happy with ECU – just needs more time to decide upon major. Thanks!

I have greatly missed ECU in my absence and I would have loved to stay. I want to thank you for everything you the school and staff did for me.

I enjoyed my time at ECU & miss it and my friends very much, but health wise I needed to come home and go to a school closer to me. Thank you for the time I did have, I will always LOVE ECU!

I absolutely loved ECU! I still come to visit friends often. Academically the school was great. I was in Honor’s Program and enjoyed every bit of it.

I am planning to return to ECU after I get my 2 year degree and financial aid will be needed then.
Teachers tell you read online notes doesn’t teach poor office hours can never get tutoring. Bad teachers if you complain told have tenure can’t do anything. POOR should teach always or get out lose good students to poor teacher. Not classroom very noisy classrooms very poor atmosphere!!!

Transferred to another UNC Institution

I miss you to [NAME].

ECU is wonderful! Sure wish they had a School of Pharmacy!

I’ve already sent my reapplication in for Spring 2004 semester. I had financial problems and some issues at home (mother sent to IRAQ with her reserve team: U.S. Army) But I’m coming back, so excited. I love ECU. I can’t wait to get back.

ECU was a good experience for me during my first year of college, but the school was just to far from the rest of society.

ECU is a great school overall!

ECU charges me out of state tuition, which was unfair, appeal was denied, so I left. Inadequate social life for adult students.

I love ECU, but I felt there was a lack interest/motivation in students from teachers. Also, the classrooms in Brewster and the Geology building were not conducive to learning – poor air ventilation, and lighting, - classrooms were old and small. Classrooms were dirtier and worse off than in a high school.

UNCW fits me better. I love it down there. A much smaller school, with not as much diversity among students.

I enjoyed my time at ECU. I just decided to do civil engineering and had to transfer to do it.

They’re a real defeatist attitude at ECU, about ECU. The social life of students seemed to be all they cared about. I did meet many great people, and professors, but UNCW is a better fit, due to funds and social life.

It was a good school; I miss a lot of things about it. The food was great compared to UNCC’s

I need to be outside, Hiking snowboarding; whatnot-ECU is not For me! Fire drills no heat Elevators- No heat in the winter/no air in Summer.

There is not enough room on one piece of paper to explain the problems I encountered with the faculty at ECU. There was one exception: [NAME] in the math department is an outstanding and extraordinary professor. There are very few like him.

I loved ECU! If possible, I wish there was a way to continue my education there. Hopefully, I will be able to do my masters at ECU. I am certainly missing it already!

I loved ECU, but UNC-Chapel Hill offered the degree I wanted

ECU is a great school & enjoyed the 1st year. Overall, I wanted to come home every weekend to be more involved in my church. I’m enjoying UNC@Charlotte.

You guys really should do something to prevent so much drug use in the dorms. You would be surprised what people get away with in there. I plan to return to ECU in the fall, only b/c I will be able to live in an apartment then.
ECU is a good school
I enjoyed: campus, events, Professors, & Courses.

I am responding to this survey for my son. [NAME] was influenced to transfer by his girlfriend, who is a State student. He has realized his mistake because he is really interested in the art major at ECU. He is transferring back to ECU in January. I’m delighted-[NAME]

Transferred Elsewhere

ECU was a great experience for me, academically and socially. Will be visiting soon, thanks!!

If I were a North Carolina resident I’d still be there

She loved ECU, but didn’t find her niche there. We loved the school, [NAME]’s sister is applying for the fall of 2004.

East Carolina was a positive experience overall and I miss many of the nice sports facilities.

ECU just wasn’t the place for me. Everyone belongs somewhere unfortunately ECU wasn’t that place.

I am now paying In State-VA

Great School!

I liked ECU, but was not able to come home as often as I would have liked.

GREAT CAMPUS, TOO FAR FROM HOME AND BOYFRIEND

I really loved ECU and wish that I could go back. The only reason that I can not return is because I can not afford the out of state tuition and wasn’t getting much help.

ECU was too lenient (acceptable) to poor students applying to the University. The food served in the dining halls was poor especially on the weekends.

I really enjoyed attending ECU and if my situation would have been different, I would have completed my studies there.

I gained a lot of experience/understanding of who people are when I attended ECU. It is not a bad thing or school. I know it is not for me at this point in time in my life. I know that God has great plans for me in the future – that may or may not include ECU.

I love ECU and miss it so much. I wish my husband was stationed in NC so that I could still attend. Go Pirates!!

ECU is a good school, but only for those who like big schools, and a lot of people.

ECU was fine – would have liked to finish my degree there, but no forensic program existed so I had to go out of state.

University is very good. Out of state tuition is too high

I really was impressed with the quality of my classes at ECU; however, I just felt that it was in my best interests to stay closer to home.
Lack of scholarship $ for straight A student!

Withdrew – Temporarily

Anticipate re-enrollment either Spring ’04 or Fall ’04

I took off from school this semester because of family & personal reasons. If things work out for my family & myself I would love to return back to ECU.

I need to obtain a loan or some type of financial help in order to return. I am a senior and am completely on my own financially.

I would love to return to ECU next semester (Spring 2004) Please let me know whether or not I need to re-apply to ECU. Thank you! [NAME]

Offer preparation classes for PRAXIS 1 test – some states let you add your scores together and other colleges provide classes

After the 1st year, I was unable to pay the tuition for this year yet did not qualify for financial aid. I do intend to return to ECU when I can get the money. Hopefully I will return in the Fall ’04.

Returning Jan ‘04.

ECU is a wonderful campus, with a great campus and atmosphere.

East Carolina is my favorite school and I plan on returning!

I plan on returning in the spring of the 2003-2004 school years. How would I need to go about doing so? Please mail some info to me.

Will be returning January 2004 to complete BSN

I am planning on taking classes at night and any online classes offered in my chosen field.

My goal is to graduate from ECU and intend on returning in the summer of 2004. Sincerely [NAME]

ECU is an excellent school. [NAME] was very satisfied with ECU. [NAME] is on military duties and should return sometime in the spring. [NAME] plans to return fall 2004. ECU was notified and we trust that this information will be put in the system. Thank you! [NAME]

When I return to school I would like to take as many of my classes as possible on-line. Is there any way to give students who need on-line courses an advantage over students who just want to take them? Thank you for your concern!

If a student is sent to counseling and parents are paying, parents should be notified. Perhaps this could be averted! This needs to be confidential in this case- a concerned parent.

My military commitment is why I had to temporarily withdraw.

I think in your survey you should have reasons for military. A Soldier’s Mom, [NAME]

I plan to attend ECU, during the spring Semester.
Art Education & studio courses greatly lack this flexibility for students. This needs to be addressed, seriously. I have taken courses at a community college b/c of their willingness to work with adult students. It is definitely a weak area that NCSU, UNC, UNCW & UNCC have overcome. I may have to quit a job- just to get to where I can intern. I would get 1 year grace for that but not 2.

I’ll be back…

Advising – [NAME] was excellent, [NAME] was awful. ---------- Appealing return/financial aid mid Dec. via fax.

I plan on returning to ECU because I did enjoy it! Thank you for your concern.

Active duty Reserves (Army). Serving in Iraq (Enduring Freedom). Tour of duty has been extended to April 2004 (as far as I know).

If accepted to return, I would like to speak with someone about my financial aid. [NAME]

I planned to come back to ECU in the spring, but at this point in time I’m not sure. I’m working 2 jobs and taking 2 internet courses (not full time) at FTCC (Fayetteville). I would love to return to ECU, but I’m not sure if that’s an option right now.

ECU is a great school and I plan to get my undergrad. And grad. Degrees there, I will certainly return in Jan. 2004.

I would love to return next year in the fall of ’04, if more financial aid can be offered.

I am taking my Translation course on the computer. However I will not get credit because I can’t come to register and get the financial Aid straightened out. Requested registration and financial aid information. Referred to Ombudsman.

I plan on returning for the Fall 2004 semester. The class that I need is only offered in the Fall.

I plan to enroll on Nov. 11 to take online courses, that way I can continue to live @ home until May. I love ECU, I feel it’s the only school in Eastern Carolina fit for me. I can’t wait to get back! Go Pirates!

No problems with Nursing Program. All instructors have been very helpful.

I have no complaints with the school and plan to return and graduate.

I will be returning next semester in 2004. I am on a medical leave.

Dear [NAME], I wanted to let you know that I greatly enjoyed my first year at ECU. I only withdrew due to some financial problems and very much desire to return to ECU once North Carolina residency or other financial arrangements can be made. I will be in touch with you concerning this matter in the future. I thank you and the university for your understanding.

I would really love to attend in August. My financial situation became bad and I was unable to juggle school and a full time job. My grades dropped pretty badly. I will call soon.

I like this survey, I think it is a good idea

Plan on returning spring 2004.

I plan to be back in Fall of 2004 – please advise what steps are necessary for re-enrolling.

I need information on how to get back into I Hall and how to get reenrolled. Thanks

Would love to finish my degree but not sure if I can afford @ present time
Will be returning in the Spring

Withdraw – Permanently

I’m currently in the process of transferring to either another NC school or out-of-state. Sorry to have left ECU.

Thanks for concern.

Responded to by parent [NAME], as [NAME] is now at Basic Training, Lakeland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. Thanks for all that ECU is to so many! [NAME] found faith-based guidance thru Presb. Church helpful & supportive. Availability & outreach meant a lot!!
Appendix C
Form Used for Fall 2003 and Spring 2004 Semesters
Survey of Non-Returning Students

I. Current Status (please select only one category in this section: A, B, or C)

A. I am currently participating in a co-op, work study program, internship, or foreign study and plan to return to ECU to graduate.

B. I withdrew from school (circle option 1 or one response from option 2):
   1. Permanently
   2. Temporarily (circle the one best response):
      a. For one semester
      b. For one year
      c. For more than a year
      d. Unknown length of time

C. I transferred to another college or university (select one response and indicate name of the institution):
   1. Another University of North Carolina Campus (Name:______________________________________________________)
   2. A Community College (Name:_________________________________________________________________________)
   3. Elsewhere (Name:___________________________________________________________________________________)

II. Reason for withdrawing or transferring (select all categories that apply)

A. Financial (circle all that apply):
   1. Lack of adequate student financial aid
   2. Financial problems not related to student financial aid

B. Employment (circle all that apply):
   1. School conflicts with current employment
   2. I wanted to gain practical experience
   3. I was offered a good job elsewhere

C. Personal (circle all that apply):
   1. Personal problems
   2. Family problems
   3. Changed marital status
   4. Health problems
   5. I needed a break to reconsider goals
   6. Homesick
   7. Academic problems
   8. Drug or alcohol problems

D. ECU Academic (circle all that apply):
   1. Inability to get courses desired/needed (circle all that apply):
      a. Courses closed out
      b. Could not get desired professor
      c. Conflict with work
      d. Desired course content not offered
      e. Courses too early/too late in day
      f. Other (specify: ______________________________________________________)
      g. Could not get courses on days desired
      h. Course time conflict with other courses
   2. Can not obtain a degree in my preferred field of (specify: ______________________________________________________)
   3. Disappointed with quality of instruction
   4. Disappointed with quality of advising
   5. Not enough academic prestige in my field of (specify: ______________________________________________________)
   6. Disappointed in level of emphasis given to academics

E. ECU Overall (circle all that apply):
   1. School too large and impersonal
   2. Desire to attend a larger school
   3. Inadequate social life
   4. Excessive social life
   5. Drug and alcohol abuse on campus
   6. Too far from home
   7. Too close to home
   8. Disappointed in opportunities for student development outside the classroom
   9. Weather-related issues (hurricane, etc.)

F. Other Reasons (please explain below):

G. Comments:
Appendix D
Form Used for Fall 2002 and Spring 2003 Semesters
Survey of Non-Returning Students

I. Reason for not returning (Answer those questions that apply):
   A. I am currently participating in a co-op, work study program, internship, or foreign study and plan to return to ECU to graduate.

   B. I withdrew from school
      1. Permanently
      2. Temporarily
         a. For one semester
         b. For one year
         c. For more than a year
         d. Unknown length of time

   C. I transferred to another college or university
      1. Another University of North Carolina Campus
         Name of campus: ___________________________________________
      2. A Community College
         Name of Community College: __________________________________
      3. Elsewhere
         Name of institution: __________________________________________

II. Reason for withdrawing or transferring (Answer all that apply):
   A. Financial
      1. Lack of adequate student financial aid
      2. Financial problems not related to student financial aid

   B. Employment
      1. School conflicts with current employment.
      2. I was offered a good job elsewhere.
      3. I wanted to gain practical experience.

   C. Personal
      1. Personal problems.
      2. Family problems.
      3. Changed marital status.
      5. I needed a break to reconsider goals.
      6. Homesick.
      7. Academic problems.
      8. Drug or alcohol problems

   D. ECU Academic
      1. Inability to get courses needed.
      2. Inability to get into classes with the desired time or desired professor.
      3. Can not obtain a degree in my preferred field of ______________________
      4. Disappointed with quality of instruction
      5. Disappointed with quality of advising
      6. Not enough academic prestige in my field of ______________________
      7. Disappointed in level of emphasis given to academics.

   E. ECU Overall
      1. School too large and impersonal.
      2. Desire to attend a larger school.
      3. Inadequate social life.
      4. Excessive social life.
      5. Drug and alcohol abuse on campus.
      6. Too far from home
      7. Too close to home
      8. Disappointed in opportunities for student development outside the classroom.
      9. Weather-related issues (Hurricane, etc.)

   F. Other Reasons (Please explain below):

   G. Comments:
East Carolina University
Office of Institutional Effectiveness

Survey of Non-Returning Students
Academic Year 2002-2003

Background and Methodology

Each semester a number of students who would be expected to return to ECU do not do so. These are students who were enrolled the previous semester, did not graduate, are academically eligible to return, but did not return for the current semester. The purpose of the Survey of Non-Returning Students is to gather information about why they have not returned. This information is useful to faculty and administrators who are concerned with maintaining and improving ECU’s high retention rate. This survey was conducted for the first time by ECU during the Spring 1998 semester, again during Spring 1999, and each semester thereafter.

The survey consists of a letter from the Director of Institutional Effectiveness, inquiring about the student’s educational status and plans and asking students to complete a few questions on the reverse side of the letter (see Appendix C). Section I of the questionnaire asks about whether they (a) are currently away on a field placement, co-op, or other ECU program, etc., and do plan to return to campus, (b) have withdrawn from school, or (c) have transferred to another institution. Section II asks for more detailed reasons (e.g., financial, academic, employment reasons) why they have withdrawn or transferred. Forms were mailed to the student’s permanent address which, in most cases, is a parent’s address.

This report summarizes results of the survey conducted during academic year 2002-2003 (Fall 2002 and Spring 2003); results from Spring 2002 and Fall 2001 are included for comparison purposes. Appendices are included at the end of this report and include a copy of the questionnaire as well as students’ open-ended comments citing “other reasons” for not returning and “general” comments. Names of individuals and departments, which were originally mentioned in the comments, are omitted in this report to preserve anonymity.

Results

Response Rates

Fall 2002. Survey materials were mailed to 1148 students who were enrolled in Spring 2002 and were eligible to enroll in Fall 2002 but did not return. Twenty-seven forms were returned by the Post Office, because addressees had moved with no forwarding addresses. Of the remaining 1121 forms, 330 were returned and 8 were removed from the survey since they were actually still enrolled in an internship or co-op. These 8 students should not have been listed as “non-returning.” This resulted in a total of 1113 deliverable surveys and a total of 322 respondents, yielding a response rate of 28.9 percent. By way of comparison, the response rate from Fall 2001 was 27.2 percent based on 262 respondents out of 963 deliverable surveys.
Spring 2003. Survey materials were mailed to 743 students who were enrolled in Fall 2002, were eligible to enroll in Spring 2003, but did not return. Thirty of the forms were returned by the Post Office because addressees had moved with no forwarding addresses. Of the remaining 713 forms, 187 were returned. One form was removed from the survey as the student was actually still enrolled in an internship or coop. This student should not have been listed as “non-returning.” This resulted in a total number of 712 deliverable surveys and a total of 186 respondents, yielding a response rate of 26.1 percent. For comparison, the response rate from Spring 2002 was 30.3 percent, based on 206 respondents out of 681 deliverable surveys.

Section I: ECU Students Who Transferred or Withdrew

In Section I of the questionnaire students are asked indicate their academic status, that is, whether they transferred to another institutional or just withdrew from school altogether. In Table 1 these results are presented for Spring 2003 (students last enrolled in Fall 2002), Fall 2002 (students last enrolled Spring 2002), Spring 2002 (last enrolled Fall 2001), and Fall 2001 (last enrolled Spring 2001). Spring 2002 and Fall 2001 results are included for comparisons.

In Table 1 it can be seen that for Spring 2003, Fall 2002, and the previous two semesters, the percentage of students who transferred was steady, averaging about 59.6 percent and ranging from 55.7 percent to 62.8 percent. Transfers “elsewhere” were the most common, followed by transfers to community college and other UNC schools. The percentage of those who withdrew was also stable, averaging about 40.4 percent and ranging from 37.2 percent to 44.3 percent. The vast majority of transfers were temporary. It can also be seen that in these semesters the number of non-returning respondents was greater during the fall semesters than during the spring semesters. This may have to do with the fact that the fall survey reflects the effects of the longer period of summer between when the student last attended in spring and when the survey was conducted in fall. However, in the spring surveys there is much less time between the time last enrolled and when the survey is conducted.

Table 1
Students Who Transferred or Withdrew from ECU by Semester

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Community College</th>
<th>Another UNC Institution</th>
<th>Elsewhere</th>
<th>Transferals</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Temporary</th>
<th>Permanent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring 2003</td>
<td>n 171</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>% 100%</td>
<td>57.9%</td>
<td>22.8%</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
<td>21.6%</td>
<td>42.1%</td>
<td>38.0%</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2002</td>
<td>n 315</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>% 100%</td>
<td>61.9%</td>
<td>22.5%</td>
<td>18.7%</td>
<td>20.6%</td>
<td>38.1%</td>
<td>36.2%</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring 2002</td>
<td>n 194</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>% 100%</td>
<td>55.7%</td>
<td>24.7%</td>
<td>13.9%</td>
<td>17.0%</td>
<td>44.3%</td>
<td>39.2%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2001</td>
<td>n 253</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>% 100%</td>
<td>62.8%</td>
<td>14.2%</td>
<td>22.9%</td>
<td>25.7%</td>
<td>37.2%</td>
<td>32.8%</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
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</table>
Section II: Reasons for Transferring or Withdrawing

Calculation of Percentages. In Section II of the questionnaire students can indicate multiple reasons for withdrawing or transferring. Because of this the number of reasons given can exceed the number of students responding. This raises the issue of what divisor will be used to calculate percentages in Section II. For example, let’s say there were 100 students who transferred to community colleges, they gave a total of 250 responses (reasons), and 125 of these were “academic” reasons. What percentage gave academic reasons? Using 100 as the divisor, the answer is 125 percent of the respondents (125/100), but if we use 250 the percentage is 50 percent of the responses (125/250). It is intuitively easier to compare percentages that sum to 100 percent, so in Tables 3-6 (Appendix A) percentages are “percents of responses.”

Previous reports for this survey employed only the “percent of respondents” method to describe reasons for withdrawing and transferring in Section II of the questionnaire. This resulted in many percentages over 100 percent as noted above. For comparison purposes in the current report Tables 5-6 show results from academic year 2001-2002, updated by using percents of responses with data from Section II. The total number of responses is shown at the bottom of each column in these tables. Note that results for Section II in this report will not be directly comparable with previously published reports.

Comparison of common reasons for transferring and withdrawing. Table 2 was created to identify and compare the most frequently cited reasons for transferring and withdrawing. To this end, the percentages in the “Total Transfers” and “Total Withdrawals” columns in Tables 3-6 were averaged across the four tables for each reason category; this was done separately for transfers and withdrawals. Reason categories with average percentages of 5 percent and higher were included in Table 2. In Table 2 rows are arranged in descending order of the percentages under “Transfers” and secondarily by the percentages under “Withdrawals.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reasons</th>
<th>Transfers</th>
<th>Withdrawals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Too far from home</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal problems</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other reasons</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of advising</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School too large and impersonal</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homesick</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I needed a break to reconsider goals</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial problems unrelated to student financial aid</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of adequate student financial aid</td>
<td></td>
<td>7.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School conflicts with current employment</td>
<td></td>
<td>6.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health problems</td>
<td></td>
<td>5.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family problems</td>
<td></td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In Table 2 it can be seen that the most frequently cited reasons tended to be different when comparing transfers and withdrawals but with three exceptions, namely “Personal problems,” “Other reasons,” and “I needed a break to reconsider goals,” which were frequently cited by both those who transferred and those who withdrew. “Other reasons” included a broad mix of responses; the most frequent of which had to do with academic, personal, or family reasons. In short, it appears that reasons for transferring were most frequently associated with qualities of institutions, while reasons for withdrawing had to do more with whether students had the means or desire to remain in school.

Changes over time among transfers. In Tables 3-6 the “Total Transfers” percentages for the major reason headings (e.g., Financial, Employment, Personal, ECU Academic, ECU overall, and Other Reasons) were inspected to see if there were clear trends in transfers over the four semesters. While there were many small differences over time, most of these are probably not significant. Most of the percentages were fairly stable over time.

The most notable trends over time occurred among “ECU Academic” and “Personal” major heading percentages for the three types of transfers (community college, another UNC school, and elsewhere). In Spring 2003, as a group, the percentages for the three types of transfers decreased in terms of “ECU Academic” reasons while generally increasing in terms of “Personal” reasons. Specifically, in Fall 2002 the “ECU Academic” percentages for the three types of transfers averaged 28 percent and differed from each other by as much as 19 percentage points, following similar patterns in Spring 2002 and Fall 2001. In Spring 2003, however, these “ECU Academic” percentages decreased to an average of 22 percent and differed from each other by only about 2 percentage points at most. At the same time, in Spring 2003 the percentages for the three types of transfers citing “Personal” reasons increased to an average of 31.8 percent from an average of 23.4 percent (Fall 2002).

Changes over time among withdrawals. Among the percentages for “Total Withdrawals,” there was a steady decrease from Fall 2001 to Spring 2003 in responses citing “employment” as a reason to withdraw (from 15.3 percent to 8.7 percent), while there was a steady increase across these semesters in the percentage of responses citing “personal” reasons to withdraw (from 35.3 percent to 44 percent). There were no other trends over time which seemed notable among these students. Tables 3-6 show that the vast majority of withdrawals were temporary.

Open-ended Responses

In Appendix B open-ended responses are presented from the Fall 2002 and Spring 2003 surveys. These are responses to items “F. Other Reasons” and “G. Comments” in Section II of the questionnaire (see Appendix C). Responses are verbatim except that some names of people and departments have been omitted to preserve anonymity. Responses are identified as to whether they are from students who transferred to a community college, another UNC school, or elsewhere, or withdrew on a temporary or permanent basis. An examination of the open-ended responses may help explain quantitative results.
### Table 3
Survey of Non-Returning Students
Spring Semester 2003
Reasons for Transferring or Withdrawing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section II Response Categories</th>
<th>Transfers</th>
<th>Withdrawals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Transfers&lt;sup&gt;1&lt;/sup&gt;, Community College, Another UNC Institution, Elsewhere</td>
<td>Total Withdrawals&lt;sup&gt;1&lt;/sup&gt;, Temporary, Permanent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### A. Financial
- **Transfers**: 10.0% (29), 14.7% (16)
- **Withdrawals**: 4.2% (10), 5.5% (16)

- Lack of adequate student financial aid: 4.5% (13), 6.0% (16)
- Financial problems not related to stipend: 11.3% (17), 11.8% (16)

#### B. Employment
- School conflicts with current employment: 1.4% (4), 0.9% (9)
- I was offered a good job elsewhere: 1.0% (3), 1.1% (5)

#### C. Personal
- Personal problems: 32.3% (94), 36.2% (19)
- Family problems: 5.2% (15), 5.2% (9)

#### D. ECU Academic
- Inability to get classes desired: 2.4% (7), 3.4% (11)
- Can not obtain a degree in preferred field: 2.7% (8), 1.7% (23)

#### E. ECU Overall
- School too large and impersonal: 7.6% (22), 7.8% (22)
- Desire to attend a larger school: 1.7% (5), 5.0% (23)

#### F. Other Reasons
- Disappointed in emphasis on academics: 3.8% (11), 4.3% (23)

---

1. In Section II of the questionnaire students could indicate more than one reason for transferring or withdrawing, so column percentages are portions of 100% based on the total number of responses listed at the bottom of the columns. Within each column the percentages in bold from each major row heading (A–F) sum to 100%. Percentages in the sub-categories under each major row heading sum to the percentage in bold.

2. Percentages and n’s are from combining results in sub-columns to the right.
### Table 4

Survey of Non-Returning Students  
Fall Semester 2002

Reasons for Transferring or Withdrawing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section II Response Category¹</th>
<th>Transfers</th>
<th>Withdrawals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Community Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.  Financial</td>
<td></td>
<td>College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of adequate student financial aid</td>
<td>9.0% 48</td>
<td>12.3% 6.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial problems not related to stu fin aid</td>
<td>4.9% 26</td>
<td>5.7% 1.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.  Employment</td>
<td>2.8% 15</td>
<td>4.3% 1.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School conflicts with current employment</td>
<td>0.9% 5</td>
<td>0.9% 0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was offered a good job elsewhere</td>
<td>1.3% 7</td>
<td>2.4% 0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I wanted to gain practical experience</td>
<td>0.6% 3</td>
<td>0.9% 0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.  Personal</td>
<td>24.6% 131</td>
<td>35.5% 15.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal problems</td>
<td>0.8% 36</td>
<td>10.0% 3.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family problems</td>
<td>2.1% 11</td>
<td>2.4% 1.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changed marital status</td>
<td>0.9% 5</td>
<td>1.4% 0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health problems</td>
<td>1.5% 8</td>
<td>2.4% 0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I needed a break to reconsider goals</td>
<td>4.5% 24</td>
<td>7.0% 2.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home sick</td>
<td>4.7% 25</td>
<td>4.7% 5.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic problems</td>
<td>3.4% 18</td>
<td>5.2% 1.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug or alcohol problems</td>
<td>0.8% 4</td>
<td>1.9% 0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D.  ECU Academic</td>
<td>27.0% 144</td>
<td>17.5% 7.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inability to get classes desired</td>
<td>4.9% 26</td>
<td>3.3% 7.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can not obtain a degree in preferred field</td>
<td>3.6% 19</td>
<td>2.8% 5.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of instruction</td>
<td>5.1% 27</td>
<td>3.3% 5.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of advising</td>
<td>7.1% 38</td>
<td>7.1% 8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not enough academic prestige in my field</td>
<td>2.8% 15</td>
<td>0.0% 4.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in emphasis on academics</td>
<td>3.6% 19</td>
<td>0.9% 5.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.  ECU Overall</td>
<td>25.3% 135</td>
<td>20.4% 33.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School too large and impersonal</td>
<td>5.6% 30</td>
<td>6.2% 5.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desire to attend a larger school</td>
<td>0.6% 3</td>
<td>0.0% 1.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate social life</td>
<td>2.4% 13</td>
<td>1.9% 3.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive social life</td>
<td>3.6% 19</td>
<td>3.8% 3.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug and alcohol abuse on campus</td>
<td>3.8% 20</td>
<td>1.9% 7.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too far from home</td>
<td>0.6% 35</td>
<td>4.3% 9.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too close to home</td>
<td>0.0% 0</td>
<td>0.0% 0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in out-of-class stu dev opps</td>
<td>2.8% 15</td>
<td>2.4% 3.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather-related issues (Hurricane, etc.)</td>
<td>0.0% 0</td>
<td>0.0% 0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F.  Other Reasons</td>
<td>11.3% 60</td>
<td>10.0% 10.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| TOTAL RESPONSES (% / n) | 100% | 533 | 100% (211) | 100% (157) | 100% (165) | 100% | 309 | 100% (293) | 100% (16) |

---

¹ In Section II of the questionnaire students could indicate more than one reason for transferring or withdrawing, so column percentages are portions of 100% based on the total number of responses listed at the bottom of the columns. Within each column the percentages in bold from each major row heading (A–F) sum to 100%. Percentages in the sub-categories under each major row heading sum to the percentage in bold.

² Percentages and n's are from combining results in sub-columns to the right.
Table 5
Survey of Non-Returning Students
Spring Semester 2002
Reasons for Transferring or Withdrawing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section II Response Categories</th>
<th>Transfers</th>
<th>Withdrawals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Community College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>%</td>
<td>n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Financial</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of adequate student financial aid</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial problems not related to student financial aid</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Employment</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School conflicts with current employment</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was offered a good job elsewhere</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I wanted to gain practical experience</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Personal</td>
<td>31.2%</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal problems</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family problems</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changed marital status</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health problems</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I needed a break to reconsider goals</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homesick</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic problems</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug or alcohol problems</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. ECU Academic</td>
<td>25.2%</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inability to get classes desired</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can not obtain a degree in preferred field</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of instruction</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of advising</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not enough academic prestige in my field</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in emphasis on academics</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. ECU Overall</td>
<td>28.7%</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School too large and impersonal</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desire to attend a larger school</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate social life</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive social life</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug and alcohol abuse on campus</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too far from home</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too close to home</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in out-of-class stu dev opps</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather-related issues (Hurricane, etc.)</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Other Reasons</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL RESPONSES (% / n)</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>314</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 In Section II of the questionnaire students could indicate more than one reason for transferring or withdrawing, so column percentages are portions of 100% based on the total number of responses listed at the bottom of the columns. Within each column the percentages in bold from each major row heading (A–F) sum to 100%. Percentages in the sub-categories under each major row heading sum to the percentage in bold.

2 Percentages and n’s are from combining results in sub-columns to the right.
### Table 6
#### Survey of Non-Returning Students
#### Fall Semester 2001
#### Reasons for Transferring or Withdrawing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section II Response Categories</th>
<th>Transfers</th>
<th>Withdrawals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Transfers</td>
<td>Community College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Financial</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of adequate student financial aid</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial problems not related to stu fin aid</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Employment</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School conflicts with current employment</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was offered a good job elsewhere</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I wanted to gain practical experience</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Personal</td>
<td>23.7%</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal problems</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family problems</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changed marital status</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health problems</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I needed a break to reconsider goals</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homestick</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic problems</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug or alcohol problems</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. ECU Academic</td>
<td>26.2%</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inability to get classes desired</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can not obtain a degree in preferred field</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of instruction</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of advising</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not enough academic prestige in my field</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in emphasis on academics</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. ECU Overall</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School too large and impersonal</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desire to attend a larger school</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate social life</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive social life</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug and alcohol abuse on campus</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too far from home</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too close to home</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in out-of-class stu dev opps</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather-related issues (Hurricane, etc.)</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Other Reasons</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL RESPONSES (% / n)</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>370</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 In Section II of the questionnaire students could indicate more than one reason for transferring or withdrawing, so column percentages are portions of 100% based on the total number of responses listed at the bottom of the columns. Within each column the percentages in bold from each major row heading (A-F) sum to 100% Percentages in the sub-categories under each major row heading sum to the percentage in bold.

2 Percentages and n’s are from combining results in sub-columns to the right.
Appendix B

“Other Reasons,” Spring 2003

Categorized by type of transfer/withdrawal
(Verbatim, with some names or department references removed)

Transferred to a Community College

I had a difficult time adjusting to being away from home. Did not like my roommate. Her boyfriend was in our dorm room almost all the time which made very uncomfortable for me. I was nervous and upset the entire time. Therefore, my studies suffered. I got so far behind I eventually stopped attending classes. Toward the very end of the semester I started to make friends. I decided to transfer to Pitt where the cost of tuition was less and give myself a second chance. So far I have adjusted and make one A and 2 B’s the past spring semester. I plan on attending summer school to try to catch up. I am not sure if I will transfer back to ECU.

Decided on 2 yr. Degree.

My brother got into some trouble, so my mother asked me to move home to help her with the financial aspects.

Decided on a major that a community college offered.

Transferred to another UNC Institution

I had a good job and a wonderful girlfriend before I left. I decided to go back home and get back with my girlfriend and start working again.

Better opportunities for internships in Charlotte.

Transferred Elsewhere

Father lives in Hawaii and I decided to try U of Hawaii to be near him.

Balsion College offered more prestige in my field of Business. Balison is strictly a business oriented college.

Just not where I needed to be.

Leaving ECU was not my choice fully. I’m getting my gpa up. Its currently 3.75. Hopefully spring of 04’ I’ll be back at ECU.

Far commute, parking problems, bus WAY too crowded.

Got engaged, my finance lives in MI.

Transfer of funds from prior school were delayed.

Withdrew – Temporarily

Joined Navy.
Unplanned pregnancy - baby delivered 1/8/03 - needed a bit of time to recovered. I placed my child for adoption.

I was not given in-state tuition for my first year of school

Will be going into full time mission work.

I am due to have a child April 6. Not enough night classes.

School conflicts with current employment which is being a full time at home mom and expecting a new addition.

Lost enthusiasm to obtain goal and need to take a semester off to relax and get financial aid.

Girlfriend problems.

Too far from job.

No money for college!!

My national guard unit was called for duty. I am currently stationed in Ft. Bragg. I plan to resume my degree, upon my active duty time is completed. I plan to return to ECU My advisor Ms Stillwell was notified prior to my activation.

Could not get into upper division classes due to not passing teachers test.

Withdrew – Permanently

Husband transferred to Atlanta.

Financial.

“Comments,” Spring 2003

Categorized by type of transfer /withdrawal
(Verbatim, with some names or department references removed)

Transferred to a Community College

I will be returning fall 2003 to ECU.

Father died from cancer.

People very friendly!

Besides having to wait until the tuition deadline came to get into the classes I need I enjoyed my time at ECU but unfortunately the timing was not right for me.

I love ECU and I plan on coming back as soon as possible.
I left ECU to follow a baseball career that did not work out. I will be coming back to ECU this fall.

(I would not recommend ECU to anyone) I was not being challenged and was repeating things I did in high school. High School was three times harder and more challenging. I also had an alarm man act inappropriately at my apartment off campus.

Made mistake of joining fraternity. Decided to change schools to have a "clean slate." I am attending a transfer program to go to UNCW.

I LOVED EAST CAROLINA! It just wasn't the way for me.

ECU dropped my classes in the fall of 2002. I had preregistered honors and had all the classes I wanted. During the summer I went to the financial aid office and I told them I wanted my financial aid deferred to tuition. When I went to my classes I was not on the roll. As a result the only classes I could get I had no interest in and I stopped caring and going to class. Because of this I left ECU, The only way I will return is if you can help me and improve your services. I would like for my advisor to be addressed about what he said to me and his attitude. I was really disappointed in my advisor. When I decided I wanted to change classes for no reason my advisor told me I was wasting his time and to take my folder and leave. This did not help me any.

I did not like ECU because it seemed as though it was strictly for parties and not an academic school.

I had a great time @ ECU, I only wish you offered Electrical Engineering as a Degree.

Advising proff. Not helpful to me when made appointment. In my opinion if enrolled @ ECU a student needs to be fully focused on studies and not environment or surroundings.

I will be transferring to Caldwell Community College and technical Institute to get GPA higher and then to transfer to Appalachian University. Advisors post office hours but do not show up during these hours. I had bad experiences with roommates, moved into an apartment beginning of 2nd year which was another bad experience, after which I decided I needed to get out of Greenville because of the environment. I am now living and working in Boone and am very happy.

I wanted to get in the nursing program and had been told ECU had a waiting list. I still plan to complete my 4 year degree at ECU once I obtain my nursing Certification and License.

I have been accepted for the fall at ECU - See you then: [NAME].

ECU is a wonderful atmosphere - just not right for me at this point. I will be visiting on the weekends periodically. Thank you for being so compassionate and understanding!

Was not ready to declare major.

It was hard driving there every day for 40 min for and 8:00 class not to mention the time needed to wait for a bus and walking. In the end I wake up 6:00 every day and I need more sleep. And also my classes were to spread out during the day.

I went through a rough time and none of my teachers cared. None were willing to sacrifice a little bit of time.

Not enough parking. Bus route is slow and crowded.

Transferred to another UNC Institution

I did however enjoy the school in general, all classes and professors were excellent and will miss greatly, I mostly needed to put my life back together. Thanks so much, [NAME].

I was wait listed until Jan 03 at App. State. I was more interested in attending school where I could pursue my
major and winter activities.

ECU gave me a good starting point for college but I had lost interest in staying by the end of my 1st semester. In 1st semester of soph yr. The amount of drug and alcohol abuse on campus and in Greenville was disgusting to me. My classes were a joke. I am at a community college this semester and NCSU in the fall, my community college classes are harder than any of my ECU classes if that says anything.

[NAME] was homesick, she was 4.5 away from home. She was just very unhappy being away that far.

I really enjoyed my study at ECU. I miss it very much. Thanks for your concern and keep up the good work!

My friends could not attend. I am going to UNC - Pembroke. Thank you for your concern. No problems with ECU. Thank you [NAME].

I miss ECU a lot and am very excited about retuning in the fall, if I'm accepted!

**Transferred Elsewhere**

School was very organized and offered great communication - Just too far from home. [NAME] was great!!

ECU was great! I loved it there, however, I was lacking the financial funds (out of state). Keep the spirit up ECU! I miss you! Love [NAME].

ECU is a good school for students who don't really care about an education. You gain a good social life, but have no care for studies.

ECU was wonderful. I really enjoyed attending ECU.

I love and miss ECU----Its perfect.

ECU is a fantastic school. I enjoyed the dorm, the chemistry staff, the athletics. My grades were excellent due to the fine academics. My mom was very happy with ECU to. But the opportunity to be near my Dad was a factor in my leaving. Thank you!

I do not regret attending ECU for the time I did, but I desire a challenge and a place where academics are as important to the student body as their social lives.

[NAME] transferred to James Madison University this Spring Semester.

Just didn't seem to fit in, roommate was weird, rushed and didn't get in, felt alone and left out.

The main factor in my transfer is the job placement rate at Savannah College of Art.

ECU is a great school! Please see above for explanation Thanks.

Was very satisfied with ECU; however, new baseball coach let six players go from the baseball program and I was one of those. I have transferred to continue to play baseball; however I may some day return to ECU to finish my educational plans. (This isn't intended to be a "smart" response - just the truth.)

I have been a volunteer firefighter since I was 16. I decided that I want to make a career as a firefighter. Thank you for the opportunity to go to ECU.

I thought I had officially withdrawn form the school. Sorry for the inconvenience. I withdrew with [NAME], she told me I didn't need to do anything else. But yes, I am getting married and decided that moving to MI was the best option. I thoroughly enjoyed ECU. The quality of education and service far exceeded my expectations. I'll be attending Central Michigan in the fall of 2003. Thanks for your concern. Miss ECU everyday---- along with
the great WARM weather!! From the frozen tundra, [NAME].

Admin did not help my situation, most of the reps I encountered were rude and unwilling to help! Financial aid office at my prior school helped get funds transferred in a simple and courteous manor - But I had already made decision to return to them.

I absolutely loved ECU, but the lack of film related courses forced me to choose a school more beneficial to my academic goals. On a personal level, my stay at ECU was one of the best four months of my life! Thank you.

I want to be a fashion designer. In order to get into a school for fashion design you have to have a portfolio of drawing. So, since my work load in school took all of my free time I decided to take the semester off to get a portfolio together.

Husband is in the military and was transferred to Boston.

I loved ECU but my husband and I felt we needed to relocate to NY and be with family.

I decided to pursue a degree in Business @ MOC. I can finish early than if I stayed @ ECU. I did enjoy some of the classes I had at ECU. I thought a lot of [NAME] and really have a deep respect for him!

I was a member of men's soccer team and recruited as a freshman. I didn't feel it was a productive atmosphere to continue being a part of the program. That was the main reason I came to East Carolina. I however felt that the school was good. I left because I felt I still had a lot to offer to a division 1 soccer program and I am currently training with university of dayton's men's soccer program. The school aspect was very enjoyable and that didn't deter me from coming back.

I was lied to when at ECU for college visit about major courses.

**Withdrawn – Temporarily**

I plan on coming back but just needed a break.

ECU offered everything I was looking for in my major. Loved ECU, however financially I could not afford out of state tuition. Did not desire to leave!

Parking is terrible.

Clear direction not given on preregistration! I end up registering late because I can't get up with my advisor, and misinformation is a problem. I hope you will send me pre registration forms early and clear instructions for pre registering for Fall 2003 semester.

I plan to re-enroll in August.

Call me @ [phone number] if you want to talk about this – [NAME].

I am enrolled for summer school and for the fall semester.

Frustrated with Span. Program's quality of instruction and difficulty of course material.

I am planning to return this summer!

I received my dorm room late (nothing was sent to my house after acceptance) and it was not included in my financial aid. I received a notice at the end of Nov. stating that I have to pay 2,295.76 before I could enroll for the spring semester.

A letter was recently received at our home from your office. This letter was inquiring as to why our son,
[NAME], did not return to E.C.U. for the spring. I am responding for [NAME] because he is currently out of the U.S. [NAME] is currently enrolled at the Goethe Institute in Munich Germany. [NAME] received a scholarship from Rotary International for this study abroad. At the conclusion of this session at the institute he will begin an internship with a German based company. This study abroad meets the requirements for his degree in International Business and a second degree in German. He will be returning to East Carolina for the fall semester. This study abroad program was approved by E.C.U. and he is being granted credit hours for the courses he took at the Goethe Institute. [NAME] has done well as E.C.U. and is enjoying the experiences offered to him through East Carolina. It was upon the recommendation of E.C.U. faculty members that [NAME] applied for, and was awarded the Rotary scholarship. [NAME] has also been a walk on member of the E.C.U. football team. Thank you for your interest in [NAME]. As an E.C.U. graduate I am pleased that your office takes the time to follow up with students who leave the university. Sincerely, [NAME].

East Carolina was a great school to me. Administration and professors were very student oriented. I would like to be able to re-enroll if my life permits.

Military training for NC Army National Guard.

I will return in the fall or spring to continue with my degree. I had to take some time off to learn my new job.

I am an ambitious student determined to get my degree. I enjoy school very much but I do want to encourage more night classes because now I can only find two classes a semester to fit my degree curriculum. I would love to take more and Graduate sooner.

I am taking a couple of courses at Nash and Edgecombe Community College. Due to Financial difficulties I plan on returning Fall 2003.

Regarding my absence from ECU during Spring semester 2003... Working with the counseling Office on campus, I applied permission to withdraw in November, 2002, due to personal problems related to the death of my [relative], [NAME], this past year. Since that time I have been meeting with a psychologist, and I am now ready to finish my undergraduate studies at ECU. I am applying for readmission and plan to attend no later than Fall Semester, 2003. I may even take one or two courses this summer, so that I may be on target to graduate Spring, 2004. Thank you for inquiring regarding my absence. I will be returning soon. Sincerely, [NAME].

(Lost my financial aid when I left school to care for my Mom) My mom was in a serious accident last March. This changed our life substantially. She was out of work until last Sept. and returned only part time. This hurt us financially and I was unable to work as I was caring for her and attempting to keep my head above water with school. I ended up with stress related health problems and returned home to Hertford County. I am currently working 40+ hours 7 days a week in an attempt to hold the financial needs together. I would like to return to school but didn't see a light at the end of the tunnel. Thank you for your interest and concern. Everyone in the Special Ed department has been great. Sincerely, [NAME].

Do I have to reapply to enroll for the Fall of 2003?

I want to finish school and get my degree but financial obligations and being a full time mom expecting my second son are stopping me.

Medical withdrawal while undergoing cancer treatment.

I was supposed to have back surgery in Sept. 2002, and therefore would have returned to school this spring semester. However, at the last minute, the workers' compensation insurance company cancelled it and I had to reschedule in Nov. I am still recovering but will return in May.

I would definitely like to attend ECU again in August. I just need information in the procedures necessary, such as reapplication and the likes. Thank you.

ECU was great! The short period I was there was wonderful. Greenville on the other hand had no job opp. I needed work to make ends meet. I couldn't find work in Greenville and had to withdraw from school. The
Campus is beautiful. I enjoyed ECU!!!!!!!!!

To Whom it may concern: I'm writing this letter in response to a recent letter I received containing a survey. I also enclosed that survey, but I felt I needed to further explain my withdrawal. I withdrew in the fall of 2002 due to a rare lung disease. Due to this disease I had surgery and I'm still in the recovery process. I will be undergoing treatment for at least another year from now. My doctor felt it would be best for me not to return to school until fully healed so as not to aggravate the problem. Due to the surgery and not being able to attend school or work, I was forced to move back to my hometown. If I did want to attempt to return to school now against my doctor's wishes, it would be impossible. As I said before, it will be at least a year before I can return to school. Obviously I would be losing a lot of time on my education. I want to know, is there any way possible for me to be considered for online education through East Carolina? If so, whom do I need to contact to start that process? I'd appreciate any response on this matter. Thank you in advance. Sincerely, [NAME].

I look forward to returning Summer 2003.

I might be activated for 2 yrs but I'll going to finish my criminal justice degree.

Discouraged after failing Algebra I for the 2nd time. I have always had a problem with testing and do not know what to do to help with the problem especially with Algebra. Cannot afford a tutor. Have had an extremely hard time obtaining adequate financial aid. Father will not contribute and mother is permanently disabled but is always short of money after helping me. Inability to find part time job. I feel guilty causing my mother so many money problems.

I was working and going to school. It was too much. I am at a point that I don't have to work now. I would like to reenroll. What can I do?

I enjoyed ECU and currently trying to get back on track. However have been busy w/ work and my new family. Would like to know when I can register and when to take tag off my classes.

U.S. Army Reserve Called to Active Duty.

Family moved to Wilmington, NC Aug 2002. Tried balancing classes and work early in semester. Dropped classes after deadline. Filed appeal for reimbursement. Wanted to use $ to register at ECU for Fall 2003. Still no word on appeal filed. * * I am last of 7 children attending college. Funds low. Step-sister emotionally challenged and now living with my mom. My sister (my sibling) getting married in June 2003. My mother paid my tuition and feels she cannot pay again without my commitment and final return. My brother is in Grad program at ECU and has been attending ECU 4 yrs. ?? - graduated ??? Continued education. Considering Fall 2003 or Spring 2004 - depending on appeal filed and my financial situation. Thank you for your interest in my future.

ECU is a good/competitive school offering my desired major, however, I was attempting to go to school full time, as well as, work full-time. My studies slipped some and I could not afford to quit my job. I would like to return to school in the fall if at all possible.

Depression.

I have been readmitted for summer session 1 2003. Thanks., [NAME].

My husband owns group homes for people who are mentally ill and/or mentally retarded, I withdrew form school to help him run the facility as I am a nurse. Also my daughter is diabetic and her health wasn't good at the time I felt very torn between family and school. I really wished I could handle both. I enjoyed ECU very much. My daughter [NAME] is at ECU and she is doing very well. I am so proud. I'd like to come back in the future and take courses that could help me keep my husband with the group homes. Thanks. I think ECU does everything right. Keep up the great job! [NAME].

I took a class and did not make a passing grade three times in a row, and am not eligible for admission to ECU until 2006. You should know this without asking me. Thank you.
Home bought out in flood buyout. Had to build another. Just when I was ready to come back my wife was deployed in Kuwait and I have to take care of children.

I had to take a semester off to recover from a bad sickness. I would like to apply for first summer session. Could you mail an application and/or financial aid papers to [address]? Thanks so much for everything.

I am already in debt for a student loan. I cannot get another. Someone has to start paying back my current loan, so I have to. Unless ECU is FREE, I doubt I will return to any college!

Withdraw – Permanently

Thank you for opportunities available to me. ECU is a good school.

Not only did I have a legitimate illness that the school would not recognize but I spent 4 months trying to get a straight answer about actually being allowed to drop my classes. I never did hear from anyone.

I am preparing to withdraw permanently from ECU. I plan to transfer to Fayetteville State.

The year I spent at ECU was very positive. I would love to attend in the future if possible.

My husband and I are currently expecting our first child and have moved to TX. For employment reasons. I enjoyed ECU, however it was not practical to remain in NC. I plan on continuing my education next year in Texas.

Responses from students who did not indicate transfer or withdrawal status

She does not attend ECU because of a crime related incident at the Sorority. Talk to [NAME] for more details. She has been devastated by this.

Just needed time to work on some things.

Took off 1 semester to attend basic training and training for National Guard. Plans to return fall 2003.

I am very pleased with ECU and look forward to returning in the fall of 2003. Thanks.

I am taking 1or 2 classes at the time - and currently working full time. No time for classes this semester. I do plan to return!

I have accepted a transfer with my employer. I will be located in Richmond, VA. Thank you for the opportunity to begin my higher education I anticipate continuing my education when I'm settled.

Do not feel like buying a parking permit without being guaranteed a place to park proximal to the classes I am taking.

Dear Sir/Madam I am taking a correspondence course at Beaufort Community College this semester because I am trying to complete my math requirement there that will also transfer to ECU. I work full-time and I'm trying to save me some time on distance. I have a request form filled out to attend EC that was approved by the Education Department. Hope this helps, I haven't withdrawn and plan to continue my studies there. Thanks! [NAME].

My financial aid packages may have been deterred and I'm not sure if I'll have adequate funds to pay for my education.
Love ECU always have always will.

Attendance Policy: I can not sit in class everyday and listen to a professor tell me what I already know. Ex. [Course] - The prof. (Dr.) had 4 tests & 1 final. I never even bought the book. I went to class 6 days that semester & had a 91 average. I was failed due to attendance.

I do not feel he had direction from an advisor. [NAME] (Mother).

Failed [Course], was told I could return following year to retake [Course] and finish BSPA. PA is now a masters degree so I am now trying to obtain a BS degree. Am requesting readmission to obtain a BS.

“Other Reasons,” Fall 2002

Categorized by type of transfer / withdrawal
(Verbatim, with some names or department references removed)

Transferred to a Community College

[No comments received]

Transferred to another UNC Institution

Lack of interest in helping from faculty, lazy & selfish.

I do not feel that ECU challenged me academically. Classes seemed to be on the same level as high school and other students were not serious about learning.

ECU was a great school. Lovely Campus and state of the art facilities. However there is nothing else in Greenville but the school. I am definitely used to much larger cities, as well as people with larger frames of minds.

Moved.

Wouldn't give residency status.

Poor roommate.

Enjoy working at the Family YMCA and there is not a YMCA in Greenville.

Not enough to do in Greenville and surrounding area.

Lifetime dream to attend UNC.

I had a great experience attending ECU and living in its dorm, I just wished it was close to my home and I could help out my family's business anytime. There is really no particular reasons for transferring.

Too much crime around the city.

Went to ECU 2 years knowing I planned to transfer to NCSU.

I attended ECU while still a high school student at Rose. I am enrolled in the engineering program at NCSU. I
look forward to returning to Greenville in the summer and perhaps taking summer school at ECU.

Larger city, changed major - was at ECU for music, Charlotte seems to have more job opportunities - where I want to work, live after college.

Father is ill.

Just wanted to transfer.

Taking 2 elective courses by Internet.

**Transferred Elsewhere**

No one was friendly.

Quality of professors.

Thought I wanted to transfer to be closer to my boyfriend, realized that I had grown up more and did not want to transfer out of ECU but at that point it was no longer my decision it was my parents.

My mother passed away.

Didn't trust myself to graduate on time.

Didn't like it.

Atmosphere at ECU was to party oriented.

Moved to northern California.

Out of state tuition!!! I didn't qualify for any financial aid through school but I didn't want to graduate from ECU with 1,000's of $$ in student loans. I loved Greenville, ECU campus & student life, but I just couldn't afford it.

Wanted a smaller school and in state tuition.

Able to get in-state tuition at JMU.

Wanted a Virginia State College.

Staying at ECU would hinder my future opportunities by giving me a sub-par education.

VCU's art program for interior design is #5 in the country. I wanted to be a part of that.

Out of state tuition to expensive

I am completing my surgical tech degree. I am reapplying to return in the fall. I was experiencing personal problems and health problems and my parents felt it would be better to pull me out of school & handle my health problems at home.

I had a change of interest of studies.

I transferred from ECU because I wanted to attend a university that is located in a city.

The primary reason for my withdrawal is that I enlisted in the US Navy under a false premise of a specific job. I am undergoing the discharge process to return to a four year university. I will make ECU my first choice.
I cannot find a job in Greenville, so I cannot afford to attend ECU.

Music Degree, Recording Technology (Courses not Available).

Spouse is in military and has changed duty stations.

Student returned this comment rather than the form.

ECU is a GREAT school! I had roommate problems that influenced my decision of returning and I realized I missed home too much. I really enjoyed my year at ECU but I didn't really like Greenville itself. But I had a great experience when I was there!! Thank you so much! I am still going to school, though.

Art problem too restrictive & limited to allow artistic expression in area of interest. Needed course closed out too often, even if I attempted to register promptly.

Wanted to relocate to Wilmington, NC. Unhappy in Greenville.

I am currently not attending ECU because written advisement informed me I would have to graduate this fall. Even though, advisement was a mistake the Dean of undergraduate would not let me graduate because of the Southern Association requirements ate ECU. I hope in the schools future will not put students like me what I went through at ECU.

Just wanted something new. No problems with ECU.

Became injured as a student.

I was on a half soccer scholarship. Soccer program was not what I hoped it would be. Did not enjoy playing the game at ECU. I decided to move on. I am happy at Ok. City Univ and enjoying soccer again.

Got tired of Greenville. Wanted to return to northwest. Out of state tuition at ECU. Don't want to keep incurring student loans.

Grades.

Everyone is sheisty in Greenville. I had to leave.

Did not get accepted into Nursing for the fall. Went into PCC's nursing school.

Disappointed with lack of support from instructors in the dance department and poor advisement form my advisor in the dance department. Denied acceptance in BFA in dance, was told they would reconsider after fall 02 semester but decided to change major and change schools. Was told by dance department that I had ability for BFA but they didn't think I was "mentally" fit for BFA. Did not want BS degree in dance ed.

I left ECU to pursue a degree in radiography at Pitt. I have since accepted a job at PCS Phosphate. I already have a dual degree from ECU. I graduated from ECU the first time in July 2001 magna cu laude. I appreciate your concern and wish you well.

I want a 2 year degree before I start working on my 4 four degree.

Turned down for residency after meeting all reqts we were told about.

For some reason unknown to me I was not accepted into the Graphic Desing Programs. I tried many times. Other instructors from other schools and employers have told me my work is great and they do not know why I could not get into the program. I was 6 credits short for a degree!!!

Accepted a position in Physician's Assistant Program.

Want to play soccer at the collegiate level.
Decided to attempt enrollment in JSCC's registered nurse program.

I felt lost at ECU, the school is very impersonal and overwhelming. No one seems to care about the students (instructors and advisors).

I had a baby, but will return in January. I am currently enrolled at a community college.

Withdrew – Temporarily

It is not a very diverse school - racially, culturally or activity-wise.

Towson University (Hopefully) Got married and moved out of NC. Also decided to add another major (Deaf Studies) which is next to impossible to get required courses at ECU. (tried to get into sign language I for 3 years without luck).

Going on a mission for my church for two years.

Needed to improve GPA to receive scholarship.

Lack of single dorm rooms.

Sick mother.

Can't afford to pay back loans need scholarships/grants --- have been seperated 6 months will be divorced June 2003.

I live in Goldsboro and it's too difficult to make the commute with an infant.

Went to basic training - AIT for the National Guard & had to miss a semester.

Military Duty.

[NAME] is serving a mission for church and will return to ECU in 2004.

I am serving a two year mission for my church, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and will return to ECU to complete my degree at the end of my mission. I appreciated the support of the Academic support system my freshman year. ECU is an excellent school.

I had a baby during the summer and wanted to spend time with her.

Disappointed in amount of internet courses offered in my field.

I was not advised (right) upon entering. Math is my problem. I did not know 001 went on my GPA depressing. (thanks for asking).

Mother had a heart -valve replacement.

Inability to decide on a proper minor course of study.

I am currently in a child custody dispute with my ex husband. I will be over in early December too late to enroll for Spring. I hope to return either in the Summer of Fall 2003.

Doing forgiveness policy. Will return Spring 04 when my three consecutive years are up. Currently working full-time at DSM Pharmaceuticals, which pays 100% for Education.
Playing minor league baseball with the Cleveland Indians.

I'm a full time employee and didn't find a course needed. I'm enrolled for spring 2003.

Lack of support for non-traditional (older) students as far as relevant life experience and goals, age discrimination.

At this time I must either thoroughly enjoy my endeavors or perceive a value of worthy of my personal and financial investment. My experience at university me neither of these criteria.

Needed a break from school.

Pregnant with child due during fall semester 2002.

Too expensive for what was being offered in return at this time. Was effort worth the reward. Parking is a nightmare! Part-time students should be given option of paying student rec./act. Fees and health fees or at least get a reduced rate.

Enlisted in US Coast Guard.

Until I can actually have graduate school acceptance status.

I already have one college degree and was going back to achieve a nursing degree. My husband and I just had a baby therefore my second degree is on hold.

Can't get courses in a timely manner. No internet courses in my field (Poli. Sci.).

I am considering online courses for January 03; I will definitely be back on campus in Aug 03. Thanks so much!

Multiple attacks of sexual assault on campus.

I had a baby during Fall Semester 2002.

To get married and have a baby.

Studying for Praxis test –will be back in the spring.

Military Training

Withdrew – Permanently

Did not want to be in college right now.

Comments from students not indicating withdrawal or transfer status

I am in Ft. Leonard Wood, MO doing basic training for the Army. I plan on returning to school in January 2003.

I no longer work at ECU and therefore don't get a free class. At this time I cannot afford to pay for a class.
“Comments,” Fall 2002

Categorized by type of transfer / withdrawal
(Verbatim, with some names or department references removed)

Transferred to a Community College

[No comments received]

Transferred to another UNC Institution

I would like to say one thing. For the two years that I attended East Carolina University, I noticed that during Black History Month food services would have an “African American” dinner night. The menu consisted of things such as fried chicken, collard greens, cornbread, etc. I was somewhat offended only because I fail to understand how such a large and diverse institute such as ECU could have such a stereotypical view of any ethnic group. I do believe the only things missing would be watermelon and sunflower seeds. You see I wasn't aware that these types of food were eaten exclusively by African Americans. I believed them to be eaten by people, regardless of race, raised and/or living in the southern United States.

The main reason for withdrawing from ECU was that I lived and attended ECU for 2 years and I could not qualify for in-state tuition where as UNC Greensboro granted me in-state tuition.

I enjoyed ECU academics. I had wonderful professors, but I wanted to be closer to home.

I miss the personal interest and interaction between professors and students. In hindsight, I enjoyed and appreciated ECU as an academic facility.

Reason for transfer was because of a terminally ill family member. Very interested in applying for return as a junior to the nursing program in the fall 2003.

ECU good preparation for Pharmacy Degree.

I was not accepted into the graphic design concentration after two trys at portfolio submission. I did well in all classes yet still denied. I even received a small scholarship my freshman year for art. Without being accepted I had no chance to graduate and had to transfer. I am still on track for graduation from UNCG next semester with a design degree. I completed an internship at a design firm this summer and I am doing well in all classes. My teachers at UNCG do not understand why I was not accepted to the program at ECU. I feel the submission portfolio at ECU is judged to harshly and to early in the students career, for someone with no early design experience. Students should have the opportunity to take higher level design courses in order to improve; which is what college is all about.

Dorm guidelines not enforced. Student immaturity over-tolerated. Many professors teach from the book and have no idea what they are saying. [NAME] is excellent.

Needed a program more geared to commercial art.

Did not offer courses for Marketing / Sports Management.

I had lived in Greenville and worked at the same job for too long. I needed a more diverse and growing area.

Other students were too immature and unprofessional and apathetic about academics and difficult to work with. Professors were apathetic.

I am planning to move back to Greenville and return to ECU (Fall 03).
I am hoping to return to ECU spring 2003. If you are sincere about helping me return. I do have some concerns with my financial aid transferring from UNCA to ECU. [NOTE SENT TO FINANCIAL AID].

Your unairconditioned, high rise dorms are unbearable.

I really liked ECU, however, I felt that a degree from UNC would provide me with a better job in the future. Also it was a little far from home, as far as ECU provided me with the same education as UNC would.

I am returning for the Spring 03 semester.

Transferred to school I could be proud of. ECU sucked. I go to Carolina now SUCKERS!!! TARHEELS RULE.

I felt UNC Pembroke would offer me an education close to home. Also I will not be in an alcohol environment. ECU does provide an excellent academic program.

RN to BSN was supposed to be for the working nurse, but workload was too heavy.

I have felt over-loaded; my business classes were not successful outcomes, but I will return to ECU (I'm almost finished) Even in my Internet classes, I have had to ask for extensions. I still feel fondly towards ECU academically, but have been in a slump.

Needed a break from ECU, will be graduating in Dec. Going to UNCG as visiting student.

Transferred Elsewhere

I think that the nutrition program prepared me for dental school.

I planned my visit to ECU with intentions of returning to Penn. College after a year. Thanks for the reminder.

I did love ECU, just wanted to be closer to home. Thanks for everything!

I enjoyed my year at ECU, but I had originally wanted to go to Richmond but my SAT scores were too low. Thanks to good grades at ECU, I was accepted as a transfer student.

I didn't see attractive employment through the schools co-op and or work study program. Additionally, I didn't see any opportunities in the area surrounding the University, where as Washington DC has much to offer. Also, the staff at ECU is most unhelpful.

Loved ECU, didn't want to leave.

Acclimated very well to ECU environment very well 2nd semester. Wish I could have reconsidered 2nd semester - 1.0 GPA 1st semester and 2.87 GPA 2nd semester.

Don't like the way that the program is set-up. I would have had my parents paying another $16,000 to attend ECU this year, and there was no telling if I was going to get into graphic design or not until I was stuck at ECU. I didn't want to change my major, so I changed my school.

I loved ECU

Overall, I really enjoyed my time at ECU. I felt that I should leave so I would be better prepared and have better chances of getting into the law school of my choice.

I am a music major (voice) and my first semester there I needed a lot of instruction because I was a novice. I missed 6 out of 10 lessons total because my teacher was very unreliable. Every single lesson I missed was on her part, not mine. I made every effort to be there on time and many times she was absent with no explanation.
I was very disappointed with this, especially since I was paying out of state tuition. She did make an effort for make up lessons but it still wasn't enough for someone with as little experience as I had. My other classes in music lived up to my expectations, but that (the voice lessons) were only once a week and it was my main instrument. This needed the most instruction.

ECU is a great school. I wanted to be in the mountains and was able to get in JMU with in-state tuition -- much more affordable.

I am enrolled full time at Old Dominion University.

Also I wanted to be in a large city such as Richmond, VA.

I love ECU. I did not want to leave. ECU is a wonderful school.

I think it's amusing that I was in the top percentage of my class and I received inadequate financial support to attend your school. However, you do seem to give aid to those students who don't take their education seriously, and fail to see it as a privilege. As an institute of higher learning, you have discouraged me, and made my chance to obtain a college education a struggle that has left me with little hope that I too have a fair shot at an education. Thank You

I really love the campus, and Greenville! I miss being there!

My health problems have since been resolved and I will graduate in July from the surg tech program. I am ready to return to ECU to pursue a career in nursing &/or Pre-Med. I hope this is possible because ECU was a great school and a good experience.

Instructor's accent/dialect was so strong the students could not understand or comprehend subject matter. Instructor refused to answer questions in class even with majority of students requesting explanation.

I will miss ECU so much, it's a great school. I didn't put enough effort in my studying. It's also along way from home. I loss my dad while at ECU unexpectedly and then I had to drive so far (2 hours) to get home.

ECU is a great University. It's just too bad that the area it's located in is so far from everything.

I want to come back ASAP if I can find some source of income in Greenville.

ECU has a pleasant learning environment.

I had taken a statistics class a few years before, but I did not use the information in my daily life, so I did not remember all of the specifics of the class my other college had recommended statistics for individuals entering the field of education. I took the class, and ECU would not honor it as my math requirement. When I was placed into a remedial class I felt very insulted. For a dedicated student like myself, who has received mostly As, I do not feel that this is fair. I cannot afford to take remedial and algebra 1065, as I cannot attain employment in my desired field. I am currently working in day care, and that is very disheartening to me. I will never take a remedial course. I DO NOT need it. I also do not wish to retake the placement test. Without prior instruction, I still will not pass it. I know what kind of learner I am, and I require the discipline of a classroom environment in order to learn. The level of frustration that I have reached is far too high to ever attend another class at ECU. I intended to study there for my master's degree as well, but I do not feel that that is possible now. I have tried to reason with several people in several departments about this, my most frustrating problem at ECU, with no success. I had a statistics department head from ECU speak to the Dean on my behalf. He told her that a statistics course was far more advanced than algebra, and that it entailed everything that algebra does plus more. I still wish to get credit for statistics as my math requirement. I feel that I will be a very good teacher. Teachers are desperately needed, and ECU is holding me back. ECU has done more to upset and discourage me than it has to encourage me. I do feel that ECU has trained me to be an effective teacher. I received all of the highest ratings on my observations during student teaching. I also feel that ECU has a long way to go with their education program. I almost didn't get to do my student teaching because of ECU's organizational problems. I then got placed in Havelock, an hour and 1/2 drive for me. I was forced to move, and almost got dropped out of my classes due to a computer error that had to be fixed by the dean. I was
assigned to an art advisor instead of an art ed advisor. I had no idea what to do and when to do it. Some of my professors were very weak in communicating their expectations in the most critical of times. I am still being required to fill out forms that no one told me existed. Something needs to be done about this. There are many other students from ECU that share my sentiments, as I am not afraid to tell people how I have been treated. I think there needs to be a guidebook given to each student entering ECU which includes a timeline with specific descriptions of what to do and when to do it. This guide would be tailored to their major. I feel that the main reason for my continuing hostility is that my problems with ECU are ongoing. I feel that if all of my forms were taken care of, statistics was accepted, and I could move on with my career, that I could breathe a sigh of relief. Then maybe I would have memories of some great professors, some great times, and a great education. These memories are now blurred with poor organization, poor support, frustration, and the knowledge that no one cares enough to listen and help. Sincerely, [NAME]

Still want a degree from ECU, but was accepted into Respiratory Therapy program at Pitt. So I took a break from ECU to obtain that degree first.

I received a full scholarship for Baseball at Pitt Community College. I have plans to return to ECU following Pitt.

I transferred to ECU from Wilkes Community College and entered the Art School with a concentration in Graphics Design. I worked extremely hard and put much effort into preparing my portfolio for submission. I contributed so much of my time to this, that some of my other courses suffered. During this period I was in constant contact with my advisor and professors to ensure that I was on the right track with my portfolio. They would counsel me as to what was expected and pointed out my weak points. With this help, I submitted, what I thought was a very good portfolio. As an afterthought, I also submitted an additional portfolio for Sculpture, although I only had one course in this subject. I was rejected for Graphics Design and accepted for a BFA in Sculpture. The only reason given for my rejection was "Work not up to expected quality'. I must be honest and say, the work I submitted for Sculpture was far inferior to that submitted for Graphics Design. I was devastated. I was informed that for a BFA in Sculpture 1 would need to take 9 studio courses but, could only take 2 per semester. Since I had fulfilled all of my elective requirements, it would have taken me 2 more years to achieve that degree, even with summer school. This was not financially feasible for my parents or myself so, I had to abandon my hope for a degree in graphics design and return to WCC to pursue a degree in Architecture Technology. In retrospect, my experience at ECU was very positive but, the advice and counsel I received was deficient. The review of any portfolio is a very subjective concept and theoretically I could have gone on and resubmitted a perfectly good portfolio and had it also rejected just because someone did not agree with my concept of art. I was in pretty much a "catch 22" situation since I was in a position to not need any elective courses and decided that it was pointless to continue pursuing this degree when good grades don't seem to carry much weight.

Dorms were overrun with drunk and disorderly conduct.

If I could I would have stayed it was a great experience.

Even after staying in ECU for 1 year you would not grant in-state tuition status.

Athlete requiring surgery and physical therapy.

I'll still be back in Greenville for court every other month.

I enjoyed ECU, but I needed to come back home. ECU is a great school! Thank you! If I can, I would like to return but I don't think it will happen.

I was very disappointed in the fact that for an entire year I couldn't find a job in Greenville or on ECU's campus.

I was planning to move to Maryland and was going to attend school there, but I will now be returning to ECU.

Advising was non-existent. Tried to change fields and student profile packet "couldn't be found.

Plan to return Spring Semester
Also, had several bad experiences in School of Business. [NAME] was/is a terrible as an advisor. He often was not there for me. He did not even show up for advisor/advisee meetings which he scheduled. Very disappointing experience!

Plan to return to ECU to finish BS degree.

I loved ECU, but could not commute to ECU with the job I was offered, and since I have to financially support myself with no help from my parents I transferred to Wilson Tech.

I look forward to returning this summer, hopefully.

I wasted a lot of time at a school that did not want me!

I enjoyed the time I spent at the school. It helps to mature as a student and person. But I felt as though the professors where unable to provide the personal attention I needed in some areas.

PA program discontinued at bachelor's level and replaced with master's program.

I would like to return to ECU one day.

I am attending Cape Fear Community College this fall after having my son this past July. I will be returning to ECU for Spring 2003 after accepting a position/seat in the ECU school of nursing.

Unfortunately I got sucked into crowd of partying and staying out late. This lifestyle inhabited me from performing to my potential in academics. I will not be returning to ECU, after a year at Cape Fear I will be transferring to UNCW in a more structured environment.

I plan to save money or take out more loans so that I can come back.

I do want to attend ECU in the fall of 2003.

First I had personal situations I had to deal with including date rape, attempt of suicide, I had mono and bronchitis for two months, worked two jobs, and attended school. My [Department] teachers always made me feel like I wasn't trying or I wasn't good enough. They told me I should consider another field while I was already in my Junior/Senior year. All I ever wanted to do was [Profession]. My teachers/advisors then told me it would take me at least 2-4 semesters just to get to the point that I could get in Upper Division and another year or so after that to graduate. I did not have the money or frame of mind to handle all of that so I withdrew. Yes my feelings were hurt and I was angry. I was just another "lazy" minority in their eyes and I was trying my hardest to deal with school as well as myself. Why change majors my senior year? I'm going to go where I'm accepted and the "advisors" etc. will help me instead of pushing me off on another department my LAST YEAR. I don't go where I'm looked down on or called a hopless case. Sorry so long but I was hurt, and still am. I was hurt and angry so I withdrew.

My reason is that the nursing program at Craven is quicker, easier, and cheaper. I couldn't afford to live away from home and commuting is too much/far. I hope to obtain my masters in nursing at ECU. But for now my choices are limited to only Craven.

I joined ECU with computer science major. I had a hard time to get in few classes at first semester. After first semester I realized that computer science is not my field and therefore this fall I joined PCC with nursing major. I may join ECU after I have my associate degree, but that would be after a year or two.

I loved the place, I just needed to start working with my father and my girlfriend was at home.

Although I was considered a student in good academic standing my parents were disappointed with my grades and were not willing to pay out of state prices for my lack of performance academically. Also I would have had to repeat 180 hours of volunteer work in the athletic department to continue with course work in the program of athletic training and felt I needed to use that time studying. Being a freshman I felt I was poorly advised taking
I was enrolled in ROTC and enjoyed that experience. I would come back if my coursework at VCU would transfer and I received a ROTC scholarship.

Did not help the transfer process to ECU. Math department accepted but my major would not accept a math course required to get into the major. Very little help offered and poor advisement.

I appreciated ECU giving me the opportunity to better define my life goals.

I felt that the quality of education was poor because the students and faculty hold each other to a low standard. I even had professors insult me by talking about how easy it is to be accepted to ECU. (“Are you breathing? Then you will be accepted to ECU.” – one of my professors). The communication between ECU and myself while I was making my decision was exceptional.

My advisor threw me around like my academics were not important. A lot of stuff going on at home during that time period.

I had serious problems with a roommate who was stalking and threatening me, posing as me over the internet, giving out my name, phone #, and address and said that I was "horny and dirty". So I had phone calls in my room all day and night. I called the ECU police when I caught her in the act with a whole room of witnesses and they refused to do anything at all, saying that she actually had the right to violate me in such ways because she wasn’t trying to buy anything off the internet under my name. This happened after the fact that I moved away from the dorm that we lived in and ECU said she would be moved across campus. Well, you moved her right in the dorm next to me, into an academic dorm that was much nicer than the one I lived in before or afterwards. Your school chooses to avoid problems and it caused me much discomfort, and I believe it would’ve cost me pain if I would’ve stayed. When I moved out of my first dorm away from her, the police were actually called by the hall coordinator to restrain [NAME] for fear she would harm my parents and I. That should’ve been the day I left your University.

ECU was a fine school, I just wasn’t enjoying my life there. Me and my roommate hated each other so I wasn’t happy. I got married this December.

No f***ing parking, parking is a joke.

I withdrew because my career choice (veterinarian technician) isn’t covered by ECU curricula.

ECU is a wonderful school. I wish I would have found a dental lab school there. That is the only reason I left.

**Withdrawed – Temporarily**

Need time to get financially stable. Parents are unable to continue in my support due to unemployment.

Faculty should be more sensitive and respectful towards a students grief of losing a parent.

I am planning on coming back in January. I love ECU.

I found ECU to be a "jock" oriented party school.

I plan on resuming college spring semester 2005. I hope to that re-entry will not be a problem.

Sought help through counseling department but they discounted [NAME] issues. Advisors assigned were not in [NAME] area. College seems disconnected with out of state students - Unfair considering tuition!

ECU has been a wonderful place to attend. I just needed a break after playing football here since 97 - 2001. I love this University and can't wait to get back.
I feel that some of my professor's could've done more for me, academically speaking, when I asked for help. Every person has their own academic learning style and I feel different learning/teaching styles should be used to accommodate everyone.

ECU was a wonderful educational experience. I learned a great amount while being a student.

I was enrolled in the school of nursing and received two D's. I have since then been tested for learning disabilities and ADD. Both tests have shown positive results. I appealed the nursing schools decision but was not readmitted. I will be returning to ECU for a different degree or to a community college for Nursing in the Spring 2003 or Fall 2003.

I am currently planning my wedding for Dec. I will continue school @ NC State in the Spring.

I love attending East Carolina University, but needed to help my mother for a little while. I will be attending East Carolina University again and greatly look forward to returning. Thank you for the concern, it means a lot.

Dear Sir: This student did not attend any classes in the semester 01/02 thru 05/02. Not one professor cared enough to let the parent in charge to know this very important fact. When I finally found out was when the grades were sent home and then only because he failed did you even bother to send a copy of grades. Every way I turned I was confronted with the "Privacy Act" I guess a parent is only necessary to pay your bill for tuition and finally to bury their child when Greenville kills them.

ECU is a great school, but at the time, was not where I wanted to be. I look forward to returning in the Spring 03 semester.

I did complete my first undergrad at ECU in December of 2001. When I am financially able, I plan to return to complete my second BA or to pursue a Master's degree. Thanks for asking. Great PR!

Transportation - must drive in from Goldsboro, new single parent, needed to work full-time and be here to support my daughter. Plan to resume junior year in 2003-2004 full time if financial aid package is attractive enough.

I had a baby. It's not really a problem but "baby" isn't on your list. If there were an outreach program at Seymour Johnson AFB in Goldsboro I would be taking classes there.

Taking a 2 credit class with requirements as though it was a 5 credit. Overwhelming Gerontolgical (illegible word)

I feel ECU should offer much more financial aid, scholarships, grants, etc. to students with need and above average academic standing. I was very disappointed with the amount of aid I received. May transfer to school in Hawaii. On-line for 2003 spring semester. Far too difficult to get classes when needed. Lots of the time they are not available. Also not enough help from adviser.

Professors with inability to communicate effectively due to language barrier (accent).

I chose to take a teaching job in Pitt County and not finish my second degree. However, I do plan to return soon to pursue my graduate degree at ECU.

I got Pre Eclampsie and had my baby early. Then my father died five weeks later and with my husband in school full time finances are tough.

I am thinking about returning in the spring. I would like to talk to someone about enrolling again and continuing. Please contact me about who I need to see: [Telephone Number] - my cell. I would also like to talk to my old advisor [NAME]. P.S. I think I went to high school son [NAME]. {Forwarded to Admissions and to Michael Poteat}

[NAME] is working full time in Greenville at [NAME] as their body piercer. We've pressured him to return to school, but he's focused (or unfocused) on this odd job. We hope he returns to some college within the next
It's very difficult to find a good advisor at ECU!

I love East Carolina and can’t wait to return. (You should have fired [NAME] and not [NAME].)

I guess my year I had so much freedom. I got carried away and did not go to class. I told on the party life. I'm more focus now and I understand what I did wrong.

My academic folder was recently lost due to the termination of my advisor. This caused headaches. I also want to note the lack of notices about how my admission for students returning in the spring and summer. Also the lack of job opportunities available at ECU for students is annoying so I took off a semester to make money to support my self during the semesters to come.

Change in life husband retired

My engine in my car blew up and my ex husband had not paid his legal obligations in over a year. I could not continue. I need to work and was offered good employment with transportation in middle of semester. Could not withdraw official because of the (illegible words) knew of no other recourse. Now, my grades are deplorable and do not know if I can ever return.

I have applied to the ECU school of nursing program and have been accepted. I will start in January.

It's a shame to see such a beautiful campus and well-maintained facility abused by a student body that, by and large, cares nothing for academics. Standards for all classes are set embarrassingly low yet these uninformed, uninterested, and ill-prepared students still struggle. What a waste for taxpayer (my) money.

I would like to return to ECU spring semester. Please send necessary info. Thanks [Referred to Admissions].

I am working full time right now. I plan to return to school when I am sure of what my major will be.

Due to work schedule -- Weekend options program was best fit. Since that program has been pared back, I plan to prepare for on-line courses. Still looking forward to completing degree.

I left school because I suddenly became a fully self-supporting student and needed to work for a semester to earn enough money to continue.

I do plan to return to ECU. I feel that ECU is a great school. I started my family, that is why I left. I also am looking at another field of study. My advisor discouraged me, but I will be back. Thanks for your concern. I love ECU!! I will return to obtain a BA in Chemistry and a BS in Business Admin.

I want to take classes in the fall 2003

I was "unofficially told that I was "too old" to obtain a prior desired degree and because of my age, success in obtaining this degree as well as the ability to secure certain accomplishments with in my desired field would publicly "look bad" for the school because of my age. Unfortunately I have no proof to back this up. In my present field, I find the quality of teaching poor and the allowance for "thinking outside the box" limited. I am a professional with a great deal of life experience to offer. Unfortunately, this has not been well received. I am concerned that the University is not committed to teaching students "how to think" but rather, just learning facts and skills. Perhaps, I just expect too much.

Foster parent - have two little boys who need me right now plan to adopt will continue as soon as I have them to where I have time to concentrate on my education. Sorry I have not contacted anyone. My life has been quite busy with two wonderful little boys and changing jobs.

Do I need to officially withdraw by doing some paperwork?

I plan to return Spring 2003, but I have requested an application for readmission 3 times and I haven't received
I have applied to graduate school, however, have not received a reply. I perform exceptionally well academically, however, do not perform well on standardized test such as MAT, GRE. I am requesting that personal attention be given to my application and that my acceptance not be based solely on MAT scores. Please help expedite this matter for me! [Referred to the Graduate School].

I wish I could come back but it is not looking so good. The next time I could apply for Financial Aid I'd be 23 pushing 24 and to live on Campus at that age is uncomfortable. I have no other resources for living off campus.

In spring 2002, I was taking too many complicated courses. I became sick of school and discouraged. I was also struggling to pay my bills, so I decided I needed a break from school for a year. I plan on going back for one of the summer sessions and then full time in Fall 2003.


I am enrolled this semester but will definitely be seeking help in finishing via independent study or other schools as a 40 year old commuter (2.5 hour drive one way) would like to see more flexibility.

Although our son was in Garrett and in the sail program he fell by the wayside and did not excell at ECU. He came out of his high school Honor Student, NC Scholar 3.7 GPA. His first semester at ECU he came out with 4 Incomplete/Not Passing out of 6 subjects. When we received his grades Dec. 23 it put an ominous cloud over the holidays. We had heard ECU was a "party school" and our son did engage in new activities. Second semester he said he was going to pull up the grades but got "mono" and had to take a medical drop. We elected not to send him this fall to any school as we were paying tuition out of pocket and could not take the chance with no success. It may have been the 3 and a half hours from home, or just the newness of being on his own but we would not send him back to ECU. Nor do I recommend the school when asked about it. My advice would be to clean up the campus environment to ensure your future enrollment. Thank You [NAME]

My parents are concerned with my safety and refuse to continue paying for my education at a place they refer to as unsafe.

Send information for Online Courses and for readmission [Referred to Admissions].

I hope to continue my education with this program when possible. ECU has been a wonderful experience and I have been extremely happy continuing my education with you.

Overall, I was not prepared to commit and many problems arose at unforeseen times which interfered.

I will be transferring my credits to Cape Fear Community College as soon as I am able to return to school, and finish at UNCW.

I do plan on returning to ECU. I hate that I had to come out of school for personal reasons, but as soon as I get myself and finances back online, I will return! Pirate 4-Life!!!

**Withdraw – Permanently**

Husband lost job. Had to sell home and move. Plan to return fall 03.

I entered the RN to BSN course thinking that ECU knew we were working nurses. But instead they treated us like we were not!! They constantly posted e-mail assignments. Some instructors talked down to us like we were second class citizens because we did have a BSN.
Responses from students who did not indicate transfer or withdrawal status

[NAME] graduated Dec 2001! She did post graduate work Spring of 2002 and is working in the football office at ECU. Hope this helps.  [NAME] ([NAME] Mother)  10/28/02  (Note - This student was registered Spring 2002 as a 2nd degree student. She was identified as a non-returning undergraduate fall 2002).

Can anyone advise me on the quickest option to obtain a degree. I am very close and have over 110 hours completed. My work # is [phone number] [NAME]. I have over 110 hours completed and just want to complete a degree in something, I am currently an administrator at [NAME] and just want a degree. The advisors seem not to have time to discuss these issues. I want to re-enroll in the spring. Can you help? [Referred to Undergraduate Studies and to the adviser].

Currently I am dual enrolled due to schedule please keep it that way. ECU has been unable to meet my scheduling constraints. Need to offer more general study classes in PM and need to be able to park close to area where classes are held.

Thank you for your concern. I will be completing my internship on May 2, 2003 and returning to ECU for graduation.

I was intending to attend the masters program at ECU - but you did not get the credentials for the program for the year 2003, so I have applied somewhere else.

Taking care of disabled spouse at home
Appendix C

Survey of Non-Returning Students

I. Reason for not returning (Answer those questions that apply):

A. I am currently participating in a co-op, work study program, internship, or foreign study and plan to return to ECU to graduate.

B. I withdrew from school
   1. Permanently
   2. Temporarily
      a. For one semester
      b. For one year
      c. For more than a year
      d. Unknown length of time

C. I transferred to another college or university
   1. Another University of North Carolina Campus
      Name of campus: _________________________________________
   2. A Community College
      Name of Community College: ________________________________
   3. Elsewhere
      Name of institution: _______________________________________

II. Reason for withdrawing or transferring (Answer all that apply):

A. Financial
   1. Lack of adequate student financial aid
   2. Financial problems not related to student financial aid

B. Employment
   1. School conflicts with current employment.
   2. I was offered a good job elsewhere.
   3. I wanted to gain practical experience.

C. Personal
   1. Personal problems.
   2. Family problems.
   3. Changed marital status.
   5. I needed a break to reconsider goals.
   6. Homesick.
   7. Academic problems.
   8. Drug or alcohol problems

D. ECU Academic
   1. Inability to get courses needed.
   2. Inability to get into classes with the desired time or desired professor.
   3. Can not obtain a degree in my preferred field of ________________________
   4. Disappointed with quality of instruction
   5. Disappointed with quality of advising
   6. Not enough academic prestige in my field of ________________________
   7. Disappointed in level of emphasis given to academics.

E. ECU Overall
   1. School too large and impersonal.
   2. Desire to attend a larger school.
   3. Inadequate social life.
   4. Excessive social life.
   5. Drug and alcohol abuse on campus.
   6. Too far from home
   7. Too close to home
   8. Disappointed in opportunities for student development outside the classroom.
   9. Weather-related issues (Hurricane, etc.)

F. Other Reasons (Please explain below):

G. Comments:
East Carolina University

Institutional Research Report

Number 3 - Survey of Non-Returning Students
Fall Semester 2001 and Spring Semester 2002

More Non-Returning Undergraduates Are Planning to Attend Other Institutions

More non-returning ECU undergraduates are indicating that they plan to attend other institutions, according to recent surveys of non-returning students. This is perhaps because of sluggish state and national economies with declining employment opportunities. Fewer students have dropped out temporarily to work full-time.

Sixty-three percent of the students who responded to the Fall 2001 survey of non-returning students indicated that they are planning to attend other institutions to further their education compared to forty-nine percent for Fall 2000 (See Chart A). Fifty-six percent of the students who responded to the Spring 2002 survey of non-returning students indicated that they are planning to attend other institutions to further their education compared to forty-six percent for Spring 2001 (See Chart B).
The percentage of students who indicated that they withdrew permanently or temporarily declined from fifty-three percent for Fall 2000 to thirty-seven percent for Fall 2001 and from fifty-four percent for Spring 2001 to forty-four percent for Spring 2002.

**Comparison with previous surveys**

These results differ substantially from those of preceding semesters. Not only are higher percentages of students indicating that they plan to attend another institution, but the reasons given for not returning have changed somewhat.

Higher percentages of students indicated a variety of personal reasons and “ECU Overall” reasons including “School too large and impersonal”, and “too far from home”. Could this be partially the effect of the events of September 11, 2001? Both surveys were conducted after that date.

For Fall 2001, “School too large and impersonal” increased 1.7 percentage points from Fall 2000, to 8.7% (n=22). “Too far from home” increased 3.2 percentage points, to 13.8% (n=35).

For Spring 2002, “School too large and impersonal” increased 5.1 percentage points from Spring 2001, to 13.9% (n=27). “Too far from home” increased 2.1 percentage points, to 16.0% (n=31). “School conflicts with current employment” decreased 3.4 percentage points, to 7.7% (n=15).

**Reasons for not returning**

The three most common reasons given by non-returning undergraduates for Fall 2001 were “Personal problems” (17%, n=43); “Need a break to reconsider goals” (15%, n=37); and “Lack of adequate student financial aid” (14%,n=36).

Other reasons most frequently cited were:

-- Financial problems not related to student financial aid (14%)
-- Too far from home (14%)
-- Disappointed with quality of advising (13%)
-- Inability to get classes desired (12%)

The three most common reasons given by non-returning undergraduates for Spring 2002 were “Personal problems” (21%, n=41); “Need a break to reconsider goals” (21%, n=41); and “Too far from home” (16%, n=31).

Other reasons most frequently cited were:

-- Inability to get classes desired (15%)
-- Disappointed with quality of advising (15%)
-- Financial problems not related to student financial aid (14%)
-- School too large and impersonal (14%)
-- Lack of adequate student financial aid (13%)
-- Family problems (11%)
-- Homesick (11%)

**Transferred to Community College**

Fourteen percent (n=36) of the survey respondents for Fall 2001 have transferred to Community Colleges. Some of these may also be considered temporary dropouts from ECU. The most common reasons for leaving given by these students were: “Financial problems not related to student financial aid” (25%); “needed a break to reconsider goals” (25%); “Academic problems” (22%); and “can not obtain a degree in preferred field” (22%).

Twenty-five percent (n=48) of the survey respondents for Spring 2002 have transferred to Community Colleges and may also be considered temporary dropouts from ECU. The most common reasons for leaving given by these students were: “Needed a break to reconsider goals” (29%); “Academic problems” (25%); “School too large and impersonal” (23%); and “Homesick” (21%).

**Transferred Elsewhere**

Twenty-six percent (n=65) of the respondents for Fall 2001 transferred elsewhere (other than a Community College or another UNC institution). The most common reasons for leaving given by

Note: Changes less than 3 percentage points may not be statistically significant.
these students were that ECU was “Too far from home” (25%); “Lack of adequate student financial aid” (17%); “Disappointed with quality of advising” (17%); and “Other” (23%). See “Other Reasons” on pages 8 - 9.

Seventeen percent (n=33) of the respondents for Spring 2002 transferred elsewhere (other than a Community College or another UNC institution). The most common reasons for leaving given by these students were that ECU was “Too far from home” (33%); “Disappointed with quality of advising” (33%); “Inability to get classes desired” (24%); and “School to large and impersonal” (24%).

Transferred to Another UNC Institution
Twenty-three percent (n=58) of the respondents for Fall 2001 transferred to another UNC institution. The most common destinations were NC State University, UNC Chapel Hill and UNC Wilmington. The most common reasons given were that “ECU was too far from home” (22 %) and “Personal Problems” (22%).

Fourteen percent (n=27) of the respondents for Spring 2002 transferred to another UNC institution. The most common destinations were NC State University and UNC Charlotte. The most common reasons given were that “Personal problems” (44%); “Too far from home” (30%); and “Inability to get classes desired” (19%).

Temporary Withdrawals
Thirty-three percent (n=83) of the students for Fall 2001 who stated they withdrew temporarily answered the question “how long?” with 40% indicating that they would return after one semester and 37% indicating that they were unsure when they would return. The most common reasons for withdrawing given by students who withdrew temporarily were “I needed a break to reconsider goals” (25%); “School conflicts with current employment” (25%); “Financial problems not related to student financial aid” (23%); “Lack of adequate student financial aid” (16%); “Personal problems” (13%); and “Other” (19%).

Thirty-nine percent (n=76) of the students for Spring 2002 who stated they withdrew temporarily answered the question “how long?” with 46% indicating that they were unsure about when they would return and 34% indicating that they would return after one semester. The most common reasons for withdrawing given by students who withdrew temporarily were “I needed a break to reconsider goals” (28%); “Personal problems” (20%); “Financial problems not related to student financial aid” (17%); and “Lack of adequate student financial aid” (16%).

Permanent Withdrawals
Four percent (n=11) for Fall 2001 indicated that they withdrew permanently and were not attending another institution. The most common reason given by these students was “Personal problems” (36%). Additional reasons given were “Lack of adequate student financial aid” (27%); “Changed marital status” (27%); “Needed a break to reconsider goals” (27%); “Disappointed with quality of instruction” (27%); “Too far from home” (27%); and “Disappointed with quality of advising” (18%).

Five percent (n=10) for Spring 2002 indicated that they withdrew permanently and were not attending another institution. The most common reason given by these students was “ECU is too large and impersonal” (30%). Additional reasons given were “Financial problems not related to student financial aid” (20%); “School conflicts with current employment” (20%); “Needed a break to reconsider goals” (20%); “Can not obtain a degree in my preferred field” (20%); “Too far from home” (20%); and “Other” (30%). See “Other Reasons” on pages 16 & 17.

Note: Changes less than 3 percentage points may not be statistically significant.
The Survey

ECU conducted a survey during the Fall 2001 and Spring 2002 semesters to determine the reasons why students who were eligible to enroll did not return. This information is of great interest to faculty and administrators who would like to improve retention rates. This survey was conducted for the first time by ECU during the spring 1998 semester, again during spring 1999, and each semester thereafter.

Letters and survey forms were mailed to 979 students who were enrolled spring semester 2001, were eligible to enroll fall semester 2001, but did not return. Sixteen of the forms were returned by the Post Office because the addressee was no longer at the address listed and no forwarding address was available. (The forms were mailed to the student's permanent address, which in most cases is a parent's address.) Of the remaining 963 forms, 262 were returned, yielding a response rate of 27.2 percent.

Letters and survey forms were mailed to 723 students who were enrolled fall semester 2001, were eligible to enroll spring semester 2002, but did not return. Forty-two of the forms were returned by the Post Office because the addressee was no longer at the address listed and no forwarding address was available. (The forms were mailed to the student's permanent address, which in most cases is a parent's address.) Of the remaining 681 forms, 206 were returned, yielding a response rate of 30.2 percent.

The following pages contain:

-- Table 1 - Summary of Survey Responses, Fall 2001
-- Table 2 - Summary of Survey Responses, Spring 2002
-- The survey form
-- “Other” reasons given for not returning (verbatim), Fall 2001
-- Comments received from non-returning students (verbatim), Fall 2001
-- “Other” reasons given for not returning (verbatim), Spring 2002
-- Comments received from non-returning students (verbatim), Spring 2002

Note: Changes less than 3 percentage points may not be statistically significant.
### Table 1 - Summary of Survey Responses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason for Not Returning</th>
<th>PERCENT OF RESPONSES*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Financial</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>28.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of adequate student financial aid</td>
<td>14.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial problems not related to student financial aid</td>
<td>14.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Employment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School conflicts with current employment</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was offered a good job elsewhere</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I wanted to gain practical experience</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Personal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>66.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal problems</td>
<td>17.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family problems</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changed marital status</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health problems</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I needed a break to reconsider goals</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homesick</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic problems</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug or alcohol problems</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. ECU Academic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>50.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inability to get classes desired</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can not obtain a degree in my preferred field</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of instruction</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of advising</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not enough academic prestige in my field</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in the level of emphasis given to academics</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. ECU Overall</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>51.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School too large and impersonal</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desire to attend a larger school</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate social life</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive social life</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug and alcohol abuse on campus</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too far from home</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too close to home</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in opportunities for student development outside the classroom</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather-related issues (Hurricane, etc.)</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Other Reasons</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Percentages may add to more than 100 because students may check more than one reason.

** Nine of the survey respondents are classified in Table 1 as “Other”. These were special circumstances where the student should not have been included in the survey population and will return after finishing internships, co-op’s, or exchange programs.
# Survey of Non-Returning Students
## Spring Semester 2002

### Table 1 - Summary of Survey Responses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Spring 2002</th>
<th>Spring 2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Forms Successfully Mailed</td>
<td>681</td>
<td>767</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Forms Returned</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Response Rate</td>
<td>30.2%</td>
<td>28.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Percentages may add to more than 100 because students may check more than one reason.]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reasons for not returning:</th>
<th>Transferred to Another School</th>
<th>Withdrew</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Transfers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Financial</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>55.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of adequate student financial aid</td>
<td>26.8%</td>
<td>23.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial problems not related to student financial aid</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Employment</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School conflicts with current employment</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was offered a good job elsewhere</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I wanted to gain practical experience</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Personal</td>
<td>85.6%</td>
<td>89.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal problems</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
<td>23.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family problems</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changed marital status</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health problems</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I needed a break to reconsider goals</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homesick</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic problems</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug or alcohol problems</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. ECU Academic</td>
<td>57.7%</td>
<td>73.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inability to get classes desired</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
<td>17.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can not obtain a degree in my preferred field</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of instruction</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of advising</td>
<td>14.9%</td>
<td>18.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not enough academic prestige in my field</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in the level of emphasis given to academics</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. ECU Overall</td>
<td>56.7%</td>
<td>83.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School too large and impersonal</td>
<td>13.9%</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desire to attend a larger school</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate social life</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive social life</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug and alcohol abuse on campus</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too far from home</td>
<td>16.0%</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too close to home</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in opportunities for student development outside the classroom</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather-related issues (Hurricane, etc.)</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Other Reasons</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Percentages may add to more than 100 because students may check more than one reason.

** Twelve of the survey respondents are classified in Table 1 as "Other". These were special circumstances where the student should not have been included in the survey population and will return after finishing internships, co-op’s, or exchange programs.
Survey of Non-Returning Students

I. Reason for not returning (Circle those questions that apply):
   A. I am currently participating in a co-op, work study program, internship, or foreign study and plan to return to ECU to graduate.
   B. I withdrew from school
      1. Permanently
      2. Temporarily
         a. For one semester
         b. For one year
         c. For more than a year
         d. Unknown length of time
   C. I transferred to another college or university
      1. Another University of North Carolina Campus
         Name of campus: _____________________________________________
      2. A Community College
         Name of Community College:___________________________________
      3. Elsewhere
         Name of institution:___________________________________________

II. Reason for withdrawing or transferring (Circle all that apply):
   A. Financial
      1. Lack of adequate student financial aid
      2. Financial problems not related to student financial aid
   B. Employment
      1. School conflicts with current employment.
      2. I was offered a good job elsewhere.
      3. I wanted to gain practical experience.
   C. Personal
      1. Personal problems.
      2. Family problems.
      3. Changed marital status.
      5. I needed a break to reconsider goals.
      6. Homesick.
      7. Academic problems.
      8. Drug or alcohol problems
   D. ECU Academic
      1. Inability to get classes desired.
      2. Can not obtain a degree in my preferred field of ______________________
      3. Disappointed with quality of instruction
      4. Disappointed with quality of advising
      5. Not enough academic prestige in my field of __________________________
      6. Disappointed in level of emphasis given to academics.
   E. ECU Overall
      1. School too large and impersonal.
      2. Desire to attend a larger school.
      3. Inadequate social life.
      4. Excessive social life.
      5. Drug and alcohol abuse on campus.
      6. Too far from home
      7. Too close to home
      8. Disappointed in opportunities for student development outside the classroom.
      9. Weather-related issues (Hurricane, etc.)
   F. Other Reasons (Please explain below):
   G. Comments:
Other Reasons, Fall 2001
(Verbatim, with some names or department references removed)

I was disappointed that I wasn't offered any money towards tuition even after making the deans list in spring 2001.

In state

I started ECU to get a degree in Sports Medicine. You did not follow thru I had to change majors.

My husband graduated from ECU and we wanted to be closer to our family.

I loved ECU!

Also wanted in-state tuition

To live in a city

Was led to believe that I would be able to play golf for ECU by (NAME).

Temporary work assignment in Mexico.

new baby

I had a depression that required medication & I didn't fill it and just gave up.

After trying for 4 years - could not get into the nursing program.

b/c of (NAME)

could not find employment

I did not feel as though I mattered at the University.

wanted to change major/did not want to start all over.

(Not to put entire school down; I did like (NAME)as my English Teacher, I did not enjoy living on campus and making new friends)

pregnancy

greenville is a dump

Just wanted to switch.

(NAME) is currently serving a mission for 2 years for the church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day saints. He will return to ECU for the 2003 semester.

ADAPTED 2 BOYS (10 & 13)

Health changes

Parental Care-giver

I received no help with advising; need to improve advising staff.
I got mono for 4 months second semester & was unable to go home.

Didn't have goals

out of state tuition was very expensive

suspended spring 01  [NOTE: ECU database does not show this suspension. Academic Standing code is blank for spring 2001]

I am expecting a child in Jan. 2002!

Didn't have major I wanted.

ECU didn't offer the degree I wanted and I found it elsewhere.

Heart's desire to attend Carolina. ECU was great. . . No complaints.

change of major

moved to Texas

Personal Reasons

NYU has a better program & NYC is where I need to be to set up connections, life, etc. I just didn't want to be in a small town anymore.

Lost student loans, could not pay for school on my own along with living expenses.

Did not like dorm

Weekend University was ending and I could not get the classes I needed to finish. The distance I would have to drive on a daily basis each day was too great. And the demand was too high.

Married with children; enjoying being a stay at home mother at the moment. When my children are school aged, I will return to finish my degree and further my education.

See Letter from his mother dated 10-23-2001. "ECU failed (NAME)."

I liked ECU. Wanted school that was smaller and closer to water.

there have been many family problems and I am still in school but right at home for now and in attending at Wake Tech. Decided to get an EMS degree then come back and hopefully that will give me enough time.

I had a baby on Aug 9th - right before classes began. I took a semester to get used to being a mommy.

Basically, I had no advisor since I attended ECU. This problem really disappointed me.

was accepted into veterinary medical school.

I took the semester off to run for Greenville City Council District 3 - (NAME)

Went on military active duty

Ran out of money & got engaged.

My job sent me to Japan for a month, so I had to take a semester off.

Disappointed in teacher student care.

I just was not there to study and my parents $ was being wasted.
I plan on graduating from ECU and really enjoyed the time I attended ECU. My parents and whole family live in Massachusetts and I could not see them as much as I would like to because I was so far away. I only have four classes to complete and then I will still graduate from ECU. I am taking 3 now at Bridgewater State College.

ECU was not the school I thought it was.

Just needed a change

I like the school, but at 15,000 + a year with no financial assistance make it impossible to stay there.

ECU is unsafe. Tired of being taken advantage of in regard to work for a department outside of class. Wanted to change major to art, did not like vast majority of art professors I met and had.

ECU is a great school socially and provides a lot of resources to let students grow and learn. I do regret leaving, but my home is in Philadelphia and I wanted to be closer to my family.

Financial aid & distance

I loved ECU! I just wanted to be closer to home. I had a great experience that I’ll never forget!

You were much too expensive and I couldn't get a good meal anywhere on campus. I paid for parking and couldn't find anywhere to park without getting tickets. In my original major you didn't teach me anything but you made me work for no money.

I love the school and will be returning Jan 3, 2002. Just did not have the money to return in the fall of 2001.

I loved ECU, I just could not afford it. I am going to establish NC residency and return to ECU.


I would have had to stay in school for about 7 years to finish my undergraduate degree with it being as hard as it was for me to get classes I needed. In 3 years I was only able to take one semester of Spanish.

Criminal justice major- could not afford to get involved in the social scene because too much alcohol and drugs.

I was very happy with ECU, but JMU was my first choice. Also, being in-state was more affordable for my parents.

I am from VA, the tuition fee is high for out of state.

I was accepted into dental school and am attempting to transfer my dental school credits back to ECU to obtain my BS. My transfer credit not enough for TEACH pick up financial. Please have someone recheck my credit,[referred to Registrar's office]

Cancer of Breasts

I am going to re-enroll next semester. I quit because I carry mail & my hours changed at work because of this. I am going to try & do both next semester.

NCSU was always my choice. I was not accepted until now. ECU is a great school, but I always wanted to attend NCSU.

I am an adult student, and was taking classes only at night because I work full-time. I found out that the senior level courses for my major (Business) were not offered at night. Because of this, I transferred to Barton College which has a weekend program for working students. I enjoyed my time at ECU.

I really enjoyed ECU, but I want to save money, & take production classes, which ECU does not offer.

I plan returning fall 2002. I moved back home to work and save money. I am taking some classes locally so I do not get behind and I keep my full-time student classes.

I loved ECU and look forward to returning in August. I have already been re-excepted.

I do not like using the net because half of the time the schools system is down or I cannot get on line because the server is congested. I want a class room so I am clear on assignments and I can talk face to face with instructors and not have replies posted later and interruption with degree completion of assignments - definitely not impressed. Give me a classroom I'll commute gladly. I want to finish I just don't want internet - help me. [referred to undergraduate studies 11/13/2001] If I am taking on line classes why must I pay exorbitant fees for campus use?
I can't afford to take out another loan. I hope to earn my degree by taking classes part-time, even if I have to only take one class per semester. I work a full-time job (self-employed landscaper).

I have been re-admitted for Spring 2002. I plan to graduate in May 2002. Transferred to Charlotte for one semester. I really miss being there. Your education program is wonderful. I regret transferring. Also, If possible can you send me a copy of my letter in file on why I want to be a teacher. (referred to school of education)

seeking experience in the performing arts.

I felt lonely a lot. I found my niche at Erskine College. Never found the right niche to belong to: 1. Band, tuba section, didn't feel appreciated there. 2. Roommate was a loner - suitemates liked the party & drug scene. 3. Campus Crusades, etc. - mostly girls, very few guys.

I was diagnosed with Anxiety Disorder 4/2001 which affected my level of concentration and interfered with my school work. I took a semester off to undergo therapy with a counselor and have learned a great deal about my disorder. I plan to return to ECU Spring 2002. I look forward to returning greatly.

Felt that some grades were not as they should be especially in my English 1200 class where I felt I was treated unfairly. I will go back to school next semester at a community college until I complete GC classes.

Tell a student early (ie after 2 years) whether she will get into the nursing program. - Why waste her time? I feel you did a disservice to my daughter. Fix your procedure. Tell a student she won't make it and get it over with. Don't lead her on with false hope. Next - this letter should list other courses she could take to graduate - ie you have 90 credit hours, if you take x, y, & z you can get a degree in basket weaving. If you take a, b, & c you can get a degree in history. Put it in writing. Signed - (NAME) - the guy who paid the bills.

I felt like just another number. I believe the Univ. did not care whether or not I received a degree as long as I paid a bill.

I felt the need to attend an institution with a better academic reputation. Other than the prestige of my desired field, I consider ECU to be a marvelous academic institution. I will always consider myself to be part of the great ECU My roommate left me in mid-July. I could not find a place to stay, and there were no dorms left.

Generally, I was unhappy and needed to find a university that better suited me. I did learn some valuable lessons at ECU, though. Minority students are overlooked when planning student activities (Activities and music appeal to white students) and the school chooses to acknowledge the presence or minority. Students when it is time to increase minority enrollment and they decide to send us letters. I was also disappointed that the school decided to ignore the racist activities of the clubs downtown.

I did not appreciate, how I was (OBSCENE) into paying Out-of-State Tuition. Considering that I have lived in NC for 5 years, you said I was a resident of NY. How can I be a resident of a state I never lived in? PS - Your school is money hungry.

Liked ECU but ready to be back in Willmington (home)

I enjoyed ECU, but having both parents work at Corning Glass and lose a majority of our wages, I was not able to return. If there is any chance in the future for me to return, I might change.

I had completed my drama certification & this summer was my last class. [Note: 2nd degree student].

I did not like the town of Greenville. I did not feel safe. The town was dirty and I had to step over homeless people sleeping on the sidewalks outside the dorms at night. Academically, I enjoyed ECU and the faculty was great. But my peace of mind outside class was more important to me.

I was very unhappy to hear that the Weedend University program was being discontinued. Not only does this program provide more convenient scheduling options for students who work full time but it also provides a better learning environment (more mature students/better discussions/faster pace).

I was a senior in High school taking courses at ECU. Everything transferred to UNC.

Big adjustment. Started own business 1/2 year ago (East Carolina Cabinets) Tough schedule.

Due to my academic status I do not believe I can continue education at ECU and obtain financial aid or the GPA I desire.

I intend to return in the Spring

Due to Hurrican Floyd I lost my home. Moved 5 times during that year. Due to stress of working, going to school, moving, and being displaced I developed acute anxiety and depression. Could not concentrate. Currently in treatment.

I am out of school on maternity leave. Our daughter was born in June 2001 and I live in Havelock- about an hour and a half commute. With a 3 hour drive, finding daycare, and time for studies, it is too difficult to return now.

I decided to break from school. Along with my break from school, I decided to break from the U.S. as well. I moved to Chur, Switzerland the beginning of August 2001. I return to the States June 2002. I plan to continue my education ("formal education") soon after I arrive "home". But as of now, I am unsure as to where. I doubt it will be Greenville,
NC. However, I applaud ECU. I find the university quite exceptional. Alas, the town in which it exists is a bit lacking. Thank you for your concern regarding my absence at your establishment and thanks for letting me learn there as well. An experience if anything. Sincerely, (NAME) 13 November 2001. 

Our apartment on 13th St. was broken into during the night and my roommate was almost killed in Jan 2001. The people were not apprehended until 2 months later (and are now serving prison sentences). We were afraid and our parents were afraid for us so we moved very quickly - initially back home & then to UNCW where we both re-enrolled in college.

Will try and take some courses at community college and transfer back for major.

My GPA was too low to get into the school of business. I want to come back but I have to wait two more years. If you can do anything to help me out, please give me a call.

Taking classes elsewhere that will transfer back to ECU for Graduation. There are too many foreign professors. Lived independently in NC for 3 years & still no in-state tuition. Too many poor-english speaking professors.

Too much "on-line" - but not well organized yet.

I work at ECU and my supervisor would not accommodate a change in schedule to take the courses that were available.

Birth of third child. Plan to return next year.

Pursuing BFA in dance with more emphasis in performing arts and dance.

I don't need another degree - Princeton AB '58, Columbia MBA '64. I entered your school of Art for myself, in retirement. Living apart from my wife all week was hard, and I reached a point where I could work in Ceramics at home and make progress. Good for , for asking! ECU does not offer enough common undergraduate classes. If I am paying ECU to attend, I should have no problem getting the courses that I need.

I love ECU!! And I will be back in Jan!! I just needed a little break from all the STRESS!

ECU does not pursue Freshman enough & inform them of opportunities.

I did not have the money to take the class I registered for therefor, I had to drop. I have applied for financial aid and have received notifications that I have gotten a loan. I plan on registering for spring semester.

I love ECU and all it has to offer. But I loved ECU!!

You would'nt approve me for instate when our attorney said I should have been approved. I was mislead by my advisor who told me I would receive in state after living in NC & Paying my own way for over 2 years. I really liked ECU & still miss ECU and love it. I have found my place.

It's a good school, really I like ECU, but I got into a better Univ in my field. Don't worry I still visit. I will see you all every halloween I get.

Re-enrolled for spring 02: I was assigned to (NAME) from (NAME) for my advisor.
I miss ECU dearly! I loved it there, and everything I was involved with, including the awesome Greek system - go Greek! I recently visited campus and my wonderful sorority for homecoming. It will always have a special place in my heart! Go Pirates! Please update my address: - [Forwarded to registrar's office 11/13/2001.]

Became pregnant and wanted to be close to my parents. I did however really enjoy attending ECU and loved the school. More than likely will finish at UNCG summer session 2002.

ECU was a great experience for me! I really did love the school of Art. I miss attending classes there more than I could have ever imagined. All my instructors were great although all my advisors could have been a little more helpful but that's okay. Thanks for a wonderful college experience!

6 counselors in one yr. Registered me for sr. level courses. Caused my GPA to drop with those classes.

My mother became ill and I was very concerned about her mental/physical condition. I enjoyed attending ECU and may return in the near future. (NAME)

I loved ECU, but it was so far from home & some of my highschool friends go to UNC-Ch. Thanks for the opportunity.

(RESIDENCE HALL) was my residence, it was horrible, drugs, alcohol problems, and violence were continuous during my stay. I was unable to sleep most nights because of the level of dorm problems. I was directly above the "Galley" dumpster which smelled like hot fecal matter. My stay was unpleasant.

It was a good school - much happier with academics and instruction of professors than current situation. Dorm life difficult ie. Lot of partying, noise, make difficult to get adequate sleep. Not best situation for healthy lifestyle. Needed to return home to better atmosphere. Felt I was being pulled down. May return to ECU at some point. I love ECU. I transferred to UNCG and I wish I was still at ECU. I will always be a Pirate. I still visit every month because it is a great town and all my friends are still there.

Left because ECU State failed to provide me in state tuition after properly meeting the req'd time period.

Enrolled in the study abroad program in Seville Spain- Will be back 2nd semester.

I plan to apply to UNC School of Nursing next Fall.

Went to ECU to play soccer, didn't work out with the coach so transferred to Chapel Hill for a better education.

Two semesters consecutively took courses I need prerequisites for and had to constantly juggle classes/times. I was never advised I needed the prerequisites.

I might take some classes at Wayne CC because it is closer to where I live (Goldsboro), & its cheaper! Then I'll transfer the credits to ECU, if I can! I won't apply, I'll just be a "transient status" student at Wayne!

re-located to Raleigh

My father died in March and I needed to be home with my mother and for my personal reasons. My experience at ECU was very positive and enjoyable. I would like to perhaps go back for grad school.

Disappointed in opportunity to play Varsity Basketball decreased

Moved back and enrolled in spring 02

Was pregnant during Spr. Sem. '01 - had baby in June. While out of school, I tried contacting my adviser and head person of (DEPT). I left a voice-mail message, but never received a return phone call. What process do I need to go through to re-enroll into school? I only have 4-5 courses left to take in order to graduate. I really want to return and finish so I can graduate. [Referred to (DEPT)]

I graduated from ECU May 2001! [Referred to Registrar's office --they had not received the senior summary and did not know that she had graduated.]

(NAME) has always wanted to attend UNC-CH.

I was highly disappointed with my experience at ECU. While there were excellent professors in the anthropology dept, the school as a whole lacks an academic environment. I was depressed b/c it felt as though people were abusing drugs and alcohol everywhere around me, even in the honors dorm. The lack of motivation in the student body forced the professors to dumb down the curriculum, and as a result, I did not need to work hard to earn good grades. I was tired of being the only one who constantly came to classes and did my work and this was in advanced level courses. The lack of extracurricular activities to promote educ was appalling, and the few that were offered had poor attendance. I took classes in high school that were more difficult than the advanced classes at ECU. The clubs tha I joined there either fell apart due to the lack of motivation or left me disenchanted with the organization b/c it spent much of its time engaging in drinking and promiscuous activity, which I do not condone.

foreign study

Told could not major in PE education & minor in Theatre ed ro double major in both by (DEPT).

registared for spring 2002 and has moved to greenville.

Wanted to persue Emory's excellent political science dept.
Great school just wanted to go to ASU all my life. Had a great year at ECU! Thanks.

I left ECU in Jan. 2001 because of family and financial reasons. I was majoring in elem. Ed. I was offered a job in sales and marketing which I accepted because the income was considerably higher than a teacher assistants salary. I do plan to get my degree and return to ECU to receive it. I thoroughly enjoyed my time at ECU and am considering resuming very soon. Thank you.

I have a new job where I am now employed, I have not been able to contact the proper person at ECU. I want to return for winter, but I don’t know who I should call. I am on the verge of just starting in the fall of 2002. If someone could contact me at work - (NUMBER) or home - (NUMBER) I would appreciate it.

ECU is an outstanding school, I will attend again in the fall 02.

I am planning to return to ECU. I just have not had the opportunity to registrar for classes.

I am taking electives and PCC is much cheaper. I don't think you should have to pay for an activity fee (which is way too much money at ECU) if you are only taking a few courses. I will return to ECU when my electives are done. Your admission fees of $40 is too high as well. Thanks.

When I finish the 15 hours at Pitt can't complete BA in Business courses, never to be offered at night or weekends.

When I was kicked out of the Nursing Program, my whole world ended. For me, it has to be Nursing or nothing.

Lack of opportunity for minority students in Theatre Dept. In the two years I attended ECU only 1 minority student was cast in a play (in a servant type role).

I enjoyed attending ECU, but after a severe car accident in January I had to withdraw b/c I broke my hip. When I withdrew, I had to repay loans that I thought I would be able to defer, and now cannot obtain financial aid until I pay these off.

Wanted a change. Parking was terrible. Hate Greenville.

I enjoy attending ECU because is a good school. The fall semester I had to take off to recover from surgery but I am planning to return as soon I will recover. Thanks for your concern. Respectfully, (NAME)

I had a baby. I plan to return in January.

(ADDRESS) [referred to Registrar's Office]. Thank you for your concern.

I left due to (NAME) Nursing instructor hatred for minority. Legal action will be taken after all set and done with the Dean of Nursing.

I plan on returning.

Elimination of night school courses, parking concerns, poor instructor relations and demands for consideration of student who is full-time employed as well as member of NC national guard. Instructors refused to aid or cooperate in issues including scheduling conflicts with guard drills and workplace travel.

Please send me an application. I plan to return for the Fall 2002 Semester. [Referred to Admissions 11/13/2001]

Became involved with the wrong crowd and needed to have and find something new. So I did.

I have applied to return for the Spring 02 semester.

I had a great time going to ECU, but it was too far from home. I didn't have a car there and I was only able to go home once my entire semester. This caused me to be homesick and falter academically.

I am currently in the process of joining the US Marine Corps. However, I do plan on pursuing a college degree.

I was unable to return this year due to financial problems, and plan to return when the money situation improves. I would appreciate it if you could send me some financial aid info. I am currently attending a community college so I do not get out of the school habit, but as I just stated, I do plan to return to ECU.

I was in the ATQ program and did very well the first semester. For the 2nd semester, my advisor signed me up for a five credit hour calculus class. It ruined me. I did terrible and, as a result, got put on academic probation! Now, I am not at ECU and I miss it. My advisor did me an injustice. I had not picked a major yet, why would they sign me up for calculus?

Hope to be able to finish my degree when this National Guard Unit mission is over.

I have not transferred, withdrawn or dropped ECU. I love ECU with all of this big heart as a matter of fact, I am in the process of doing whatever I need to do to come back Spring 2002. My grades were affected by my problems in 2001, so I need to do some things first. I have just turned in everything. Thank you for your concern an dif there is anything you can do to speed up or help the process! Please.

If you could please send me something saying when early registration is [referred to registrar's office 11/13/2001]

Difficult to get in contact with professor. Would like to take a one hour class regarding low grades. Please send me dates for this.
I felt that I did not have enough funds to further my education at ECU. That was not even my big issue. I felt I could do better here at home going to school, paying less money, and have a higher GPA than if I stayed at ECU. I need a smaller school where teachers care about helping the students more. Furthermore I could not get the classes I wanted. I guess now I am going to become one of your statistics and that is why I did not fill this out the first time I received it.

I plan to get my associates in Nursing, & then transfer back to ECU. Thanks for the letter.

I realized that I missed my family and friends. I just needed a smaller school and need time to reconsider my major.

Due to Hepatitis C and other maladies I became totally disabled to continue school. I have been slowly down and am concentrating on readmission but my doctors can't say when or if I may be able to return to school.

Was a computer science major there. Could not get school or career advisement. Was sent to a general advisor but she knew nothing. No one in department would talk with me, even though I was a junior.

Hope to come back!
Other Reasons, Spring 2002
(Verbatim, with some names or department references removed)

Too much smoking in the dorms! Disgusting! I hate the south
distance from home. Roommate difficulties

I discontinued my college life at ECU in order to obtain a degree in cosmetology at Jean Madeline Education Center in Philadelphia, PA

ECU is great it would be better if they had a veterinary school.

DID NOT LIKE THE ATMOSPHERE.

After September 11th attack I just needed to be with my family

I WAS ON STUDENT LOANS AND DIDNT WANT TO BE VERY FAR IN DEBT. I LOVE ECU, IT’S A GREAT SCHOOL AND I WOULD LOVE TO COME BACK.

COULDN'T REGISTER FOR CLASSES BECAUSE I WASN'T APPOINTED THE CORRECT ADVISER.

I HAD MANY PROBLEMS WITH ECU FACULTY AND STAFF IN REGISTERING AND EVEN WITH THE CASHIERS OFFICE.

Some professors can't talk or help average students. Some have so heavy accent they are hard to understand what they say.

LDS mission-will be back in 2 years

MAJOR NOT OFFERED

MATERNITY LEAVE - GAVE BIRTH

I AM IN HIGH SCHOOL. MY HIGH SCHOOL WOULDN'T LET ME LEAVE SCHOOL TO TAKE THE ONE COURSE DURING THE SCHOOL DAY, EVEN THOUGH THEY COULDN'T GIVE ME THE CLASSES THERE THAT I WANTED. I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO DO THE COURSE ANYMORE, AND IT WAS EXPENSIVE.

DENIED INSTATE TUITION AND NOT GIVEN A REASON WHY.

I TRANSFERRED TO ECU FROM APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY. I WAS USED TO THE KIND, FAIR TREATMENT I WAS GIVEN AT APP, ECU RUINED MY COLLEGE EXPERIENCE. I HATED THE DIRTY CITY, THE CRUEL PEOPLE, AND THE LACK OF HELPFUL TEACHERS AND ADVISORS. I LEFT BECAUSE I HATED GREENVILLE.

Had a baby in February and decided to take a few semesters off to take care of him.

COULD NOT RAISE SCHOOL FEES (TUITION)

I received early release for teacher purposes.

DUE TO A CHANGE OF MARTIAL STATUS AND AN ACQUISITION OF A CHILD I NEEDED TO WITHDRAW FOR FAMILY AND FINANCIAL REASONS. I INTEND TO RETURN AS SOON AS I CAN.

Had a baby

COULD NOT AFFORD TO LIVE ON CAMPUS AND THE COMMUTE IS TO FAR.

Needed to help in family business.

I WAS PLAYING SOCCER AT ECU AND I THOUGHT I MIGHT WANT TO TRANSFER. I TALKED TO THE HEAD COACH AT THE UNIV OF AKRON AND SHE WAS WILLING TO GIVE ME MORE SCHOLARSHIP
ATHLETICALLY/ACADEMICALLY THAN I WAS GETTING AT ECU. HOWEVER, I LOOK BACK ON EVERYTHING AT I
REALLY DO THINK ECU IS A GREAT SCHOOL. IF IT WASN'T SO FAR AWAY, I'D BE THERE IN A HEARTBEAT.

I WAS JUST TAKING ONE CLASS AS A PRE-COLLEGE STUDENT AND I COULD NOT FIT A SPRING SEMESTER
CLASS INTO MY SCHEDULE.

Trouble with room-mate assignment
Whatever happened to Southern hospitality??? Encountered many rude southerners - especially adults! Didn't get one thing I requested when filling out dorm application. Why bother asking? People so into smoking and parting and not enough care given to academics. Ridiculous place!!

The reason I left ECU was b/c before I transferred to this institution, I was told that all of my credits would transfer. After being at ECU for about a month, I was told that my credits transferred only as electives and that it would take 3 years or more to graduate. This is completely unacceptable. My parents and I did not agree with the ECU policy, so I transferred to Rutgers, where I will be graduating in 2 years.

I VERY MUCH ENJOYED THE SEMESTER I SPENT AT ECU. I DID GET SOMEWHAT HOMESICK AND THE 8 HOUR DRIVE WAS Difficult, HOWEVER THE GREATEST FACTOR THAT INFLUENCED MY LEAVING WAS THE COST. MY FINANCIAL AID PACKAGE WAS INADEQUATE. FOR A SINGLE MOTHER WHO HAD 2 GIRLS IN OUT OF STATE SCHOOLS, IT WAS TO EXPENSIVE. I TRIED WRITING A LETTER EXPLAINING OUR SITUATION AND ALL THAT I COULD OFFER ECU (AND GET FROM THE GREAT SCHOOL), - GOOD ACADEMICS, HIGH MARKS, VOLUNTEERISM, ETC. IT UPSET ME THAT ACADEMIC SCHOLARS I KNEW WORKED VERY LITTLE WHILE I WORKED SO HARD, YET THEY RECEIVED MORE AID BECAUSE OF SAT SCORES. WITH MORE FINACIAL AID, I WOULD HAVE STAYED.

In the future, I would hope that the ECU Housing Staff would be more conscious in placement of freshmen with upper classmen in dorm living situations - especially students with past record of roommate problems.

ECU was an awesome college where I learned more than just academics, I learned about myself as a person. Dad's hours cut back at work due to 9-11. Dad also injured back, was out on disability for 4 months money was cut almost in half. But I will be back in the Fall.

Parents would not pay out-of-state tuition anymore for mediocre grades.

I really like ECU, I just needed to be closer to home for reasons beyond my control. However when I was there it was hard to get some of the classes that I needed as a business major.

Thanks for a great year and a half.

I felt I was discriminated against as an out-of-state transfer. I did not receive credit for the classes I had already taken, and was forced to go back to beginning classes which I felt were below my level. I have transferred to a VA university who recognizes my AA degree from my community college.

I plan to return 1st Summer 2002!

Never started school in Fall semester. Not ready for college.

I enjoyed the friends I've made at ECU, but felt that the professors did not care to have anything to do with the students. Therefore, I felt I would try my luck in the real world where people can really not want to help you out.

Out of state tuition was too high.

I plan to attend Surry Community College now to get a 2 year degree and then transfer back to ECU.

I discarded the first survey. DO NOT SEND ANOTHER. (NAME) Father

Enjoy UNCC better! Academic wise and socially.

I BELIEVE RECONSIDERATION IS IN NEED FOR THE CHAIR OF (DEPARTMENT); (NAME) PROVED TO BE A CONSTANT OBSTACLE IN MY EDUCATION AT ECU.

ECU was wonderful, and I had a great experience. I just needed to move back home to get my priorities straight. I miss it.

I wanted to return for the Spring semester, and even registered for classes. However, I realized too late during the Christmas break that I failed to re-apply for admission and could not return. Why did I need to do this after only one semester? I understand if I was on probation, but I'm not. I do need a response to this, just something for you to think about. The registrar's office let me sign up after the cut-off date for re-applying and did not utter a word about any of this. Granted, the whole situation worked out better for me in the long-run, but it still made me upset with the university at the time.

No dorm room available

I never even saw my advisor. He did not show up for any of the appointments and was never in his office when I went by. If I could have gotten help to get the classes I needed, I would have stayed.
ECU is not a bad school, I just didn't really like the whole town and atmosphere. UNCW is a better choice for me. Thanks for your concern!

Have enrolled and want to go to Summer school and full-time in Fall 02.

Would like to return to ECU.

Due to personal problems I chose to take some time off of school. Currently I am registered at Wayne Community College and I plan to get an Associate's of Arts before returning to East Carolina. Thank you for your concern.

I would like information on reenrolling at ECU, who I need to talk to etc.

I intend to return to school this upcoming fall semester. Would be grateful if someone would call and give me instructions of what I need to do to enroll. Thank you. (PHONE NUMBER)

I felt I could obtain a better education for my first two years at a place where the professors cared and knew the subject material.

See attached letter

I have thoroughly enjoyed attending ECU. My experience was one of pleasure and learning experience, but do to financial problems I've had to temporary withdraw from school for a semester. My hope is to return to school this summer.

I DO NOT KNOW WHAT EXACTLY I WANT TO DO WIT MY LIFE ANYMORE. I DO WANT TO BECOME A BETTER PERSON, BUT I DONT WANT TO WASTE AWAY MONEY AND STILL NOT HAVE A PERSPECTIVE ON WHO I AM. ECU IS A GREAT SCHOOL AND I'M SAD NOT TO BE THERE. I REALLY DID ENJOY IT.

See attached letter.

ECU WAS MY FIRST CHOICE IN COLLEGES. I HAD PLANNED ON RECEIVING A MATER'S DEGREE IN BIOLOGY. ECU GAVE ME A VERY DIFFICULT TIME TO ACHIEVE THIS GOAL. IT WAS A GREAT DISSAPOINTMENT AND I HOPE MY SURVEY IS RECORDED AND USED TO BETTER ECU.

If you want to keep students enrolled, the advisors shouldn't tell the student that they'd never get into the program they wanted to because their too young and if this is truly the case then you need to change the way the school is operated. Age should not be a deciding factor in the choices you have for your education.

I WITHDREW TO GET MY ACT TOGETHER. I AM RETURNING IN THE SUMMER, I JUST HAD TO GET FOCUSED. TAKING TRANSFERRABLE CLASSES BACK TO ECU.

Problems obtaining employment and housing in Greenville.

Went to boot camp from Jan 16 - May 17, 02. Do plan to attend ECU in the Fall 02. Do I need to re-apply again? (REFERRED TO REGISTAR)

My first semester of school I came here with no money only the hopes to stay in school. I had no financial support form my parents and had to skip class to keep a roof over my head due to poor financial aid because my parents information was on the financial aid form. I live in Greenville still and my only goal is school. I need financial help without parental help. Please help me. (REFERRED TO FINANCIAL AID)

Parking!

Started off the year doing well. Into the 1st semester (Fall 2001) my best friend from home died tragically in a house fire. So I came home until second Summer session (2002) to cope. I was in a suite with 7 18-year old potheads. No good from day 1!

East Carolina is awesome if it was closer too my family and fiance.

I plan on returning to ECU this Fall or possibly Summer.

Greenville is very dirty.

Scheduled to return to ECU Fall 2002.

ECU has also been extremely unorganized and made it almost impossible for me to get a medical drop. I still don't know if I got one or not. I enjoyed ECU's party and social life but was somewhat disappointed by academic classes. I felt it was a little too easy for me. I needed a challenge. I wanted to be closer to my family.

I already have a degree from NCSU and started at ECU to try and get in nursing school. However, I was not accepted and decided to pursue nursing at Barton where I can begin this summer.

Due to a class that wasn't available during desired time for nighttime students.

I didn't return to school this semester because I got pregnant and wanted to stay at home. I was planning to commute to this semester, but the ECU housing people told me that I had to pay $300 in order to cancel my housing contract. I refused to pay and decided to take a semester off. My baby is due the beginning of April. I am currently trying to save money to get an apartment so I can go back to school in August. Hopefully, I will be able to move back to Greenville
by the end of the Summer and go to school. I am not dropping out. If I don't return in August, I will definitely be back to school in January 2003. Thank you. (NAME)

I was in a severe car accident in fall of 2001. So I took incompletes for all my classes. I started back in Jan 2002 and I've been working on removing my incompletes. I'm continuing in the RN-BSN program.

I decided to leave because ECU wasn't for me. I'm so used to a small town school, such as WCC, that ECU was a big shock to me. I also commuted an hour each way everyday from home. It was a lot of little things that added up that made me want to come back home. Thanks for the opportunity. (NAME). 3-14-02

UNCG Fall 2002               PCC Spring 2002

I didn't like it!

The main reason I transferred back to Raleigh was because I never really found my "niche" at ECU. I really just felt like an outsider at a school where the majority of the students really concentrate on social activities rather than

BASIC TRAINING AND TECH SCHOOL FOR ARMY NATIONAL GUARD.

The main reason I left ECU was because there seemed to be no social life there that was not related to the downtown scene and to drinking. Since I was not interested in spending large amounts of my time with either of those, I was unable to make friends and pursue interests other than academics.

The Theatre program is more of a department of performance than education, and now it is time for me to take the next step in my life, since there aren't any more acting classes available to me.

I MAY RETURN IN THE FALL TO FOLLOW A BUSINESS MINOR.

Because I have a BFA in painting, I had enough classes already to keep me from being able to take any more courses that would lead to a second degree in Communications Art. I was not accepted into the C.A. program, and I could not afford to wait for a graphic design degree, so I transferred somewhere where I could.

Many of the professors seem to want you to fail. They are not very helpful.

PLAN TO RETURN IN THE FALL TO COMPLETE MY DEGREE.

I am re-applying for Fall 2002.

I REALLY ENJOYED THE FACULTY AND LEARNING EXPERIENCE. I WAS GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A LOT OF MONEY SO I QUIT SCHOOL.

ECU IS NOT STUDENT FRIENDLY. EACH DEPARTMENT WILL SAY "IT'S NOT MY JOB YOU NEED TO GO TO ______ DEPARTMENT AND ON AND ON.

I plan to return in the fall

I previously withdrew for the university under the "forgiveness" policy. While I was out as per the policy, the grades below a C average were dropped from my GPA and I returned without having to be on probation. Unfortunately when the grades came off of my GPA the hours that it took me to get them did not come off as well. Because of this I have more hours affecting my attendance (I have exceeded my time to earn an undergrad degree) than I have grades to represent that same attendance.

VERY DISAPPOINTED!

Hope to return sometime in the next academic year.

I was simply taking a course for my own enjoyment. I would have continued taking one course a semester if it had not been so expensive and ridiculously difficult to sign up for one class. I had to register 3 different times. Go back and forth across campus on the days I was not working numerous times. Total incompetence!

I WILL BE RETURNING FOR SUMMER SCHOOL.

OVERALL ECU IS A FINE COLLEGE, HOWEVER THE OVERALL MOOD TOWARDS THE STUDENT'S SUCCESS WHILE AT ECU IS VERY IMPERSONAL!

My husband deployed overseas for war on terrorism. Changed our financial status, and our children were distraught and performing poorly in school. I withdrew to stabilize my family emotionally and financially. I plan to enroll for Fall semester 2002.

No courses offered at times that I can take them. I do plan to finish degree, if possible, at ECU.

I hope to begin classes there at some point in the future.

Enlisting in the US Army this September. I plan on enrolling at ECU after I serve 2 years in the Army. This will help me pay for the rest of my schooling.

Hopefully I plan to return in the fall of 2002

Changed majors twice even though I had 93 credits, I would have needed 3 semesters to graduate. Joined the Army. In light of 9 - 11 events, I felt I needed to go into the military service.
I became pregnant and the first few months were very bad. I was, overall, satisfied with ECU. However, I felt I needed to be closer to home during my pregnancy. Thank you for the opportunity to be enrolled at ECU.

ECU is wonderful, you have everything. I just needed a break. I plan on returning and finishing school at ECU. ECU was/is still better than any schools in Indiana that I looked at. You have every Art class I could ever have dreamed of taking.

I WOULD RETURN ANY SEMESTER IF I CAN GET FINANCIAL AID FROM THE SCHOOL OR OTHER SOURCES THAT YOU MAKE AVAILABLE TO ME. I LOVE ECU.

As I needed help in placing students in employment. Your administrative staff don’t care. Have yet to receive any of our deposits back, Parking, Dorm, Meals, still waiting. You take but you don’t give back. We have been patiently waiting on our deposit returns. Son’s jeep vandalized in ECU parking lot. Security has no clue! Your financial aid department dropped the ball and after stating that for 4 months that our loan was approved, they came up in November and sent me a bill. Go figure! So we brought him home to go to school here in Charlotte. You school lacks communication, accessibility, and needs of students.

Plan on returning fall 2002

I need info on housing, classes, etc. Thanks! Plan on attending Fall 2002. Need some info. Please!! (Forwarded to Admissions 5/7/2002).

I loved ECU, but my fiance lives in Raliegh and I was getting tired of driving back and forth. I started a new job in Raliegh that I really liked. I enjoyed all 3 years and will remember them always.

Signed by Arizona Diamondbacks. Will resume classes at ECU as soon as I can.

Money was the main issue in my decision to leave ECU. My parents made too much for help, but couldn’t pay for me. I couldn’t do it on $5.75 an hour.

I have already graduated.

I have taken all of my classes for certification to teach business and marketing education and I could not afford to quit my job in order to student teach. I am going to try to go into teaching by lateral entry.

I became very discouraged when I did not get into the nursing program for 2 years. I stopped going to classes. Should have remained at UNCG where I maintained a high GPA for 3 semesters.

ECU SHOULD OFFER MORE UNDERGRADUATE COURSES VIA THE INTERNET. THIS WOULD HELP RESOLVE MANY WORK/SCHOOL RELATED CONFLICTS.

Thank you for sending this letter. I know it may be one of many that you send out to students. Sometimes just thinking that someone cares means a lot. Thanks Again.

HAD KNEE SURGERY - OUT OF WORK/SCHOOL 4 - 6 WEEKS. PLAN TO RETURN SUMMER.

I was having a lot of problems with Math and so I returned to community college for smaller classes and more indiviuula help.

I UNDERSTAND THAT COLLEGE IS GOING TO BE FULL OF KIDS WHO DRINK A LOT BUT IT SEEMED LIKE THAT WAS ALL I SAW. ACADEMICALLY, I ENJOYED ECU. THERE WERE ALSO OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES AT HOME WITH MY FAMILY THAT LED TO MY DECISION TO LEAVE (MY MOTHER WAS PREGNANT AND I FELT I SHOULD BE HOME TO HELP).

I have been activated from National Guard back to regular Army. I am deployed out of the country.

I was able to attend school the Fall semester 2001 on a waiver account, midway through the semester, I was informed that I was not eligible to receive a Pell Grant. I was unable to pay my fees for the Fall semester therefore I had no money to pay my fees for the Spring semester 2002. I am currently paying my Fall semester fees on a monthly basis while trying to avoid my name being sent to a credit agency.

Commuting from Morehead two days a week. Would simply take too long to get my degree. Could not move to Greenville or commute more days. Enjoyed the school (where I started many years back) and my professors wish I could have worked it out.

I WAS REACTIVATED TO ACTIVE DUTY TO AIR FORCE DUE TO THE WAR AND DO NOT KNOW HOW LONG THEY WILL KEEP ME! HOWEVER, I AM DETERMINED TO COMPLETE MY EDUCATION. TAKE CARE OF MY SISTER (NAME) UNTIL I RETURN. SHE IS IN GREEN HALL!

I wanted to move back to Minnesota upon my husband seperating from the military.

I had a terrible roommate which made my decision to leave easier. I want to attend ECU for Art and Japanese.

Excellent school, I just wish that you offered Engineering Degrees. I did enjoy my short time at East Carolina University.

I have not yet received my report card for Fall 2001. Please contact me (if possible) so I can get my grades! Thanks. (Forwarded to Registrar’s Office 5/7/2002.)

WSSU offered a weekend program designed for people with an associates degree in occupational therapy to get a Bachelors and graduate the same time. I would have graduated from ECU going to class 5 days per week. Doing the
The weekend program at WSSU just works better for me.

I had a death to occur in my family early in the year. This made it hard for me to concentrate. ECU is a great school - I just wish it was closer to my home. I felt like just a number at ECU.

I will be returning to ECU in Fall 2002. I am just getting around to filling out the readmission application. Thank you for your concern.

I just relate better to the social atmosphere at ASU. Students seem more focused there. I think ECU does a fine job catering to student needs on/off campus. However, I had a serious problem with the lack of emphasis on environmental awareness/conservation: no recycling and no environmental awareness - use of styrofoam - Need recycling in the dorms (glass, plastic, etc...) is a must. Awareness should be part of education.

I think the level of education and standards were not up to my level. I expected more from a university in North Carolina.
Most Non-Returning Undergraduates Plan to Return to ECU

Forty-nine percent of the students who responded to a recent survey of non-returning students indicated that they withdrew temporarily. Forty-six percent transferred to another institution, and only five percent withdrew permanently (Chart A). The survey results are summarized in Table 1.

The Survey
ECU conducted a survey during the Spring 2001 semester to determine the reasons why students who were eligible to enroll did not return. This information is of great interest to faculty and administrators who would like to improve retention rates. This survey was conducted for the first time by ECU during the spring 1998 semester, again during spring 1999, and each semester thereafter.

Letters and survey forms were mailed to 781 students who were enrolled fall semester 2000, were eligible to enroll spring semester 2001, but did not return. Eleven of the forms were returned by the Post Office because the addressee was no longer at the address listed and no forwarding address was available. (The forms were mailed to the student's permanent address, which in most cases is a parent's address.) An additional 3 forms were returned by students who were enrolled in internships or exchange programs elsewhere. Of the remaining 767 forms, 216 were returned, yielding a response rate of 28.2 percent.

Reasons for not returning
The three most common reasons given by non-returning undergraduates were “Personal problems” (20%); “Disappointed with quality of advising” (19%); and “Need a break to reconsider goals” (19%).

Other reasons most frequently cited were:
- Lack of adequate student financial aid (17%)
- Inability to get classes desired (17%)
- Financial problems not related to student financial aid (16%)
Disappointed with quality of instruction (14%)
-- Too far from home (14%)
-- School conflicts with current employment (11%)

Temporary Withdraws (n=106)
Eighty seven percent of the students who stated they withdrew temporarily answered the question “how long?” with 60% indicating that they would return after one semester and 19% indicating that they would return in one year. The most common reasons for withdrawing given by students who withdrew temporarily were “I needed a break to reconsider goals” (23%); “Financial problems not related to student financial aid” (22%); “Personal problems” (19%); and “Other” (24%). See “Other Reasons” on pages 6 and 7.

Transferred to Community College (n=44)
Another twenty percent of the survey respondents have transferred to Community Colleges and may also be considered temporary dropouts from ECU. The most common reasons for leaving given by these students were: “Disappointed with quality of advising” (32%); “personal problems” (27%); “Lack of adequate financial aid” (27%); and “Inability to get classes desired” (25%).

Transferred to Another UNC Institution (n=25)
Eleven Percent of the respondents transferred to another UNC institution. The most common destinations were NC State University and UNC Charlotte. The most common reasons given were that “ECU was too far from home” (24 %) and “Disappointed with quality of instruction” (24%).

Transferred Elsewhere (n=30)
Fourteen Percent of the respondents transferred elsewhere (other than a Community College or another UNC institution). The most common reasons for leaving given by these students were that ECU was “Too far from home” (43%); “Homesick” (30%); “Disappointed with quality of advising” (20%); and “Other” (20%).

Permanent Withdraws (n=11)
Five Percent indicated that they withdrew permanently and were not attending another institution. The most common reason given by these students was “I needed a break to reconsider goals” (46%). Additional reasons given were “Financial problems not related to student financial aid” (27%); “Offered a good job elsewhere” (27%); and “Personal problems” (27%).

Comparison with previous surveys
These results are comparable to those of preceding semesters. A lower percentage of non-returning students for Spring 2001 transferred to another UNC institution (11%, compared with 14% for Spring 2000). They identified “ECU Overall” reasons less frequently, “ECU Academic” reasons more frequently, and “Personal” reasons less frequently than did non-returning students Spring 2000.

The following pages contain:
--Table 1- Summary of Survey Responses
--The letter to students
--The survey form
--“Other” reasons given for not returning (verbatim)
--Comments received from non-returning students (verbatim)
### Table 1 - Summary of Survey Responses

**Survey of Non-Returning Students**  
**Spring Semester 2001**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Forms Successfully Mailed</th>
<th>767</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Forms Returned</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Response Rate</td>
<td>28.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Table 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason for not returning:</th>
<th>PERCENT OF RESPONSES*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>A. Financial</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of adequate student financial aid</td>
<td>25.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial problems not related to student financial aid</td>
<td>16.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>B. Employment</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School conflicts with current employment</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was offered a good job elsewhere</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I wanted to gain practical experience</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C. Personal</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal problems</td>
<td>20.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family problems</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changed marital status</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health problems</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I needed a break to reconsider goals</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homesick</td>
<td>19.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic problems</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug or alcohol problems</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>D. ECU Academic</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inability to get classes desired</td>
<td>80.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can not obtain a degree in my preferred field</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of instruction</td>
<td>20.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of advising</td>
<td>25.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not enough academic prestige in my field</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in the level of emphasis given to academics</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>E. ECU Overall</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School too large and impersonal</td>
<td>72.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desire to attend a larger school</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate social life</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive social life</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug and alcohol abuse on campus</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too close to home</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in opportunities for student development outside the classroom</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather-related issues (Hurricane, etc.)</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>F. Other</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Percentages may add to more than 100 because students may check more than one reason.*
Survey of Non-Returning Students

I. Reason for not returning (*Circle* those questions that apply):
A. I am currently participating in a co-op, work study program, internship, or foreign study and plan to return to ECU to graduate.
B. I withdrew from school
   1. Permanently
   2. Temporarily
      a. For one semester
      b. For one year
      c. For more than a year
      d. Unknown length of time
C. I transferred to another college or university
   1. Another University of North Carolina Campus
      Name of campus: _____________________________________________
   2. A Community College
      Name of Community College:___________________________________
   3. Elsewhere
      Name of institution:___________________________________________

II. Reason for withdrawing or transferring (*Circle* all that apply):
A. Financial
   1. Lack of adequate student financial aid
   2. Financial problems not related to student financial aid
B. Employment
   1. School conflicts with current employment.
   2. I was offered a good job elsewhere.
   3. I wanted to gain practical experience.
C. Personal
   1. Personal problems.
   2. Family problems.
   3. Changed marital status.
   5. I needed a break to reconsider goals.
   6. Homesick.
   7. Academic problems.
   8. Drug or alcohol problems
D. ECU Academic
   1. Inability to get classes desired.
   2. Can not obtain a degree in my preferred field of ______________________
   3. Disappointed with quality of instruction
   4. Disappointed with quality of advising
   5. Not enough academic prestige in my field of _______________________
   6. Disappointed in level of emphasis given to academics.
E. ECU Overall
   1. School too large and impersonal.
   2. Desire to attend a larger school.
   3. Inadequate social life.
   4. Excessive social life.
   5. Drug and alcohol abuse on campus.
   6. Too far from home
   7. Too close to home
   8. Disappointed in opportunities for student development outside the classroom.
   9. Weather-related issues (Hurricane, etc.)
F. Other Reasons (Please explain below):

G. Comments:
Other Reasons *(Verbatim, with some names or department references removed)*

Homesickness was a big issue.

UNSAFE

GREENVILLE

Find a major, help with degree

ADVANCED PREGNANCY

HAVE A 2-YEAR OLD AND WANTED TO BE CLOSED TO HIS GRANDPARENTS.

WANTED A MAJOR NOT OFFERED AT ECU

No air-conditioning in dorms.

Just not the right fit for me overall. I wasn’t happy there overall either.

Public Service, Military, Army reserves—began basic training Feb 2001.

ECU is a great school. Hope to return soon.

Had a baby—wanted to stay with her while she is so little.

NATIONAL GUARD TRAINING AND ASSIGNMENT

I BASICALLY JUST NEEDED A CHANGE

Attending Pitt for Radiography

change in major (Engineering)

I plan on reattending in the fall.

Wife had a baby in October, I don’t want to miss the important things she does in her first year. I also need to buy a PC

Applying to ECU med school and others and didn’t have time to put in to a class as well.

NEED FINANCIAL AID ASSISTANCE

I am currently opening a small business in Greenville

Had a baby in Jan.

I plan to earn money to serve an 18 month mission for my church.
roomate problems

HOUSING AND STRUCTURE OF THE ART DEPT

ECU was the only university in this area that provided the classes that I needed to complete my BA in History at UAB.

Had a child and moved home

People were not friendly

b/c of baseball. I am at spring training until sept.2001. I plan to return in sept.

I got a chance to play tennis with a good offer.

MOTIVATION PROBLEMS

MOVED TO GREENSBORO
I LIKED ECU VERY MUCH. ACADEMICS AND STAFF WERE GREAT.

My instructors were good and several took a personal interest. Class size was good. I appreciated that. However, many students (particularly in my dorm) did not seem serious about their work. I felt I needed a more academic atmosphere. In one of my classes, many students were unprepared with their papers and students who were prepared were asked to hold them.

I really think the Drama dept needs more focus towards TV/film acting for those who wish to go in that direction as opposed to theatre.

Someone drugged me at a frat house party. I do not feel safe at ECU.

ECU is a great school and I enjoyed my semester there. I loved the campus, and the faculty that I encountered were very helpful and friendly. I would easily recommend it. I would have stayed if I could afford it. Plus, it was a little too far from home.

I loved going to ECU but got homesick, but I think that sickness would have gone away if I wouldn’t have felt like professors didn’t want to put enough time to help or talk to students. Would have done there office hours but that is very slim to do since I am one out of hundreds of students.

I HAD PLANNED TO TRANSFER FROM ECU BEFORE I CAME. I LOVED THE SCHOOL AND IN A WAY MISS IT. YOU HAVE A WONDERFUL INST. THANK YOU FOR A GREAT SEMESTER.

COMING BACK IN THE FALL.

I loved ECU! It wasn't the school at all.

The alcohol and Drug abuse is terrible on campus, enough to keep me from coming back to ECU for awhile.

At AIP I can concentrate more on art than on academics, which is my real passion. AIP has a 2 yr program which hold as much but, in future employment opportunities as a 4 yr degree at ECU.

I did not want to get too deeply in debt with student loans. I also found it hard to be away from all my friends.

I WANTED TO ATTEND A NURSING PROGRAM I COULD GET IN FASTER. I WANTED TO ATTEND FORSYTH TECH'S NURSING PROGRAM B/C IT HAS MORE HANDS ON OPPURTUNITY. THANKS

I am returning as full time student in 1st summer session 2001. I have remained in Greenville in my apartment with other ECU students during the current semester. I love ECU and Greenville.

I enjoyed my time at ECU, but I wanted for my degree to come from a larger school that is better well known; even outside of NC

THANKS FOR CARING, I REALLY DIDN'T WANT TO WITHDRAW FROM ECU, I LIKE IT THERE. NOW, I NEED TO TAKE CARE OF MY SON.

EXCESSIVE EXTRA CREDIT WAS GIVEN IN ALL CLASSES WHICH CAUSED THE MORAL OF STUDENTS ACADEMICS TO BE LOW. I DID NOT LIKE THE GRADING SCALE, THIS ALSO CAUSES STUDENTS TO STIVE LESS THE A+, A, A- SCALE IS MORE PRESTIGIOUS.

Housing is not to my standards of living/Greenville is not the best place to live right now b/c all of the violence.

Financial aid info enclosed and sent to financial aid.

SPENDING THE SEMESTER IN AUSTRALIA THROUGH NOLS AND PLANS TO RETURN TO ECU FOR THE FALL 2001.

DID NOT FEEL ECU WAS DOING ANYTHING TO FUTHER MY EDUCATION. WAS SICK OF TAKING BS CLASSES THAT DID NOT INTEREST ME AT ALL AND WAS SICK OF THE FACT THAT OVER HALF THE TEACHERS I HAD COULD CARE LESS IF I UNDERSTOOD WHAT WAS GOING ON. ALSO SICK OF BEING TOLD BY TEACHERS IT WAS MY JOB TO FIGURE OUT NOT THEIRS TO HELP ME. WHAT ARE THEY GETTING PAID FOR?
I don't get enough financial aid that my parents can't afford to pay off later. So I have to work full time and go to school. Communication (Graphic and Design) requires much out of class homework and in class time for hours available. There are not enough hours in a day or week to do all I need. Was hospitalized for exhaustion last semester. Need to take a break.

I MAINLY DID NOT FEEL SAFE IN THE AREA WITH ALL THE DRUG USE.

Great classes with excellent professors. Good relationship b/w them and the students. Rec center is definitely a great addition that I miss.

I HAVE NEVER MEET SO MANY RUDE, HATEFUL, AND UNCARING PEOPLE IN MY LIFE. NO ONE WANTS TO HELP YOU AT ECU INCLUDING STAFF AND STUDENTS AND THE ATMOSPHERE IS SO UP TIGHT. I ALSO BECAME SERIOUSLY DEPRESSED AND SLEPT THE MAJORITY OF MY TIME

I have enrolled for fall 2001.

HAD TO WITHDRAW B/C OF MEDICAL REASONS BUT WILL RETURN IN THE FALL 2001.

I loved ECU, but I needed to transfer for my own good.

I did not transfer I am taking classes at State that are counting towards my credit hours at ECU. I needed to take a break from Greenville and spend time w/ family in Raleigh.

Thank you for the letter. I am currently doing an internship at the NC General Assembly in Raleigh. I am taking credited classes at NCSU. I thought that ECU would have this info. I had completed many forms, one which approved my internship. Your letter makes me wonder wether there was something not reported to the school. I hope that this will clear everything. If you have any questions you may contact my advisor in PS or e-mail me at vsansour@hotmail.com.

I found the teachers I had at ECU to be more personal than the teachers at App. I enjoyed that aspect of ECU but I have always wanted to attend App.

To much partying publicized all over, not my kind of educational env.

UNC-to participate in their study abroad program to Florence.

Found that the soccer head coach did not meet his promised financial aid at registration and I was afraid of how many people like him with authority I will come across during my 4 yrs at ECU. It was very disappointing to me and I will not forget it in my life.

I got married and was starting a family and my husband lived away from Greenville.

Plan to attend ECU in 2002 school yr.

THERE WAS NOT A PROGRAM OFFERED THERE THAT I WAS INTERESTED IN. AFTER I DECIDED NOT TO BE A DANCE MAJOR.

The classes I need are only offered during the mornings- EITHER 3X PER WEEK OR EVERYDAY. COMING FROM ROCKY MOUNT I WOULD BE MISSING TOO MUCH TIME FROM WORK. IF THE CLASSES WERE 1X, FOR A LONGER PERIOD OF TIME IT WOULD BE NO PROBLEM. MAJOR CONFLICT WITH JOB I HAVE TO WORK- NO OPTION FOR ME.

I WILL BE RETURNING TO CLASS NEXT SEMESTER FULL TIME. ECU HAS SHOWN ME AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO SUCCEED. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONCERN.

I am an RN working 50-60 hrs a week in Rocky Mount. School is my avocation, but I do not have the time and the energy at this time to pursue my education.

CHANGED MAJOR AND PITT OFFERED A GREAT PROGRAM IN MY NEW MAJOR WHICH WOULD REQUIRE LESS TIME AND MONEY THAN THE SAME MAJOR AT ECU. I DID ENJOY MY TIME AT ECU AND IT WAS A GOOD LEARNING EXPERIENCE.

everyone treated me well at ECU, however financial obligations prohibited me from finishing semester.

I intend to register for classes on March 26, 2001, for summer 1, summer 2, and fall.

I would like to get info on ECU classes that are offered through off campus classes. (Seymor Johnson AFB)
PRIOR TO REGISTRATION FOR SPRING SEMESTER, MY ADVISOR TOLD ME THAT WITH MY GRADES AND GPA, THAT I COULD NEVER GET INTO GRAD SCHOOL AT ECU OR ANYWHERE ELSE. She offered ME NO SUPPOERT OR NO SUGGESTIONS ON WHAT OTHER OPPURTUNITIES I WOULD HAVE ONCE I GRADUATED. I WAS VERY DISCOURAGED AND DECIDED TO TAKE A SEMESTER OF TWO OFF. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONCERN.

I appreciate the interest and will be back in the summer.

ENROLLED AS 2ND DEGREE STUDENT IN CASE JOB DIDN'T COME THROUGH. IT DID

I RIDE A BIKE TO SCHOOL. ECU TRANSPORTATION IS POOR TO MY AREA. I LIVE ON SW GREENVILLE BLVD. AT BRASSWOOD COURT. FINANCIALLY I AM AT THIS TIME NOT ABLE TO MOVE CLOSER TO CAMPUS. I WISH TO TRAVEL BY EITHER SCHOOL OR PUBLIC TRANS. THE CITY BUS THAT GOES TO CAROLINA EAST MALL WHERE I CAN USE. BIKE TO BUS IS AT LEAST A MILE FROM WHERE I LIVE MEANING DURING RAIN OR HIGH WINDS I FACE DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES TO TRAVEL. I WILL BE RETURNING I HOPE THE 2ND SUMMER SESSION. I FEEL IT IS UNFAIR TO CHARGE THE $45 REAMISSON FEE FOR BEING OUT THE SPRING V. THE SUMMER SESSIONS. NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENTS OF AGE MAY TEND TO HAVE DIFFERENT ATTENDENCE SCHEDULES THAN TRADITIONAL AGE. I AM WORKING TO GET THAT FEE IN AT THIS TIME. WE HAVE QUITE A FEW COLD DAYS IN THE SPRING WHICH HAD AN IMPACT ON MY ATTENDENCE.

PLEASE CONSIDER GETTING A RADIOGRAPHY DEPT.

After graduating from PCC, I plan to go back to ECU.

HAD A BABY. FINISHING MY DEGREE SUMMER 1 2001.

Will return if quality of education improves and ECU is run more like an educational institution and less like a business. Please feel free to contact me. Maybe I just had a streak of bad luck. #752-9329

I STARTED AT ECU IN 1987 AND HAVE HAD SOME PERSONAL SITUATIONS COME UP. FINANCIALLY I HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO ATTEND AND CAN NOT RECEIVE AID B/C I HAVE BEEN IN SCHOOL SO LONG. I HAD SOME BAD SEMESTERS AND TRY TO TAKE CLASSES EVERY NOW AND THEN. IF I COULD RECEIVE SOME TYPE OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE I COULD CONCENTRATE ON FINISHING MY DEGREE. IF THERE IS SUCH ASSISTANCE PLEASE INFORM ME.


EXPECTED FOR FALL 2001 SEMESTER.

WOULD LIKE TO RETURN PART TIME SECOND SUMMER SESSION

Please mail me an application for fall 2001.

I WITHDREW FROM SCHOOL TO HELP MY HUSBAND THROUGH CHEMO TREATMENT AND FULL TIME HOME CAR. I DID NOT RETURN IN THE SPRING FOR THAT SAME REASON. My husband PASSED AWAY FEB 9,2001. I AM TAKING SOME TIME OFF BUT PLAN ON RETURNING TO ECU.

After a great deal of thought and personal introspection I decided to change my major. The current major computer science began to wear thin on me and I lost considerable interest. Therefore I have decided to become a Geology major for which I have considerable passion. I did not return in the spring because I lost my financial aid and couldn’t afford my bills.

I just wanted to get a Christian Education

Senior II scheduling had to be worked out w/ full time employment.

My problem mainly is that I am employed full time, in debt, and waiting for a hearing to my license reinstated. Also, very hard to set aside time to study when worn out working full time.

I withdrew at first for only a semester b/c I got married. Then my husband and I found out we were going to have a baby so now it is indefinite on how long I will stay out. I thoroughly enjoyed my time at ECU. Everyone was helpful and friendly. I have no complaints from the University. Also my address has changed to 3228 S. Evans St. apt 1C.

ECU needs to offer more options for night classes for those who work full time and must go at night to fulfill a degree.

I am a graduate of UNC in 1971. I was taking courses to keep in my career only. May or may not continue.
It seems that having been out of school temporarily in the past, ECU could make returning a little easier. I had to do a lot of visiting different offices, fill out forms, etc. Having a single visit office type situation would greatly improve returning to school.

Ecu needs greater support for part time students.

I wanted to obtain a 2nd degree in Chem, however classes are only offered during certain semesters and during hours that conflict with a full-time job. When classes become more suitable for non-traditional working students, I would love to return and complete my goals.

The reason I did not return is because of my military commitment. I know I was going to be away for 3 weeks, so I did not register for classes. But I am returning in the fall. Just wish you offered more evening classes.

I AM GOING PART TIME AND WORKING AS WELL. Will attend ecu again in the next year or so. Great campus.

I plan to return as the classes are offered that do not show conflict with the employment and my financial aid is readily available.

I had the opportunity to open Fox’s Pizza Den on Hwy 33E. I had to take advantage of this opportunity therefore I will not return to get my degree until I have established this business.

Father became ill with prostate cancer and as only of the siblings that live in close proximity to my parents I had to take a lot of the responsibility. I do plan to return in the Fall of 2001.

enjoyed my learning experience at ECU

I felt that the goal I had as a wife and mother of 2 preschoolers was more important than school at this point in my life. Education is not in any way worth abandoning my family. It only took me one semester to figure out and discover what I should do

I’m working full time and usually by the time I am able to register, the classes I need are already full and I don’t have the money to just take a class so that I won’t have to reapply.

I love ECU can’t wait to come back.

I plan to start back on Fall’01 weekend program.

I PLAN TO RETURN TO ECU TO GRADUATE.

I will be returning to ECU in the spring of 2001-02 school year. New address and name.

After my mission I plan to return to college either at ECU or NCSU because of their agricultural school.

I love Ecu and I can’t wait for my health to improve so that I can return.

THANKS FOR A GREAT SCHOOL. IT JUST WASN’T FOR ME.

Will be back for fall term.

WHEN APPLYING FOR HOUSING I REQUESTED NON-SMOKING/NON-SUBSTANCE ABUSE. I ENDED UP GETTING NEITHER AND WHEN I REQUESTED A CHANGE, HOUSING SERVICES SAID I COULD NOT TRANSFER HOUSING UNTIL THE FOLLOWING SEMESTER. THE ART DEPT. IS NOT STRICT ENOUGH AND DOES NOT EXPECT ENOUGH TO THEIR STUDENTS UNTIL THE UPPER LEVEL CLASSES. THE ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION I RECEIVED WAS EXTREMELY DISAPPOINTING.

I already graduated with a marketing degree from the school of Buss. I came back in the fall to take a course for personal reasons not to pursue another degree. Thanks for your concern.

ECU IS A GOOD SCHOOL. I DO MISS IT.

Thanks for your concern. I hope to be back in school for the fall.

Was assigned to a job that requires extensive travel. Need to determine if school is workable w/ new job schedule. Hope to be back soon.

I had to take a break to save money.

Mostly I began to have financial problems, I had to work a lot of hours, and I couldn’t keep up with the school work, I was happy with ECU and hopefully I will be able to return. Thanks
Employment reasons, could not graduate in the length of time that suited my financial status. I know that tech is a must in today's time, but classes I took at ECU did require some computer internet research. I did not have a computer and because of work could not use computer labs at school. If I knew how important having a computer would have been I would of never came to ECU. I think the school needs to realize this.

I hope to return to ECU soon. I just have to find a better way to afford it. I had an apartment, truck payment, etc. Tuition was not a problem with my student loan, it was just too much with these other expenses. I also had trouble finding a job before school started.

I withdrew to search for a job that would accommodate my school schedule and pay well enough to help raise a family.

ECU is a wonderful university and has excellent facilities. The library at ECU is the best I have ever seen. Dr. Parkerson in the History dept is one of the best professors I have ever had.

ECU is a good school. I withdrew b/c of pregnancy.

Thank you for your concern. I am not sure that I will be able to physically take what is required. Back problem put me down for 4 months. Will have to wait and see how improvements come along.

I have no idea what I want to do w/ my life. My parents kept saying if I just went to school I'd figure out what I wanted to do, but still after 2 years (One in school, one out of school), I still didn't know. I am planning on reapplying to ECU.

IT IS MORE EXPENSIVE TO ATTEND ART SCHOOL B/C: MATERIALS, LONG AND TIME CONSUMING CLASSES THAT DON'T COUNT FOR ENOUGH CREDIT HOURS. To much ecu budget going to things like image improvements rather than to help with materials, more library resources, etc...

I spent 4 semesters at Craven CC taking courses for my preferred degree based on ECU's advisor. All courses were transferable however, when I enrolled at ECU I was told I would have to retake courses that I had already completed. I didn't even have an advisor and when I did meet with someone I was told that standards had been upgraded in Aug 2001. I was discouraged and disbelieved that I had to retake Mang Acct, another Bio, Macro Econ. The impression I have of ECU is that money is the key and sound working knowledge of a subject is insignificant. At this point my ECU experience has not been a positive one.

Particular classes I need, I can't get.

Planning to return-please keep me on mailing list-for pre registration in summer and fall.

I completed my 1st BS degree in July 2000 and started the fall semester as a 2nd degree student in order to take two more classes that I wanted to take.

I loved ECU, I wish I was still there.

I did not like many of the people that I met. Many of the southern girls were very gossip oriented and not as nice as they should have been to others. There wasn't much consideration of feelings from almost all of the people I met (even the ones I didn't become friends with)

I felt that the people were not friendly, especially people in the transfer department. People were not very helpful. My RA was not good so I never got to meet people outside my suite.

There was nothing about ECU I did not like. I loved it there. I had to leave b/c academic reasons.

class size to large. THIS IS SECOND SURVEY FILLED OUT

I did not feel that my advisor or instructors cared eather I was successful or not. In 3 semesters, I had foreign prof who were difficult to understand. I did seek academic help, but it also was hard to find, and impersonal when I found it. My parents and I were disappointed with ECU. I may return after I receive a degree at Pitt.

ECU IS A GREAT SCHOOL, BUT I FELT I NEEDDED A CHANGE.

I AM PREGNANT AND NEED 6 MONTHS AFTER BABY IS BORN TO BOND WITH HER BEFORE I GO BACK TO SCHOOL.

This is a good school but it is not what I wanted. It was to large for someone like me. There is to much drug and alcohol abuse.

I plan to make contact w/ an advisor and seek advice for my future plans. Any names that can be of my assistance would be apprieciated and help in my return and success at ECU.
I feel that some of the ECU advisors need to be more informative and try to help transfer students get better schedules b/c I had a really bad schedule which conflicted with me working. So I decided to go back to a comm. College. And also some of the instructors need to get rid of the "I don't care attitude".

I would love to return to ECU for the summer session if I could. I stopped going because I need reliable trans and I needed a job. Now I have a reliable job and trans I could go back, I want to go back. I also needed help with my classes and I didn't know who my advisor was.

I may have future problems due to weekend university ending. I currently have a full-time job, but desire to further my education in the pursuit of BA in Management.

I love ECU. And hope to return in the fall. Since I have to reapply I would like an application.

AM INTERESTED IN OBTAINING MY DEGREE IN INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES AND WOULD LIKE TO MEET TO DISCUSS THIS. THANKS

JOIN US AIR FORCE-GREAT OPP. FOR CAREER PLUS EDUCATION

Medical withdraw-->lower back condition. I have worked a lot over the withdraw period and I am very excited about returning to school.

I HAVE HAD A FINANCIAL PROBLEM PLUS MY PARENTS AND I THOUGHT I TAKE A SEMESTER OFF TO GET MYSELF BACK ON TRACK. SO I CAN THINK MORE ABOUT WHAT I CAN DO TO BRING MY ACADEMIC GRADES UP WHEN I RETURN TO ECU. PLUS I HAVE OUTSTANDING BALANCE WITH THE CASHIERS OFFICE, AND WOULD LIKE TO TALK WITH SOMEONE TO GET THAT SETTLED SO I CAN RETURN.

I wanted to move back to NY where I grew up.

I need to know if I can still get my 2yr associates degree.

Trying to figure out what to do in life. Have job now planning schooling somewhere else in fall.

love the school, just wasn't for me.

WITHDREW FROM ECU TO FULLFILL MILITARY OBLIGATIONS. He had planned on being out for one semester, returning in the fall. However, due to the school that he is going for may not return until the spring 2002. I will keep you informed of what transpires. He is currently in basic training and will leave basic and got to Fort Sam Houston, Tx for advance individual training (AIT)-pharmaceutical school on May 17, 2001. He will spend 21 week for this training. This may prevent him from reporting back to ECU by August 23 late registration.

Please send info on finacial aid. Letter attachment has been sent to Dana Espionsa.

I had several medical problems which prohibited me from attending classes, these problems have since been taken care of and I hope to return in the Fall.

Did not like the classes. Teachers did not care about you.

Counseling Center needs to be advertised much more. Many people I asked on campus (staff included) knew nothing about it. Some people did not even know where it was.

Inadequate parking for freshman. Prof needs to take speech classes to learn how to speak English correctly. I did very poorly in his class and believe it was partly b/c I couldn't understand a word he was saying.
The most recent survey of undergraduates who were eligible to return Fall 2000, but did not do so, yielded results similar to those of the Fall 1999 Survey of Non-Returning Students. Although more of the students who were surveyed had been on academic probation the previous semester, there does not appear to be an increase in the number of respondents who selected “academic problems” as a reason for not returning to ECU. It also does not appear that Hurricane Floyd played a large role in these students’ decisions not to return.

Table 1, below, shows the proportions of respondents who indicated that they had withdrawn from ECU or transferred to another institution.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Fall 1999</th>
<th>Fall 2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Withdrew permanently</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Withdrew temporarily</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For one semester*</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For one year*</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other*</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transferred to a community college</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transferred to another UNC institution</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transferred elsewhere</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Percentage of those who withdrew temporarily.

The Survey

ECU conducts a survey each semester to determine the reasons why students who were eligible to return did not do so. This information is of great interest to faculty and administrators who would like to improve retention rates. This survey was conducted by telephone by the Survey Research Laboratory at ECU during the Fall 2000 semester.

Telephone calls were made to 1,216 students who were enrolled Spring semester 2000, were eligible to return Fall semester 2000, but did not do so. The response rate was 35.9 percent, higher than the response rate for the Fall 1999 mail survey (30.7 percent).
More students in the Fall 2000 survey indicated that they withdrew permanently than in the Fall 1999 survey. This is probably the result of the telephone survey because these students have little incentive to respond to a mail survey.

The same percentage (37%) indicated that they withdrew temporarily, although a larger percentage indicated that the temporary withdrawal was for only one semester. A smaller percentage of respondents indicated that they transferred elsewhere (other than a community college or another UNC institution).

Table 2 shows the responses to questions about the reasons for not returning to ECU. The reasons given for not returning appear to be roughly comparable to those given by non-returning students Fall 1999. However, changes in survey methodology make it impossible to make direct comparisons. The telephone survey Fall 2000 may have encouraged respondents to select only one reason for each category whereas the mail survey Fall 1999 instructed respondents to check all reasons that applied. For that reason, the percentage of students responding declined across all reasons except one: “Disappointed in opportunities for student development outside the classroom”, where a higher percentage responded.

Three new reasons were added in the Fall 2000 survey:
1. “Drug or alcohol problems” among the list of “Personal” reasons. Four respondents (0.9%) selected this reason.
2. “Drug and alcohol abuse on campus” among the “ECU Overall” reasons. Three respondents (0.7%) selected this reason.
3. “Weather-related issues” among the “ECU Overall” reasons. Eight respondents (1.8%) selected this reason.

Each of the respondents who indicated that weather-related issues were a factor in their decision not to return were asked how much of a role that Hurricane Floyd played in their decision. The response scale was “1”-“6” with “1” meaning “only a little”, “5” meaning “A great deal”, and “6” meaning “Did not play a role.” The results were as follows (verbatim):

- One responded “only a little” with the following elaboration:
  “Did affect her and her friends. Overall gave her a poor outlook on academics. There are more things more important than academics. For example, friends and family.”

- Three responded with a code “3” indicating that Hurricane Floyd affected their decision somewhat. Two elaborated as follows: “They cancelled the break. Had school on Saturday. The Committee did not care about students, they were only concerned about students being in class. This was an emergency. School is too big. Classes overcrowded. 250 students in one class. Too big.”
And “She did not agree with having to come back to a school that she was paying to learn how to cope with a hurricane. And she felt like there were too many things going to get a good quality education. She is from upstate and they didn’t have to deal with hurricanes.”

(The third did not elaborate.)

■ Three responded “A great deal.” Two elaborated as follows:
“She was horrified by all the water and the magnitude of it. She wrecked her brand-new car 1 day before the hurricane actually hit, so she was stranded with no way to get home once it began to flood. She was upset that classes were not cancelled earlier prior to the hurricane.”

And “She was stuck here during the flood and could not leave as soon as she wanted to leave to go home. She was stuck here and terrified that she could not be near her family. When she did make it home she vowed that she never wanted to be in a situation like that again.”

(The third did not elaborate.)

■ One did not respond.

The two most common reasons for not returning given by undergraduates surveyed were “Financial problems not related to student financial aid” (19.8%), and “I needed a break to reconsider goals” (19.4%).

The most common reason given by students who transferred to a community college or to another UNC institution was “personal problems” (13.9% and 18.2%, respectively). The most common reason given by students who transferred elsewhere or withdrew temporarily was “Financial problems not related to student financial aid” (17.5% and 27.2%, respectively). The most common reason given by students who withdrew permanently was “personal problems” (15.7%).

The following pages contain:

• Table 2- Summary of Survey Responses
• “Other” reasons given for not returning (verbatim)
• Comments received from non-returning students (verbatim)
## Survey of Non-Returning Students
### Fall Semester 2000

### Table 2 - Summary of Survey Responses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fall 1999</th>
<th>Fall 2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Students Mailed/Telephoned</td>
<td>889</td>
<td>1216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Responses</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Response Rate</td>
<td>30.7%</td>
<td>35.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table: Reasons for not returning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Fall 1999</th>
<th>Fall 2000</th>
<th>Percent of respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Responses</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>437</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>437</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community College</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNC Institution</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>17.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elsewhere</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily</td>
<td>70</td>
<td></td>
<td>37.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>16.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### A. Financial**
- Lack of adequate student financial aid: 13.2% (16.7%)
- Financial problems not related to student financial aid: 19.8% (11.6%)

#### B. Employment**
- School conflicts with current employment: 8.8% (10.4%)
- I was offered a good job elsewhere: 2.9% (1.4%)
- I wanted to gain practical experience: 4.4% (1.4%)

#### C. Personal**
- Personal problems: 19.0% (13.9%)
- Family problems: 11.4% (14.3%)
- Changed marital status: 2.9% (0.0%)
- Health problems: 9.5% (1.3%)
- I needed a break to reconsider goals: 19.4% (7.9%)
- Homesick: 5.1% (1.6%)
- I needed a break to reconsider goals: 19.4% (7.9%)
- I was offered a good job elsewhere: 2.9% (1.4%)
- I wanted to gain practical experience: 4.4% (1.4%)

#### D. ECU Academic**
- Inability to get classes desired: 12.5% (2.8%)
- Can not obtain a degree in my preferred field: 9.9% (2.8%)
- Disappointed with quality of instruction: 10.3% (2.8%)
- Disappointed with quality of advising: 10.6% (2.8%)
- Not enough academic prestige in my field: 2.9% (0.0%)
- Disappointed in the level of emphasis given to academics: 7.3% (0.0%)

#### E. ECU Overall**
- School too large and impersonal: 7.0% (2.8%)
- Desire to attend a larger school: 0.4% (0.0%)
- Inadequate social life: 2.9% (0.0%)
- Excessive social life: 7.7% (2.8%)
- Drug and alcohol abuse on campus: 10.6% (2.8%)
- Too far from home: 1.8% (2.8%)
- Disappointed in opportunities for student development outside the classroom: 3.3% (2.8%)
- Weather-related issues: 1.8% (2.8%)

#### F. Other Reasons
- 35.2% (40.3%)

** Note: Results for Fall 1999 and Fall 2000 are not completely comparable. Respondents Fall 1999 were asked to check all reasons that applied. Respondents to the telephone survey for Fall 2000 were more likely to select only one reason for each category.

** Totals calculated differently Fall 1999 and Fall 2000
Other Reasons  *(Verbatim, with some names or department references removed)*

The distance.

Lost a good friend in a car wreck, and could not handle being here.

Financial reason; work; cannot understand professor's lectures

Lack of focus, people party too much and you are there to be educated, teachers were aware and you felt as if you could do better as far as grades

He was expecting the birth of child soon and he needed to handle financial obligations that the expectation of a new child would bring.

May consider going to Appalachian in a year or two.

Moved out into her own apartment and became overwhelmed with all of her bills and having to pay tuition as well.

She lived in a "party" dorm and could not concentrate on her school work.

She wanted to be closer to her family and closer to home. Also she had a sister who was going to NC State and she wanted to be with her.

She graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Art and she started working right away. She had signed up for a 2nd degree, and hadn't returned yet.

He did not like Greenville, ECU is fine, but he hated the town.

He was having to drive from Raleigh everyday.

I took some classes at ECU just to transfer the credits to another University where I just graduated from.

Dental hygiene isn't offered at ECU.

[department name], the chairman. Kept switching admittance to the professional acting program. He was a very unhelpful and unfriendly man.

CRIME: Her roommate was raped and severely beaten. She stayed with her for three days after this. She sat beside the guys who did it in class, and they continuously eye-balled her. She had nightmares about the whole thing. She was very uneasy about th (comment exceeded space available.)

Could not get the degree he wanted and he had financial problems

Closer to home

She just needed time to reconsider what she wants to do before she wastes money on something that she really doesn't want to do.

To get into the nursing program

I had already completed a master's and I went to ECU to complete a medical school pre-requisite.

My parents, I was too far away from them.
ECU isn't very organized.

It is overcrowded

Because he was on a baseball scholarship and it was recommended that he go somewhere else if he wanted some playing time.

The snow was the real big issue. She was commuter. When it was snowing a lot, the roads were fine in Greenville but bad where she was coming from. After that, her son was really sick. She missed a lot of classes so she thought that it was best if she wi (comment exceeded space available.)

Had a son and didn't want to leave him with her family

Parents won't pay for it anymore

She was hit by a car over the summer and got a broken leg. She needed time to recover and decided that sitting this semester out would be the best way to do things. She has applied for admission for the spring.

Was accepted to a radiology program at the comm. college and it was not offered here.

Pregnant

Medical

Pregnant, had a baby

She went to play professional basketball for Israel.

The community college offers the same courses cheaper.

She wanted to be closer to home so she transferred to a community college.

Advisor told the wrong date, time to register; because of this you are a year behind. When you discover this it was too late to get in the class.

She had a baby.

There is a legal suit pending. His son was beat up by the ECU police at the NC State and ECU football game. They are very unhappy and disappointed with this university.

She said she will be returning to ECU after she serves her 4 years in the Army.

Closer to home and in state

I was pregnant and had a baby.

Didn't want to go to school at this time

She said she wasn't ready for a big University, so she chose to go back to the community college in her hometown.

He needed to take some extra math classes so that he would be eligible to come back in about two semesters.
She wanted to be closer to her family.

Tuition reimbursement from company require to pay up front out of pocket, this caused a hardship for the student.

His program isn’t offered here

To take care of a math class and go to a smaller school

Wanted a change and be closer to the beach

Partially finance and partially sports program

Pregnant first semester

His computer science classes didn’t measure up to his expectations

Wanted to get a two-year degree, instead of a four-year degree. He would not have to be in school as long.

She was sent to ten different people to get the answer to one question. She felt lost and like the faculty was not helpful at all in helping her adjust to a new college atmosphere because she was a transfer student.

Wanted to move back home

She was in auto accident and she is still suffering problems from the accident

Didn't like Greenville

She is going to move to Colorado in a couple of months and she will most likely enroll in school there.

Her advisor recommended that she go to a community college in her hometown and take some refresher courses. She plans on coming back to finish the work on her master’s.

He is going into the military, the Marine Corp.

She felt like she could have attended a better academic school than ECU.

Her father was in an accident and she needed to be home to help out.

He wanted to be closer to home.

She ran out of money and could not afford to keep taking out loans.

I was working while my husband went to school full time. Now he is working full time and I will be returning to school.

He wanted to finish his associates degree in electronic communications technology.

She was an intended business major, and could never get any of her classes w/o being special added. She felt that her chances of obtaining a business degree were slim to none here at ECU and she did not enjoy dealing with the hassle of having to go and g (comment exceeded space available.)
A member of women's soccer team and came to ECU to play soccer and it did not work out

Location

His wife graduated and had to get a job and he was able to get a job near her without a degree. He was able to help get his wife a job also by moving to Raleigh and had to drop out to be able to do that.

Not sure what she wanted to do

He never got an interview to get in the program so he transferred to another university to seek for bachelor science degree and be able to get into masters program.

He lost everything in the flood

She didn't like the town of Greenville.

He got suspended

Wife is pregnant

My family was so far away and I got engaged.

Her husband graduated from ECU and when he graduated she moved with him to Fayetteville for him to get a job.

He said the degree he was trying to get was too demanding while he was trying to work at the same time.

Wanted to get out of the town.

He said he just needed to take a rest.

ECU did not have her desired major. She is going to a Culinary School to become a chef.

Left to be closer to home.

Didn't like ECU and out of state tuition was too high

Didn't have time for work, school and family.

It is a better location where he is at the present time.

Change of major

She said she couldn't find a place to stay in a short amount of time.

Just wanted a change of environment.

She didn't like Greenville & had to get away. Loved the school, though.

Felt like going somewhere else, didn't really like it
She wanted to cheer

Has a degree, husband moved so the family moved

Play Baseball at PCC

Softball program

His instructors were foreigners and he could not understand their dialect. He had a hard time taking notes and following along with their poor English. Also he had an advisor who never kept office hours. He felt as though he was wasting his parents money, didn't do well with my classes so wasn't allowed to go back.

Get nursing degree in two years and then transfer somewhere to get bachelors degree maybe ECU.

Just wanted to take some time off.

She said that she was diagnosed with ADD by someone at student health, and then went to see a psychiatrist who said she did not have ADD. She said this caused some confusion in her life and was difficult and added to her dropping out temporarily.

She said she left also because she could concentrate better while she was at home.

He left for a girl.

Being closer to home.

Didn't like the town of Greenville. He's more of a mountain man. Didn't like taking all classes every single day of the week. He was in that program that gives students a slower transition b/t highschool & college.

She just didn't like ECU. She said she really doesn't know why.

He had paper work problems from transferring from a community college, he couldn't take the classes that he needed to take, so he couldn't be enrolled full-time. In order for him to keep his medical insurance he had to be full-time. miscommunication betw (comment exceeded space available.)

Distance

Wanted a different Field

Did not really like Greenville.

Missed family

I transferred to go to a college in state.

I had a change in social patterns.

I had to work so that my wife could continue her education while I worked. When she gets her degrees and begins working, then I will continue my education.

I got pregnant.
I was in a motorcycle accident and was unable to complete school because I was in the hospital.

His grades were not up to par.

She was not going to graduate when she was supposed to.

Too far away from home

He switched majors and went to a better school for his new major

The business school pulled out of the weekend classes

Depression; Medical Problems

I just got married and will be moving to Italy.

Received a non-passing grade twice and was told that he had to leave.

Medical reasons

Went to the navy

It would have taken me another year to get into the program that I was going for.

Having a baby!

Was homesick!!

Accepted to Pitt Nursing school, if ECU had accepted her, she would have went there.

She just did not like ECU.

He wanted to be a dentist, he was accepted to State's pre-dental program.

Left because he was trying to get through school faster

Too far from home

Job

Is enrolled @ Campbell University; His family is from Greenville and he went to Campbell to be in a different location. When he was @ ECU he didn't really know what he wanted to do.

Found it tough for professors; they didn't have respect for the other courses that he was enrolled in

Wasn't real happy with the way they treated commuter students.

He just had a bad semester
Just wanted to take a break from school.

He knows god doesn't want him to be at ECU anymore

Didn't want to get into the curricula that she was in and what she wanted was not offered here. Some of the teachers she liked as people, but not as teachers.

Did not have particular degree
Comments (Verbatim, with some names or department references removed)

Not enough money, ECU withdrew huge amounts of financial aid, many of her friends also had to leave because they simply couldn't afford to live, and she was only a year away from graduating.
Felt that the professors should be a little more in touch with the students and the advisors were not a big help!
Misses ECU and feels that it is one of the best Universities around
She was depressed.
She picked up an application and is considering returning in about a year or so.
He is thinking about coming back if it will fit into his new work schedule.
Yes. She was smart enough to realize that if she did not transfer to another school that was not so "high on partying", she would have flunked out of school.
She was just a home-body. She liked to be near her family.
He transferred to UNC-G and found a better paying job too.
She got married.
He is planning on coming back in the spring, if housing situation works out
ECU has too many people.
It was just not for me, it's a great College don't get me wrong but I didn't want to be in the atmosphere of parties around downtown and all the bad roommates anymore.
Some of the academic requirements I didn't like.
How long will her application be held before she would have to pay another application fee?
Find another way of getting into the fine art programs
I wish they had more help for LDs. I felt like I didn't get the help that I should have and I don't necessarily know what they could have done to improve it but they should help the LDs more.
I love the institution, it had served me well.
I really like the nursing program, that's my major.
Not really, I really liked ECU, as a matter fact I like it better than NC State but my reasons for leaving weren't due to anything the university could have done better.
There are too many students and they don't get the help and attention they need. Also, ECU is too preoccupied by showing an image of an outstanding and large University but they need to pay more attention to the students and have more resources to help the
They have people calling here 3 times a day asking for money and I don't like that. It's aggravating.
Not really, it's a nice school to be at.
They need to need to have more informations about scholarships not just for ECU locally but national scholarships.
I liked it and it's a good school with good professors.
I definitely liked it but it was just that courses in my major weren't offered.
There isn't enough support for returning students.
ECU's enrollment has increased tremendously. You go to school to meet people and get an education and with the increase in students you can't do that.
No, ECU is a great school.
The classes were offered on the weekend
Parking for commuters is very bad. Hard to find good parks.
I rather be at ECU
She took a semester off for medical reasons and plans to return in the spring.
The Parking! It's a struggle to park on campus and if you don't have a sticker it's very difficult to park anywhere close.
Everything was fine, maybe the maintenance in the dorms should be improved.
She likes ECU.
He just wanted to go to NC State.
Health problems, needed to be closer to family.
Love the school but got married and had a baby.
He will be returning to get his degree.
A better way of helping students, still do not have an advisor only a temp
She said that she enjoyed the university while she was here.
ECU mental health service need to improve, miss diagnose you for a year, the reason student had to return.
Live in Goldsboro and heard that they would be coming on base, that would be good.
This isn't her home phone number is [number]
He wished we had more classes at night
Hope they do bring the universities to Elem Ed. on weekends and be able to do all the classes except Student teaching
Registered for the summer. Trying to get into PA or MD program.
Her classes were too big and she saw a lot of people cheating
She hated the dorm life she missed home, etc.
Grades were good over here
Enjoyed ECU just was too far away from home
She left because she is going to have a baby.
She left school because she is going to have a baby
ECU was a great school and she enjoyed it
Thought you would do better at home
He started his own business
He liked ECU but heard about a better program in Maryland
She was also had a big ordeal with Student Services, b/c they lost her shot records and dropped her from the roll and she had to locate documents proving she had the shots.
She just wanted to work and attend school at the same time, Vance Community College offered more flexibility.
She would like for ECU to tailor to students that have graduated, because technically neither situation pertain to her.

Wanted to attend a school that was closer to her home.

She had attended UNC-Chapel Hill for a year prior to transferring to ECU, and thought she would be happier here, close to home. When in fact, She found out that she was much happier with UNC-Chapel Hill's academic structure for her intended major.

It's hard to work full time and take classes, too.

Plans on coming back

He wasn't happy with the people around him and just wasn't happy here.

Financial aid needs to have more of a personality and treat individuals based on their particular needs

School conflicted with her work schedule and she did not have time to study.

UNCW offers an extension program where he could take the classes that he needed. i.e. He could take the classes from a location separate from the school. The place where he takes the classes is in the same town that he lives.

He is disappointed in ECU's curriculum due to his wife not being able to get a job easily with her degree and him being able to get a job easily without a degree. He did not specify what degrees he was referring to.

When he was in chemistry he went to his professor to help him and he said he could help him there but he didn't have time for individual instruction and said to get a tutor and this was expensive and the price of ECU is enough already.

She plans on returning to ECU when she lives closer to campus and doesn't have to commute so far.

[Name] is power hungry. She has too much power. The school should protect the students more. He was a member of the Greek council and got suspended because some of his frat brothers were accused of hazing.

I think East Carolina is fantastic and I want to come back soon!

ECU is a great school. I'll be back next semester.

She wants to come back

She liked ECU.

She is coming back next semester.

Coming back for junior and senior years

The sooner I get back, the better I want to have my master before 37.

He was just busy and needed a semester off.

Everything was fine while I was there I'm hoping to return as soon as I can.

He is being transferred by his job to another place, but he had every intention of completing his degree at ECU.

She was wondering if she will be able to re-enroll in ECU, b/c she left only to get her money situated.

Wouldn't recommend the dorm life to anyone b/c of the costs. Thinks it's a rip-off.

Tried to talk to professors about health problems and they seemed unconcerned.

No not all

If she goes back for more schooling, she plans on coming back in a couple of years

N/A.

She needed in state tuition, but was required to pay out of state tuition, she needed to wait another semester before she would technically be an in state resident and then she will be able to pay the cheaper in state tuition.
Wanted to go back near her home, where it would be cheaper for her to live b/c she had already been here for four years.

He needed to go to work to make some money, but he plans on coming back next semester.

Her health problems led to financial problems that student financial aid does not cover, so she had to take a semester off. She plans to come back this spring.

I had a great time financial aid just didn't kick in like I thought.

Its great school.

He said his reason for leaving was due to academics, but he really did not want to discuss the details about it.

Her financial aid paperwork was never processed, so she had no funds to attend school.

She was placed on academic probation, and did not want to have to fight that battle, so she decided to transfer.

He did not receive enough money in loans not to have a full time job. He also did not receive enough loan money to pay for tuition.

I liked it, but it was just too far from home.

He just moved back home that's all.

He had an accident and he can't move the lower part of his body. He said he is coming back as soon as he can.

He was taking Russian and ECU discontinued it. He had an English class taught by a T.A. named Mr Brock who couldn't spell and he thought that was a reflection on ECU.

He left because he wasn't sure what he wanted to do.

ECU Transit was really great.

She would still be at ECU if ECU had horticulture as a major.

I love ECU, please let me back in!!!

This semester will be a better semester because my schedule is better so that I will be able to concentrate on my studies.

Thinks ECU is a good school.

She doesn't think that faculty on tenure really care about students. They didn't really teach her, didn't show up for classes, and didn't show a general interest in the students. And the noise in the dorms could not be controlled by some of the RA's.

F (Comment exceeded space available).

Overall, she thinks that ECU is a good school, but ran into one particular individual who made her experience here not so good.

I will be returning!

It's a good school, several friends go there.

I love ECU

I wish I was there and I will be returning.

Good school, wish it was closer to home.

I enjoyed the school.

It is a very good school she transferred from Pitt and she got too loaded and withdrew didn't want to fail.

I like going there but got accepted to Pitt.

She strongly believes that need to get better teachers and reduce class size, and control the misbehaved "children" in classroom, more discipline.
The professors in general were showing favoritism to other students and bias. I'm frustrated with ECU.
I enjoy the school and the area and I will be returning.

Would like to return to further education someday
Plan to be back in the fall

This school really sucks and I am working full-time now. I'm making more money doing what I am doing now than that school could ever get me.

He's planning on returning to ECU.

Bad weather they would have to be forced to drive in.

He works full time now

Grades were bad, had to go to community college for a semester

I loved ECU but i wanted to gain more experience in my major

Just didn't like ECU

Had bad counseling experience
East Carolina University

Institutional Research Report

Number 3-Survey of Non-Returning Students
Spring Semester, 2000

Many Non-Returning Undergraduates Cite Problems Related to Hurricane Floyd

The two most common reasons given by non-returning undergraduates who responded to a recent survey were “Personal problems” (27%) and “Need a break to reconsider goals” (26%). A review of the comments made by these students reveals that the most common personal problems were due to the Hurricane Floyd devastation and family/medical problems. The survey results are summarized in Table 1. Forty three percent of the respondents indicated that they withdrew temporarily (Chart A).

The Survey

ECU conducted a survey during the Spring 2000 semester to determine the reasons why students who were eligible to return did not do so. This information is of great interest to faculty and administrators who would like to improve retention rates. This survey was conducted for the first time by ECU during the Spring 1998 semester, again during Spring 1999, and each semester thereafter.

Letters and survey forms were mailed to 885 students who were enrolled Fall semester 1999, were eligible to return Spring semester 2000, but did not do so. Five of the forms were returned by the Post Office because the addressee was no longer at the address listed and no forwarding address was available. (The forms were mailed to the student's permanent address, which in most cases is a parent's address.) Of the remaining 880 forms, 185 were returned, yielding a response rate of 21 percent.

Eighty five percent of the students who stated they withdrew temporarily answered the question “how long?” with 52% indicating that they would return after one semester and 12% indicating that they would return in one year. The most common reasons for withdrawing given by these students were “I needed a break to reconsider goals” (38%), “Personal problems” (30%), “School conflicts with current employment” (19%), and “Financial problems not related to student financial aid” (15%).
Another sixteen percent of the survey respondents have transferred to Community Colleges and may also be considered temporary drop-outs from ECU. The most common reasons for leaving given by these students were that they “could not obtain a degree in a preferred field” (31%), “personal problems” (21%), “too far from home” (21%) and that they needed a break to reconsider goals (21%).

Fourteen percent of the respondents transferred to another UNC institution. The most common destinations were NC State University and UNC Greensboro. The most common reason given was that ECU was too far from home (42%). Thirty five percent of these students transferred because of “personal problems.”

Fifteen percent of the respondents transferred elsewhere (other than a Community College or another UNC institution). The most common reasons for leaving given by these students were that ECU was “Too far from home” (39%), “Personal Problems” (25%), “Homesick” (25%), “Lack of adequate student financial aid” (18%), and “School too large and impersonal” (18%).

Eleven percent overall indicated that they withdrew permanently and were not attending another institution. The most common reasons given by these students were personal, including needing a break to reconsider goals.

Two of the most common reasons for leaving ECU were "personal problems" (27%) and "I need a break to reconsider goals" (26%).

Other reasons most frequently cited were:
- Too far from home (18%)
- Financial problems not related to student financial aid (15 %)
- Disappointed with quality of advising (12%)
- Homesick (12%)
- School too large and impersonal (12%)
- School conflicts with current employment (12%)
- Family problems (10%)

Comparison with previous surveys

These results are comparable to those of preceding semesters. A lower percentage of non-returning students for Spring 2000 transferred to another UNC institution (14%, compared with 21% for Fall 1999). These students identified “ECU Overall” reasons more frequently and “ECU Academic” reasons less frequently than did non-returning students Fall 1999.

The following pages contain:
- Table 1- Summary of Survey Responses
- The letter to students
- The survey form
- “Other” reasons given for not returning (verbatim)
- Comments received from non-returning students (verbatim)
### Survey of Non-Returning Students
#### Spring Semester 2000

#### Table 1 - Summary of Survey Responses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Transferred to Another School</th>
<th>Withdraw</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Community College</td>
<td>Another UNC Institution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Responses</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of responses</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>15.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Reasons for not returning: PERCENT OF RESPONSES*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Community College</th>
<th>Another UNC Institution</th>
<th>Elsewhere</th>
<th>Temporarily</th>
<th>Permanently</th>
<th>Other*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Financial</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of adequate student financial aid</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial problems not related to student financial aid</td>
<td>21.6%</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
<td>32.1%</td>
<td>22.5%</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Employment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School conflicts with current employment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was offered a good job elsewhere</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
<td>19.2%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>22.5%</td>
<td>30.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I wanted to gain practical experience</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Personal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal problems</td>
<td>96.2%</td>
<td>82.8%</td>
<td>80.8%</td>
<td>82.1%</td>
<td>106.3%</td>
<td>125.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family problems</td>
<td>27.0%</td>
<td>20.7%</td>
<td>34.6%</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
<td>30.0%</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changed marital status</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>15.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health problems</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I needed a break to reconsider goals</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homesick</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
<td>23.1%</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic problems</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
<td>15.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. ECU Academic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inability to get classes desired</td>
<td>41.1%</td>
<td>75.9%</td>
<td>38.5%</td>
<td>42.9%</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
<td>60.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can not obtain a degree in my preferred field</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>15.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of instruction</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
<td>31.0%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of advising</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not enough academic prestige in my field</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in the level of emphasis given to academics</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. ECU Overall</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School too large and impersonal</td>
<td>51.4%</td>
<td>58.6%</td>
<td>115.4%</td>
<td>92.9%</td>
<td>17.5%</td>
<td>40.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desire to attend a larger school</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
<td>26.9%</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>15.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inadequate social life</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive social life</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too far from home</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too close to home</td>
<td>17.8%</td>
<td>20.7%</td>
<td>42.3%</td>
<td>39.3%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in opportunities for student development outside the classroom</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Other Reasons</td>
<td>36.2%</td>
<td>44.8%</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td>42.9%</td>
<td>30.0%</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Respondents were asked to check all reasons that applied. Percentages add to more than 100 percent.

*Two of the survey respondents are classified in Table 1 as “Other.” These were special circumstances where the student should not have been included in the survey population and were returning after finishing internships or exchange programs.
**Other Reasons** *(Verbatim, with some names or department references removed)*

Hurricane Floyd

Cockroaches in my room

Too much partying, nothing else to do but party, could not get enough sleep, RA did/ could not do anything about it, RA never ar and never planned anything w ith the hall.

Too much of a "party school"

ECU accepts more students than it can house and more than the area can absorb. There should be a mandatory policy - all freshman on campus, in dorms so they can be acclimated better. There are too many adjustments to be made without the stress of finding housing. Then add a flood, it seems ECU is more interested in the tuition it can take.

To buy a car

ECU was my 2nd choice school, JMU being my first. I had intended to go to ECU and make the GPA that I needed to be able to into JMU.

Had been waitlisted at Va. Tech and decided to transfer w ith the Jan. waitlist admission. I was very happy at ECU, how ever.

Out of state tuition became too outrageous

I loved the time I spent there. How ever, it was as a little too much money for my parents at the time. They were having to pay for state colleges.

Crossing a 4 lane highway is not my idea of enjoying a walk to school.

I could not get my scholarship unless I was a [department] major and I began to question if [department] was the right place for My private teacher was seldom there, when as a freshman I needed more one on one [department] instruction. Attitude of peer not academically oriented

The faculty was unconcerned with the academic standing and needs of their studies.

Coaching difficulties - loved the school., unable to work things out.

The flood of the Fall of 1999

My fiance was not accepted to your institution

Liked ECU but hated Greenville the city

See D above- was disappointed w ith the advice by ECU advisor while attending a community college concerning subjects to take before entering East Carolina. I was also disappointed that the [department] courses from a community college do not transfer. The [department] courses at East Carolina are courses that are duplicate to the [department] courses at the community college attended.

I moved to be closer to my fiancee and my family. Surprisingly I found myself to be very much of a homebody.

Transferring to a school that is in an environment that would be more beneficial to me as a Business Major.

Hurricane Floyd

Just needed a break since I've been to summer school every summer to.

My dad is in the process of going Bankrupt. So I did not have the money to come back

I could graduate faster from Peace

I am expecting a baby and the drive was too far; plan to return fall 2000.

got burnt out during flood so did not want to have to deal w ith snow storms. Also child had problems in school.
I am a weekend University student in Business. I am waiting for my remaining classes to be offered. Also moved due to hurricane Floyd moved to higher ground.

I wish ECU would have a horticulture program to help the landscape industry.

Repairs to personal property due to hurricanes Dennis and Floyd demand the time I spent on academics. Hopefully, I will complete my degree in approximately one year as compared to about three years at ECU.

I am expecting twins in June and I have been too sick and busy to continue school.

Hope to resume in Fall 2000- Building a house and too much stress at present time.

I was miss-guided by the dean of the [department] and was taking classes already taken at a previous school.

I moved back to Montreal Quebec Canada where I am attending International School of Design.

Due to Hurricane Floyd, I had to relocate. Took time off to move and recover from effects of the flood.

Medical reasons

I do plan to enroll for classes in the future

I had a baby on March 8, 2000. This is why I was not here in Spring. I have turned in re-admit application. Will register March:


Finding child care was a burden which added to the cost factor.

[department] program is based too much on GPA; just because you have a 4.0 GPA does not mean you are a "people" person and are capable of being a successful [job].

I felt like the [concentration] of [department] was going downhill. But this is not my sole reason for leaving.

I was in the major Health Information Management. During the floods I did some thinking and came to the conclusion that it was not for me.

Wanted to be in a bigger city

My goal is to attend a NY City School and begin a new life there

I cannot afford childcare and college expenses at the same time

I was accepted into the Occupational Therapy Assistant program at PCC

Ref #B - Lack of classes offered at night

So that I can play football

Looking for a degree that is interdisciplinary meaning to combine hospitality, business and home economics.

USMC - transferred to Okinawa, Japan

I already have 2 degrees from ECU

Too much partying going on around me

Mother and father encountered health problems in 1999 and out on disability. Needed to work full time. I've attended UNC Chapel and UNCW but ECU was the best. Presently living in Winston Salem and will continue education in area.

UNCW offers extension classes in Jacksonville in education.
I was commuting from New Bern (1 hour away) and was working in hometown as well. I am attending Comm. College and plan on returning to ECU in the future.

Broke

I wanted to play b-ball

I enjoy the school overall but I have a strong desire to build and repair cars as well as possibly working around race tracks.

I developed insomnia in late October, made an attempt to get help from [department] but [name] was out of town when I called; I ended up missing so many classes because I couldn't sleep at night that I gave up even trying. I flunked out. I've been accepted Appalachian if I can get my GPA up to a 2.0 by January 2001, thus I am going to Durham Tech now and in summer session in hopes of pulling my grades up for a fall 2000 entry at ASU.

Not mature enough for college

ECU just wasn't the school for me. I was having large problems keeping grades up without professor help.

Completion of graduate degree at NCSU

I needed time to get back on my feet after the flood, both mentally and financially.

I was having severe anxiety problems and depression

I live in Havelock - 1 1/2 hrs from school

Extreme debt (credit cards, car, etc.)

ATP - and the music program do not work together, neither side was flexible
Hurricane Floyd was a frightening experience for me, being so far from home. Trying to evacuate Greenville put me in many precarious positions.

He called to say that he dropped out for one semester but will return in the Fall. He wanted information on re-admission, so I referred him to Admissions.

Spending this semester at the Univ. of Western Australia on a foreign exchange program.

Will be returning in the fall because almost none of the credits transferred.

I enjoyed my 2 years at ECU.

Disappointed with the way school handled student problems when flooded out of apartment!

The campus is awesome and so is social life. Location is a bit of a problem.

The people weren’t friendly. I’d rather be somewhere where I like the atmosphere and the town, which is too small for me.

Being a 4.0 student, I was not satisfied with the financial aid opportunities (scholarships, grants, etc.) that were available. The quality of instruction was excellent. Especially [professor’s name], my [professor’s department]. I felt the course content was easy in most of my other classes at ECU. I did not feel academically challenged. ECU has an incredible social life. I often felt peer pressure to not try to excel in my coursework. JMU is in-state so I receive in-state tuition rates as well as more financial aid.

When I reapply for Fall 2001, when should I? Also, how would I schedule my classes that I need to take. All of my general education will be finished. If you send me information on that and financial aid/scholarships available for out-of-state students, Thank you. (Referred to Admissions)

I attend Randolph Macon College as a non-degree special student. Due to an improvement in family problems, I was hoping ECU might re-admit me for the Fall 2000 as I will still be keeping them in mind as a choice for schooling. Thank you. (Referred to Admissions)

Absolutely loved ECU but could not afford out of state tuition any longer.

Dorms are disgusting. No chance to have personable contact with professors. Not a very impressive campus appearance. No chance to get involved. ECU didn’t seem concerned with me as a student.

I really enjoyed my stay at ECU and will very possibly choose to apply again someday. There were many factors that contributed my leaving, and the hurricane probably affected my life there more than I realized at the time. I mostly needed a break to figure what is best for me.

ECU was too far from home and I had to go home all the time for doctor appointments. I also knew more people at ASU so it fee more like home. Overall nothing was wrong with ECU. I did like it.

ECU was a nice school. It just wasn’t what I wanted after all. I transferred to UNCG and I am very happy there.

Your school and programs are wonderful; and I loved the campus and opportunities; if my fiance had been accepted, I would have stayed.

I am extremely pleased with all my classes and instructors. The school itself was all I could have asked it to be. I wanted closer to home and I didn’t care for Greenville.

I was diagnosed with Hodgkin’s Disease last August. I was going to continue with school throughout treatment, but my doctor advised me to take a medical withdrawal. I plan to return to ECU this coming fall. Thank you.

I loved my time at ECU. I just had personal reasons for wanting to be home in Chapel Hill.
I enjoyed my short stay at ECU. The campus is absolutely beautiful and I enjoyed most of my academic classes. I especially enjoyed my dance class. I learned a great deal from Joe Carrow as my ballet instructor. I would honestly recommend ECU to anyone considering!

I will receive my degree from ECU

I love ECU, but I feel that there would be better opportunities for me at NC State Univ.

Gave birth to my son

Plan to return in fall 2000 or maybe summer school 2000.

I am currently doing an Internship at Disney World and will be returning to ECU this summer. Sorry for the misunderstanding. I will be coming back to ECU. Thank you. [student's name]

I called my advisor on several occasions and left messages, but none of my calls were returned.

Let me know if I gain a Pharmacy program.

ECU needs to become more student oriented, focus more on educating students; less on football; make goals more accessible.

ECU is a good school but I had conflicts with business schedule and trying to fit class in where needed. I love the school and soon return. Thanks for the letter.

I would have preferred to finish my degree program at ECU but, I am 58 years old and time is of the essence.

I enjoyed my first (and only - so far) semester at ECU. I hope to return for the Fall 2000 semester. Right now I am considered of state, but I hope to qualify for in state. If I do, I will be able to afford going to school and will definitely return.

Would have been too difficult with current work load.

Fall semester I had 2 graduate assistants- one for [department], one for the [department]. Both were terrible and although I complained, there was no change. I was attending ECU because I wanted to, not because I had to. After such a terrible semester needed a break. Thank you.

I want to attend ECU again in Fall 2000. Can I register for classes or do I have to reapply? (Referred to Admissions)

I need some career planning counseling. Presently, I am employed as a Trade Mart clerk, but I would like another profession. (Referred to Undergraduate Studies)

I was working on a second degree and hope to finish someday. Please let me know if I need to do anything to keep my place for the future. (Referred to Admissions)

Letter was mailed to Dr. Thompson

I was disappointed by the way ECU treated transferring students. I was informed of an articulation agreement in that all classes taken at my previous college would transfer. When interviewed for admission into the [department], no one reviewed my portfolio with me and I had to argue to keep away from retaking most classes. I was miss-guided and treated wrong. Transfer students should not be treated as freshman, transfer students have years under their belt and should get to registrar before freshman. I was greatly disappointed in how I was treated by the staff.

I will return Fall semester 2000! I have to take classes at night so my schedule doesn't conflict with work. Some semesters there is none available in the evening that I need to take.

I thoroughly enjoyed East Carolina and I wish I could have stayed. However, opportunities arose that I could not turn down and I was interested in coming back for graduate school!

I have resubmitted application and look forward to returning in the fall if not sooner. Thanks!
I do plan to return to ECU. It is just that I need time to consider what I can do, want to do, and how I should go about it. My medical condition has affected my grades and I need to find ways to live with it and still do well in school.

Please note my change of address: [student's address]

I hope to return when I can have more help with my children.

I liked ECU, it was a good school. It just wasn't for me.

I liked ECU and it's a good school, but I wanted to be closer to my family.

Was pursuing second degree and upon enrollment decided I was no longer interested - would prefer to work and prepare my grad school. Am now employee at School of Medicine. Thank you!

I am looking forward to coming back in January. I needed to take time off!

When I transferred to ECU I was told I would have a good chance, challenging, but at least the chance to apply to the program at ECU. When it came time to apply I was told there was no need in even applying, I wouldn't have a chance at getting in as then I applied at PCC for the program and was accepted. I also enjoy the smaller classrooms and one on one attention. But thank you for your concern.

Dear ECU- Thank you for your concern. Tell you the truth, I loved and still do love ECU. I would love to go back but my family has a great deal of problems! Now I'm in L.A. near my relatives hoping that they could help. Again, thanks for your concern.

I plan to return to ECU after I get my two-year degree from James Sprunt Community College.

No problems with school. Just wasn't satisfied with my life. Wanted more excitement, a steady income and travel. Thanks for everything!

I was hospitalized for depression and requested a Medical withdrawal. Everytime I have attempted to see the appropriate party at the department, they have not been. After 3 months I still haven't heard anything from ECU although I did have the hospital send a letter. Any help would be appreciated.

My goals in life are to have a business that consists of cake decorating, catering, and party planning. I have some of the practical experience in cake decorating but I want a degree in a related field.

East Carolina University is a good school! I withdrew due to hurricane Floyd. I felt that the instructors need to be a little more compassionate. I was not a traditional student. I am over 18 years of age and was commuting an hour each way. This instructors are insensitive! Most likely I will not be attending ECU ever again! Thank you!

I was also very displeased with an incident with [professor's name]

ECU is a great school. I really enjoyed my classes there!

I've got two small children and the commute (from New Bern) was a bit much for me.

I withdrew to have 2nd baby - will return next semester.

I hope to continue my education shortly. Thank you

I had a baby and I was waiting for him to start pre-school before I went back full time - Hope to return Fall of 2000.

I did not withdraw. I accidentally applied for admission to second degree undergraduate and I wanted to get into the Licensure Program in your graduate school. When I went to reapply for graduate school I told them I wanted to start 1st summer session 2000. I took this spring semester off because I'm having a baby. If this interferes with me enrolling for 1st summer session, please let me know as soon as possible. Thank you.
This week, I reapplied to ECU for Summer 2000. During the time away from ECU I decided on Health Information Management for my major. I am very much looking forward to coming back to ECU and Greenville. The people down east are so hospitable and ready to make Greenville my home.

I loved ECU, but I felt I would be happier at a smaller school I could play basketball at.

Note - A related letter was mailed to Dr. Thompson.

I would have stayed at ECU if I could have pursued a career in the automotive industry.

ECU was and is a great university, just not for me. It has some good features, but I think I want different things. P.S. The party a Freshman didn't help. I just wasn't disciplined enough to be at that school.

I was asked to leave home when my parents discovered that I was gay. I have a very decent job and could not find better money in Greenville. So I commuted from Raleigh. Working 45 hours a week and taking a full load at school finally took its toll and I began to fail classes. Eventually I did not return. I do plan to further my education once I am back on my feet, but sometime closer to home.

Will return after I raise my GPA at local college

Personal problems due to 1999 Flood. Overall - Lack of advisement offered to students and parents!! [name] - Mother

I really do miss ECU and my friends but work and money was very hard to come by. I was living off campus on my own and problems arose that left me "out in the cold". So as many friends told me "you've gotta do what you gotta do to get your life straight". Special Education is the field of my choice and I will get my degree in it but it looks like not at ECU. Thank you.

Change of address: [student's address]

Freshman students should not be allowed to join fraternities!

My family needed me at home. That's all, nothing to do with ECU.

I enjoyed ECU - unfortunately complications with my pregnancy forced me to unofficially withdraw during the fall semester. At a point I'm just ready to return to school.

Teachers and professors should talk to students if they notice a problem, especially with new freshmen. Remember we don't know now to ask for help. Sometimes we just need to know that someone else cares.

The financial aid was ok, but I needed extra money for gas (I was a commuter) and for food.
Over fifty three percent of non-returning undergraduates who responded to a recent survey indicated that they transferred to another school. The next most common explanation given by students who were eligible to return Fall semester 1999 but did not, is that they dropped out temporarily and plan to return to ECU. The survey results are summarized in Table 1. Thirty seven percent of the respondents indicated that they withdrew temporarily (Chart A).

**The Survey**
ECU conducted a survey during the Fall 1999 semester to determine the reasons why students who were eligible to return did not do so. This information is of great interest to faculty and administrators who would like to improve retention rates. This survey was conducted for the first time by ECU during the Spring 1998 semester, again during Spring 1999, and each semester thereafter.

Letters and survey forms were mailed to 897 students who were enrolled Spring semester 1999, were eligible to return Fall semester 1999, but did not do so. Eight of the forms were returned by the Post Office because the addressee was no longer at the address listed, and no forwarding address was available. (The forms were mailed to the student's permanent address, which in most cases is a parent's address.) Of the remaining 889 forms, 273 were returned, yielding a response rate of 31 percent.

Ninety percent of the students who stated they withdrew temporarily answered the question “how long?” with 27% indicating that they would return after one semester and 30% indicating that they would return in one year. The most common reasons for withdrawing given by these students were “I needed a break to reconsider goals” (36%), “Financial problems not related to student financial aid” (36%), “Personal problems” (29%), and “Family problems” (22%).
Another fourteen percent of the survey respondents have transferred to Community Colleges and may also be considered temporary drop-outs from ECU. The most common reasons for leaving given by these students were “academic problems” (30%) and that they needed a break to reconsider goals (24%).

Twenty-one percent of the respondents transferred to another UNC institution. The most common destinations were NC State University and UNC Chapel Hill. The most common reason given was that ECU was too far from home (19%). Eighteen percent of these students transferred because they could not get a degree in their chosen field.

Nineteen percent of the respondents transferred elsewhere (other than a Community College or another UNC institution). The most common reasons for leaving given by these students were that ECU was “Too far from home” (23%), “Personal Problems” (17%), “Inability to get classes desired” (15%), “Financial problems not related to financial aid” (14%), and “School too large and impersonal” (12%).

Only 5 percent indicated that they withdrew permanently and were not attending another institution. The most common reasons given by these students were personal, including health problems.

Reasons for not returning:
The most common category of reasons given for not returning was "personal" (82 percent of the respondents indicated one or more personal reasons). Nineteen percent checked "I need a break to reconsider goals" and nineteen percent checked "personal problems." A review of the comments made by these students reveals that the most common personal problems were social pressures and death/sickness in family.

Other reasons most frequently cited were:
- Financial problems not related to student financial aid (20 %)
- Academic problems (14%)
- Lack of adequate student financial aid (13%)
- Inability to get classes desired (13%)
- Too far from home (11%)
- Family Problems (11%)
- Disappointed with the quality of advising (11%)

Comparison with previous surveys
These results are comparable to those for preceding semesters. A higher percentage of non-returning students for Fall 1999 transferred to another UNC institution (21%, compared with 9% for Spring 1999). These students identified “ECU Academic” reasons more frequently and “ECU Overall” reasons less frequently than did non-returning students Spring 1999.

The following pages contain:
- Table 1- Summary of Survey Responses
- The letter to students
- The survey form
- “Other” reasons given for not returning (verbatim)
- Comments received from non-returning students (verbatim)
# Survey of Non-Returning Students
## Fall Semester 1999

### Table 1 - Summary of Survey Responses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Transferred to Another School</th>
<th>Withdrawed</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Community College</td>
<td>Another UNC Institution</td>
<td>Elsewhere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Responses</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of responses</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
<td>20.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Reasons for not returning:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>PERCENT OF RESPONSES*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Financial</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of adequate student financial aid</td>
<td>33.0% 40.5% 7.0% 25.0% 26.4% 21.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial problems not related to student financial aid</td>
<td>13.2% 18.9% 3.5% 11.5% 18.8% 14.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>PERCENT OF RESPONSES*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B. Employment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School conflicts with current employment</td>
<td>16.1% 18.9% 3.5% 9.6% 27.7% 14.3% 0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was offered a good job elsewhere</td>
<td>2.9% 13.5% 1.8% 1.9% 0.0% 7.1% 0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I wanted to gain practical experience</td>
<td>4.4% 2.7% 0.0% 5.8% 6.9% 7.1% 0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>PERCENT OF RESPONSES*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C. Personal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal problems</td>
<td>81.7% 94.6% 49.1% 46.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family problems</td>
<td>19.0% 16.2% 8.8% 17.3% 28.7% 21.4% 0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changed marital status</td>
<td>11.4% 5.4% 1.8% 9.6% 21.8% 7.1% 0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health problems</td>
<td>2.9% 5.4% 3.5% 0.0% 4.0% 0.0% 0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I needed a break to reconsider goals</td>
<td>19.4% 24.3% 8.8% 1.9% 35.6% 14.3% 0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homesick</td>
<td>5.1% 8.1% 8.8% 9.6% 1.0% 0.0% 8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic problems</td>
<td>14.3% 29.7% 10.5% 3.8% 18.8% 7.1% 8.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>PERCENT OF RESPONSES*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D. ECU Academic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inability to get classes desired</td>
<td>53.5% 70.3% 80.7% 65.4% 33.7% 42.9% 41.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can not obtain a degree in my preferred field</td>
<td>12.5% 18.9% 10.5% 15.4% 12.9% 0.0% 16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of instruction</td>
<td>9.9% 18.9% 17.5% 7.7% 4.0% 14.3% 0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed with quality of advising</td>
<td>10.3% 10.8% 15.8% 11.5% 8.9% 0.0% 8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not enough academic prestige in my field</td>
<td>10.6% 18.9% 15.8% 11.5% 4.0% 21.4% 8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in the level of emphasis given to academics</td>
<td>2.9% 2.7% 5.3% 5.8% 1.0% 0.0% 0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. ECU Overall</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School too large and impersonal</td>
<td>33.7% 37.8% 50.9% 55.8% 15.8% 28.6% 0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desire to attend a larger school</td>
<td>7.0% 10.8% 7.0% 11.5% 4.0% 7.1% 0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate social life</td>
<td>0.4% 0.0% 0.0% 1.9% 0.0% 0.0% 0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive social life</td>
<td>2.9% 0.0% 7.0% 5.8% 1.0% 0.0% 0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too far from home</td>
<td>7.7% 8.1% 5.3% 7.7% 7.9% 21.4% 0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too close to home</td>
<td>10.6% 10.8% 19.3% 23.1% 2.0% 0.0% 0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappointed in opportunities for student development outside the classroom</td>
<td>1.8% 2.7% 7.0% 0.0% 0.0% 0.0% 0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>PERCENT OF RESPONSES*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F. Other Reasons</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>35.2% 43.2% 14.0% 21.2% 50.5% 71.4% 33.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Respondents were asked to check all reasons that applied. Percentages add to more than 100 percent.

^Twelve of the survey respondents are classified in Table 1 as "Other." These were special circumstances where the student should not have been included in the survey population and had completed coursework and were waiting for Spring 2000 graduation.
Other Reasons  *(Verbatim, with some names or department references removed)*

I was tired of school and not making any good grades so now I have a good paying job

No daycare that I can afford.

Enrolled at ECU as a walk on player for softball then told to try out next year (2nd year) (never on team)

The above items are checked relate to my decision not to return for the fall semester

I have completed all coursework and plan to graduate May 2000.

Hopefully all of her 15 credits earned will transfer to ECU and she will be on schedule to graduate in 2001

Not enough flexibility to coordinate with a part time job

Transfered because my athletic scholarship wasn't renewed

I wanted to get into the Nursing program, but I hope to obtain my BS from here.

Loved the school, if only it were closer to home

Wife was offered a good job elsewhere

pregnancy

Didn't like the slow lifestyle

pregnant

I work nights - more night and weekend classes would help a lot.

Your advisors didn't know about things or questions that I needed answers to, and also I was as not in "good academic standing"

My mom would love to speak with you concerning [Professors Name] in [named] dept. [phone number]

Changed major to Marketing and I could graduate in summer of 2000, as opposed to Dec 2000 at ECU

I needed time off to figure out what I want to do with my future.

Although I enjoyed attending ECU overall, I transferred to Chapel Hill for various personal reasons.

I transferred to play volleyball at UNC Charlotte

Changed intended major 3 times in two years and for academic reasons would have had to change again in!

Half of the credits I was taking, or were going to take, would not transfer to UNC-Charlotte, so I am going to a community college to transfer courses.

Health problems require me to be closer to home and my doctors.

Needed more contact with mentor.

Was placed on academic probation. When I got notice that I was put on warning, it was too late to come back

Social Pressures, and not enough money for aid or scholarship. (Academic or track and field)

Wanted to move to Florida

Girlfriend attending UNC-C. Most friends are in Charlotte area.

Took one year off to go to Teen Mania Christian Ministry. Then, I plan to attend NCSU.

Have applied to PA program I have ceased coursework because all my prerequisites filled.

I love ECU and the campus. I do wish that my field of desire was offered so that I wouldn't have to transfer to community college. UNC-CH offers this degree, but ECU doesn't?

I had no problem with the school, I liked it a lot! I came home to bring up my grades and plan to be back!

Athletics - Womens basketball

The combination of degrees - I couldn't do exactly what I wanted to do at ECU

I withdrew for personal reasons. It does not reflect the school at all.

Homecoming concerts are really for white people while minority people will get a comedy or a step show.

My main reason for transferring is because I got married and my husband lives in Raleigh. I plan to transfer to NCSU next semester to finish out my degree.
I am a commute. I wanted a Tuesday-Thursday schedule or a Monday-Wednesday-Friday schedule. I couldn’t get the classes I needed without attending four days a week.

I transferred back to Texas (hometown) because I left the swim team and needed to be close to home. I decided to change majors and ECU could not offer me what I wanted.

I am leaving to serve a mission for my church. I will be gone for two years (2000-2002). I plan on re-enrolling when I return.

I was good friends with [name] whom took his own life during my second semester. ECU contained too many memories.

The Greenville area was inadequate in providing a peaceful, healthy atmosphere in nature (untouched); healthcare/nutrition stores; no vegetarian options of restaurants; no organic food stores; too much industry/poverty/cement/etc. My personal interests outside of academics were not fulfilled to satisfaction. Also I decided against pursuing a degree in fine arts/ceramics which was the only reason I chose ECU.

I changed majors to Fisheries and Wildlife Science.

I received a full scholarship in music to Liberty.

I left East Carolina because I am unsure of what I want to major in. Because of this I was unsure of what classes to take. I do not feel that I received much help with this.

I decided to change majors - major is not offered at ECU.

I was offered a scholarship to WV State to play basketball.

I could not return to ECU due to financial aid. Financial aid advisors did not inform me until the Friday 8/13/99 before classes started that not enough was going to be given. Due to personal problems, I could not afford to come back. Although that was my problem, four days before classes start is not adequate time to make/borrow $3000. So I have to sit the rest of the year out because I refuse to deal with ECU financial aid office. We could not get another loan in time, and my schedule had already been dropped.

I have decided to go to Italy and spend time with my relatives.

I felt that a lot of different classes were teaching the same material.

I enjoyed ECU overall.

Wife is military and was transferred.

I am taking some lower transfer classes (ie Am Hist) at the local community college to save time on commute expenses.
Comments  (Verbatim, with some names or department references removed)

Attending ECU but for my field I need hands on in computers and I w as not offered that at ECU.

I am hoping to return as soon possible.

Disappointed in art classes that I had signed up for - am planning to return

My withdraw al had nothing to do w ith the performance of ECU. I think it's an excellent university.

I w ould desperately like to return, and I w ill, as soon as I have the money to do so.

It has alw ays (since 9th grade) been my goal to graduate from ECU. How ever, my parents have paid out of state tuition no student aid, (except student loans) for five years. I cannot ask them to do anymore. I am w orking and taking course can be transferred to ECU. I w ill get my degree from ECU. I cannot say enough good things about Dr. Auld, my advisor. had been so helpful.

Received full scholarship to play for Queens w ould have liked to stay at ECU and play as w alk on. Really liked the schr but w anted to play softball.

I got married and my husband took a job in Charlotte

I w as a communications major w ith a concentration in print journalism. In May ’97 there w as only one other print journal student scheduled to graduate. The emphasis in the communications department is on public relations and broadcast journalism. I have had numerous arguments w ith professors about the importance of print journalism, how ever they dc seem to believe in the w ritten w ord. I find it ludicrous and inexcusable that academics in the communications depar tme argue w ith students that their intended field is obsolete, w hen printed w ords are in higher demand than ever before.

[name] is attending "Semester at Sea" through Univ. of Pittsburg. She w ill be returning in January after her educational w orld cruise!

I regret that I am unable to attend ECU this semester. Hopefully, next August I w ill be returning as a ECU senior!

His mother telephoned 10/15/99.

He graduated Fall98 but w as enrolled Spring99 for a certification course.

I w as very happy at ECU, but because of circumstances beyong my control, (and for my safety) I had to transfer. How my advisors w ere extremely helpful and I am now a "visiting student" at UNCG, for my last 2 semesters. I am going to transfer back to ECU to do my internship, and w ill be able to receive my degree from ECU.

My mother died the day after I finished my exams in the fall of 97'. I w ithdrew one semester to be w ith my family and it returned in the fall. I had enough money to go fall 98’ w ith food and a dormroom and books but in the spring 99’ I no lon had sufficient funds to continue to live on campus. I tried to commute and st ill w ork a full time job. There w ere not enoi hours in my day for both. Getting to and from school (3 hours roundtrip) so I w ithdrew yet again. Financial aid is fair a adequate at ECU. How ever, my family ow es $30,000 on my mother's medical bills and $35,000 on the tw o separate mortgages on the house. I w ant to help pay off these bills after college and could not be strapped w ith bills of my ow n
Therefore I have not used the financial aid program since my first semester. I intend to pay for school myself.

I really liked ECU as a school and a social atmosphere. I made really good friends and interacted w ith some really good teachers. I w ould really have liked to stay how ever, I w as really disappointed. After hearing at the ceremony for resid scholars how much the school promotes good grades, I expected some kind of scholarship after maintaining a 4.0 w hil taking some difficult classes. As you can see, I got nothing and therefore tranferred. If there is anyw ay I could get so scholarships, I w ould consider coming back! Thanks for listening, [Name]

Referred to Financial Aid

I felt my advisor advised me w rong w ith taking certain classes, but I hope it w on’t take me much loger after these tw o ½ obtain my BS degree.
I absolutely loved ECU! UVA is in state for me and therefore cheaper for me to attend. Also, even though ECU has a gc nursing program I could not give up the chance to attend UVA’s nursing program. Thank you for the wonderful experience ECU. I will always love and cherish my year there!

I loved ECU and may return eventually. I’m just not sure what I’d like to do with my life.

My father died in April and I returned home to assume the responsibilities and help my mother run the farm.

I really enjoyed my time ECU

I liked ECU but it does not offer forestry management

All the rules and bureaucracy you strictly demand your faculty abide by, in many instances put up walls and hinder students who are honorable and try to do their best at school. The result is discouraged students who aren’t helped because faculty members are in fear of the “pow’r that be”. ASU is proving to be a much more rewarding experience with a faculty who deals with students and situations on an individual basis instead of ECU’s treatment of forcing all of their #’s (the students) to conform to strict rules that aren’t always appropriate.

Referred to Student Life and Industry and Technology

I worked during the day full time and classes I needed were not available at night. I was also getting married this semester

Plan to come back ASAP

I enjoyed ECU but did not realize it until I came home. I miss it.

I really enjoyed ECU. Good classes and instructors. Nice campus and students not to mention awesome social life for students. You need to do what you can to keep Anthony Gribble on the staff. I never had one of his classes but know students who have and they really spoke highly of him. He is also a personal friend of mine and I know he cares a great deal about the students. You won’t find a more “stand up” guy than him. You can tell him I said so as well. Thanks, [name]

Dear Director Thompson, I am pleasantly surprised to hear from you, sir. It’s good to know that ECU is concerned with students - both past and present. With that said, how ever, I don’t think that your organization can be any further beneficial to me. In order for the foundation of this assertion to be grounded in logic, I feel compelled to relate a little of my personal situation. During the spring of this year, I made a change in direction with regard to my academics. I wanted to pursue engineering for personal reasons. Since I have a house in Winterville, and a wife and two dogs (a family), I wished to pursue other options for school without commuting to RTP until it was necessary. I had a brief discussion with my physics professor over it and he suggested looking into the pre-engineering program. Initially, I was thrilled that I could take all science and maths before arriving at NCSU - until I partook in an open house over there and spoke with a gentleman in my physics transfer division. He related that NCSU has a satellite program with three other institutions - Lenoir CC, UNCW, and UNC Asheville. It is generally referred to as the “2+2 engineering program” and allows for the curriculum to be taught remotely for the first four semesters, class for class, and the student can graduate in four years. In your program at ECU, the typical student would take all of their maths and sciences and play “catch up” with respect to the engineering courses at NCSU, probably resulting in a five year course of study. I found that unacceptable. I found it equally disturbing that no one at ECU either knew of, or bothered to tell me of, this program that could streamline my efforts at achieving an engineering degree. This may sound harsh; I realize that there are many great academic programs at ECU, but the fact is that I spoke with full professors in Physics department and all they had to offer was pre-engineering. I am writing this letter in the hopes that the next student who wants to be an engineer receives all relevant information possible in making their decisions to stay or leave ECU. Thanks for reading. Sincerely, [name] NCSU bound!

Will return to weekend classes when classes I need are offered

Ecu is a great school! I miss being there!! I enjoyed attending school there greatly. I may transfer back in the near future liked all of my classes and my professors. ECU really is a remarkable school, and I would recommend it for anyone interested in attending ECU. Thank you for a great first year.

I was a transfer from PCC with the information that my degree would transfer. NO ONE from either school informed me this was not the case.

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Not enough emphasis in academic excellence. Need stronger entrance requirements. Most students are not academically motivated.

I have finished all of the general college classes needed before applying to Nursing program. Waiting 2 years will give me time to retire from my present job so that I can make a full time commitment.

The academics are getting better at ECU with better professors but ECU is not looked upon as a strong academic university in the national community. Too much underage drinking and partying. Too much social pressures. Referred to a Easy U. I did like East Carolina but I thought a university with a better academic reputation would help.

My family and I were really disappointed in the Undergraduate office. The department is really slow with getting back people. Please work on this!

Out of state tuition is extremely high at ECU. I now attend VCU at in state tuition rates and am very unhappy and disappointed there. I requested a readmission application from ECU and hope to return next fall. I need financial aid to do this though.

ECU is a great school, I just didn't enjoy Greenville.

One of the biggest problems that kept me from attending ECU this year was that I received a letter explaining that I was suspended for a semester. A week or two before classes began I received a second letter explaining that the academic regulations had been changed and I was on warning. Had I known earlier I would be attending this year.

I switchoed schools and switched my major. ECU was too rural.

I loved ECU, I wish I could have stayed, but my major would not allow it.

I really enjoyed ECU as a school and the people there, I felt it was best to transfer.

ECU is an outstanding University except for the distance away from my hometown.

My elder sister passed away this summer. I am living at home and attending Wake Forest University so I can get my life back together. I'll be back though!

I am currently 9 1/2 month. Will return to school (hopefully) by spring 00 or summer.

I think that it is very good that ECU is improving its campus ie. New library and new SRC especially! I have no regrets in attending ECU for my first two years. I enjoyed the friendly and easy going students and the teachers who were very helpful with their students. As I am still in Pre med, I will definitely consider going to ECU's med school after I get my biology degree from Chapel Hill. Thanks for a good freshman and sophomore year.

I hadn't taken Chemistry in four years. My chemistry class at ECU was taught by a non-english speaking, first time teaching teacher. To get into the Business school you had to complete Micro Econ. With the 22 classes available, being a sophomore, I, however, could not get one. In general the school is not able to support the number of students whom attend, with the amount of classes offered.

I could not get in state tuition. I hope to establish residency and return in fall 2000 with fiance who will graduate from high school in June.

I'd still be at ECU this semester if the financial aid had not misled me. I needed a statement from the VA for them and had to wait for the VA form. When I got the VA form, financial aid told me it was too late and they could not help me with last semester so I am still paying you guys for last semester.

Referred to Financial Aid and Student Life

I enjoyed ECU but wanted to be closer to Charlotte

I loved going to ECU and was thinking of taking time off anyway. The bad grade I received in one of my classes (course caused my GPA to be lower) and made the decision earlier. In my opinion the grade was very disputable due to the fact that was based on a bad grade on my final. I believe it was unjustly graded.

had friends at UK and they have a great school of communications

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ECU staff and Faculty were quite friendly and eager to assist.

I'd probably still be at ECU today if things had turned out different. I enjoyed the time I did spend there.

I will return in the spring.

I loved ECU, but my parents were not happy with my grades, and I admit I was not putting any effort into my studies. I decided, with their advice, to take some time, which I did and decided I really wanted an education! So with their help, I back in school, closer to home so they can see I really mean it.

I am very interested in completing my education. However, the financial condition would not allow me to attend the last semesters. I will return to school, much better, more dedicated, and more experienced. Thanks.

I grew up in Greenville and was ready to experience campus life away from home.

Overall ECU provided a great educational and social environment. Its students and staff should be complimented.

ECU educational system is wonderful, I just felt that the whole atmosphere was geared toward the majority white people. This is very evident in the SGA, Homecoming Court, # of black vs. white professors, and etc. But make no mistake I love ECU. But I didn't know if ECU really appreciated me attending there. Also, I got too much loan money when I needed more grant money. And their needs to be something else in Greenville besides ECU. I did think about returning a little.

I loved all of my time at ECU. I withdrew because I have a 5 month old son and I am single and need family support. Thank you for your concern.

I loved ECU! The atmosphere is great and I enjoyed the professors a lot! Please don't think that I left ECU because of anything wrong with it. Thank you!

ECU is a wonderful school but not where I belonged. If circumstances in my life were different I would love to have attended ECU.

I am still interested in the goings on at ECU and will always give it a good recommendation.

I love attending ECU and look forward to returning. It is a wonderful atmosphere and I hope it is the same if not better when I come back.

ECU wasn't what I expected. I assumed college would be challenging, but I didn't get that there. I met many people I will continue to socialize with, but overall I felt the social scene at ECU unappealing. I had several great professors (including Caroline Schacht, Gabrielle Bracht (eng 1200) but I still felt like Greenville and ECU were not the ideal environments for me.

Mother wanted me to come home and stay for one semester.

I love ECU but some extremely important and crucial circumstances came up back home. I plan to return in Spring ’00. This school is the greatest! I will one day be an alum!

If you could, please send me anything I need or any information I need to come back in the fall semesters at 2000. Thank you very much. I look forward to coming back.

Referred to Admissions.

Didn't like Greenville itself.

I have been working in Boulder, Colorado trying to figure out what I want to do. I have grades at ECU were lousy, but I know I do want to return to college. I hope you will extend me the option to return after taking this year off. My English classes were great, but math 1066 killed me. [social security number] Thank you.

[name] is working 3 jobs in Greenville. He is now 24 years old and planning on completing his education at ECU but must do this on his own. He is totally independent. He wants very much to return to school.

I really like to say that ECU is a great school and I enjoyed the time there. I plan to return to get my BSN after completing my Associates degree at Wilson Tech. There is anything at ECU that made me change my mind about leaving? I just needed to be in a smaller classroom setting and get my priorities straight. Thanks for being concerned.
Please send me information regarding Requirements and procedures on returning in the Fall 2000. Please email or send a letter. My email address is [email address] and my address is still the same. Thank you, [name]

Referred to Admissions

(attached letter)
My son [name] temporarily dropped out of ECU early last February during the winter because of personal and family problems. He intended to return to school as soon as possible, but became very upset in July upon learning he had received failing marks in four subjects instead of incompletes. He lost all of his tuition, had to pay seven months of apartment rent and was rewarded by being given failing marks in classes he basically never attended. I do not understand this and neither does he. He had only one instructor give him an incomplete. All of the other instructors gave him failing grades. [name] wants to return to ECU, but does not want to have these failing marks on his record. Is there anything you can have these F's changed to incompletes or dropped from his record. Kind regards, [name]

[Referred to Undergraduate Studies]

I withdraw for medical reasons - I was in a car accident and developed disk problems as a result of the accident. I need surgery but without medical insurance I'm postponing surgery until my business increases so I can afford medical insurance. Sitting for long periods of time was causing me severe back pain - I'm having steroid shots in my back now to help relieve pain. The pain was so severe that I could not think about anything and I just stopped going to class without properly withdrawing from school. I don't know what I was doing now - I was on financial aid so that got messed up - I don't know how to rectify the problem - please contact me [phone number]

If you have any suggestions as to how I can solve this. I realize that I should have withdrawn according to procedure but I have never experienced that type of pain before and that severe pain before. I am very sorry that I didn't follow procedure and what I do now. Please call me at the number listed on the following page.

Referred to Financial Aid and Student Life

Fully intend to return to finish in my intended major in the fall of 2000.

My first year of ECU I didn't know what my place was as even if I wanted to be there since returning home I've found that ECU and can't wait to return. I would really appreciate any help that you can supply me with on my return to ECU. I appreciate your time concern and can't wait to get back to ECU and work with all the people there. Thanks PS - could you please send me an application for readmission.

Referred to Admissions

I loved ECU, and it was a great freshman experience, but it was entirely too far away from all my friends and most importantly my family. Besides, I live in the mountains and I can't leave them.

ECU was a very good school.

I know that a big part is I need to decide what I want to do, but for the past four years nothing has grabbed me as some that I could be enjoyable and fulfilling in my life. I realize also that my high school did not prepare me to make these decisions. But I also believe that for one and a half years that I was at ECU no one really cared. My first advisor just signed my registration form and sent me on my way. The second year I attended (1998) my advisor did not even register me or offer me advice, a student did. I failed four courses and then I withdrew. Yes, most of it is my fault, but I do not believe that I am only one at fault. I have wanted to attend and graduate from ECU, as long as I can remember. I attended football game with my parents when I was little and I always said that ECU is where I wanted to go. When I graduated from high school there is no doubt in my mind where I wanted to go. ECU was where my father went and I wanted to go there too. But got there, things were different. I was unsure of things, I had a lot of family problems - sickness and I did not feel that anyone at the school cared or wanted to help. Maybe I didn't find the right people. I still wish I would be walking across the stage in May 2000, but it's not going to happen. I hope the reason for this survey is to help other students, not just to have statistics. [name]

I needed time away from school to reconsider my goals. I'm also taking a home course that takes the same amount of time as a class at East Carolina. It is less stress and pressure on me. I also have two jobs to handle.

In state tuition

I enjoyed attending ECU but I would have never excepted into the SON at UNCW. I am presently enrolled and planning to graduating in May 2001.

ECU was a very good school. I put my priority in social life and not in academic success and was not able to get but 3 hour this fall semester when I registered. When I get my priorities straight I hope to re enroll.

Desired to transfer to above school
I absolutely adore ECU and cannot wait to go back. I hope to see you soon!

ECU is an outstanding university and I look forward to returning in the spring semester.

At first I was being billed for out of state tuition, even though I was in state. By the time it was all fixed I was already transferred to a different college and classes were ready to begin.

I really loved ECU, and if things don't work out at State, I would love to come back to ECU.

I didn't receive the proper amount of financial aid. Being that my parents are separated, and my mother working part time and having a total of four children, I shouldn't have to spend $444 first semester, and $360 second semester when my parents are buying them expensive cars (the ones who don't need it) receive ample aid. Would like to return to ECU if I some more financial assistance.

Referred to Financial Aid

Hopefully I can transfer back to ECU in the future! Thank you.

Thank you for your concern. I greatly appreciate it. I tried contacting the University, but due to Hurricane Floyd I wasn't to get through. Thanks

I left because I was uncomfortable with the environment in which I was living. It was because of both the school and the people surrounding me. I also transferred because I now want to teach and UMCP will give me more opportunities to work in the area I desire to work in. Also, I wasn't content with the level of education I was as receiving at ECU.

Advisors not helpful and do not seem concerned with individual student needs. My personal experience with the [name] Dept. Head was not a positive influence on my educational needs. She did not seem to want to help students obtain a degree in [named department]. I think that ECU is overall a good university except the lack of teacher advisor support.

The teachers of ECU are wonderful. I am just extremely disappointed in the manner in which I was selected as an out-state student. I have lived in North Carolina for almost twenty years. The University Attorney Committee seemed to care more about what was in my bank account than assisting me. I was not given a reason as to why I was not qualified for residency. The only thing I do not regret about attending ECU is what I learned from my professors.

I enjoyed ECU while I was attending and can't wait to return.

Current employer requested my participation in start up of their new facility in China. I was out of the US approximately 4 weeks during the fall semester 1999

Last professor I had come across, on the first nite of class, was an arrogant blowhard who spent the whole night spewing forth his overqualification to be a mere 'teacher'. His manner and profane language notwithstanding, paled in comparison to intimidation attempts bordering on beligerance. I will not accept this man as a 'professor' in any class I take.

I would very much like to get my mathematics degree from ECU, as I am sure you can see by reviewing my transcripts, I have encountered and overcome several obstacles/setbacks ranging from immaturity to health problems during pregnancy to marital conflicts (for lack of a better word). In any event, I would greatly appreciate any assistance/guidance the university has to offer. I can be reached at [phone number] after 5pm and [phone number] M-F 6am-5pm. Thank you for your time.

I enjoyed most everything about ECU.
I also feel that ECU's way of going national recognition through its Athletics (read: football) hurt not only the quality of its education to its student pop., but the quality of life for them as well. I also feel that ECU is not committed to attracting the best and brightest students and has become complacent with its designation as a good regional institution. It is regarded second class in this state which often led me to wonder if ECU, the school not the football team, even exists outside the state never mind west of I 95. Furthermore, it is difficult to attend an institution where I'm told by the students, community leaders, professors, advisors as well as the deans I should be elsewhere here because of my academic caliber/potential and because I never even bought a book (or picked one up) for two years I had no other choice other than to "correct this deficiency" so that I'll have a better chance of getting into a top law school. - I've corrected this deficiency - Crossing the Rubicon!

Too far to drive for weekend university. Maybe should consider satellite degree programs in Raleigh at low costs.

I am applying for transfer to Meredith College 9/2000. I am taking night courses at Wake tech for 1 year first to improve my grade point.

My wife took a job in Asheboro, so I had to transfer. I enjoyed attending ECU and wish that I could have remained and graduated. I would recommend ECU to anyone that would consider attending college. [address]

I have very impressed with the staff and teachers during my brief time at ECU! They are very helpful and seem to be dedicated to the success of the students. I am looking forward to returning as soon as possible.

With the advice of [professor name], [department], I withdrew on a temporary basis and plan to return the Spring 2000 semester.