



Graduation Survey 2017

May 09, 2017

Institutional Effectiveness and Research

Methodology

The annual Graduate survey was administered to graduates immediately prior to the graduation ceremony in the spring of 2017. The purpose of this survey was to evaluate ATC's services. A total of 99 out of 407 graduates responded to the survey for a response rate of 24%. Questions 1-6 ask for contact information and are not included in this report. Results of the Graduate Survey questions 7- 18 are provided below.

Q7. Please select your program of study (drop-down menu).

| Response | Count |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Accounting | 3 |
| ADN, LPN, LPN to ADN Transition | 10 |
| Associate in Arts | 13 |
| Associate in Science | 15 |
| Childcare / Childhood Development | 1 |
| Computer Technology | 3 |
| Criminal Justice | 4 |
| Dental Assisting | 2 |
| Electronic Technology | 1 |
| Engineering | 3 |
| HVAC | 2 |
| Maintenance Technology | 4 |
| Management | 6 |
| Marketing | 1 |
| Medical Assisting | 8 |
| Patient Care Assisting | 3 |
| Pharmacy Technician | 5 |
| Radiation Protection & Control | 3 |
| Radiologic Technology | 2 |
| Technology Certificates | 1 |
| Tower Installation | 2 |
| Welding | 4 |
| Total Responses | 96 |

Q8. Please Indicate your level of satisfaction with the following (place an X in the appropriate box for each row):

| | VERY SATISFIED | | SATISFIED | | DISSATISFIED | | VERY DISSATISFIED | | Total | Weighted Average |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------|-----------|---------|--------------|---------|-------------------|---------|-------|------------------|
| | Count | Percent | Count | Percent | Count | Percent | Count | Percent | | |
| Program Structure/Courses | 59 | 60.20% | 35 | 35.71% | 3 | 3.06% | 1 | 1.02% | 98 | 1.45 |
| General Education/Non-Major Courses | 43 | 43.88% | 49 | 50.00% | 4 | 4.08% | 2 | 2.04% | 98 | 1.64 |
| Level of Instruction | 52 | 53.06% | 41 | 41.84% | 3 | 3.06% | 2 | 2.04% | 98 | 1.54 |
| Learning Spaces/Classrooms | 57 | 58.16% | 35 | 35.71% | 5 | 5.10% | 1 | 1.02% | 98 | 1.49 |
| Overall Learning Experience | 55 | 56.12% | 39 | 39.80% | 3 | 3.06% | 1 | 1.02% | 98 | 1.49 |

Q9. What are your plans after graduation? (Check all that apply)

| Response | Count |
|--|--------------|
| Employment, full-time paid. | 72 |
| Employment, part-time paid. | 16 |
| Additional education, full-time. | 28 |
| Additional education, part-time. | 19 |
| Military service | 0 |
| Volunteer activity (e.g., Peace Corps) | 1 |

| Other (please specify) |
|---|
| ADN |
| Continue studying |
| I will run a not-for-profit farm to feed and teach the area homeless. |
| Internship. and full time position, masters degree |
| Self Study of Mathematics and Physics, Bible study and fellowship |
| transferring to a better college |

Q10. If employment:

| Is this job in your field of study? | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Response | Count |
| Yes | 53 |
| No | 10 |
| Unknown | 3 |
| Total Responses | 66 |

| Where is your job located (city, state)? | |
|--|-----------|
| Response | Count |
| Aiken, SC | 19 |
| Aiken, SC maybe New York City, NY | 1 |
| Augusta, GA | 18 |
| Bath, SC | 1 |
| Beech Island, SC | 1 |
| Columbia, SC | 2 |
| Graniteville, SC | 1 |
| Lexington, SC | 1 |
| Martinez, GA | 1 |
| Midland Valley-Aiken, South Carolina | 1 |
| North Augusta, SC | 4 |
| SC | 5 |
| Waynesboro, GA | 1 |
| Williston, SC | 1 |
| Total Responses | 57 |

Q11. If additional education:

| What type of degree/program? | |
|--|-------|
| Response | Count |
| AA Nursing | 2 |
| AA Radiology Tech | 1 |
| AAS | 2 |
| Accounting | 2 |
| ADN | 1 |
| ADN to BSN | 1 |
| Advanced PCA | 1 |
| BA | 1 |
| BA Computer Science | 1 |
| BA Fashion Design | 1 |
| BA History | 1 |
| BA Management | 1 |
| BA Marketing | 2 |
| BA Mathematics/Computer Science | 1 |
| BA Psychology | 1 |
| BA Science | 2 |
| BS Business Mangement | 1 |
| BS Mechanical Engineering | 1 |
| BSN | 6 |
| BSN Nursing | 1 |
| Business | 2 |
| Cad design | 1 |
| Chemical Engineering or Pharmacy | 1 |
| Clinical Medical Laboratory Tech | 1 |
| Clinical Medical Laboratory Technology | 1 |
| CT Certification | 1 |
| Education | 1 |
| Engineering | 2 |
| Finance | 1 |

| What college/university will you attend? | |
|--|-----------|
| Response | Count |
| ATC | 15 |
| Augusta Regents University | 1 |
| Augusta Technical College | 1 |
| Augusta University | 1 |
| Georgia Military College | 1 |
| Grand Canyon University | 1 |
| GRU | 2 |
| Limestone | 2 |
| NYU | 1 |
| Strayer | 1 |
| The Art Institute | 1 |
| Undecided | 5 |
| USC Aiken | 16 |
| USC Aiken or Columbia | 1 |
| USC online | 1 |
| Total Responses | 50 |

Q11. If additional education:

| What type of degree/program? | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Response | Count |
| Marketing | 1 |
| Masters in Occupational Therapy | 1 |
| Medical Office Specialist | 1 |
| Nursing | 5 |
| Pharmacist | 1 |
| Physician Assistant | 1 |
| Total Responses | 51 |

Q12. Would you recommend ATC to someone interested in your program of study.

| Response | Count | Percent |
|------------------------|-----------|---------|
| No | 8 | 8.42% |
| Yes | 87 | 91.58% |
| Total Responses | 95 | |

| If no, Why? |
|--|
| Because of lack of planing |
| Some classes are only offered one time a year. This leads to a longer time at ATC. |
| The program is getting downsized |
| the teachers are the worse especially in the nursing program and the list goes on. |
| Too stressful |

Q13. Please indicate your level of satisfaction with the services at Aiken Technical College:

| | VERY SATISFIED | | SATISFIED | | DISSATISFIED | | VERY DISSATISFIED | | NO OPINION | | TOTAL | WEIGHTED AVERAGE |
|---|----------------|---------|-----------|---------|--------------|---------|-------------------|---------|------------|---------|-------|------------------|
| | Count | Percent | Count | Percent | Count | Percent | Count | Percent | Count | Percent | | |
| Academic Success Center (Tutoring) | 45 | 46.39% | 18 | 18.56% | 6 | 6.19% | 0 | 0.00% | 28 | 28.87% | 97 | 2.46 |
| Enrollment Services Center (Admissions) | 28 | 29.17% | 51 | 53.13% | 12 | 12.50% | 2 | 2.08% | 3 | 3.13% | 96 | 1.97 |
| Advising | 49 | 51.04% | 39 | 40.63% | 3 | 3.13% | 3 | 3.13% | 2 | 2.08% | 96 | 1.65 |
| Bookstore | 25 | 25.77% | 49 | 50.52% | 12 | 12.37% | 8 | 8.25% | 3 | 3.09% | 97 | 2.12 |
| Career Development | 29 | 29.90% | 31 | 31.96% | 1 | 1.03% | 1 | 1.03% | 35 | 36.08% | 97 | 2.81 |
| Counseling Services | 28 | 28.87% | 26 | 26.80% | 1 | 1.03% | 0 | 0.00% | 42 | 43.30% | 97 | 3.02 |
| Distance Learning (Online Courses) | 31 | 31.96% | 41 | 42.27% | 4 | 4.12% | 1 | 1.03% | 20 | 20.62% | 97 | 2.36 |
| Financial Aid | 44 | 45.83% | 35 | 36.46% | 4 | 4.17% | 1 | 1.04% | 12 | 12.50% | 96 | 1.98 |
| Help Desk/Technology Support | 38 | 39.18% | 28 | 28.87% | 1 | 1.03% | 1 | 1.03% | 29 | 29.90% | 97 | 2.54 |
| Library/Media Services | 39 | 40.21% | 37 | 38.14% | 4 | 4.12% | 0 | 0.00% | 17 | 17.53% | 97 | 2.16 |
| Student Experience/Activities | 33 | 34.02% | 34 | 35.05% | 1 | 1.03% | 2 | 2.06% | 27 | 27.84% | 97 | 2.55 |
| Testing Center | 32 | 34.04% | 36 | 38.30% | 9 | 9.57% | 3 | 3.19% | 14 | 14.89% | 94 | 2.27 |

Q14. Did you participate in any of the following extracurricular activities?

| Response | Count |
|--|--------------|
| Clubs/Organizations (please list, see question 15) | 16 |
| Campus Connections Activities | 6 |
| Game Center/Gymnasium | 6 |
| Community Service (through the College) | 5 |
| Total Responses | 86 |

if none, why not?

| Response | Count |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Did not have time | 16 |
| Family | 3 |
| Focused on studies | 2 |
| Never enrolled | 1 |
| Not interested | 9 |
| Part-timer | 1 |
| Scheduling issues | 1 |
| Unaware | 1 |
| Work | 13 |
| Work & family | 3 |
| Work & focused on studies | 7 |
| Work, focused on studies, family | 1 |
| Total Responses | 58 |

Q15. Please list any extracurricular Clubs or Organization you participated in.

| Open-Ended Response | Count |
|--|--------------|
| Aiken Young Professionals | 1 |
| American Welding Society: Student Chapter | 1 |
| AWS | 2 |
| Camp Rainbow, Children's Miracle Network | 1 |
| Campus Ambassador | 1 |
| Campus Ambassadors, Student Leadership Council | 1 |
| Church | 1 |
| I believe it was the Logichthon, but I could be wrong about that name. | 1 |
| I did participate in Christian life club last semester. | 1 |
| Job fair | 1 |
| Phi Theta Kappa | 3 |
| Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society | 1 |
| Radiologic Technology class Secretary | 1 |
| SNA | 3 |
| SNA, PTK | 1 |
| Student Nursing Association | 1 |
| SVA, PTK Honor Society | 1 |
| Used the gym | 1 |
| Work study | 1 |
| Total Responses | 24 |

Q16. Would you recommend Aiken Technical College to someone interested in attending college?

| Response | Count | Percent |
|------------------------|-----------|---------|
| No | 7 | 7.22% |
| Yes | 90 | 92.78% |
| Total Responses | 97 | |

If No, why?

It seems as though the college isn't organized.

this college is the worse and would tell them to go to a 4 year

Already have many times!

Atc is not the best planed out school and will screw you over any chance they get

Q17. In the space below, please add any comments In reference to your experience at Aiken Technical College.

| |
|--|
| Open-Ended Response |
| A good place to start your academic journey |
| Aiken Tech has really helped me grow in becoming an adult and learning with hand on experience. Which I use for my day to day job, and soon to be future job. |
| Aiken tech is a great school with just employees |
| Aiken Tech was a great stepping stone into my future studies and they were always there for me. |
| Aiken Technical College was a wonderful experience for me. My professors helped me realize my full potential as a student that I never thought possible. I would highly recommended ATC to anyone looking to further there education. I will be returning in the fall to receive my associated degree in Marketing. |
| Bookstore needs better hours particularly start of semesters. |
| Great eperience glad to be graduating . |
| Great experience. Met many great students and had several amazing teachers! |
| Great school |
| I believe the psychology and business communication courses should be taught in the first semester. |
| I definitely wish they hadn't took sports away. It use to be basketball and soccer and people would enjoy going to the games. And now it's nothing there which is very sad. |
| I didn't have a very good first two years with my first advisor. |
| I enjoyed every minute of it and I was able to work my classes around my work schedule |
| I enjoyed my program (PCA) very much, other than the phlebotomy teacher, whom I feel is not well prepared for the job, nor cares to be in my opinion. But the school as a whole I feel needs an update. I feel like there is little communication, and if you have an issue that administration doesn't do as much as they could to resolve the problem. I think ATC has some wonderful teachers, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Colley, Dr. James, Dr. Walton, Ms. Gragg, and Dr. Cubbage are some that I was fortunate enough to come across in my short years of being there, but ATC as a whole can do much better. |
| I had a great experience, because I am a older student trying to fulfill my dreams. The instructors were very helpful with any problems that I didn't understand. I got most of my help with science in the Academic Center, and I am very grateful they were there. |
| I have enjoyed being a student at Aiken Technical College. I am 40 years old and decided back in the Spring of 2015, that I wanted to go back to school and chose ATC as my school of choice. I would like to thank everyone who has been a part of the equation in making my graduation from here come true! A special thanks to Deborah Keys, who has been my advisor since day 1 and has guided me towards this day. I would also like to thank all of the instructors who have helped me get through some very difficult courses with a passing grade. Thanks again to ATC for making my college experience one I will never forget! Sincerely, Kerri Murray |
| I have enjoyed my time at Aiken Tech. I will be returning to further my education |
| I have had a good experience at ATC and I would definitely recommend the Nursing program. |
| I have truly enjoyed the journey!!! |
| I have truly grewed thanks to Aiken Technical College. I have learned a lot, and I am more confident in myself. The following instructors are phenomenal, and has truly impacted my education in the most wonderful way. Mr. White, Dr. Agbor, Ms. Thompson, Ms. Ross, and Mr Calhoun. |

Q17. In the space below, please add any comments In reference to your experience at Aiken Technical College.

| Open-Ended Response |
|---|
| I love the school all around from the staff to the instructors they really help you and make sure you have it all before moving on to the next the subject. |
| I think much more of the schools budget needs to go in the science center. If it did it would draw more people to the school. The poor chem teacher y'all have there has to make chicken salad out of chicken poop ATM and it's extremely unfair to him. The same thing goes to the biology teachers I watch them struggle and it's unfair. |
| If something came up regarding my financial aid the enrollment center was always knowledgeable and helpful! |
| In response to me saying the college seems unorganized, there were several times in my semesters of study where it was obvious ATC was not organized. |
| It is a friendly welcoming college and I enjoyed my time at Aiken Tech. |
| It sucks the teachers only care about themselves and don't worry about the student body |
| It was good. |
| It was great. I am so happy with the education I got at ATC |
| I've been going to this school for a couple years too long now. I had to take a lot of classes, and I've got to say that the classes I took in my program for computer programming and networking were stellar! They were so great because they all had such a wealth of knowledge that all connected into one another. Also the professors in the Computer Technology department are excellent at their jobs. On the other hand, for my general education and non-major courses I really lacked in finding a connection to my my major studies which ended in me focusing more on those major studies, because that's what I went there to be educated in. |
| Laid back, Nice Teachers |
| Maintenance of Lab equipment needs to be a higher priority. There is no excuse for having a class of 30 students sharing two lab stations with one inoperative for most of the semester. The curriculum is requiring these very lengthy lab exercises but the school does not offer adequate access to the equipment required to fulfill these tasks. |
| Most of the instructors were fantastic and would do anything in their power to help students succeed. |
| Mr. White and Mrs. Moore were the teachers I constantly had. They are amazing!!!!!! |
| My experience at Aiken Technical College has been great! I enjoyed the Radiologic Technology Program. |
| My experience at ATC was really pleasant |
| My instructor was great. I do believe that she could use some help so that she could have an occasional day off without having to cancel class. But she was very professional and I am honored to have her. Also, the older black lady in the bookstore was often rude. |
| My teachers practically made my experience. I don't think I had one bad teacher the whole time I was in school. |
| Over all, It was a positive experience. Without real world experience it is hard to say if the education will be more than a way to get my foot in the door at future jobs. |
| Overall my experience at Aiken Tech was great. However, I do feel some classes were not as vigorous as they should have been. |
| Some of the staff were helpful but there is a clear division in the faculty that is apparent after simply being a student for a while. In addition this last semester has been insanely difficult due to packing in a ton of difficult classes which had to be moved around after college management adjusted summer courses. While the professors weren't bad it feels almost as if anyone who attends is destined to spend 3 years and 2 years is the exception. |
| The instructors were very good |

Q17. In the space below, please add any comments In reference to your experience at Aiken Technical College.

Open-Ended Response

The instructors were wonderful, but it would be better if they had the latest programs and the correct literature for the courses. In stead of having us learn programs from the 2014 having the updated version. Programs do change with the updates. Having the correct literature is also good, for example when you have a 2017 text book does not help when you have a 2014 program or you are taking a 3-D modeling and you have and Architecture text book. Granted you do use 3-D modeling in architecture, but not all 3-D models involve architecture. It's like saying all pugs are dogs but not all dogs are pugs.

The ladies in the testing center have always been incredibly rude to myself and my classmates, as well as the ladies in the book store. They have repeatedly treated us like we are a bother to them. If there was a different place that I could have purchased everything I needed for my classes I absolutely would have done so. I bought all of my books elsewhere, if any person that works in any retail store treated me the way the book store staff treated me I would leave and not give them a dime of my money.

The new welding booths are extremely nice!

The particular areas of the college that I checked "Dissatisfied", I marked that answer because of RUDENESS. I quit going to the bookstore because one of the actual employee there (the African American lady), she.....my family doesn't speak to me in the tone she used so ATC Bookstore lost my business. I only go when I must acquire something for my course.

the worst experience ever, Nursing program was the worst with the worst instructors _____ and _____ being the worst professor ever. The best teachers I had was Patrick Green, Mrs Jones, Kyle Chromanski, Dr Logan, Professor Cummings, Professor Dotts and Dr. Cubbage.

They need a sports team

This is the second program I have completed at ATC. The first being dental assisting. This satisfied me a lot more. The bookstore and the testing center really need some attitude adjustments, the testing center being the worst. We are nervous going to take tests and some (____) are very unprofessional, not nice and not appropriate. The book store always seems overwhelmed with us and gives us times we are not allowed in there, which are times that work for our schedule. Admissions has always been helpful and nice to me. Financial aid has always been very pleasant. I am proud to be graduating with my ADN from ATC.

Unable to give accurate opinion of the academic success center for recent experience due to not using the service in the last four years.

While in my program there was absolutely no structure. My graduating class struggled and suffered because of this. If you are going to offer a program then it has to have structure and be able to provide the necessary knowledge needed to go out and get a job. Hopefully the school will keep Beth Ashley around so she can provide the structure needed for future classes.

Q18. In the space below, please add any suggestions to enhance/improve services and activities offered through the College.

| Open-Ended Response |
|---|
| Add a CT class |
| fire majority of the staff and crew and hire ones that actually give a darn about the students. |
| Great school |
| Have employment training program with emphasis on customer service!!!! |
| Hire personnel qualified to service lab equipment. Teachers have enough responsibility without having to maintain school property in what little free time they have. I know first hand that on more than one occasion several of your faculty has purchased school supplies or parts to fix broken lab equipment. While I admire their willingness to help the students succeed, they don't have the spare time or income to fill in when the school comes up short in their responsibilities. |
| I believe some changes could be made to make some of the online courses more challenging. I don't feel like I retained much from some courses. |
| I do not have feedback on this subject |
| I think a lot of people, including myself, do not know what all ATC has available as far as activities. I know there are emails sent, and I am not sure how to get the word out there that things are happening. I was pleased with my SNA experience. |
| I think what Aiken Tech offers is great and I just hope they keep growing more and more as the years pass by. |
| I would suggest that online classes have lectures to go with the curriculum. Sometimes people would rather be in the classroom but cannot because of work or other classes. |
| If Aiken Tech offered more online classes that would be great. I also feel that this College should have more hands on experience for Management students. (different software, non virtual ways in managing a business) |
| If More degrees were offered |
| IMPROVE ENROLLMENT SERVICES...Everytime i had a question it seems like almost everytime i went there they didnt know what was going on |
| Less work |
| Make the financial aid process easier for students who don't know how to advocate for themselves. |
| More course offered during the summer, and more courses offered online for full-time working students. |
| More patience with students would be great |

Q18. In the space below, please add any suggestions to enhance/improve services and activities offered through the College.

Open-Ended Response

My biggest issue with Aiken Tech would be the change to printing services. Seriously, ATC doubled the price and removed the printers from the class rooms. Doubling down on the stupidity of that move, many people go to the library to print. Those computers are especially vulnerable to key logger software waiting for credit card information to be stolen. Not only does it take an address, name, and CC number but the code on the back of a card to add credits, but the personal information being saved on public computers is staggering. Its a disaster waiting to happen to some innocent or naive person. Follow that up with the bookstore. Not only are prices for books not available online but only in select windows. Furthermore, the details and I use that word loosely about the books are not always accurate. Books for the next semester for the most part should be available at the beginning of advisement for Math, English and nursing and possibly other classes. I can understand not having information on rare classes at the start of advisement even though im sure the middle man selling the books has the prices on hand. Every student has to take Eng and Math so there is no reason not to be prepared since when advisement periods are open knowledge on the ATC calendar. Lastly, if you want future students to actively participate in student related activities, stop only sending information through the student email. I have been attending ATC over two years most of the time I don't even bother checking it. I can assure you that I am not alone in this sentiment. Many of my fellow students feel the same way. I already have a work email, a personal email and now you want me to have a school email too? Most of the activities around school I learned about through teachers. I would not have even known I had to apply to graduate if not for Mr. White telling me. I am sure the plan to inform students through email would be much more effective if you actually sent us a email to an account we use. Not to mention that if in the future there are events at aiken tech we will still know about them because our old student email will be abandoned after it stops being useful.

My program needs improvement with labs.

Offer more courses

One thing I would suggest as far as the Computer Technology's Programming and Networking curriculum are concerned is to introduce courses that would offer more business savvy to the graduates allowing them to be able to sell what they can make instead of having to figure it out, having to work through the inevitable failures after they get through college and need to pay off the debt, or just eat and have a place to stay.

Order enough books for classes. There were several instances in which the books I (and several other students) needed were not available due to a severe lack of inventory.

Science science science!!!

See answer #17

Should be more activities for people to join in like concerts, plays, sports,...

Stop adding classes to a program while a student is in the middle of the program

The enrollment center needs nicer front desk employees, and faster service. Dropping off a paper should not take 25 minutes when there is only 3 people in there.

The hours of operation in the computer/ math lab to be extended to weekend hours

The only thing I would improve is more help in enrollment center, because when there is a lot of students upfront the wait time is crazy.

The school needs more instructors and classes need to be offered more often

The services of enrollment center are slow and the testing center people are a little rude at times.

They should have sports different activities that all students can experience with.

Your entire business department is excellent. A huge thanks to Mr. White, Ms.Thompson, Ms.Ellison, Mr.Calhoun, Ms.Moore for their instructing, and a so Lee Hunt my former advisor. Havi g quality instructors does make a huge difference.