

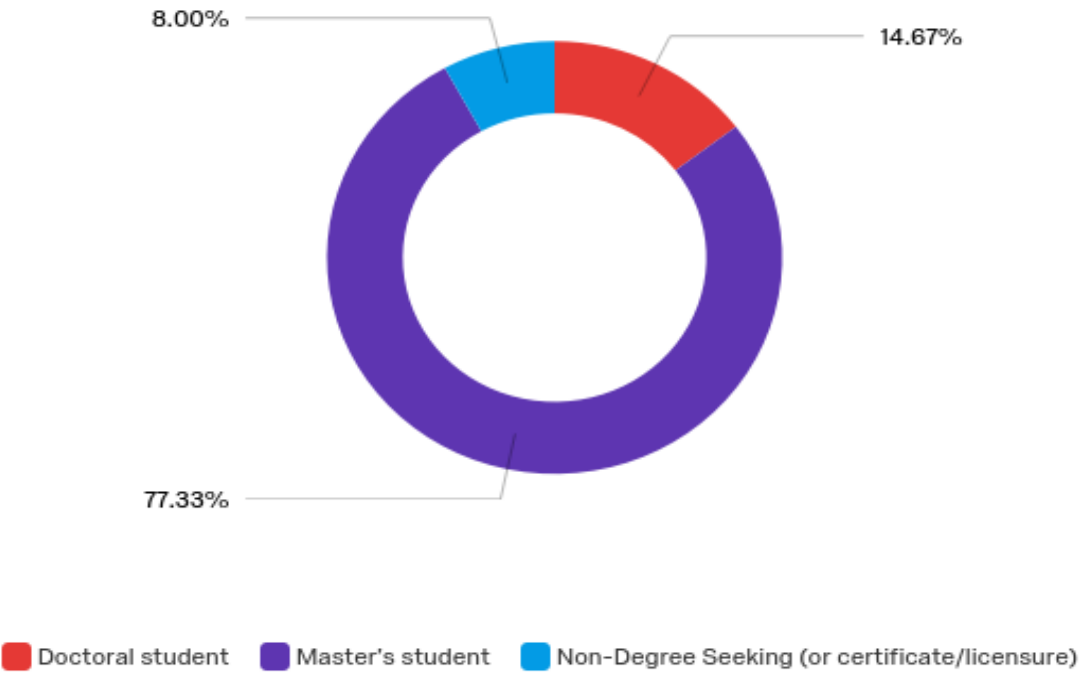
Fall 2016 Orientation Report

Tennessee State University's School of Graduate Studies and Research hosted a New Student Orientation during both the Spring and Fall semester. The purpose of these orientations are to provide newly admitted graduate students information as it relates to being successful as a graduate student, expose them to resources that will be beneficial during their matriculation, necessary administrative services as well as academic advising. The orientations are held on Saturday mornings providing greater accessibility to graduate students, which mainly work during the week.

The Graduate School Orientation Survey asks questions about the Fall 2016 Graduate School Orientation experience. The survey was given at the orientation and was also emailed via a link to the students that attended. Responses were gathered using Qualtrics, an online tool, over a three-week period. The purpose of the survey is to solicit, in a confidential manner, information about the satisfaction with the orientation experience as a newly admitted graduate student at Tennessee State University. The information will be used for administrative and graduate policy purposes. The responses will help inform ongoing efforts to improve and strengthen graduate education at both the departmental and university levels.

There were 160 newly admitted graduate students that attended the orientation. All students signed in providing name, contact information, and degree program. Out of the 160 students in attendance, 138 (86%) provided legible emails thus these students were sent the survey link. Out of the 138 emails sent, 75 students responded (54%). Students responded to these questions using five Point Liker-type scales with 1 being Strongly Disagree and 5 being Strongly Agree.

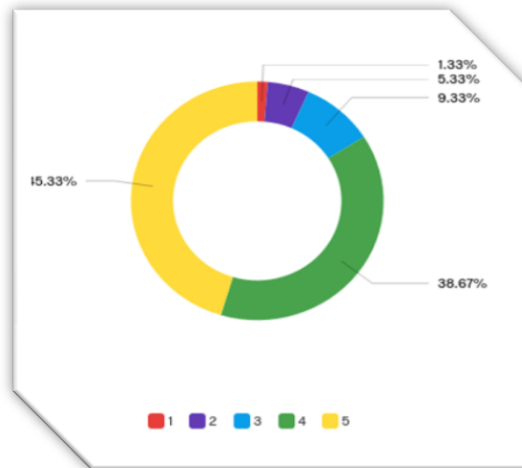
Per the results, doctoral, master and non-degree seeking students attended the Fall orientation. The greater number of attendees was that on the master's level at 77%; the doctoral level attendees were 14%, and the non-degree seeking students were at 8%. These numbers provide the Graduate School with information of which group was greater in attendance and though not statistically proven, it does indicate that newly admitted master level students may feel the need to attend such an orientation as a way of securing any inhibitions of being on the graduate school level for the first time.



I. Content of Presentation (General Session)

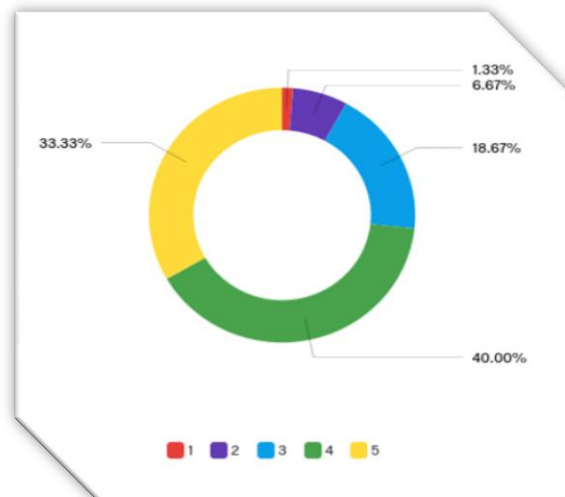
1. The written materials distributed (in folder) are helpful

Written materials were distributed to each newly admitted graduate student. Materials included, but not limited to, examples of program of study, fee schedules, academic calendar and guides that give insight on how to be successful in Graduate School.



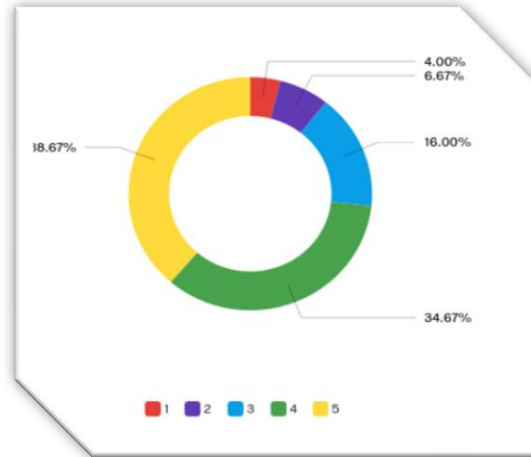
2. The content of the general session was practical to my needs and interests

General information is presented during the general session where detailed information is given on how to “maneuver”, so to speak, throughout the university and how to become connected within the university so that the graduate education experience is a valued and successful one.



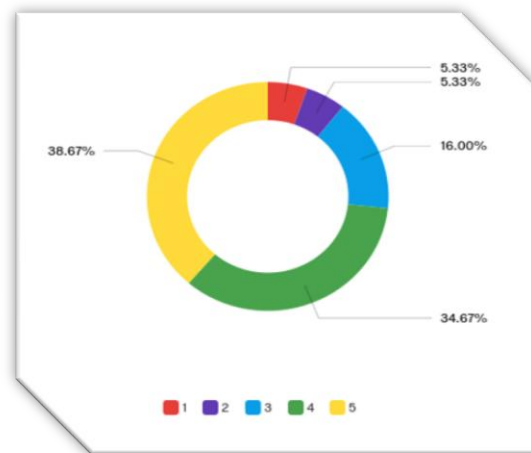
3. The amount of materials covered appropriate

Wanting to prevent information overload, this question is asked to make sure that information presented is just enough but yet, not too little.



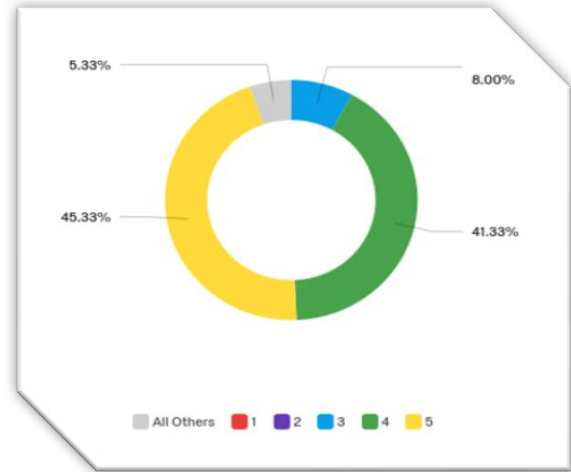
4. The topics covered at the orientation were what I expected

Specific topics were covered at the orientation that would be helpful during students first semester of matriculation. These topics included, but not limited to, study habits, academic advising, learning the campus layout, and an overview of the first academic year to name a few.



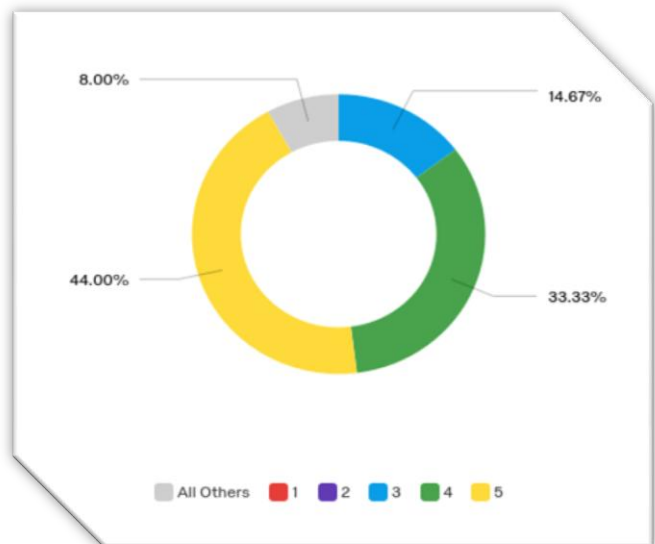
5. The materials covered were understandable

The office needs to make sure that all given material is clear and concise so that all attendees understand the material given.



6. The presenter presented the material in an organized way

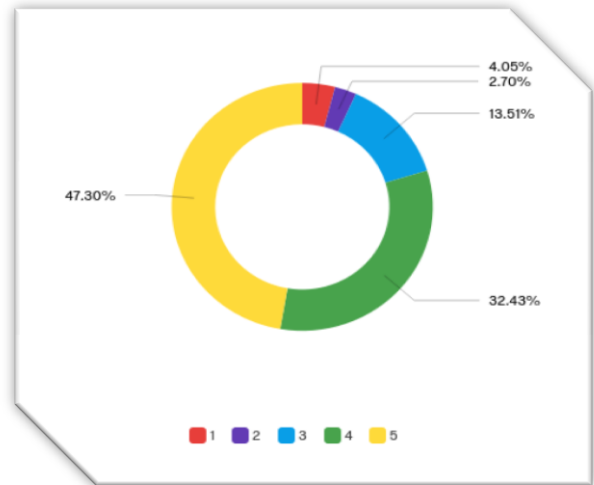
Presenting material must be done in a manner where the presenter is understood and thoughts are organized.



II. Presenter (s)

7. Information provided by advisor/ coordinator/dept. chair helpful/useful

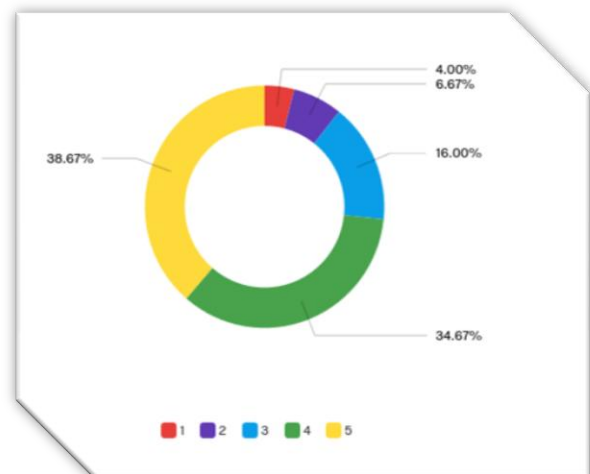
Academic advisement is given on the spot. This information is presented to students in a one-on-one setting where questions can be asked and registration advice can included in the conversation. Note: there are only 74 responses on this question, indicating that one (1) attendee did not answer this question.



III. Overall Satisfaction

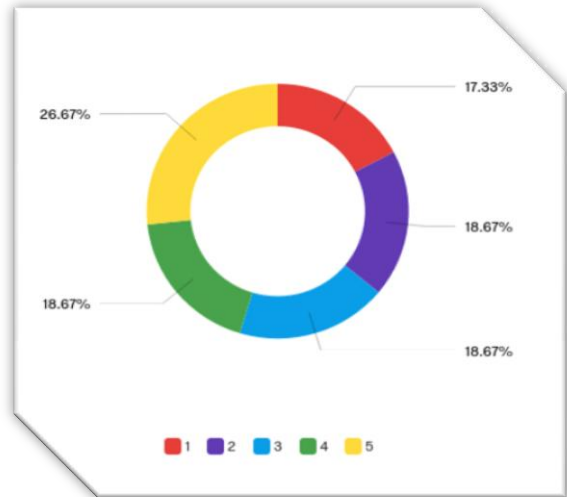
8. The time for the orientation was appropriate

This questions is asked to ensure that the time selected is appropriate since graduate students mainly work during the week.



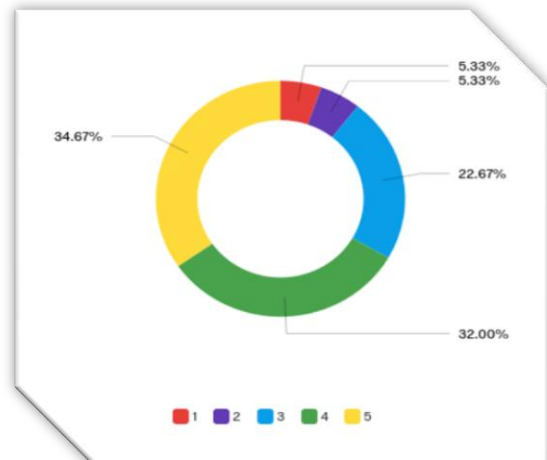
9. I am satisfied with services provided (ID card, parking decal, registration, etc.)

Administrative services were provided during the orientation to ensure that the graduate students could easily obtain the necessary information such as ID cards, parking permits, financial aid assistance, health services, to name a few, as most of these offices are closed and not available after work hours during the weekday.



10. Overall, I am satisfied with the Orientation Experience

Overall satisfaction with the orientation was asked which will provide information for enhancements to make the next orientation better.



IV. Please indicate to which College you were admitted

