

**A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY OF SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF
SELECTED STUDENTS AWARDED BACHELOR'S DEGREES
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON IN JUNE, 1968**

A Thesis

Presented to

the Faculty of the Department of Psychology

University of Houston

In Partial Fulfillment

of the Requirements for the Degree

Master of Arts

by

Major Carl Henderson III

August, 1968

PREFACE

I wish to thank Mrs. Mary Williams and the personnel of the Records Office of the Registrar of the University of Houston for their prompt assistance.

I am especially grateful to Dr. Franklin L. Stovall, my faculty advisor and the chairman, for his encouragement and assistance throughout my career at the University of Houston.

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ABSTRACT

As a result of past studies, there are some data now available on a group basis on students graduating from the University of Houston. However, the number of studies is quite limited so there continues to be a need for information concerning the characteristics of students who earn a bachelor's degree. The Administrative Staff can make use of this information and such information must also be obtained if in the future a longitudinal study is to be conducted. Some of the important characteristics of the graduating students would be: a) Do most students transfer from other colleges, and how many hours are transferred? b) What is the nature of the academic record of the graduating students?

To supply the above information this study was made on a sample of 185 students who were awarded bachelor's degrees by the University of Houston at the June Commencement, 1968. Some of the characteristics deemed significant for each student were: 1) The number of academic probations; 2) The number of academic suspensions; 3) The number of majors; 4) The date of admission to the University of Houston; 5) The student's quality point average.

The 185 students included in this study were graduates of the College of Arts and Sciences. These students were candidates for graduation in January, 1968. The students were distributed between the two degrees

from the College of Arts and Sciences as follows:

1. Bachelor of Arts - 77 students
2. Bachelor of Science - 108 students

The basic data are presented in five separate tables. In three of the tables the tabulations are by degree awarded, Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science. In the other two tables the information is tabulated by the degrees awarded and the number of semester hours transferred from other colleges.

The information obtained from the records of the graduates and arranged into tables warranted the following conclusions:

1. Nearly half, or 49%, were never on academic probation.
However, 51% had been on probation atleast once.
2. The majority, or 83%, were never suspended for academic reasons.
3. About half the group, 52%, had only one major while attending the University of Houston.
4. Only 47, or 25%, of the group had completed all academic requirements for the degree at the University of Houston.
5. Of the sample group of 185 students, 32% were admitted to the University of Houston in the fall of 1965 or later; 36% were admitted to the University of Houston from the fall of 1963 to the fall of 1965; the remaining 32% were admitted prior to the fall of 1963.

6. With respect to quality point average, 38% had QPA's ranging from 2.00 to 2.49; 29% from 2.50 to 2.99; and 33% had a 3.00 (B grade) or above.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. THE PROBLEM	1
Statement of the Problem	1
Need for Study	1
Limitations of Study	2
II. SURVEY OF LITERATURE	3
III. THE GROUP STUDIED AND PROCEDURES USED ...	14
IV. PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF THE DATA	18
Presentation of Data	18
Analysis of Data	24
V. SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, AND	
RECOMMENDATIONS	30
Summary	30
Conclusions	31
Recommendations	32
BIBLIOGRAPHY	34

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE	PAGE
I. NUMBER OF ACADEMIC PROBATIONS	19
II. NUMBER OF ACADEMIC SUSPENSIONS	20
III. NUMBER OF MAJORS	21
IV. DATE OF ADMISSION TO UNIV. OF HOUSTON	22
V. QUALITY POINT AVERAGE	23

CHAPTER I

THE PROBLEM

Statement of the Problem

The purpose of this study was to determine certain characteristics for a sample of students awarded a bachelor's degree in the College of Arts and Sciences by the University of Houston at the June Commencement, 1968. The characteristics for each student deemed significant were:

1. The number of probations
2. The number of suspensions
3. The number of majors
4. The date of admission to the University of Houston
5. The student's quality point average
6. The number of hours transferred to the University of Houston

This last characteristic was used as a way of grouping the students as their characteristics were presented in the tables.

Need for Study

There continues to be a need on the part of the administrative staff, as well as for future studies, for the information revealed in this study. Much information is available on students who are entering college; however, little information is available in the realm of follow-up. Types of information on the academic record, such as quality point average, number of changes of major, length of time required to

obtain the degree, and the number of hours transferred from other colleges, are all most useful in understanding the nature of students who graduate.

Limitations of Study

This study included only the graduates who were candidates in January, 1968, received their degrees at the June, 1968 Commencement, and obtained either the Bachelor of Arts degree or the Bachelor of Science degree.

The results of this study would be of value mainly to the officials of the University of Houston, although the results of this study along with other similar studies might be used to conduct a longitudinal, or predictive study.

CHAPTER II

SURVEY OF LITERATURE

Few universities have made studies of their graduates similar to this study. Several studies of this nature have been made at the University of Houston. The first such study was made by D. Ramos Wilson (5) in 1960. The subjects making up the sample for that study consisted of the 764 students who obtained a bachelor's degree at the University of Houston at the June Commencement in 1960. This population was distributed among the different colleges in this university as follows:

1. College of Arts and Sciences 231 students
2. College of Business Administration 207 students
3. College of Education 107 students
4. College of Engineering 104 students
5. Law School 30 students
6. Pharmacy School 26 students
7. College of Architecture 21 students
8. College of Technology 38 students

The following general conclusions were the result of this study:

1. The majority of the graduates required more than four years to complete the degree.
2. A considerable number of the graduates, both transfers and non-transfers, did not enter college immediately

after graduation from high school.

3. A relatively large number of the students, more than one-third, were in academic difficulty during the period of enrollment at the University of Houston.
4. Most of the students, 70 percent, retained their first major.
5. These 764 graduates were rather evenly divided from high schools in Harris County, other Texas Counties and outside Texas.
6. A majority, four-hundred fifteen students, were under a "C" average for at least one semester while enrolled at the University of Houston.
7. As is usually the case, the majority of these graduates had quality point averages from 2.00 to 3.00.
8. About three-fourths of these graduate students were full-time students, or more full-time than part-time.
9. More than one-half of the 764 graduates were transfer students who transferred more than 10 semester hours.

Concurrent studies were done by Mr. Alexander Kantainis (4) and Mr. Frederic Bahr (1) in 1961. These studies were done with a total sample of 756 students who were awarded a bachelor's degree by the University of Houston at the June Commencement, 1961. Mr. Kantainis included 385 of these students for the sample for his study. Included

in his study were the graduates from the following colleges at the University of Houston: College of Architecture; College of Business Administration; College of Education; College of Pharmacy; and College of Technology. The other 371 students who graduated at the same time comprised the sample for a similar study made by Mr. Frederic Bahr. His study included graduates from the following colleges at the University of Houston: College of Arts and Sciences; College of Engineering; and College of Law.

Mr. Kantainis derived the following conclusions from his study:

1. The largest group, 21%, of all the graduating students at the June Commencement, 1961, had been admitted to the University of Houston from fall of 1957 to summer of 1958.
2. The largest group, 29%, representing all of the graduating students were admitted to the University of Houston during the same year they graduated from high school.
3. The largest group, 58%, of the graduating students had no probations and a very large group, 89%, represented the ones with no suspensions.
4. More than half of the students, 60%, had only one major, and half of the students, 50%, did not have any semesters under "C" average.
5. The largest group, 36%, of all the students were graduates from the Houston Independent School District.

6. The largest group, 43%, but less than half of all the students graduated with QPA (quality point average) ranging from 2.00 to 2.49.
7. Almost three-fourths of all the students, 71%, attended the University of Houston on a full time basis.
8. A very large number of students, 84%, attended summer terms at the University of Houston, and a little over half of all the students, 62%, attended from 1 to 4 colleges before admission to the University of Houston.

Mr. Bahr derived the following conclusions from the 371 students in the sample of his study:

The majority of the group studied had these characteristics:

1. They majored in the College of Arts and Sciences.
2. They were transfer students.
3. They had completed 90 or more hours at the University.
4. They first had enrolled at the University prior to the fall of 1959.
5. They were never on probation.
6. They were never suspended.
7. They never changed majors.
8. They graduated from high schools outside Harris County.
9. They averaged in quality point from 2.00 to 2.99.

10. They took full loads or more full loads than part time loads.

Some mode descriptions of this group were:

1. More of these graduates entered the University of Houston during the fall of 1957 to the summer of 1958 than any other time.
2. More students entered the University the same year they graduated from high school than any other time.
3. More students had no ("0") semesters under a "C" average than any other number.
4. More students attended two summer terms than any other number of summer terms.
5. More students attended one other university than any other number of other universities.

The only mean descriptions were quality point average, number of other universities attended and number of summer terms attended.

1. The average quality point average in this group was 2.62.
2. Attending "one" other university was the average number for the group.
3. The average number of summer terms attended by the group was 3.4.

Transfer students were as well qualified for instruction as the home students - in many instances more qualified. Transfer students in this group had these characteristics:

1. Most of the transfer students had above 11 transferable hours.

2. Proportionately more transfer students than home students averaged 3.00 and above in quality point average.
3. The more hours that were transferred, the less time was spent at the University.
4. The transfer students were in proportionate number slightly fewer on probation than the home students.
The same applies to suspensions and number of semesters under a "C" average.
5. The transfer students did not tend to change majors as much as the home students did.

The home students were characterized as follows:

1. The majority of home students entered the University the same year they graduated from high school.
2. Proportionately there were slightly more home students on probation than transfer students.
3. Proportionately more home students than transfer students had semesters averaging under a "C".

The College of Arts and Sciences had these unique characteristics:

1. It was the largest with 276 students.
2. It had the highest average quality point, 2.71.

The Cullen College of Engineering was distinguished in the following ways:

1. A lower number of its students entered during the total mode year, fall of 1957 to summer of 1958, than during any previous year.
2. The majority of the engineering graduates, in contrast to the total distribution, had been on probation at least one time.
3. Also most of the students never on probation were home students rather than transfer students.
4. In this college the percentage of students suspended was highest, 11%.
5. The percentage of students with some semesters under a "C" average was highest, 75%, in this college.
6. This college had the lowest average quality point, 2.51.
7. It had the highest percentage of a part time or more part time students, 30%.

The College of Law was characterized individually also:

- 1; It had the highest percentage of transfer students, 87%.
2. It had the highest number and percentage of students with previous degrees.

3. Fewer students enrolled in this college during the mode year of entry, the same year as graduation from high school, than during the fourth, fifth, or sixth years after graduation from high school.
4. The College of Law had the highest percentage of students never on probation, 83%.
5. Only the College of Law had no graduates ever suspended.
6. No one graduated in the College of Law with less than 60 hours completed at the University of Houston.

Again, in 1967, concurrent studies were done by Polly Ann Bayless (2) and Mary Headrick Clements (3). The two studies together included over one-half of the students to whom bachelor's degrees were awarded at the June Commencement in 1966. A total of 333 students comprised the group for the study done by Miss Bayless. They were distributed between the two degrees from the College of Arts and Sciences as follows:

1. Bachelor of Science - 188 students
2. Bachelor of Arts - 145 students

The study done by Mrs. Clements included 296 students who were graduates of the College of Education and the College of Business Administration.

Miss Bayless stated the following conclusions from her study:

Most of the group studied had these characteristics:

1. They required more than four years to complete the degree.
2. They received the Bachelor of Science degree.
3. They were males.
4. They were transfer students.
5. They never were on probation.
6. They were never on suspension.
7. They never changed majors.
8. They averaged in quality points from 2.00 to 2.99.

The male graduates had these unique characteristics:

1. They made up the majority (53 percent) of the class; there were 175.
2. Most received the Bachelor of Science.
3. Proportionately more male students than female students were on probation. The same applies to suspensions and number of semesters under a "C" average.
4. Male students had lower quality point averages than female students.

The female graduates had these unique characteristics:

1. They were the minority (47 percent) of the class; there were 158.
2. Most received the Bachelor of Arts.
3. Proportionately fewer female students than male students

were on probation. The same applies to suspension and number of semesters under a "C" average.

Those receiving the Bachelor of Science had these characteristics:

1. It was the largest group, with 188 students.
2. There were 71 percent males; 29 percent were females.
3. A larger percentage of these students were on probation than of those receiving the Bachelor of Arts. The same applies to suspensions and number of semesters under a "C" average.
4. These students had lower quality point averages than those receiving the Bachelor of Arts.
5. A larger percentage of these students had only one major.

Those receiving the Bachelor of Arts had these characteristics:

1. It was the smaller group, with 145 students.
2. There were 29 percent males; 71 percent were females.
3. A smaller percentage of these students were on probation than of those receiving the Bachelor of Science. The same applies to suspensions and number of semesters under a "C" average.
4. These students had higher quality point averages than those receiving the Bachelor of Science.
5. A smaller percentage of these students had only one major.

Mrs. Clements stated the following conclusions for her study:

1. The largest group, or 51%, had no academic probations.
2. A very large number, or 90%, had no academic suspensions.
3. About half of the students, representing the largest number, or 51%, had only one major while attending the University of Houston.
4. The largest group, or 24%, were admitted to the University of Houston from the fall of 1962, through the summer of 1963.
5. The largest group, or 34%, graduated with a quality point average ranging from 2.50 to 2.99. Almost the same size group, or 33%, graduated with a quality point average ranging from 2.00 to 2.49.

The findings of these previous studies were significant and prompted this continued study of the characteristics of those graduating with bachelor's degrees from the University of Houston.

CHAPTER III

THE GROUP STUDIED AND PROCEDURES USED

The Group Studied

From the students graduating in the 1968 June Commencement, 185 were chosen for this research project. These students received a degree for work completed prior to January 1968. These 185 students received the following degrees:

1. Bachelor of Arts - A total of 77 students were awarded this degree. There were 32 male students, or 42%. There were 42 female students, or 58%.
2. Bachelor of Science - A total of 108 students were awarded this degree. There were 73 male students, or 68%. There were 35 female students, or 32%.

Procedures Used

The basic data on each student included in this study was obtained from the Permanent Record Cards, which are kept at the Records Office of the Registrar at the University of Houston. Photostatic copies of these records were made for the purpose of this study.

It was decided to include for each student the following characteristics for the study:

1. The date of admission to the University of Houston.
2. Hours transferred from other college or colleges.
3. Number of majors.

4. Number of semesters on probation.
5. Number of semesters on suspension.
6. Quality point average.

The photostatic copies themselves were used for tabulation.

The photo-copies were first grouped according to the degree awarded.

One group contained all the students who received the Bachelor of Arts degree, and the other group contained all the students who received the Bachelor of Science degree. Each of these groups were then sub-divided into two groups according to the sex of the student. The quality point average was computed for each student and placed on the Permanent Record Card photo-copies. Tally sheets were constructed and the tabulations were then made directly from the photo-copies. The tally sheets were made for each degree, the sex, and the various characteristics in the following way:

1. Academic status (the number of probations) - this included the number of semesters or summer terms a student was on probation as follows: 0-showing no probations; 1-showing one probation; 2-two probations; 3-three probations; 4-four or more probations.
2. Academic status (the number of suspensions) - this included the number of semesters or summer terms a student was suspended as follows: 0-showing no suspensions; 1-one suspension; 2-two or more suspensions.

3. Number of majors - this represented the number of majors the student had chosen at the University of Houston. Four categories were listed for tabulation to show the number of changes from one to four or more. This characteristic was compared to the hours transferred to the University of Houston in the following five categories: none, 1 to 12, 13 to 30, 31 to 60, and more than 61.
4. The date of admission to the University of Houston - The seven categories according to the date of admission were: prior to 1958, fall 1958 through summer 1961, fall 1961 through summer 1962, fall 1962 through summer 1963, fall 1963 through summer 1964, fall 1964 through summer 1965, and fall 1965 and after. This characteristic was also compared to the number of hours transferred to the University of Houston in the manner stated above.
5. Quality point average - The QPA was computed on this basis: a grade of "A" was counted as 4 quality points per semester hour, a grade of "B" was counted as 3 quality points per semester hour, a grade of "C" was counted as 2 quality points per semester hour, a grade of "D" was counted as 1 quality point per semester hour, and a grade of "F" was counted as 0. If a course was repeated, the

last grade replaced the one made before. I's and W's were not included in the averaging. After these quality points were averaged, the five categories were: under 2.00, from 2.00 to 2.49, from 2.50 to 2.99, from 3.00 to 3.49, and from 3.50 to 3.99.

Again the quality point average was compared to the hours transferred to the University of Houston in the manner shown earlier.

CHAPTER IV

PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF THE DATA

Presentation of Data

The basic data for this study are presented in Tables I through V. Tables I and II represent the academic status of the students and tabulations are simply according to degrees earned and male and female. In tables III, IV, and V the tabulations were by number of hours transferred to the University of Houston as well as by degrees earned and sex. In all the tables, N represents number, M represents male, and F represents female. % represents percent. Sub-totals and totals are on the far right of each table for the degrees earned, and sub-totals and totals for the categories are at the bottom of the table.

TABLE I

Number of Academic Probations

Degree Awarded	0						1						2						3						4 or more						Totals					
	N			%			N			%			N			%			N			%			N			%			N			%		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Bachelor of Arts	15	28	43	47	62	56	10	15	25	22	33	32	5	1	6	15	2	8	1	0	1	2	3	1	1	1	2	3	2	3	32	45	77	42	58	42
Bachelor of Science	24	23	47	33	66	43	9	8	17	12	26	16	16	3	19	22	13	18	15	1	16	21	3	15	9	0	9	12	0	8	73	35	108	68	32	58
Totals	39	51	90	37	38	49	19	23	42	18	29	23	21	4	25	20	5	13	16	1	17	15	1	9	10	1	11	10	1	6	105	80	185	57	43	100

TABLE II

Number of Academic Suspensions

Degree Awarded	0						1						2+						Totals					
	N			%			N			%			N			%			N			%		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Bachelor of Arts	27	43	70	84	95	91	4	1	5	12	3	6	1	1	2	4	2	3	32	45	77	42	58	42
Bachelor of Science	53	31	84	76	89	78	15	4	19	20	11	18	5	0	5	7	0	4	73	35	108	67	33	58
Totals	80	74	154	76	93	83	19	5	24	18	6	13	6	1	7	6	1	4	105	80	185	57	43	100

TABLE III

Number of Majors

Degree Awarded	Hours Trans.	1						2						3 or more						Totals					
		N			%			N			%			N			%			N			%		
		M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Bachelor of Arts	None	1	6	7	12	60	39	5	2	7	63	20	39	2	2	4	25	20	22	8	10	18	44	56	10
	1-12	1	1	2	100	33	50	0	1	1	0	33	25	0	1	1	0	33	25	1	3	4	25	75	2
	13-30	0	3	3	0	37	30	0	2	2	0	25	20	2	3	5	100	38	50	2	8	10	20	80	5
	31-60	4	6	10	44	54	50	3	3	6	33	27	30	2	2	4	23	19	20	9	11	20	45	55	11
	61 +	8	10	18	67	77	72	4	3	7	33	23	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	13	25	48	52	13
Bachelor of Science	None	10	2	12	46	29	42	6	4	10	27	57	34	6	1	7	27	14	24	22	7	29	76	24	16
	1-12	1	0	1	25	0	17	2	1	3	50	50	50	1	1	2	25	50	33	4	2	6	67	33	3
	13-30	5	4	9	42	57	47	5	1	6	42	14	32	2	2	4	16	29	21	12	7	19	63	37	11
	31-60	7	5	12	54	56	55	6	3	9	46	33	41	0	1	1	0	11	4	13	9	22	59	41	12
	61 +	13	8	21	59	80	66	7	2	9	32	20	28	2	0	2	0	0	6	22	10	32	69	31	17
Totals		50	45	95	48	56	52	38	22	60	36	27	32	17	13	30	16	17	16	105	80	185		100	

TABLE IV

Date of Admission

Degree Awarded	Hours Trans.	Prior '58	Fall '58 Summ. '61	Fall '61 Summ. '62	Fall '62 Summ. '63	Fall '63 Summ. '64	Fall '64 Summ. '65	Fall '65 and after	Sub Totals	Totals
		N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N %
Bachelor of Arts	None	1 1			1 1	6 4	4		8 10	18 23
	1-12		1	1		1	1		1 3	4 5
	13-30	1	1			1 2	1 3	1	2 8	10 13
	31-60	1 1	2		1	2 2	2 3	3 3	9 11	20 26
	61 +	1			1	1 1	1	10 10	12 13	25 33
Sub-tot.		2 4	4	1	3 1	10 10	3 12	13 14	32 45	77 41
TN T%		6 8	4 5	1 1	4 5	20 26	15 19	27 36		
Bachelor of Science	None	4 1	1	4	5 1	7 3	1 2		22 7	29 27
	1-12	1	1	2		2			4 2	6 6
	13-30	1 2	1 1	3	3 1	2	1 3	1	12 7	19 18
	31-60	1		1	3 1	1 1	2 1	7 4	13 9	22 20
	61 +	1	1	2	2 1	3	2 1	11 8	22 10	32 29
Sub-tot.		7 4	4 1	11 1	13 4	13 6	6 7	19 12	73 35	108 59
TN T%		11 10	5 4	12 11	17 16	19 17	13 12	31 30		
both degrees		17 9	9 5	13 7	21 11	39 21	28 15	58 32		185

TABLE V

Quality Point Average

Degree Awarded	Hours Trans.	Under 2.00	2.00- 2.49	2.50- 2.99	3.00- 3.49	3.50- 3.99	Sub- Tot.	Totals	
		N	N	N	N	N	N	TN	T%
		M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F		
Bachelor of Arts	None		3 1	2 5	3 2	2	8 10	18	23
	1-12		1	1	1	1	1 3	4	5
	13-30		1 3	1 2	4		2 9	11	14
	31-60		5 4	4 3	4		9 11	20	26
	61 +	1	2 1	4 3	5 4	4	12 13	25	32
	Sub- tot.	1	11 10	11 14	9 14	7	32 45	77	41
Bachelor of Science	None		14 3	3 2	3 2	1	21 7	28	26
	1-12		4	1	1 1		5 2	7	6
	13-30		6 4	5 1	2	1	12 7	19	18
	31-60		6 3	4 2	3 4		13 9	22	20
	61 +		9 1	7 4	6 4	1	22 10	32	30
	Sub- tot.		39 11	19 10	13 13	2 1	73 35	108	59
	Totals	TN T%	TN T%	TN T%	TN T%	TN T%	TN		
		1 .5	71 38	54 29	49 26.5	10 5	185		

Analysis of Data

Table I - Number of Semesters on Probation - Of the students included in the study who were awarded the Bachelor of Arts degree, there were 15 males out of 32, or 47%, who were never on probation. There were 28 out of 45, or 62% of the females who were never on probation. There were 10 males, or 22%, who were on probation one semester. There were 15 females, or 33%, who were on probation one semester. There were 5 males, or 15%, who were on probation two semesters. There was 1 female, or 2%, who was on probation two semesters. There was 1 male, or 3%, who was on probation for three semesters. There were no females who were on probation for three semesters. There was 1 male, or 3%, who was on probation four or more semesters. There was 1 female, or 2%, who was on probation four or more semesters. There were 42% of the students who were male, and 58% of the students who were female in the group studied that received the Bachelor of Arts degree. There were 77 students, or 42% of the sample studied.

Of the students included in the study who received the Bachelor of Science degree, there were 24 out of 73 males, or 33%, who were never on probation. There were 23 out of 35 females, or 66%, who were never on probation. There were 9 males, or 12%, who were on probation one semester. There were 8 females, or 26%, who

were on probation one semester. There were 16 males, or 22%, who were on probation for two semesters. There were 3 females, or 13%, who were on probation for two semesters. There were 15 males, or 21%, who were on probation for three semesters. There was 1 female, or 3%, who was on probation for three semesters. There were 9 males, or 12%, who were on probation for four or more semesters. There were no females who were on probation for four or more semesters. Of the students included in the study who received the Bachelor of Science degree 73, or 68%, were male, and 35, or 32%, were female. There were 108 students, or 58% of the sample studied.

Of all the students in this sample, there were 39 out of 105 males, or 37%, who were never on probation. There were 51 out of 80 females, or 38%, who were never on probation. There were 19 males, or 18%, who were on probation for one semester. There were 23 females, or 29%, who were on probation for one semester. There were 21 males, or 20%, who were on probation for two semesters. There were 4 females, or 5%, who were on probation for two semesters. There were 16 males, or 15%, who were on probation for three semesters. There was 1 female, or 1%, who was on probation for three semesters. There were 10 males, or 10%, who were on probation for four or more semesters. There was 1 female, or 1%, who was on probation for four or more semesters.

Approximately one half, or 49%, of the students in this study were never on probation. On probation 1 semester were 23% of the students. On probation 2 semesters were 13% of the total. On probation 3 semesters were 9% of the total. On probation 4 or more semesters were 6% of the total sample.

Table II - Number of Suspensions - There were 27 out of 32 male students, or 84%, who had no suspensions that received the Bachelor of Arts degree in the sample. There were 43 out of 45 females, or 95%, who had no suspensions. Four males, or 12%, were on suspension for 1 semester. One female, or 3%, was on suspension for 1 semester. One male, or 4%, and one female, the other 2%, was on suspension for 2 or more semesters. There were a total of 77 students, or 42% of the sample, that were awarded the Bachelor of Arts degree.

There were 53 out of 73 males, or 73%, who had no suspensions in the sample that received the Bachelor of Science degree. Thirty-one out of 35 females, or 89%, had no suspensions. There were 15 males, or 20%, who had 1 suspension. There were 4 females, or 11%, who had 1 suspension. Five males, or 7%, and no females had 2 or more suspensions. A total of 154 students, or 83% of the students that received either the Bachelor of Arts degree or the Bachelor of Science degree had no suspensions. A total of 24 students, or 13%, had 1 suspension. Seven students, or 4%, had 2 or more suspensions.

Table III - Number of Majors - The number of majors as compared to the semester hours transferred from other colleges are listed in Table III. A total of 95 students awarded either the Bachelor of Arts or the Bachelor of Science degree, or 52%, had only one major. Sixty, or 32%, had 2 majors. Thirty, or 16%, had 3 or more majors. There were 50 out of 105 males, or 48%, who had one major. There were 45 out of 80 females, or 56%, who had one major. Thirty-eight males, or 36%, had 2 majors. Twenty-two females, or 27%, had 2 majors. Seventeen males, or 16%, had three or more majors. Thirteen females, or 17%, had three or more majors.

In Tables III - V the row tabulations within Degrees Awarded are in intervals of the number of hours transferred from other colleges. The intervals are as follows:

1. None
2. One to 12 hours
3. 13 to 30 hours
4. 31 to 60 hours
5. 61 or more hours

The top row, labeled "none", represents those students who attended only the University of Houston; the other row intervals indicate the number of hours earned at an institution other than the University of Houston.

Table IV - Date of Admission - This table shows that, considering the students receiving the Bachelor of Arts degree and the Bachelor of Science degree together, there were 17 out of 185 students, or 9%, who were admitted to the University of Houston prior to the fall of 1958. Of these 6 were awarded the Bachelor of Arts degree and 11 were awarded the Bachelor of Science degree. From the fall of 1958 through the summer of 1961, a total of 9 students, or 5% of 185, were admitted. Of these 4 were awarded the Bachelor of Arts degree, and 5 were awarded the Bachelor of Science degree. From the fall of 1961 through the summer of 1962, a total of 13 out of 185 students, or 7%, were admitted. Of these 1 was awarded the Bachelor of Arts degree, and 12 were awarded the Bachelor of Science degree. From the fall of 1962 through the summer of 1963, a total of 21 out of 185 students, or 11%, were admitted. Of these 4 were awarded the Bachelor of Arts degree, and 17 were awarded the Bachelor of Science degree. From the fall of 1963 through the summer of 1964, a total of 39 students, or 21%, were admitted. Of these 20 were awarded the Bachelor of Arts degree, and 19 were awarded the Bachelor of Science degree. From the fall of 1964 through the summer of 1965, a total of 13 students, or 12%, were admitted. Of these 15 were awarded the Bachelor of Arts degree, and 13 were awarded the Bachelor of Science degree. The largest number, 58 students, or 32%, were admitted after the fall of 1965. Of this number, 39 students transferred over 61 hours from another college.

Twenty-seven, or 36%, were awarded the Bachelor of Arts degree, and 31, or 30%, were awarded the Bachelor of Science degree.

Table V - Quality Point Average - The QPA of the students as compared to the semester hours transferred from other colleges is listed in Table V. The number of students combined, receiving either the Bachelor of Arts degree or the Bachelor of Science degree, was 185. Of this number 1, or .5%, had a QPA under 2.00. The total number of students who received a QPA of from 2.00-2.49 was 71, or 38%. The total number of students who received a QPA of from 2.50-2.99 was 54, or 29%. The total number of students who received a QPA of from 3.00-3.49 was 49, or 26.5%. The number of students, receiving one of the two degrees, with a QPA of from 3.50-3.99 was 10, or 5%. All of the students in the highest category, receiving the Bachelor of Arts degree, were females. Of the students receiving the Bachelor of Science degree, 2 or those in the highest category were males, and one a female.

CHAPTER V

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Summary

The purpose of this study was to determine selected characteristics of students awarded the Bachelor of Arts degree or the Bachelor of Science degree in the College of Arts and Sciences by the University of Houston at the June Commencement for work completed by January, 1968. Some of the characteristics for each student which were deemed significant were:

1. Number of academic probations
2. Number of academic suspensions
3. Number of majors
4. Date of admission to the University of Houston
5. The student's quality point average

A total of 185 students who received their degrees at the University of Houston at the June Commencement, 1968, were included in this study. Seventy-seven received the Bachelor of Arts degree, and 108 received the Bachelor of Science degree. There were 32 male students and 45 female students, who received the Bachelor of Arts degree, included in this study. There were 73 male students and 35 female students, who received the Bachelor of Science degree, included in this study.

The basic data and tabulations for this study were presented in Tables I through V in Chapter IV.

Conclusions

On the basis of the data presented in Tables I through V, it was found that the following conclusions were justified:

1. A total of 90 out of 185, or 49%, of all the students awarded the two degrees were never on probation. This meant, however, that 95, or 51%, had probation on their record for academic work done at the University of Houston. Of this group 42 were on probation for only one semester, but 53 were on probation for 2 or more semesters.

2. Eighty-three percent of the students included in the study had not been on suspension after their matriculation at the University of Houston. However, 31 students, or 17%, had actually been suspended from the University for academic reasons and granted special permission for re-admission. In fact, seven of these students had been suspended two or more times.

3. There were 95 out of 185 students, or 52%, of all the students included in the sample studied who had only one major. This meant that 48% had changed majors one or more times while enrolled at the University of Houston. Two students, or 1%, of the sample had 4 or more majors.

4. In the matter of hours transferred to the University of Houston, only 47, or 25%, of the group of 185 students had completed all academic requirements for the degree at the University of Houston.

5. In regards to the date of admission to the University of Houston,

58 students, or 32%, of the sample were admitted in the fall of 1965 or later; 67, or 36%, were admitted from the fall of 1963 to the fall of 1965. The remaining 60, or 32%, entered prior to the fall of 1963.

6. With respect to quality point average, 38% had QPA's ranging from 2.00 to 2.49; 29% from 2.50 to 2.99; and 33% had a 3.00 (B grade) or above.

Recommendations

The limitations of this study were pointed out in Chapter I. The small group upon which the study was conducted limits the validity of any analysis which is made of the data. This weakness could be overcome if several people conducted a concurrent study of a much larger sample.

It would also be useful if the different graduating classes were compared with each other in a longitudinal study. This type of study could reveal any outstanding trends.

A study of the variables which influence the number of times a student is on probation could be of importance. Such practices as increased Freshman counseling and more extensive use of guidance tests might be investigated.

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