# Chapter V: COOPERATIVE INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH PROGRAM (CIRP) SURVEY

Who takes it? Fall first-time students.

When is it administered?

During Truman Week (in August).

How long does it take for the student to complete the instrument? 30 minutes.

What office administers it?

Class instructors administer the survey and return it to Assessment and Testing.

Who originates the survey?
Higher Education Research Institute
UCLA Graduate School of Education and Information
3005 Moore Hall, Box 951521
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1521
(310) 825-1925

 $\underline{http://www.gseis.ucla.edu/heri/cirp.html}$ 

e-mail: heri@ucla.edu

When are results typically available? The following December or January

What type of information is sought?

The CIRP provides a profile of an entering class. The major information tracked is the probable field of study, highest degree planned, college choice, reason for college choice, high school record, political orientation, parental income, and parental education and occupation. Other information is available as well: ethnic background, activities during the previous year, self-rating in regard to various abilities and skills, time spent the previous year in other activities, probable career, source of finances, and religious preference of the student.

From whom are the results available? Assessment and Testing Office, Violette Hall 1130.

To whom are the results regularly distributed? President, VPAA, Deans, Assessment Committee, and readers of the *Almanac*.

Are the results available by division or discipline? No.

Are the results comparable to data of other universities? Yes.

# **Cooperative Institutional Research Program**

# Fall 2005 Summary of Truman Responses

Each year Alexander Astin conducts a survey of entering freshmen as part of a project that is jointly funded by the American Council on Education and the UCLA Higher Education Research Institute. The data are utilized to produce a report known as "The American Freshman" and is widely quoted in the media. The questionnaire covers demographic and attitudinal issues along with degree aspirations, major, and career plans of freshmen. The purpose of this summary is to provide a historical comparison of responses of Truman freshmen to the CIRP Survey for the last five years.

1,326 entering Truman freshmen completed the survey instrument. This represents 92 percent of the fall 2005 class. The demographic information provided by these students indicates that they reflect the profile of the class. They are full-time students who graduated from high school in 2005, are 18-19 years old, and are "traditional" in many ways.

The following charts provide comparative information on Truman's freshman classes over the past five years. Charts comparing Truman's fall 2005 freshman class with freshman responses at four-year public highly selective institutions nationwide are also provided. All information is self-reported by the student and is for first-time, full-time freshmen. The tables indicate the response percentage in each category.

It should be noted that the "Public Highly Selective" category included 21 participating campuses in 2005. This group is a mixture of public liberal arts colleges such as Truman and St. Mary's College of Maryland, the service academies (Army, Military, and US Coast Guard), and some multi-purpose campuses such as SUNY College at Geneseo. Thus, one should be cautious in drawing conclusions regarding Truman's responses versus the public highly selective group.

#### PROBABLE MAJOR FIELD OF STUDY

The 2005 Truman freshmen continue to show interest in studying social sciences, business, professional fields, and arts and humanities with 12.6, 14.3 15.4 and 16.4 percent planning to major in these respective fields. There is also renewed or increased interest in the sciences. Compared to the highly selective institutions, Truman students show more interest in arts and humanities and professional fields and less interest in education and engineering.

#### TRUMAN

Major Field of Study	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Arts & Humanities	16.5	17.4	18.8	17.7	16.4
Biological Sciences	9.3	9.2	9.1	8.6	10.7
Business	13.7	14.0	14.5	13.6	14.3
Education	7.5	8.0	7.4	9.0	9.6
Engineering	0.7	1.3	1.0	1.7	2.9
Physical Sciences	4.4	4.8	7.1	6.9	6.3
Professional	15.5	15.6	16.4	14.7	15.2
Social Science	12.9	13.8	11.5	12.0	12.6
Technical	1.9	1.5	1.2	0.6	0.6
Other Fields	17.1	14.5	13.5	15.3	13.3

Public Highly Selective vs. Truman

	Highly	
Major Field of Study	Selective	Truman
Arts & Humanities	12.3	16.4
Biological Sciences	6.9	10.7
Business	19.8	14.3
Education	10.1	9.6
Engineering	7.4	2.9
Physical Science	3.6	6.3
Professional	11.9	15.2
Social Science	10.9	12.6
Technical	0.9	0.6
Other Fields/Undecided	16.3	13.3

#### **HIGHEST DEGREE PLANNED**

In 2005, 42.8 percent of Truman freshmen plan to attain a master's degree. More than 42 percent plan to attain at least a PhD which exceeds the highly selective figure of 27.5 percent.

#### **TRUMAN**

Highest Degree	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
None	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.4
Vocational Cert.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2
Associate	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.0
Bachelor's	13.8	14.6	14.1	15.4	13.1
Master's	42.1	42.2	44.1	44.3	42.8
PhD or Professional	42.8	42.3	40.4	38.8	42.3
BD or M.Div	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.2
Other	0.7	0.6	0.9	0.8	0.9

Public Highly Selective vs. Truman

	Highly	
Highest Degree	Selective	Truman
None	0.5	0.4
Vocational Cert.	0.2	0.2
Associate	0.4	0.0
Bachelor's	24.4	13.1
Master's	45.7	42.8
PhD or Professional	27.5	42.3
BD or M.Div	0.2	0.2
Other	1.2	0.9

#### HIGH SCHOOL RECORD

Truman students report higher high school grades than the nationwide average. In 2005, 98.7 percent of the Truman freshmen reported an average of "B" or higher and 74 percent reported an average of "A-" or higher. This is compared to 93.5 percent and 54.3 percent respectively nationwide.

#### TRUMAN

Average HS Grade	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
A or A+	40.0	43.5	44.1	41.5	42.8
A-	33.7	31.3	33.8	32.4	31.2
B+	16.5	15.6	12.9	16.5	15.9
В	8.2	8.2	7.7	7.9	8.8
B-	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	0.9
C+	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.3
B- C+ C	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
D	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Public Highly Selective vs. Truman

Tublic Highly Selective vs. Human			
	Highly		
Average HS Grade	Selective	Truman	
A or A+	26.4	42.8	
A-	27.9	31.2	
B+	22.6	15.9	
В	16.6	8.8	
B-	4.1	0.9	
C+ C	1.8	0.3	
С	0.6	0.1	
D	0.0	0.0	

### NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED

Truman was the only choice for 13.8 percent of the freshmen in 2005. The application distribution for both Truman students and students at highly selective institutions is similar overall.

#### TRUMAN

Other colleges applied to	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
None	18.2	19.2	17.5	18.8	13.8
1	16.1	15.0	15.7	14.4	14.4
2 - 3	40.3	37.6	36.4	38.9	38.9
4+	25.4	28.3	30.3	27.9	32.8

Public Highly Selective vs. Truman

	Highly	
Other Colleges applied to	Selective	Truman
None	18.1	13.8
1	13.8	14.4
2 - 3	34.1	38.9
4+	34.0	32.8

#### COLLEGE CHOICE

Truman was the first choice for 75.1 percent of the students completing this survey in 2005. The rating distribution of college choices between Truman students and public highly selective students is similar overall.

#### **TRUMAN**

This college is student's	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
1st choice	75.6	75.4	73.4	78.8	75.1
2nd choice	17.8	17.6	20.7	16.0	18.5
3rd choice	4.6	4.0	3.8	3.5	3.6
Less than 3rd choice	1.9	3.0	2.1	1.7	2.8

Public Highly Selective vs. Truman

	Highly	
This college is student's	Selective	Truman
1st choice	75.0	75.1
2nd choice	19.1	18.5
3rd choice	3.9	3.6
Less than 3rd choice	2.0	2.8

#### REASONS FOR SELECTION

Academic reputation continues as the primary reason for selecting Truman. Other major factors of Truman selection are low tuition/cost, financial assistance, size, graduates go to top graduate schools, and graduates get good jobs. Academic reputation is also the most significant consideration in college selection by freshmen in the highly selective comparison group. Asked for the first time in 2003, a visit to the campus

continues to be a strong reason for selection for both Truman and public highly selective freshmen.

# TRUMAN

Reasons for selection	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Relative's advice	5.7	6.5	8.5	7.0	7.9
Teacher's advice	3.4	4.3	4.0	4.1	4.1
Good academic rep	83.1	82.0	81.2	83.7	81.3
Good social rep	17.2	16.6	16.2	21.5	21.3
Financial assistance	52.8	57.7	60.7	61.3	62.5
Special programs	18.3	15.9	18.9	n/a	n/a
Low tuition/cost	55.3	52.2	56.1	69.0	69.0
Counselor's advice	7.0	5.7	6.9	6.8	5.1
Near home	6.4	8.4	1.6	7.4	8.2
Grads get good jobs	55.9	n/a	n/a	58.9	57.8
Grads go to top grad schools	39.5	n/a	n/a	41.9	42.7
Size	49.0	49.3	46.0	48.9	48.0
Rankings in nationl magazines	27.5	32.0	29.2	29.8	29.0
Information on website			11.6	11.7	12.6
Not offered aid by first choice			7.5	8.6	10.6
Early action/Early decision					
program			11.2	8.5	8.0
Religious affiliation/orientation			3.5	3.5	3.3
Visit to the campus			39.1	40.3	37.6

Public Highly Selective vs. Truman

rublic Highly Selective vs. Human	Highly	
Reasons for selection	Selective	Truman
Relative's advice	9.2	7.9
Teacher's advice	4.7	4.1
Good academic reputation	58.0	81.3
Good social reputation	28.4	21.3
Financial assistance	28.9	62.5
Grads go to top graduate schools	29.6	42.7
Grads get good jobs	49.6	57.8
Low tuition/cost	40.8	69.0
Counselor's advice	9.4	5.1
Near home	18.0	8.2
Information on website	14.6	12.6
Not offered aid by first choice	5.7	10.6
Size	37.0	48.0
Rankings in national magazines	16.9	29.0
Early action/Early decision program	10.2	8.0
Religious affiliation/orientation	2.3	3.3
Visit to the campus*	41.9	37.6

# PARENTAL INCOME

Truman students reported slight shifts in most of the income ranges with the largest increase occurring in the greater than \$99,999 range. The 2005 parental income distribution for Truman students roughly parallels the distribution for highly selective students.

# TRUMAN

Estimated Income	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
<\$10,000	1.9	1.2	1.5	2.1	1.4
\$10,000-14,999	1.1	1.3	0.9	1.5	1.8
\$15,000-19,999	1.4	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.6
\$20,000-24,999	2.3	2.3	1.5	2.1	2.1
\$25,000-29,999	4.1	2.9	3.3	2.7	2.5
\$30,000-39,999	7.2	8.1	5.3	6.5	5.7
\$40,000-49,999	9.1	9.3	7.8	9.4	8.4
\$50,000-99,999	47.8	46.8	49.6	44.9	45.5
>\$99,999	25.2	26.3	28.2	29.1	30.9

Public Highly Selective vs. Truman

	Highly	
Estimated Income	Selective	Truman
<\$10,000	2.2	1.4
\$10,000-14,999	2.4	1.8
\$15,000-19,999	2.1	1.6
\$20,000-24,999	3.0	2.1
\$25,000-29,999	2.9	2.5
\$30,000-39,999	5.4	5.7
\$40,000-49,999	6.9	8.4
\$50,000-99,999	38.9	45.5
>\$99,999	36.3	30.9

The 2001-2005 distribution of the responses for \$50,000 - \$99,999 is as follows:

# TRUMAN

Estimated Income	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
\$50,000-59,999	12.7	12.5	11.5	10.5	10.9
\$60,000-74,999	16.4	15.8	17.7	15.6	15.3
\$75,000-99,999	18.7	18.5	20.4	18.8	19.3

Public Highly Selective vs. Truman

	Highly	
Estimated Income	Selective	Truman
\$50,000-59,999	8.5	10.9
\$60,000-74,999	12.5	15.3
\$75,000-99,999	17.9	19.3

#### **FATHER'S EDUCATION**

The percentage of students reporting their father has a college degree or higher is 59.8 percent in 2005. Including those who report "some college", almost 74 percent of the fathers have college experience. Compared to the nationwide sample, 5% more Truman students report their fathers have at least a college degree and 3.7% more Truman fathers have some college experience.

# **TRUMAN**

Education	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
High School or less	18.1	16.9	18.6	20.8	21.0
Postsecondary/college	54.9	54.1	54.1	52.3	50.8
Some Graduate School					
or more	26.9	28.8	27.2	26.9	28.2

Public Highly Selective vs. Truman

	Highly	
Education	Selective	Truman
High School or less	26.0	21.0
Postsecondary/College	48.8	50.8
Some Graduate School or more	25.1	28.2

#### FATHER'S OCCUPATION

Popular occupations include business (29.9%), skilled worker (8.1%), and engineer (8.0%). The group listing their father as unemployed has remained around two percent or less and below the percentages reported by the nationwide sample over the years. Similarly, the popular occupations for Truman fathers are also the most popular for the fathers of the freshmen attending public highly selective institutions.

#### **TRUMAN**

TITOMAN					
Occupation	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Artist (incl. performer)	0.7	1.4	1.1	1.1	1.0
Business	29.7	29.6	30.1	29.4	29.9
Clergy/religious	1.2	1.4	0.9	1.2	1.1
College Teacher/admin	2.1	1.3	0.9	1.4	1.4
Doctor or dentist	2.8	2.7	2.3	2.9	2.4
Education (secondary)	3.1	4.9	3.2	3.6	4.6
Education (elementary)	1.5	1.5	1.2	1.1	0.9
Engineer	8.7	6.9	8.2	7.9	8.0
Farmer or forester	2.1	2.3	1.9	3.0	2.2
Health prof. (non MD)	1.4	1.5	2.3	1.3	1.8
Lawyer	2.6	2.0	2.4	2.1	2.1
Military (career)	1.6	1.2	1.5	1.2	1.9
Research scientist	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.0
Skilled worker	8.8	9.1	9.1	10.0	8.1
Semi-skilled worker	3.7	3.8	4.3	3.5	2.9
Laborer (unskilled)	2.7	2.1	2.4	3.2	2.7
Unemployed	0.7	1.5	1.8	1.6	1.3
Other occupation	25.7	25.7	25.2	24.5	26.7

Public Highly Selective vs. Truman

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Occupation	Selective	Truman
Artist (incl. performer)	1.0	1.0
Business	29.7	29.9
Clergy/religious	0.7	1.1
College teacher/admin	0.7	1.4
Doctor or dentist	2.5	2.4
Education (secondary)	2.7	4.6
Education (elementary)	0.9	0.9
Engineer	8.7	8.0
Farmer or forester	1.0	2.2
Health prof. (non MD)	1.2	1.8
Lawyer	2.1	2.1
Military (career)	2.4	1.9
Research scientist	0.7	1.0
Skilled worker	8.2	8.1
Semi-skilled worker	2.6	2.9
Laborer (unskilled)	2.7	2.7
Unemployed	2.2	1.3
Other occupation	29.9	26.7

# **MOTHER'S EDUCATION**

Including those with "some college", almost 77 percent of the mothers of 2005 Truman freshmen have college experience, and 58.4 percent have college degrees or higher. The students from the comparison group reported that 70.5 percent of the mothers had college experience and 52.6 percent had college degrees or higher.

#### TRUMAN

Education	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
High School or less	19.7	18.0	19.1	18.5	18.8
Postsecondary/College	59.3	60.3	59.6	58.4	58.5
Graduate School	20.9	21.6	21.2	22.9	22.7

Public Highly Selective vs. Truman

	Highly	
Education	Selective	Truman
High School or less	25.4	18.8
Postsecondary/College	54.3	58.5
Graduate School	20.3	22.7

# **MOTHER'S OCCUPATION**

Business (15.8%), nurse (10.7%), elementary education (10.1%), homemaker (9.7%), and business-clerical (6.2%) continue to be the most frequent mother occupation responses in 2005. The response trend for these popular occupations for mothers is also similar for the national comparison group.

# TRUMAN

Occupation	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Artist (incl. performer)	0.7	2.0	1.7	1.7	0.8
Business	15.2	14.1	15.1	16.3	15.8
Business (clerical)	10.0	8.1	8.6	6.9	6.2
Clergy/religious	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.4
College teacher/admin	1.0	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.6
Doctor or dentist	0.4	1.0	0.5	0.9	1.0
Education (secondary)	6.7	7.8	6.9	5.7	5.1
Education (elementary)	11.4	11.9	10.9	10.5	10.1
Engineer	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.8
Farmer or forester	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.2
Health prof. (non MD)	4.1	4.6	4.7	3.7	4.6
Homemaker (full-time)	11.3	11.2	9.3	9.5	9.7
Lawyer	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.7	0.8
Nurse	9.4	8.9	9.7	8.2	10.7
Research scientist	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.7
Social/Welfare Worker	2.0	1.7	1.4	2.3	1.3
Skilled worker	1.8	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.6
Semi-skilled worker	1.8	1.9	2.1	1.3	2.0
Laborer (unskilled)	0.9	1.2	1.6	1.4	1.2
Unemployed	3.5	3.8	3.9	3.9	3.1
Other occupation	18.3	17.8	19.9	23.9	22.1

Public Highly Selective vs. Truman

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Occupation	Selective	Truman
Artist (incl. performer)	1.7	0.8
Business	16.2	15.8
Business (clerical)	5.6	6.2
Clergy/religious	0.2	0.4
College teacher/admin	0.5	0.6
Doctor or dentist	1.1	1.0
Education (secondary)	5.6	5.1
Education (elementary)	9.8	10.1
Engineer	0.7	0.8
Farmer or forester	0.2	0.2
Health prof. (non MD)	3.1	4.6
Homemaker (full-time)	9.1	9.7
Lawyer	0.7	0.8
Nurse	8.8	10.7
Research Scientist	0.4	0.7
Social/Welfare Worker	1.7	1.3
Skilled worker	1.5	1.6
Semi-skilled worker	2.9	2.0
Laborer (unskilled)	1.4	1.2
Unemployed	5.1	3.1
Other occupation	24.6	22.1

# **POLITICAL ORIENTATION**

Truman students tend to be "middle of the road" politically as do the highly selective group. Very few report that they are at the political extremes.
TRUMAN

Political Orientation	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Far left	3.0	1.6	1.5	3.8	4.1
Liberal	23.9	23.8	25.2	25.5	28.2
Middle/road	47.7	49.9	49.7	43.9	39.0
Conservative	24.2	22.9	22.3	25.9	27.0
Far right	1.1	1.8	1.4	0.9	1.8

Public Highly Selective vs. Truman

	Highly	
Political Orientation	Selective	Truman
Far left	2.6	4.1
Liberal	25.4	28.2
Middle/road	44.8	39.0
Conservative	25.1	27.0
Far right	2.2	1.8

# **RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE**

The most frequent religious preference listed by entering Truman students continues to be Catholic. Over the past five years, the distribution of religious preferences has remained relatively stable. Truman students' religious preferences follow those of the highly selective distribution.

# **TRUMAN**

Current religious preference	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Baptist	12.5	9.8	10.3	11.7	10.3
United Church of Christ	2.4	2.2	2.1	4.5	3.3
Lutheran	6.5	7.2	8.5	6.8	6.0
Methodist	8.0	8.2	7.2	7.9	7.0
Catholic	27.3	27.7	29.2	28.5	28.7
Other	26.1	28.9	26.2	23.5	25.3
None	17.1	15.9	16.5	17.2	19.3

Public Highly Selective vs. Truman

	Highly	
Current religious preference	Selective	Truman
Baptist	9.7	10.3
United Church of Christ	3.2	3.3
Lutheran	4.1	6.0
Methodist	6.3	7.0
Catholic	30.8	28.7
Other	28.7	25.3
None	17.3	19.3

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In addition to the traditionally reported information, the 2005 Truman freshmen have the following characteristics compared with the 2004 freshmen from four-year public highly selective institutions nationwide.

#### **ACTIVITIES ENGAGED IN DURING THE PAST YEAR**

In 2005, Truman freshmen and freshmen from the highly selective institutions reported that they frequently or occasionally engaged in the following activities. The items marked with an asterisk (\*) are items where the percentage displayed refers to "frequently" only responses. Results for the other items represent the percentage responding "frequently" OR "occasionally".

Public Highly Selective vs. Truman

	Highly	
Activities Engaged in	Selective	Truman
Attended a religious service	79.2	83.7
Studied with other students	86.6	91.1
Tutored another student	56.8	59.7
Came late to class	62.5	54.0
Played musical instrument	43.2	51.4
Socialized w/different ethnic group*	71.9	61.3
Discussed religion*	34.6	45.7
Drank beer	44.9	36.3
Drank wine or liquor	51.4	45.1
Participated in organized demonstrations	44.9	43.5
Performed volunteer work	82.7	88.0
Performed community service as part of class	53.5	49.6
Was a guest in a teacher's home	23.7	29.9
Felt overwhelmed by all I had to do	24.0	31.8

The following questions reference the usage of personal computers by students. In 2005, Truman freshmen indicated that 88.3 percent frequently used a personal computer and 83.2 percent used the internet for research or homework.

#### HOURS PER WEEK IN THE LAST YEAR SPENT ON . . .

This table displays the number of reported hours Truman freshmen spend on various activities compared to the freshmen from highly selective institutions.

Public Highly Selective vs. Truman

Highly Selective					
Hours/week spent on:	none	<1-5	6-10	11-15	>=16
Studying/homework	3.0	67.4	17.0	7.3	5.3
Socializing w/friends	0.3	24.0	25.5	18.7	31.7
Talking w/teacher	11.1	84.7	2.7	0.8	0.7
Exercise/sports	4.1	43.2	19.2	14.5	19.0
Partying	24.2	52.8	12.5	5.4	5.0
Working	28.8	14.2	12.3	14.5	30.3
Volunteer work	29.9	61.0	4.8	1.8	2.5
Student clubs/groups	26.1	59.1	8.0	3.1	3.7
Watching TV	5.1	67.5	16.0	5.8	5.5
Housework/childcare	18.8	72.2	5.7	1.6	1.8
Reading for pleasure	23.0	66.7	6.5	2.1	1.7
Playing Video Games	39.6	48.4	6.4	2.7	2.9
Prayer/meditation	38.0	59.0	1.8	0.5	0.7

Truman					
Hours/week spent on:	none	<1-5	6-10	11-15	>=16
Studying/homework	1.9	58.8	21.7	11.2	6.5
Socializing w/friends	0.2	29.2	27.2	19.4	24.0
Talking w/teacher	9.0	88.0	1.8	0.8	0.3
Exercise/sports	5.7	49.5	17.1	13.3	14.4
Partying	36.2	50.3	8.3	2.7	2.6
Working	31.0	12.6	11.9	16.4	28.0
Volunteer work	25.9	66.5	4.8	1.0	1.8
Student clubs/groups	17.5	62.5	11.2	4.4	4.4
Watching TV	7.0	68.5	14.7	4.7	5.0
Housework/childcare	16.9	76.5	4.5	1.3	0.8
Reading for pleasure	15.3	71.5	8.8	2.2	2.2
Playing Video Games	41.6	47.5	5.8	2.3	2.8
Prayer/meditation	29.9	67.4	1.5	0.5	0.7

#### **SELF-RATING OF TRAITS**

Compared to the average 18-19 year old, Truman freshmen and the comparison group freshmen rated themselves as "Above Average" or "in the Highest 10%" in several ability categories. A high percentage of Truman freshmen rated themselves with above average ability in Cooperativeness (71.6%), Drive to succeed (74.2%), Leadership ability (60.9%), Intellectual self-confidence (64.2%), and Understanding of others (65.0%). Listed below are the abilities/areas where at least a 5 percent difference occurred between the responses of Truman freshmen and the freshmen from public highly selective institutions.

Public Highly Selective vs. Truman

	Highly	
Ability/area	Selective	Truman
Academic ability	75.7	85.4
Spirituality	37.2	43.0
Computer skills	39.0	29.3
Social self-confidence	53.9	42.8
Religiousness	30.3	38.4
Writing ability	50.7	56.1
Physical health	58.2	50.5

#### REMEDIATION

Freshmen were asked Have you had, or do you feel you will need, any special tutoring or remedial work in any of the following subjects: English, Reading, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, Foreign Language, or Writing? Below are their responses. It's interesting to note that although some have already had tutoring or remedial work, many more feel like they need additional help especially in Mathematics and Foreign Language.

Public Highly Selective vs. Truman

<u> </u>		
Have had special tutoring or	Highly	
remedial work	Selective	Truman
English	4.9	2.8
Reading	4.1	2.0
Mathematics	10.8	6.4
Social Sciences	3.0	1.8
Science	4.3	2.2
Foreign Language	4.0	2.1
Writing	3.9	2.0

Public Highly Selective vs. Truman

delic riigiliy edicetive ve. rraman					
Feel will need special tutoring or	Highly				
remedial work	Selective	Truman			
English	7.0	5.5			
Reading	3.8	2.3			
Mathematics	19.3	19.6			
Social Sciences	2.7	1.4			
Science	9.3	6.4			
Foreign Language	9.3	17.8			
Writing	8.6	6.6			

### REASONS FOR DECIDING TO ATTEND COLLEGE

Truman students responded very similarly to the responses of the public highly selective freshmen when asked to note the reasons as very important in deciding to attend college. The more important reasons are listed in the table. It's interesting to note that Truman freshmen

responded more favorably to graduate and professional school preparation which correlates positively with the plans of Truman freshmen to attain more graduate and/or professional degrees.

Public Highly Selective vs. Truman

	Highly	
Reasons for Attending College	Selective	Truman
Make more money	68.3	59.6
Prepare for grad/prof school	54.4	62.1
Be a more cultured person	39.8	46.6
Get training for a specific career	67.9	59.4
To gain a general education and		
appreciation of ideas	63.4	68.2
To be able to get a better job	70.6	71.4
To learn more about things that		
interest me	75.5	80.1
To find my purpose in life	47.8	47.5
Parents wanted me to go	40.5	38.6

#### MILES FROM COLLEGE TO HOME

Compared to the students from highly selective institutions, Truman students typically travel farther away from home to attend college.

Miles traveled from home	0-10	11-100	> 100
4-yr public, highly selective	9.6	45.7	44.6
Truman	2.3	9.7	87.9

#### CHANCES ARE VERY GOOD THAT S/HE WILL . . .

70 percent of Truman freshmen plan to maintain at least a "B" average, 65 percent plan to socialize with someone of another racial/ethnic group, and 52.3 percent plan to be satisfied with their college, while 4.4 percent plan to transfer to another college before graduating. 39.7 percent plan to get a job to help pay for college and 8.2 percent plan to join a fraternity/sorority.

Public Highly Selective vs. Truman

	Highly	
Chances are very good	Selective	Truman
Participate in student clubs/groups	42.6	50.5
Make at least "B" Average	60.7	70.0
Participate in volunteer/cmty service	22.7	28.9
Change career choices	14.1	20.9
Strengthen religious beliefs/convictions	22.9	31.5
Participate in study abroad programs	24.1	33.7
Change major field	14.3	19.4

#### **OBJECTIVES CONSIDERED TO BE IMPORTANT**

Truman freshmen responded similarly to the responses of the public highly selective freshmen on many objectives. Some objectives considered to be important to both groups are raising a family, helping others who are in difficulty, becoming an authority in their field, and obtaining recognition from colleagues for contributions to the field. Notable differences regarding what objectives were considered to be essential or very important to the student also occurred between the two groups and are noted in the chart.

Public Highly Selective vs. Truman

	Highly	
Objectives	Selective	Truman
Have administrative responsibility	40.3	28.9
Be very well off financially	72.3	56.6
Integrate spirituality into life	37.7	48.3
Becoming successful in a business of		
my own	38.3	27.5
Develop a meaningful philosophy of		
life	43.3	48.5
Improving my understanding of other		
countries and cultures	47.3	52.8

# AGREES STRONGLY OR SOMEWHAT . . .

Students were asked to what degree they agreed or disagreed (either somewhat or strongly) with several statements. Both groups of students similarly agree that the federal government should do more to control the sale of handguns, affirmative action in college admissions should be abolished, colleges should prohibit racist/sexist speech on campus, same-sex couples should have the right to legal marital status, and colleges have the right to ban extreme speakers. Listed below are several items that indicate some differences in thought between Truman freshmen and the freshmen from 4-year public highly selective institutions.

Public Highly Selective vs. Truman

, ·	Highly	
Agrees Strongly or Somewhat	Selective	Truman
Abortion should be legal	55.3	45.3
Abolish death penalty	31.2	39.5
Activities of married women are best confined to home and family	20.1	13.3
Too much concern in the courts for rights of criminals	59.0	54.3
Federal military spending should be increased	39.5	29.8
If two people really like each other, it's okay to have sex even if they've known each other for only a very short time	44.3	32.0
Grading in high school has become too easy	54.8	61.4
Marijuana should be legalized	36.3	28.9
Only volunteers should serve in the armed forces	63.3	69.3
Through hard work, everybody can succeed in American society	80.2	73.3

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$\begin{array}{c} 0.1 \\$				Private independent college-prep school Home school  10. What were your scores on the SAT I and/or ACT?								18.	18. To how many colleges other than this one did you apply for admission this year?  None 1 4 7-10								r? 0 🔾											
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	his y or yo					ne)	2	1-24	***	nie nie	0	Neither  12. Which of the following statements applies							Mathematics													
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	and and									er													Writing									15 1
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<ul> <li>Yes</li> <li>No</li> <li>In what year did you graduate from high school? (Mark one)</li> </ul>					13. If you <u>or</u> your parents were <u>not</u> born in the United States, indicate the country of birth:								1	20. What is the highest academic degree that you intend to obtain?  (Mark one in each column)  None																		
	)5							adua															None Vocation									_
	)4				P	ass	ed	G.E.	D.	test .	0	Yo	u										Associ									
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	ark o				Fu	ll-tim	ne s	stude	nt?	2	0												Ph.D.									
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	w m ur pe	erma	ane	ent l	hor	this me?	(1)	//ark	one	om e) -500	0	Father  14. Prior to this term, have you ever taken courses for credit at this institution?									J.D. (L B.D. o Other	or M.	DIV.	(Divi	nity)			0.	0	Ξ		
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O Yes

22. How much of your first year's educational expenses (room, board, tuition, and fees) do you expect to cover from each of the sources listed below? (Mark one answer for each possible source)	26. For the activities below, indicate which ones you did during the past year. If you engaged in an activity frequently, mark F. If you engaged in an activity one or more times, but not frequently, mark (Occasionally). Mark (Not at all) if you have not performed the activity during the past year. (Mark one for each item)	29. In deciding to go to college, how important to you was each of the following reasons?  (Mark one answer for each possible reason)
relatives, spouse, etc.)	(Mark <u>one</u> for each item)	
My own resources (savings from work, work-study, other income).	Attended a religious service	Wanted to get away from home. V S N To be able to get a better job V S N
Aid which need not be repaid	Participated in organized	To gain a general education
(grants, scholarships, military funding, etc.)	demonstrations F 0 N	and appreciation of ideas V S N
Aid which must be repaid	Tutored another student	There was nothing better to do . V S N
(loans, etc.)	Was a guest in a teacher's home P  N	To make me a more cultured person
Other than above	Smoked cigarettes	To be able to make more money . V S N
	Drank beer	To learn more about things
23. What is your <u>best estimate</u> of your parents' total income last year? Consider income from all	Felt overwhelmed by all I had to do . F @ N	that interest me
sources before taxes. (Mark one)	Felt depressed	To prepare myself for graduate or professional school
Less than \$10,000 \$50,000-59,999	Performed volunteer work	A mentor/role model
\$10,000-14,999 \$60,000-74,999 \$15,000-19,999 \$75,000-99,999	Played a musical instrument F 💿 N	encouraged me to go V S N
\$15,000-19,999 \$75,000-99,999 \$20,000-24,999 \$100,000-149,999	Asked a teacher for advice	To get training for a specific
\$25,000-29,999 \$150,000-199,999	after class	career
\$30,000-39,999 \$200,000-249,999	Socialized with someone of	To find my purpose in life
\$40,000-49,999 \$250,000 or more	another racial/ethnic group F (10) (N)	
99 59	Came late to class	30. How would you characterize your
24. Current religious preference:  (Mark one in each column)	Used the Internet for research	political views? (Mark one)
Baptist	or homework	○ Far left
Buddhist	Performed community service as part of a class	Liberal     Middle-of-the-road
Church of Christ Y F M	Used a personal computer	Conservative
Eastern Orthodox	Discussed religion	Far right
Episcopalian	Discussed politics:	
Hindu Y F M	In class	
Islamic		31. Rate yourself on each of the following
■ Jewish	With family	traits as compared with the average person your age. We want
Lutheran Y F M	Worked on a local, state, or national political campaign	the most accurate
Methodist	national political campaign P W	estimate of how you see yourself.
Presbyterian	9 1 2 2	the most accurate estimate of how you see yourself.  (Mark one in each row)
■ Quaker	27. Did your high school require community	Academic ability
Seventh Day Adventist	service for graduation?  Yes No	Artistic ability
■ Unitarian/Universalist	O les O NO	Computer skills
■ United Church of Christ/Congregational. ▼ \digamma м		Creativity
Other Christian	28. What is the highest level of formal	Drive to achieve O O O
Other Religion	education obtained by your parents?	Emotional health
None (Y) (F) (M)	(Mark <u>one</u> in each column) Father Mother	Leadership ability
	Grammar school or less	Mathematical ability O O O O
■ 25. Are you: (Mark all that apply)	Some high school	Physical health
White/Caucasian	High school graduate	Public speaking ability .
African American/Black	Postsecondary school other than college	Religiousness
American Indian/Alaska Native	Some college	Self-confidence (intellectual)
Asian American/Asian	College degree	Self-confidence (social).
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	Some graduate school	Self-understanding O O O
Mexican American/Chicano	Graduate degree	Spirituality
Puerto Rican Other Latino O		Understanding of others . O O O
Other Latino		Writing ability

2.	Mark <u>only three</u> responses, <u>one</u> in each column.	
	M Your mother's occupation	1
	F Your father's occupation	
	Your probable career occupation ¬	
	NOTE: If your father or mother is deceased, please indicate his or her last occupation.	
	Accountant or actuary Y F	M
	Actor or entertainer	
	Architect or urban planner Y F	
	Artist	
	Business (clerical)	VI)
	Business executive (management, administrator) Y 🕒	
	Business owner or proprietor Y 🕞 (	
	Business salesperson or buyer	
	Clergy (minister, priest)	
	Clergy (other religious) Y F (	
	Clinical psychologist	
	College administrator/staff	
	College teacher	
	Computer programmer or analyst , (Y) (F) (	
	Conservationist or forester	
	Dentist (including orthodontist) Y F (	
	Dietitian or nutritionist	
	Engineer Y P	
	Farmer or rancher	N)
	Foreign service worker (including diplomat)	
	Homemaker (full-time)	
	Interior decorator (including designer). Y 🕒 🗓	1
	Lab technician or hygienist	
	Law enforcement officer	1
	Lawyer (attorney) or judge 😗 🕞 🕕	1
	Military service (career) 🈗 🕞 🗇	
	Musician (performer, composer) Y 🕑 🗓	1)
	Nurse	
	Optometrist 🈗 🕞 🕕	1
	Pharmacist 🈗 🕞 🕕	
	Physician Y 🕞 🕕	
	Policymaker/Government	
	School counselor Y (F) (I	
	School principal or superintendent, (Y) (F) (	
	Scientific researcher	
	Social, welfare, or recreation worker. Y 🕞 🗓	
	Therapist (physical, occupational, speech)	
	Teacher or administrator (elementary)	
	Teacher or administrator (secondary)	D
	Veterinarian Y F	
	Writer or journalist	
	Skilled trades	
	Laborer (unskilled) (Y) (F) (h	
	Semi-skilled worker	
	Unemployed	
	Other	
	Undecided 🍸	

33. Mark <u>one</u> in each row:	1 Disagree Strongly 2 Disagree Somewhat 3 Agree Somewhat 4 Agree Strongly
There is too much concern in the courts for the ri	ghts of criminals
	4321
	4321
	4321
	al relationships
	n in America
	out changes in our society
	s than they do now
	campus
	marital status
	e abolished
	d to the home and family
If two people really like each other, it's all right for	them to have sex even if ime
	ol the sale of handguns
Only volunteers should serve in the armed forces	
	ontrol environmental pollution
	The company of the contract of
	4 3 2 1
	ess to public education
Through hard work, everybody can succeed in Ar	
Dissent is a critical component of the political pro-	cess 4 3 2 1
much time did you spend during a typical week doing the following activities?  Hours per week:  Work of the following a typical week doing the following activities?  Hours per week:  Work of the following a typical week doing the following activities?	36. Below are some reasons that might have influenced your decision to attend this particular college. How important was each reason in your decision to come here?  (Mark one answer for each possible reason)
Studying/homework O O O O O	My relatives wanted me to come here . (V) (S) (N)
Socializing with friends . O O O O O	My teacher advised me
	The second of th
Talking with teachers outside of class O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	academic reputation
Partying	for its social activities
Working (for pay) O O O O O	I was offered financial assistance V S N
Volunteer work	The cost of attending this college V S N
Student clubs/groups O O O O O O	High school counselor advised me
Watching TV	Private college counselor advised me . W S N
Household/childcare duties	I wanted to live near home
	Not offered aid by first choice
Reading for pleasure O O O O O	This college's graduates gain
Playing video/	admission to top graduate/
computer games O O O O O O	professional contests i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i
Prayer/meditation	This conlege o graduates get good jobs . • • • • •
35. Do you have any concern about your ability	I was attracted by the religious affiliation/orientation of the college . V S N
to finance your college education?	I wanted to go to a school about
(Mark <u>one</u> )	the size of this college
None (I am confident that I will have	Rankings in national magazines
sufficient funds)	Information from a website
Some (but I probably will have enough funds) .	I was admitted through an Early
Major (not sure I will have enough funds	Action or Early Decision program V S N
to complete college)	A visit to the campus V S N

<ol> <li>Below is a list of different und fields grouped into general ca one oval to indicate your prob</li> </ol>	tegories. Mark only	personally of each of the following:  (Mark one for each item)  Becoming accomplished in one of the
ARTS AND HUMANITIES	PHYSICAL SCIENCE	performing arts (acting, dancing, etc.)
Art, fine and applied 1	Astronomy 43	Becoming an authority in my field
English (language and literature)	Atmospheric Science (incl. Meteorology)	Obtaining recognition from my colleagues for contributions to my special field   E V S
History 3	Chemistry	Influencing the political structure
Journalism 4	Earth Science	Influencing social values
Language and Literature	Marine Science (incl.	Raising a family
(except English)	Oceanography)	Having administrative responsibility for the work of others
Music	Mathematics	Being very well off financially
Speech	Statistics	Making a theoretical contribution to science
Theater or Drama 9	Other Physical Science 51	Writing original works (poems, novels, short stories, etc.)
Theology or Religion 10	PROFESSIONAL	Creating artistic work (painting, sculpture, decorating, etc.)
Other Arts and Humanities (11)	Architecture or Urban	Becoming successful in a business of my own
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE	Planning	Becoming involved in programs to clean up the environment
Biology (general) 12	Family & Consumer Sciences . 53	Developing a meaningful philosophy of life
Biochemistry or	Health Technology (medi-	Participating in a community action program
Biophysics 13	cal, dental, laboratory)	Helping to promote racial understanding
Botany 14	Library or Archival Science 55	Keeping up to date with political affairs
Environmental Science 15	Medicine, Dentistry,	Becoming a community leader
Marine (Life) Science 16	Veterinary Medicine	Integrating spirituality into my life
Microbiology or	Nursing	Improving my understanding of other countries and cultures   (E) (V) (S)
Bacteriology	Pharmacy	39. What is your best guess as to
Zoology	Therapy (occupational,	the chances that you will:
Other Biological Science (19) BUSINESS	physical, speech)	(Mark <u>one</u> for each Item)  Change major field?
Accounting	SOCIAL SCIENCE	Change career choice?
Business Admin. (general) 20	Anthropology	Participate in student government?
Finance	Economics	Get a job to help pay for college expenses?
nternational Business 23	Ethnic Studies	Work full-time while attending college?
Marketing	Geography	Join a social fraternity or sorority?
Management25	Political Science (gov't.,	Play varsity/intercollegiate athletics?
Secretarial Studies26	international relations) 65	Make at least a "B" average?
Other Business	Psychology 66	Participate in student protests or demonstrations? (V) (S) (L)
EDUCATION	Social Work 67	Transfer to another college before graduating? (V) (S) (L)
Business Education (28)	Sociology	Be satisfied with your college?
Elementary Education 29	Women's Studies	Participate in volunteer or community service work?
Music or Art Education	TECHNICAL	Seek personal counseling?
Physical Education or Recreation	Building Trades	Socialize with someone of another racial/ethnic group?
Secondary Education 22	The second of th	Participate in student clubs/groups?
Special Education	Data Processing or Computer Programming 72	Strengthen your religious beliefs/convictions?
Other Education	Drafting or Design	Participate in a study abroad program?
ENGINEERING	Electronics	
Aeronautical or	Mechanics 75	40. Do you give the Higher Education Research Institute (HERI) permission to include your ID number should your college request the data for additional
Astronautical Eng 35	Other Technical 78	research analyses? HERI maintains strict standards of confidentiality and
Civil Engineering 36	OTHER FIELDS	would require your college to sign a pledge of confidentiality. Yes
Chemical Engineering 30	Agriculture 77	The remaining evels are provided for questions ensaitisely designed by your sell
Computer Engineering 38	Communications	The remaining ovals are provided for questions specifically designed by your coll rather than the Higher Education Research Institute. If your college has chosen to
Electrical or Electronic	Computer Science	the ovals, please observe carefully the supplemental directions given to you.
Engineering	Forestry	41. A B C D E 48. A B C D E 55. A B C C
Industrial Engineering 40	Kinesiology	42. A B C D E 49. A B C D E 56. A B C C
Mechanical Engineering 41 Other Engineering	Military Science	43. A B C D E 50. A B C D E 57. A B C C 44. A B C D E 51. A B C D E 58. A B C C
		44. A B C D E 52. A B C D E 59. A B C C
Other Engineering	Ciner Field	
Outer Engineering	Other Field	
oner Engineering		46. A B C D E 53. A B C D E 60. A B C C 47. A B C D E 54. A B C D E 61. A B C C

# 2005 STUDENT INFORMATION FORM ("CIRP First-Year Survey")

# **Supplemental CIRP Questions: Items 41-61**

# Please mark one response to items 41-42 using the scale:

- A- None
- B- One
- C- Two
- **D- Three**
- E- Four or More
- 41. In selecting a college, how many college or university campuses did you visit?
- 42. In making a college selection, how many times did you visit Truman State University?

# Please indicate your opinion by marking one response for items 43-56 using the scale:

- **A- Agree Strongly**
- **B- Agree Somewhat**
- C- No Opinion
- **D-** Disagree Somewhat
- **E- Disagree Strongly**
- 43. Visiting the campus of Truman State University was influential in my final college decision.
- 44. The telephone calls I received from Truman, faculty, staff, and students were influential in my college decision.
- 45. The electronic communications I received from Truman were influential in my final college decision.
- 46. The liberal arts and sciences mission influenced my decision to attend Truman State University.
- 47. The publications and correspondence I received from Truman State University were influential in my decision to attend.
- 48. Truman State University's website was influential in my decision to attend.
- 49. I expect Truman faculty to be approachable, helpful, understanding and encouraging.
- 50. I expect Truman students to be friendly and supportive.
- 51. I expect Truman administrators and staff to be helpful, considerate, and flexible.
- 52. I expect to graduate from Truman in four years (May 2009).
- 53. I expect Truman will be the best four years of my life.
- 54. A Truman education is about exploring and engaging ideas.
- 55. A Truman education is about personal growth.
- 56. My future happiness depends on the outcomes of the next four years.

# For items 57-61, please mark one response using the scale given for each item:

- 57. What do you expect most of your first semester grades at Truman to be?

  A. A

  B. A-, B+

  C. B

  D. B-, C+

  E. C, C-, or below
- 58. During the time Truman is in session, about how many hours a week do you expect to spend outside of class on activities <u>related to your academic program</u>, such as studying, writing, reading, lab work, rehearsing, etc.?
  - A. 5 or fewer hours a week
  - B. 6-10 hours a week
  - C. 11-15 hours a week
  - D. 16-20 hours a week
  - E. more than 20 hours a week
- 59. During the time Truman is in session, about how many hours a week do you expect to spend watching television or playing video games?
  - A. none
  - B. 1-2 hours
  - C. 3-5 hours
  - D. 6-10 hours
  - E. more than 10 hours
- 60. During the time Truman is session, about how many hours a week do you expect to spend socializing with friends?
  - A. none
  - B. 1-2 hours
  - C. 3-5 hours
  - D. 6-10 hours
  - E. more than 10 hours
- 61. Upon graduation from Truman, how many faculty members do you expect to know well enough that you would ask them for a letter of recommendation?
  - A. None
  - B. One
  - C. Two
  - D. Three
  - E. More than three.

# For items 62 and 63, please print your responses on this piece of paper, tuck it inside the CIRP survey and turn it in with the rest of the CIRP survey.

	If you were not attending Truman this fall, what college or university would you attending?	t
	name of college or university	
	location (city, state)	
63.	Did you bring a computer to campus with you? Yes No	
	If yes, is the computer a Laptop or a PC	
	What brand of computer is it:	