

## Rating for Cooperative Education

If you participated in the Cooperative Education Program, how would you rate your Co-op assignment in terms of its *value* and *relevance* to your area of study?

**Value:**

- ☐ Very good
- ☐ Good
- ☐ Average
- ☐ Poor
- ☐ Very poor

**Relevance:**

- ☐ Very good
- ☐ Good
- ☐ Average
- ☐ Poor
- ☐ Very poor

- Approximately 41 percent (182) of all respondents and 55 percent (143) of career technical respondents had participated in Cooperative Education.
- Nearly 70 percent of all respondents who had participated in Cooperative Education indicated the *value* (Table 33) of their experience was “very good” and nearly 74 percent indicated the *relevance* of their experience (Table 34) was “very good.”
- Over 89 percent of all respondents who had participated in Cooperative Education indicated the value and relevance of their experiences were “good” or “very good.”

### Interpretation/Analysis

Most respondents found their cooperative work experiences to be rewarding, both professionally and personally. Many students commented on the efforts of the Cooperative Education staff at Lane.

- \* *Merrill Watrous is a valuable asset to your institution!*
- \* *I had an extensive co-op experience as I received 12 credits in it. It was extremely beneficial for my career aspirations. The director, Steve Candee, really did an excellent job placing me.*
- \* *It was great. John Del Nero is awesome. He set me up with a perfect internship and I learned a lot and really enjoyed it.*
- \* *I had Sue Thompson and did a high school track coaching experience. It worked out well. It ended up helping me get a summer job.*

Four themes emerged from the comments about the Cooperative Education experience.

#### Cooperative Education

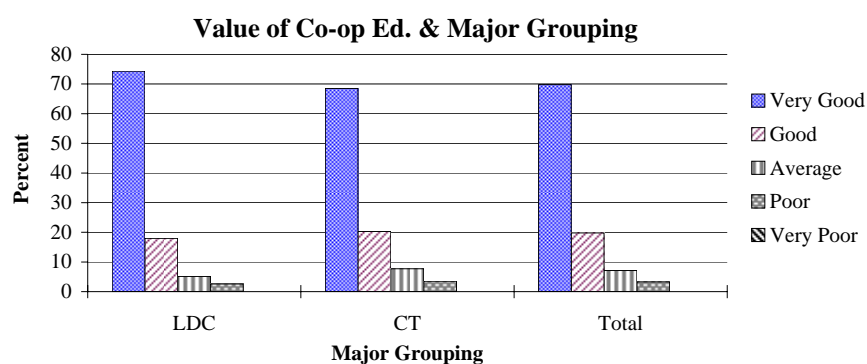
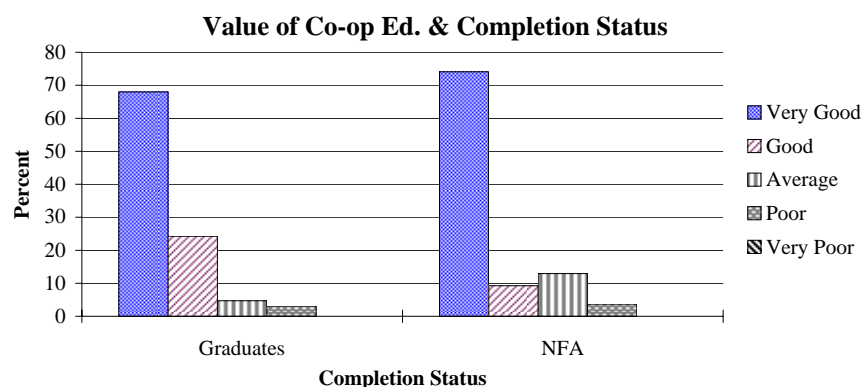
- Prepared students for real-life jobs.
- Opened doors to new jobs.
- Helped respondents find what interested them.
- Provided an enjoyable experience.

Representative comments begin on page 62.

**Table 33: Value of Cooperative Education** (Co-op Ed. Respondents)

Value of Co-op Ed.	Completion Status				Major Grouping				Total	
	Graduates		NFA		LDC		CT			
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Very Good	87	68.0	40	74.1	29	74.4	98	68.5	127	69.8
Good	31	24.2	5	9.3	7	17.9	29	20.3	36	19.8
Average	6	4.7	7	13.0	2	5.1	11	7.7	13	7.1
Poor	4	3.1	2	3.7	1	2.6	5	3.5	6	3.3
Very Poor	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	128	100.0	54	100.0	39	100.0	143	100.0	182	100.0

Example: The percentage of graduate respondents who participated in Co-op Ed. and rated the value of their Co-op Ed. experience as "very good" was 68%.



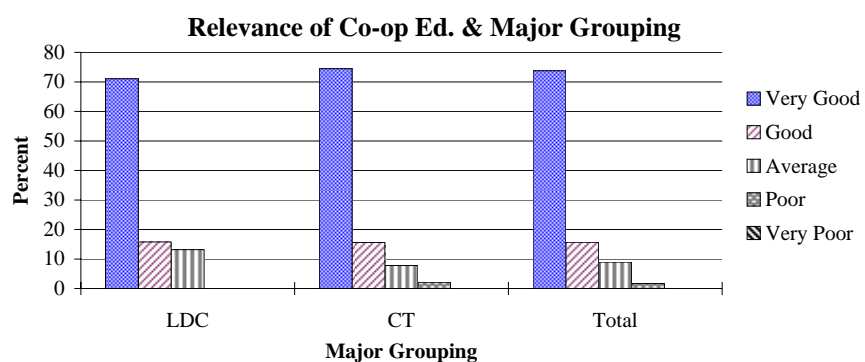
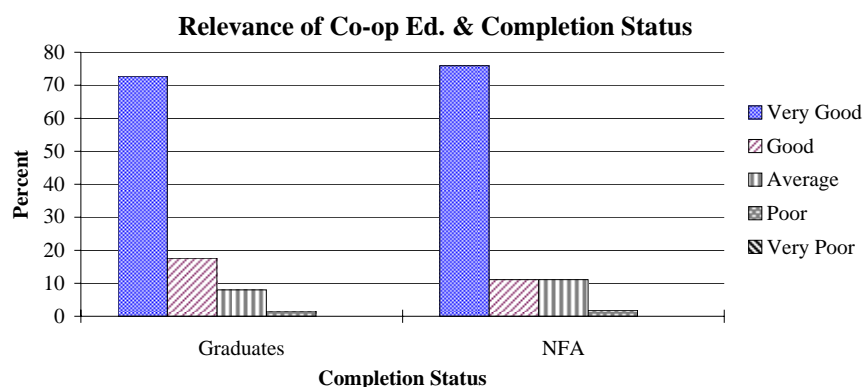
Respondents are represented three times:

- Once in Completion Status as either a graduate or NFA (no formal award).
- Secondly in Major Grouping as either LDC (lower division collegiate transfer) or CT (career technical).
- A third time in the total.

**Table 34: Relevance of Cooperative Education** (Co-op Ed. Respondents)

Relevance of Co-op Ed.	Completion Status				Major Grouping				Total	
	Graduates		NFA		LDC		CT			
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Very Good	91	72.8	41	75.9	27	71.1	105	74.5	132	73.7
Good	22	17.6	6	11.1	6	15.8	22	15.6	28	15.6
Average	10	8.0	6	11.1	5	13.2	11	7.8	16	8.9
Poor	2	1.6	1	1.9	-	-	3	2.1	3	1.7
Very Poor	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	125	100.0	54	100.0	38	100.0	141	100.0	179	100.0

Example: The percentage of graduate respondents who participated in Co-op Ed. and rated the relevance of their Co-op Ed. experience as "very good" was 72.8%.



Respondents are represented three times:

- Once in Completion Status as either a graduate or NFA (no formal award).
- Secondly in Major Grouping as either LDC (lower division collegiate transfer) or CT (career technical).
- A third time in the total.

## **Cooperative Education Comments**

Former Lane students commented that their Cooperative Education experiences:

### **Prepared Respondents for Real-Life Jobs.**

- \* *It was good experience. I learned things that I didn't learn in the classroom.*
- \* *I felt that observing in a dental office was a valuable experience, it allowed me to see what happens daily in the work field - so I felt better prepared to go to work with confidence.*
- \* *Great experience. I learned a lot. It was my best experience at Lane.*
- \* *It was very positive. It was a great learning experience. It is definitely something that people should be required to do in college.*
- \* *Hands-on is a must for the experience.*
- \* *It was good, taught me what I needed to know in the real world.*
- \* *Very valuable hands-on experience while being supervised.*
- \* *It was great, I had all sorts of skills get expanded.*
- \* *Great experience. I learned SO much.*

### **Opened Doors to Jobs.**

- \* *I ended up staying at my last co-op site – I've been employed there almost one year now.*
- \* *This program was key to obtaining my current job.*
- \* *It was perfect because I got a job from it.*
- \* *My co-op turned into a full-time position! Cool beans.*
- \* *I learned a lot and it helped me get a job, too.*
- \* *My co-op position led me directly to my employment currently. I learned about building management and maintenance while working with great personnel.*
- \* *It was a great work experience. It helped me get a job.*
- \* *Co-op was the best thing about LCC. My co-op hired me on and I still work there today. Eliminated effort and worry of finding a job after graduation.*

### **Helped both LDC and CT Respondents Find What Interested Them.**

- \* *It was excellent for me, it turned into my full-time employment and helped be figure out what I want to pursue in my four-year degree.*
- \* *[Co-op was] probably the best experience I have ever had working in the community and figuring out what I wanted to do.*
- \* *The co-op worked well. It gave me an understanding of what I wanted to do after school.*
- \* *Despite hating the place [where] I was employed, I realized the field of study wasn't for me.*
- \* *That's the only way to get experience in your field before you're thrown out there. It's a way to find out if you like the field.*
- \* *I had a great co-op experience. I did a couple of them to explore then find out what floor I wanted to work on. Julia was wonderful.*

### **Provided an Enjoyable Experience.**

- \* *[Co-op] greatly increased my confidence level and clinical skills.*
- \* *Very challenging and rewarding.*
- \* *It was great.*
- \* *My only comment is I wish I could have had more co-op experience.*
- \* *I had a really good experience and got matched up with a really good nurse. I learned a lot and gained confidence and experience.*
- \* *It was really informative and I enjoyed it.*

**A small percentage of respondents** expressed some disappointment and/or frustration with their Cooperative Education experiences as the following comments indicate:

- \* *I feel it was a little unorganized, in terms of the program that I interned with. Not so much Lane but the department I worked with.*
- \* *My site supervisor was 22 years old and had a power trip and superior attitude, which was very difficult to deal with.*
- \* *It was good until I hurt myself on the job and they were not cooperative about switching me out of the position I was in.*
- \* *It didn't help me find a job. It was more like I was being baby-sat. They never had enough for me to do.*

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