

School Library Media Program Alumni Survey
Administered September 9-23, 2008 to 2005, 2006, 2007 Graduates
45% Return Rate

Highlights:

- 100% were either satisfied (12%) or very satisfied (88%) with the Longwood school library media preparation program overall
- 100% were either satisfied (21%) or very satisfied (79%) with how well the program challenged them to meet their fullest potential
- 96% were either satisfied (21%) or very satisfied (75%) with their degree of preparation for working in the school library profession; 4% were neutral
- In the area of advocacy in the field,
 - 76% have provided staff development for faculty in their schools
 - 24% have presented to peers at a regional or state conference
 - 53% have presented to other educators or the School Board
 - 60% have presented to parents or community groups
- In the area of professional dispositions,
 - 85% are members of their state's library/library media association
 - 21% are members of the American Association of School Librarians
 - 48% are members of other state or national professional associations
 - 79% have attended a library-related conference or workshop in the past year
 - 29% have written private, state, or federal grants
 - 72% have participated in professional networking via electronic listservs

Comments:

- In response to the question what was most valuable about your school library media preparation program, the most common response was faculty/professors/teachers/instructors—mentioned 21 times: “professional yet personal relationships with professors—very caring and encouraging” “the instructors were dedicated to the students” “the teachers were very knowledgeable in all core subjects related to media services”
- In response to the question if you could start over again, would you attend Longwood's school library media program, 48 responded affirmatively: “Yes. I felt very prepared for my job.” “Absolutely—I felt more prepared to enter the library than I did to enter the classroom 22 years ago.” “Yes, I would. The quality of instruction was excellent, the faculty was experienced and professional, and the overall administration of the program was exceptional.” “Yes, I came away with a deep respect for and interest in the profession. I'm beginning my first year and am in love with the job already!” Of the two negative responses, one would pursue an ALA-accredited MLS and the other noted that he/she was still in the classroom.
- When asked for other comments, “the library media program that you have is excellent.” “Keep up the great work—Virginia's schools need more well-trained media specialists.” “I was very impressed with Longwood University faculty.” “I loved Longwood and would highly recommend this program to others. I recruited two of my friends to the next cohort and they already have jobs!” “I appreciated the professors and the high level of professionalism that they brought to the program.” “I highly recommend this program to anyone interested in this field.”