Today’s college seniors embrace diversity and are eager to share their voice with their community. Whether it’s graduate school or employment opportunities, the Class of 2015 is ready to take the next step.

Seniors are looking forward towards their careers...

66% Participated in an internship program
34% Spent 3+ hours per week on career planning
57% Were satisfied with career resources
76% Believed coursework was relevant to their future career

...Though financial pressures may influence their plans.

27% Missed class due to employment
35% Worked 6+ hours per week off campus
31% Helped support their family financially
37% Received over $10,000 in loans their senior year
76% Chose their particular career to help pay off debt

Research programs provide a chance to enhance knowledge and networks...

36% Strongly agree that their college improved their research abilities
41% Worked on a professor’s research project
26% Participated in an undergraduate research program

The college experience promotes diversity...

54% Took an ethnic studies class
37% Attended a racial/cultural awareness workshop
40% Had meaningful discussions about race outside of class
51% Feel it’s very important to promote racial understanding

...And are associated with the likelihood of pursuing graduate school opportunities.

38% Of research program participants plan to attend graduate school in the fall
21% Of students who did not participate in a research program plan to attend graduate school in the fall

...And helps transform students into engaged citizens.

58% Challenged a professor’s ideas in class
24% Demonstrated for a cause
79% Of registered students voted in an election
66% Are interested in seeking information about social and political issues

The College Senior Survey (CSS) connects academic, civic, and diversity outcomes with a comprehensive set of college experiences to measure the impact of college. When used as a follow-up instrument to other CIRP surveys, such as the Freshman Survey (TFS) or the Your First College Year (YFCY) Survey, the CSS generates valuable longitudinal data on students’ cognitive and affective growth as they graduate from college.

Survey Source: CIRP College Senior Survey 2015

www.heri.ucla.edu  facebook.com/HERI_CIRP  @HERIUCLA