

# Alumni Survey 2021, Master of Urban Planning

#### **Introduction**

In October 2021, the faculty of the UB Department of Urban and Regional Planning launched the ninth annual survey of its graduates. We asked five years of graduates who had graduated at least a year earlier to rate us on how we have done so that we can formally track our outcomes and evolve in better directions as needed.

#### MUP alumni by the numbers

Number of MUP graduates between 2016 and 2020: 149.

Alumni were distributed as follows: 2016: 30; 2017: 37; 2018: 31; 2019: 22 and 2020: 29.

#### **Survey process**

We sent a letter via e-mail to our MUP alumni announcing the survey along with a link to the survey itself (the survey was administered through a third-party survey site, SurveyMonkey). The survey was open for three weeks and reminders were sent to alumni not completing the survey periodically during the survey open period.

#### **Confidentiality**

Participation was voluntary. Survey subjects were not asked to provide personal information. Results are only presented in aggregate form. No individual responses are revealed.

Survey subjects are not charged to complete the survey, and they are not compensated. Names of survey subjects can never be connected to survey responses.



#### How we define planning and planning-related positions

We sought information on the types of jobs in which our graduates are employed. A planning position may take place at local, regional, state (province), national, or international levels. It may occur in the public sector, public authority, nonprofit organization, or private sector. Specific fields that constitute planning include: arts and culture planning, community activism/empowerment, community development, consulting, disaster planning, economic development, energy development and planning, environmental planning, GIS and other computer applications to planning, historic preservation and heritage, housing, international development, land use and code enforcement, legal practice related to planning, natural resources planning, neighborhood planning, parks and recreation, planning education, planning for training programs, planning within an architectural or engineering firm, planning management/finance, public health, real estate development, tourism development, transportation planning and analysis, urban design, and waste management. A planningrelated position includes consulting, design, development, nonprofit management and administration, policymaking, policy analysis, corporate location, health policy analysis, and public administration that in some way uses your planning skills or contributes to planning objectives but does not fall under the first definition above.

## **Results**

# 1. Survey Response Rate

Number of survey responses: 30

Survey response rate: 30/149 = 20.1%

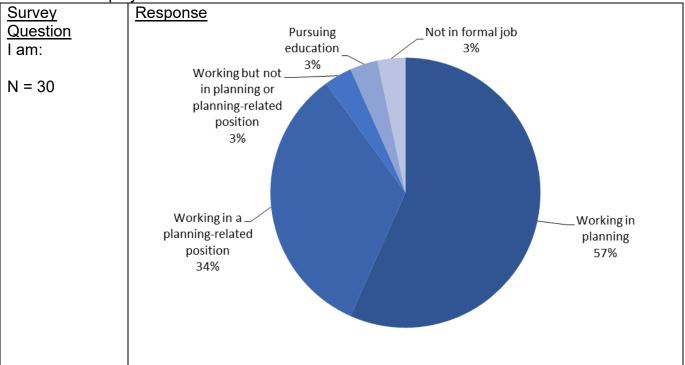
Survey response by alumni graduation year:

2016: 3.3%
2017: 20.0%
2018: 23.3%
2019: 16.7%
2020: 36.7%

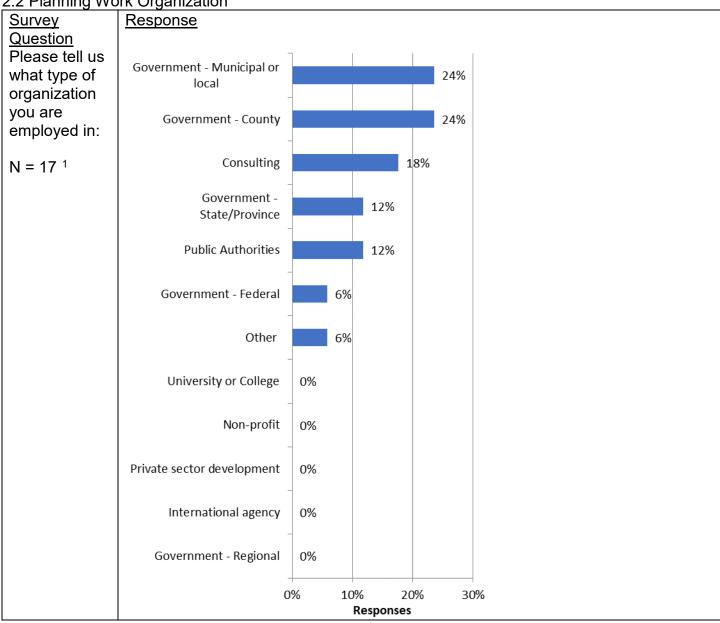


# 2. Employment

2.1 Current Employment



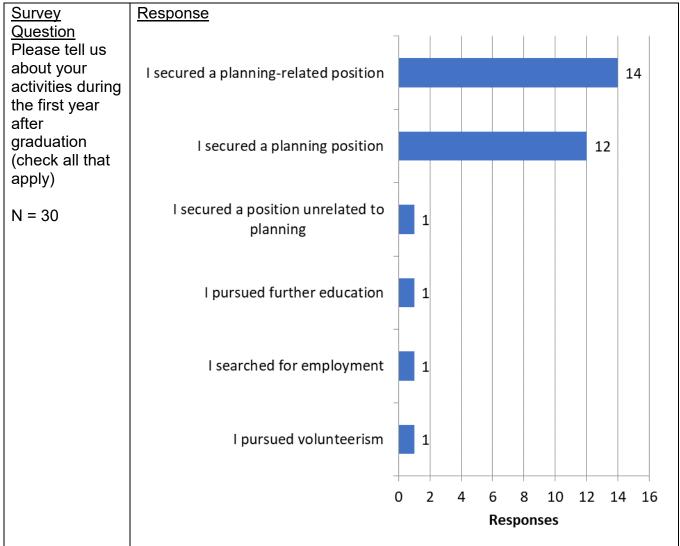
2.2 Planning Work Organization



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Non-responses for individual questions have been removed from the results and N updated accordingly. 



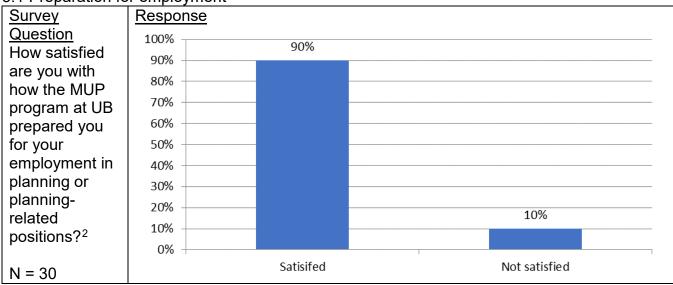
#### 2.3 First Year Activities



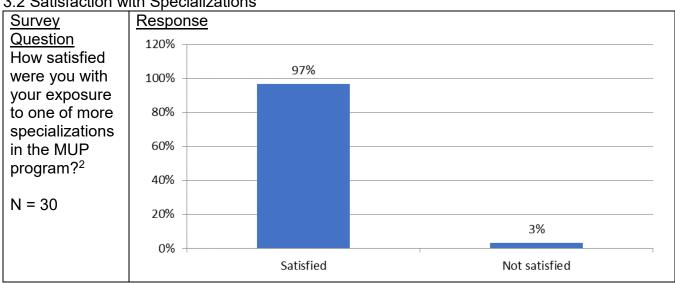


## 3. Satisfaction with MUP Program

3.1 Preparation for employment



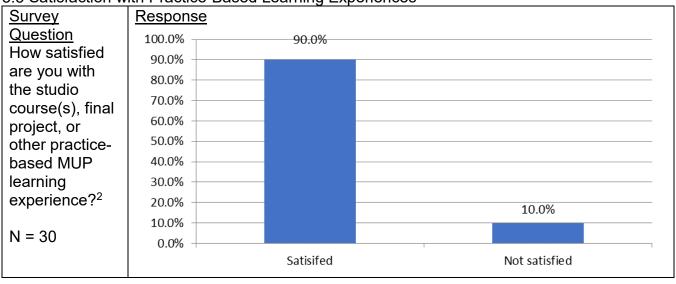
3.2 Satisfaction with Specializations



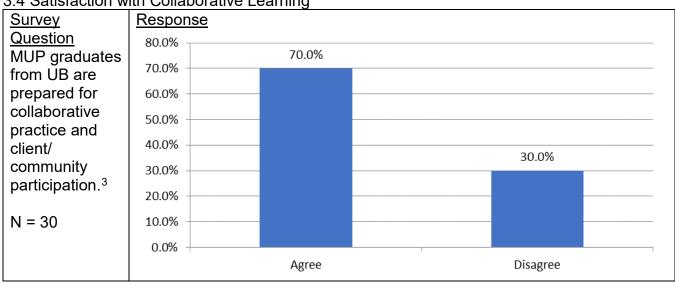
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Responses are aggregated for "Highly satisfied, "Satisfied" and "Somewhat satisfied."



3.3 Satisfaction with Practice-Based Learning Experiences



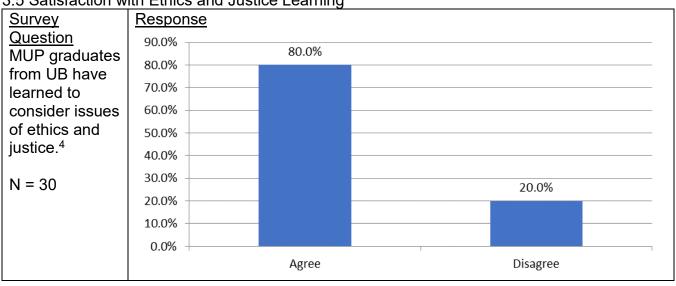
3.4 Satisfaction with Collaborative Learning



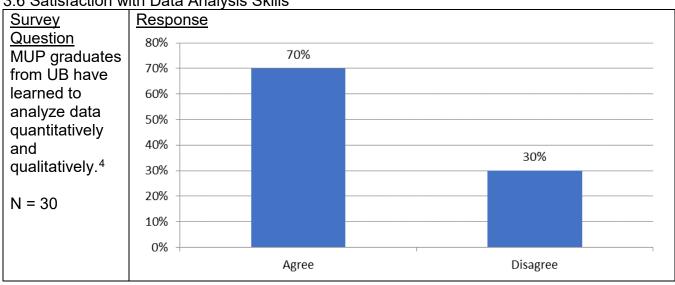
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Responses are aggregated for "Strongly agree & "Somewhat agree" and for "Somewhat disagree" & "Strongly disagree."



3.5 Satisfaction with Ethics and Justice Learning



3.6 Satisfaction with Data Analysis Skills

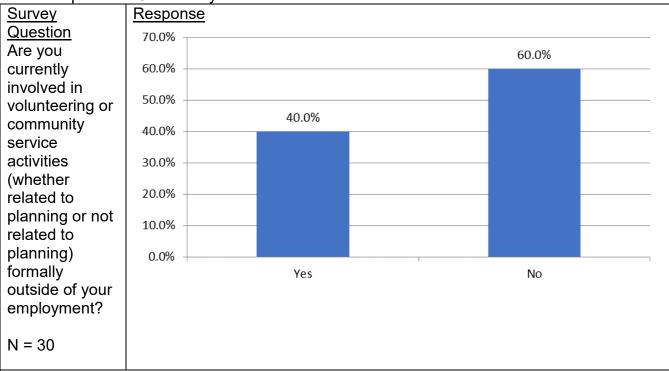


<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Responses are aggregated for "Strongly agree & "Somewhat agree" and for "Somewhat disagree" & "Strongly disagree."



## 4. Engagement

4.1 Participation in Community Service Activities



Graduates volunteered and provided community service for a community organization focused on cycling and the outdoors, social justice issues, a local monthly group bicycle ride (#SyracuseBikeParty), an Anti-violence organization called Take Back, a national mentor program, a local mutual aid group and the Ancient Order of the Hibernians. Graduates also served on the board of a local section of the Upstate NY Chapter of APA, co-chaired a Racial Equity Subcommittee for the Inner Loop North Redevelopment Community Advisory Committee and worked with the Van Alen Institute and Urban Design Forum under their Neighborhoods Now initiative to help establish a Night Market in NYC Chinatown alongside community organizations Think! Chinatown and Asian Americans for Equality.