Survey Instrument: Alumni Survey
Owner(s): Vice Provost for Education; Vice President for Institutional Affairs
Sponsor(s): Council of Undergraduate Deans
Invited Participants: Census
Invitation Signatory: Provost

Administration
The Alumni Survey is administered, via the web, every four years. The survey is open for approximately one month in the later part of the Spring semester.

Brief Description
The Alumni Survey is a retrospective assessment of the college experience. It is designed to generate feedback from Alumni for the purpose of assessing outcomes on several dimensions. These include involvement as undergraduate students, perceptions of institutional emphases, as well as estimated gains in knowledge and skills. Additionally, the Alumni Survey gathers information about activities and experiences following graduation, employment and further education, work and civic contributions, as well as career and life satisfaction.

Relationship to Other Instruments
The Alumni Survey is given in consortium with other elite colleges and universities across the country. As such, Penn is able to benchmark survey results against its peer institutions. There is also question overlap between our Alumni Survey and the AAUDE (Association of American University Data Exchange) Alumni Survey. This overlap allows investigation into similarities and differences in the student experience at Penn and other Doctoral/ Research Intensive schools.

Penn’s survey schedule has been arranged to ensure that Alumni invited to participate in the Alumni Survey were also part of a graduating class who were asked to complete the Senior Survey prior to graduation. Several questions on the Senior Survey also appear on the Alumni Survey. This question repetition affords a comparison between anticipated and actual behavior.

The Alumni Survey, like most institution-wide survey initiatives, contains institutional questions about Penn’s culture and climate. These questions gather important feedback and allow for comparisons to be made between student, faculty and alumni opinion.

Data gathered by the Alumni Survey can also be linked to additional information contained in the data warehouse, allowing for further analysis.

Survey Results
A top-level summary report will be generated comparing Penn Alumni responses to Alumni responses at participating COFHE institutions.

Distribution Plan
Selected information from the Penn Alumni Survey is available by request.