Executive Summary for School of Nursing Student COVID-19 Impact Surveys (June 2020 & December 2020)

Background. The Provost's Office of the University of Maryland, Baltimore sought to understand the experiences and broad impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on their faculty, staff, and students during the pandemic, requiring virtual work, teaching, learning, research, and service. This report summarizes school-level responses to two surveys administered during 2020. First, a 41-item survey sent to all students from June 2-14, following the transition to emergency remote learning and virtual teaching/work in March 2020. A second 60-item survey administered from November 20 through December 15, 2020, with the addition of 11 items focused on COVID-19 health and safety behaviors. Some questions were removed (e.g., a few IT questions) and others were added to mirror the faculty survey (e.g., University and School Leadership Response, Satisfaction with Faculty Instruction). In June 2020, questions were combined regarding resources and co-curricular experiences offered by UMB Student Affairs and the Student Affairs Offices in the schools, and separated in December 2020. Survey questions primarily derived from surveys produced by the Higher Education Data Sharing Consortium (2020), EDUCAUSE (2020), and the National Consortium for Building Healthy Academic Communities (2020), and supplemented with institutionally relevant items related to impacts on research, clinical experiences, and didactic learning. Open-ended qualitative questions focused on learning what students believe went well and has not gone well in terms of their experiences as a student, and in December 2020, what has been helpful upon resuming clinical practice or experiential learning. Survey results for the school presented by survey topic area with comparisons to aggregate responses by all UMB students. Response categories were selected to portray significant data comparison points for key questions and do not account for all responses to each question or all questions in the survey.

Participants: In June 2020, 25% (274) of the 1,104 student respondents were from the School of Nursing (SON). In December 2020, 22% (219) of the 1,018 student respondents indicated that SON was their primary School during Fall 2020; 19% (41) indicated they completed the June survey.

Question Stem	Response	June SON	Dec. SON	June UMB	Dec. UMB
Studying at Universities of Shady Grove	Yes	18% (48)	18% (40)	9% (95)	9% (89)
	No	82% (225)	82% (179)	91% (1015)	91% (924)
Graduate Assistant	Yes		5% (7)	NT/A	100/ (87)
	No	N/A	95% (122)	N/A	10% (87)
Degree Program in Fall 2020					
Undergraduate		50% (134)	40% (87)	12% (116)	12% (116)
Masters		24% (67)	29% (62)	25% (251)	25% (251)
Research Doctorate (PhD) – June; Doctorate (PhD) – December		1% (2)	3% (6)	9% (89)	9% (89)
Professional Practice Doctorate (DNP, JD, MD, DDS, PharmD, DPT)		23% (61)	27% (59)	53% (535)	53% (535)
Certificate		0% (0)	1% (2)	1% (10)	1% (10)
Non-Degree		2% (6)	0% (0)	.10% (1)	.10% (1)
Do you consider yourself "at-risk" for serious complications if you contracted COVID-19?	Yes	21% (53)	21% (40)	19% (217)	18% (153)

Table I. Demographic Information

Question Stem	Response	June SON	Dec. SON	June UMB	Dec. UMB
Doing well in my courses now that classes are online	Very Often/Often	54%	61%	53%	59%
Doing well in clinical experience	Very Often/Often	N/A	54%	N/A	56%
Doing well in research experience	Very Often/Often	N/A	20%	N/A	30%
Losing friendships or social connections now that classes are online	Very Often/Often	41%	51%	41%	59%
Accessing the technology needed for online classes	Very Often/Often	21%	25%	20%	26%
Successfully using the technology needed for online classes	Very Often/Often	25%	29%	25%	28%
Having access to medical care	Very Often/Often	19%	16%	23%	19%
Having access to dental care	Very Often/Often	17%	14%	22%	19%
Mental health and wellness	Very Often/Often	39%	44%	45%	51%
Paying educational bills (e.g., tuition, loans)	Very Often/Often	48%	41%	44%	40%
Paying non-educational bills (e.g. rent, internet access, medical)	Very Often/Often	43%	37%	43%	37%
Having a safe and secure place to sleep every night	Very Often/Often	9%	13%	7%	11%
Having enough to eat properly day-to-day	Very Often/Often	11%	15%	9%	12%
Ability to care for dependents	Very Often/Often	20%	15%	20%	12%

Table II. Given the changes at UMB caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, how often do/did you worry about the following?

Table III. Please select all of the options that describe your academic work in Fall 2020.

Question Stem	Dec. SON	Dec. UMB
Coursework or seminars for my degree or program	43%	40%
Research or writing for my research prospectus	5%	6%
Research or writing for my dissertation, thesis, capstone project, or research paper	9%	9%
Preparing to defend or file my dissertation, thesis, capstone project, or research paper	2%	2%
Practical training (e.g. fieldwork, internship, clinical practice/rotation, clerkship, etc.)	30%	26%
Preparing for a board, certifying, or other qualifying exam	10%	11%
Preparing for a comprehensive, qualifying, oral, or other type of doctoral degree exam	1%	5%
I am a non-degree student in Fall 2020	1%	.22%
I am not enrolled in classes during Fall 2020 or Other	2%	1%

Table IV. What type(s) of courses are (or were) you taking at UMB during Fall 2020? Please select all that apply.

Question Stem	Dec. SON	Dec. UMB
Lecture or seminar	47%	46%
Laboratory or experimental	11%	13%
Clinical or field experience	30%	29%
Internship, practicum, or co-op	8%	6%
Capstone or master's thesis	2%	2%
Doctoral dissertation	2%	2%
Other (please specify)	1%	1%
None	.3%	.39%

Table V. How many of your courses are being held in an online/ virtual format in Fall?

Question Stem	Dec.	Dec.
	SON	UMB
One	6%	9%
Two or three	47%	32%
Four or more	46%	54%
None, I have not been enrolled in classes in Fall 2020	1%	4%
None, I withdrew or plan to withdraw from all of my Fall	1%	.25%
2020 courses because of issues related to COVID-19		
None, I withdrew or plan to withdraw from all of my Fall	0%	.25%
2020 courses for a reason/reasons unrelated to COVID-19		

Question Stem	Response	Dec. SON	Dec. UMB
Has your research been affected because of campus changes due to COVID-19?	Yes	28%	47%
Has your clinical practice or experiential learning been affected because of campus changes due to COVID-19?	Yes	88%	91%

Table VII. Please rate your satisfaction with how well faculty metyour expectations of virtual/online instruction in Fall 2020?

Question Stem	Response	Dec.	Dec.
		SON	UMB
Quality of Instruction	Extremely Satisfied &	66%	54%
	Somewhat Satisfied		
Quality of Assignments	Extremely Satisfied &	69%	49%
	Somewhat Satisfied		
Quantity of Assignments	Extremely Satisfied &	59%	45%
	Somewhat Satisfied		
Grading of Assignments	Extremely Satisfied &	74%	52%
	Somewhat Satisfied		

Table VIII. Faculty Instruction & Instructional Quality (for students engaged in didactic instruction)

Question Stem	Response	June SON	Dec. SON	June UMB	Dec. UMB
Overall, how would you describe instructional quality during the online learning period compared to prior to COVID-19? Dec.; Overall, how would you compare instructional quality after the shift to emergency remote learning vs. prior to ERL? – June	Much better/ Somewhat better	14%	13%	11%	14%
Overall, how would you compare instructional quality in Fall 2020 vs. Spring 2020 (after COVID-19 response began)?	Much better/ Somewhat better	N/A	33%	N/A	43%
Are you aware of any adjustments to your academic program's grading policies since moving to online learning? Dec.; Are you aware of any adjustments to your academic program's grading policies due to the move to ERL? June	Yes	47%	15%	58%	31%
Overall, faculty at UMB have shown care and concern during the pandemic. Dec.; / Overall, faculty at UMB have shown care and concern for me as they respond to the spread of COVID-19. June	Strongly agree/ Somewhat agree	84%	77%	85%	76%

Table IX. Accessibility

Question Stem	Response	June SON	Dec. SON	June UMB	Dec. UMB
UMB has a Web Accessibility Policy to ensure equal access	I didn't have any concerns or issues.	91%	92%	90%	93%
of its content to individuals of all abilities. Which of the	Needs adequately addressed by ESDS, my	8% (19)	5% (8)	6%	5%
following statements are true based on your experience?	School, and/or the university.				
	Some or all of my needs for web	1% (2)	3% (4)	4%	2%
	accessibility were not adequately met.				
Which of the following web accessibility areas were not adequately met? Please select all that apply and give a brief	Live captioning during video conferencing.	20% (1)	29% (2)	17%	19%
description of how your need was not met.*	Availability of closed captioning for video	20% (1)	14% (1)	12%	19%
description of now your need was not met.	recordings				
*Answered by individuals who responded: Some or all of	Extended time on tests	20% (1)	29% (2)	13%	13%
my needs for web accessibility were not adequately met.	Recorded lectures	20% (1)	14% (1)	19%	25%
ing needs for web decessionity were not decludery net.	Availability of transcription services	20% (1)	0%	8%	6%

Table X. University and School Leadership Response

Question Stem	Response	Dec. SON	Dec. UMB
Overall, University-level leadership has implemented policies and systems to effectively protect	Strongly Agree &	86%	75%
students from the negative health consequences of COVID-19.	Somewhat Agree		
Overall, University-level leadership has supported students in adapting to the changes at the	Strongly Agree	70%	62%
institution caused by the spread of COVID-19.	& Somewhat Agree		
Overall, University-level leadership has communicated effectively and transparently during this	Strongly Agree	83%	64%
pandemic.	& Somewhat Agree		
My school-level leadership has helped me to understand the direction forward in my work due to	Strongly Agree	65%	48%
changes at the institution caused by the spread of COVID-19.	& Somewhat Agree		
My school-level leadership has been supportive as I manage personal challenges and academic	Strongly Agree	67%	48%
requirements during the pandemic.	& Somewhat Agree		
My school-level leadership has shown care and concern for students in the response to the COVID-	Strongly Agree	76%	55%
19 crisis.	& Somewhat Agree		
My school-level leadership has communicated effectively and transparently during this crisis.	Strongly Agree	73%	49%
	& Somewhat Agree		
Overall, how satisfied are you with the support you are getting from UMB (including your school	Extremely Satisfied &	60%	54%
& central administration) to help you adjust to all the changes due to the ongoing pandemic?	Somewhat Satisfied		

Table XI. The Division of Student Affairs and UMB started offering many additional remote options for co-curricular services during the pandemic. Please rate your satisfaction with the central services (not those offered by your School) you have used during the pandemic.

Question Stem	Response	Dec. SON	Dec. UMB
Campus Center	Extremely satisfied/Somewhat satisfied	41% (14)	33%
	Extremely dissatisfied/Somewhat dissatisfied	26% (9)	36%
Event Services	Extremely satisfied/Somewhat satisfied	26% (6)	30%
	Extremely dissatisfied/Somewhat dissatisfied	22% (5)	29%
Health Center	Extremely satisfied/Somewhat satisfied	45% (10)	64%
	Extremely dissatisfied/Somewhat dissatisfied	5% (1)	16%
Financial Aid	Extremely satisfied/Somewhat satisfied	52% (43)	46%
	Extremely dissatisfied/Somewhat dissatisfied	27% (22)	32%
Intercultural Center (e.g., heritage month programming, poverty,	Extremely satisfied/Somewhat satisfied	13% (2)	26%
simulation, on-demand diversity virtual programs)	Extremely dissatisfied/Somewhat dissatisfied	13% (2)	19%
Intercultural Leadership & Engagement (e.g., PSLI, President's Fellows)	Extremely satisfied/Somewhat satisfied	17% (2)	44%
	Extremely dissatisfied/Somewhat dissatisfied	13% (1)	15%
Educational Support and Disability Services (ESDS) - Academic	Extremely satisfied/Somewhat satisfied	52% (12)	48%
Coaching Services	Extremely dissatisfied/Somewhat dissatisfied	13% (3)	20%
ESDS - Disability Accommodation Services	Extremely satisfied/Somewhat satisfied	45% (9)	51%
	Extremely dissatisfied/Somewhat dissatisfied	13% (3)	16%
Office of International Services	Extremely satisfied/Somewhat satisfied	18% (2)	25%
	Extremely dissatisfied/Somewhat dissatisfied	9% (1)	15%

One Card	Extremely satisfied/Somewhat satisfied	45% (19)	39%
	Extremely dissatisfied/Somewhat dissatisfied	12% (5)	16%
Student Counseling Center	Extremely satisfied/Somewhat satisfied	48% (14)	54%
	Extremely dissatisfied/Somewhat dissatisfied	21% (6)	20%
University Student Government Association	Extremely satisfied/Somewhat satisfied	38% (9)	46%
(USGA) and other student organizations	Extremely dissatisfied/Somewhat dissatisfied	17% (4)	15%
URecFit/Wellness Hub	Extremely satisfied/Somewhat satisfied	24% (6)	22%
	Extremely dissatisfied/Somewhat dissatisfied	40% (10)	55%
Writing Center	Extremely satisfied/Somewhat satisfied	65% (22)	50%
	Extremely dissatisfied/Somewhat dissatisfied	15% (5)	16%
UMB Guidance Resources	Extremely satisfied/Somewhat satisfied	45% (9)	36%
	Extremely dissatisfied/Somewhat dissatisfied	15% (3)	21%

Table XI. Your School started offering many additional remote options for co-curricular services during the pandemic. Please rate your satisfaction level with the services offered by your School (not central Student Affairs or the campus) during the pandemic. (In June 2020, UMB Student Affairs and the Schools combined. UMB Student Affairs and the Schools separated in December 2020.)

Question Stem	Response	Dec. SON	Dec. UMB
Writing Support Services	Extremely satisfied/Moderately satisfied	63% (20)	52%
	Extremely dissatisfied/Somewhat dissatisfied	13% (4)	10%
Academic support services (e.g., tutoring, Student Success	Extremely satisfied/Moderately satisfied	60% (27)	53%
Center)	Extremely dissatisfied/Somewhat dissatisfied	20% (9)	16%
Professional development workshops	Extremely satisfied/Moderately satisfied	59% (13)	64%
	Extremely dissatisfied/Somewhat dissatisfied	14% (3)	9%
Student Government and Other Student Organizations	Extremely satisfied/Moderately satisfied	42% (11)	57%
	Extremely dissatisfied/Somewhat dissatisfied	19% (5)	13%
Student Emergency Fund	Extremely satisfied/Moderately satisfied	47% (9)	42%
	Extremely dissatisfied/Somewhat dissatisfied	21% (4)	26%

Table XII. COVID-19 Practices (December 2020 Survey Only)

Question Stem	Response	Dec. SON	Dec. UMB
How concerned are you about exposure to COVID-19 through your current	None	77%	41%
educational setting(s)?			
How do you feel about UMB policies and guidelines regarding COVID-19 (e.g.,	Just Right	67%	59%
policy requiring the use of face coverings, physical distancing, capacity guidelines,			
symptom monitoring, testing)?			
I feel a responsibility to follow UMB policies and guidelines for minimizing exposure	Yes, and I follow policies and	68%	69%
to COVID-19 (e.g., policy requiring use of face coverings, physical distancing,	guidelines 100% of the time		
capacity guidelines, symptom monitoring, testing, contact tracing)?			

How well do you observe your peers following UMB policies and guidelines for minimizing exposure to COVID-19 (e.g., policy requiring use of face coverings, physical distancing, capacity guidelines, symptom monitoring, testing)?	They follow policies and guidelines 100% of the time	35%	18%
What is your level of concern that other students, faculty, or staff are not following	Very / Somewhat	29%	40%
UMB policies and guidelines for minimizing exposure to COVID-19?	None		
		28%	49%
In your opinion, the level of enforcement by School officials of UMB policies and	Too Much	7%	8%
guidelines applicable to students, faculty and staff to minimize exposure to COVID- 19 is:	About Right	87%	76%
	Not Enough	6%	16%
If you are participating in in-person classes, experiential learning, research, or	Great Deal / A Lot		
clinical experiences, how much stress are you currently feeling about participating in	None / A Little	18%	29%
these in-person experiences?		60%	48%
Over the last two weeks, how often have you been unable to stop worrying about the pandemic and its impact?	Several Days/ More than Half of Days	56%	49%
How well are you currently managing the stress in your life	Usually Able to Cope Effectively	43%	38%
Are you participating in programming offered by UMB or your School that can help you manage more effectively with stress?	Frequently/ Sometimes	8%	12%
Overall, how would you rate your level of burnout (e.g., physical and emotional exhaustion, increased frustration with school)?	Symptoms won't go away/Completely burned out	17%	23%

Jointly prepared by UMB Student Affairs and the Office of Institutional Effectiveness, Strategic Planning, and Assessment. Please contact Patty Alvarez (palvarez@umaryland.edu) or Gregory Spengler (gspengler@umaryland.edu) for further information.