

## USC COLUMBIA PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION UNIT EMPLOYER SURVEY RESULTS EMPLOYERS' PERCEPTIONS

- Survey administered March 2003 by joint effort in EDRM 724 and the USC College of Education Office of Accreditation & Quality Assurance
- Districts surveyed included: Aiken, Beaufort, Calhoun, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lexington 1, Lexington 2, Lexington 3, Lexington 4, Lexington /Richland 5, Newberry, Marion 7, Orangeburg 4 and Orangeburg 5, Richland 1 and Richland 2, Saluda, and Sumter 2 and Sumter 17. These were selected based on their proximity to USC, or a branch of USC that houses a USC Columbia teacher education program, or where USC Columbia conducted a state-sponsored middle school program at the time (GEAR-UP).
- A list was sent to each school of employees who were working there and had finished a degree at USC between 1998 - 2002. Ideally, the principal should have completed the survey, but the respondent could have been another knowledgeable person at the school. The survey was addressed to the principal during the follow-up to help clarify this.
- 325 surveyed, 109 responses (34% response rate)
- Follow up conducted in April 2003 by the Office of Accreditation & Quality Assurance to those schools who had not responded – 60 responses were received (total of 52% response rate)

### General Questions on Knowledge, Practice, and Dispositions

4 = Highly Satisfied

3 = Satisfied

2 = Dissatisfied

1 = Highly Dissatisfied

**The data below reflect graduates from all levels of degree programs who were currently working at the school that received each survey. At least one degree that the graduate holds was completed since 1998. Also, data below reflect those perceptions from middle, high, and multilevel (K-12 privates, mostly) schools.**

Item	Total Survey Results		
	N	Mean	SD
<b>Please indicate how satisfied you are with the KNOWLEDGE of USC graduates in the following areas:</b>			
Subject matter/content	151	3.65	.532
Human growth and development	151	3.51	.515
Cultural issues that affect students and learning	149	3.34	.565
Professional association and state standards	150	3.45	.585
A variety of technologies and their application to education	151	3.45	.597
Theory and research that guide educational practice	150	3.46	.587
Impact of personal knowledge and experiences on professional decisions	151	3.44	.639
<b>Please indicate how satisfied you are with the SKILLS of USC graduates.</b>			
Building collaborative relationships	151	3.42	.616

Item	Total Survey Results		
	N	Mean	SD
Communicating clearly with students, parents, and other professionals	151	3.40	.624
Planning (including appropriate goals, procedures, evaluation, and effective use of resources)	151	3.46	.539
Creating learning opportunities for students	151	3.54	.563
Assessing students and professional work Effectively	151	3.42	.582
Making appropriate professional decisions	150	3.60	2.490
Continuing inquiry into best professional practice	151	3.46	.609
<b>Please indicate how satisfied you are with the DISPOSITIONS of USC graduates.</b>			
Integrity in all actions	151	3.52	.631
Commitment to continuous learning	150	3.61	.554
Dedication to justice for all people	150	3.56	.573
Responsibility for the good of the whole school and educational community	151	3.56	.607

**If you could make your hiring decisions over again, how many of your staff who graduated from USC would you hire?**

	Total Survey Results	
	N	Percent
All of them	84	57.5%
Most of them	50	34.2%
Some of them	11	7.5%
None of them	1	.7%

*The percent reflects those who provided a response to this item*

**Narrative comments are also available for the total survey and/or by individual degree or program areas.**