

Abstract

A survey of 1,025 graduate students' opinions in the academic year 2002, revealed the following:

76.2% of the population were female and 23.8% were male. Most of them were aged 21-25 years old, and were single (36.4%). They were government officers (91.2%), students (33.8%), unemployed (32.7%), state enterprise officers (19.5%), or had their own business (11.2%). They had graduated from government universities (83%), nursing colleges (9.9%), Rajabhat universities (3.3%), or private universities (3.1%). 72.2% of the population became students at Mahidol University the first time they applied, 22% had applied twice, 4.5% had applied three times, and 1.4% had applied four or more times.

Most of the population were motivated to study at a graduate level in Mahidol University because they believed the program taught at Mahidol University fulfilled their needs (76.7%) and was highly useful for students to apply in developing a country (57.8%).

53.9% of the population thought that Mahidol University's academic quality was high. In addition, graduate students from Mahidol University are highly employable in society, have a deep academic knowledge in their field of study (87.1%), have English proficiency in reading, writing, and speaking (50%). About the benefits they will get when graduating, most of the population (68.3%) thought that they will progress in their job and be a high quality researcher (49.8%). However, 26.7% of the population thought that the length of study at Mahidol University was too long.

Regarding admissions notification, most of the population knew about admissions from friends, senior students, or alumni (55.5%) about one month in advance. They believed that announcements should be publicized more on radio and television (50.5%), and in some areas there was not enough publicizing.

During economic crisis, most of the population (46.8%) thought that science and technology were the most appropriate fields of study. When studying at Mahidol University, most students were supported by their family (78.2%). 71.8% of the population hoped to receive thesis scholarships/graduate loans/teaching assistantships during study, and 61.9% of the population would like to pay registration fees and credit fees by installment.

About the development of service, the population said that the Faculty of Graduate Studies' officers gave moderate service (59%), application via Internet was convenient and without problem. The information service during the admission period was very good, time for purchasing application forms and admission time was appropriate. Most of the population bought an application form from bookstores.

Most of the population thought that there was too much information to complete on the application form, and there were too many documents to submit. When contacting officers by telephone, they found that the line was busy (16.3%), the officers didn't give clear answers, some officers didn't know enough information, and some officers were impolite (17.8%).

Most of the population expected a Faculty of Graduate Studies' service that they could rely on when they had a problem (66.4%), and that was convenient when registering (65.3%). For the admission, most of the population agreed with an all year admission for Doctoral degrees, and had an opinion that it was good to have rounds of admission for Master's degrees.