



MONASH UNIVERSITY - ACER

CENTRE FOR THE ECONOMICS OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Explanatory Statement for:

## *Study of first year attrition from university, 2005*

This is a survey of people who began an undergraduate university degree in 2004, including both **people who are no longer enrolled** and **people who are still enrolled**.

The Monash University-ACER *Centre for the Economics of Education and Training* (CEET) is conducting the survey for the Commonwealth *Department of Education, Science and Training* (DEST). The survey will provide information to help develop strategies that will assist university students to complete their courses or study programs.

Fourteen universities are involved in this study. Your university randomly selected you from its student records to participate in the survey. Your university attached address labels to the sealed envelopes we provided and then posted them. The questionnaire is not identified in any way — we have no way of knowing whether you return your questionnaire or not. DEST will not be provided with any information that links your name to your questionnaire.

Completing and returning the questionnaire is your decision but we encourage you to do so. We think it is for a good cause. If we can make it easier for students to stay at university and finish their study, that is good for everyone.

In accord with Monash University policy, completed questionnaires will be kept securely for five years prior to their confidential destruction. Answers to the questionnaires will be scanned and the data sent initially to DEST and then later to the participating universities. Again, no one will be able to trace any answers back to particular people.

When the results of the survey are published (hopefully by mid 2006), we will report this on our web site. More information about CEET and this survey is available on our website: [www.education.monash.edu.au/centres/ceet](http://www.education.monash.edu.au/centres/ceet)

Many thanks for your time

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Long', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Michael Long (on behalf of CEET)  
michael.long@education.monash.edu.au  
Tel. 03 9905 9956

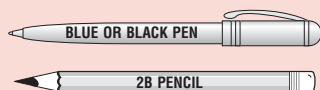
Should you have any complaint concerning the manner in which this research (Ref No. 2005/446EA) is conducted, please do not hesitate to contact the Monash University Standing Committee on Ethics in Research Involving Humans at the following address:

The Secretary  
The Standing Committee on Ethics in Research Involving Humans (SCERH)  
Building 3D  
Research Grants & Ethics Branch  
Monash University VIC 3800  
Tel: +61 3 9905 2052 Fax: +61 3 9905 1420 Email: [scerh@adm.monash.edu.au](mailto:scerh@adm.monash.edu.au)



# Study of first year attrition from university, 2005

## INSTRUCTIONS:



- Use a blue/black ballpoint pen or 2B pencil
- Do not use red or felt tip pens
- Do not fold or bend
- Erase mistakes fully
- Make no stray marks

Please MARK LIKE THIS:



## YOUR ENROLMENT IN FIRST SEMESTER 2004

**1.** In first semester 2004 I enrolled at:

**6.** Were you enrolled in study for a single or a double degree?

- Single degree (e.g. Bachelor of Science)
- Double degree (e.g. Bachelor of Arts / Bachelor of Education)
- Don't know
- Other – please specify

**2.** Did you want to enrol at *this* university?

- Yes, definitely
- Yes, with some reservations
- No, but I didn't mind
- No, I really wanted to go to another university

**3.** In first semester 2004 I enrolled:

- Full-time
- Part-time

**4.** My enrolment *mainly* required:

- Attending classes on-campus
- Off-campus study (*distance or on-line*)
- A mix of on-campus & off-campus study

**5.** All things considered, I would like to have enrolled:

- Full-time, *on-campus*
- Part-time, *on-campus*
- Through external (*off-campus*) study

**7.** What was your *main* field of study?  
(Mark one oval in the First degree column and, if you enrolled in a double degree, one oval in the Second degree column)

First degree	Second degree	
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Creative arts – including design, graphics, media studies, performing & visual arts.
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Social sciences – including economics, psychology, sociology.
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Humanities – including history, languages, philosophy, social work, sports & recreation.
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Management or commerce – including accounting, banking, marketing, tourism.
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Agriculture or environmental science – including animal husbandry, forestry, horticulture.
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Information technology – including computer science, information systems.
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Science – including biology, chemistry, geology, mathematics, physics.
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Engineering – including computer engineering.
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Architecture or building – including landscape design, regional planning.
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Nursing – including general nursing, midwifery, aged care nursing.
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Health – including medicine, dentistry, optometry, pharmacy, veterinary science.
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Teacher education – including early childhood, primary, secondary, other teacher education.
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Education – other than teacher education
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Law – including justice and law enforcement.
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Other – please specify

**YOUR ENROLMENT IN FIRST SEMESTER 2004 – continued**

**8.** Was this the *course* or *program* you wanted to enrol in?

- Yes, *definitely*
- Yes, *with some reservations*
- No, *but I didn't mind*
- No, *I really wanted to enrol in another course or program*

**9.** Did you *need* to move home to attend university in first semester 2004?

- No, *did not move*
- No, *but moved anyway*
- Yes, *within the same city or town*
- Yes, *from another area in same state*
- Yes, *from a different state*
- Yes, *from overseas*

**10.** Did the university grant you any credit for previous study?

- No
- Yes, *from university study*
- Yes, *from study with a private higher education provider*
- Yes, *from previous TAFE / vocational study*
- Yes, *from other study – please specify*

**WHY YOU ENROLLED IN FIRST SEMESTER 2004**

**11.** How much does each of the following statements match the reasons you had for enrolling in first semester 2004?

- I can't remember why I enrolled ► *Go to question 12*

*(Mark one oval in each row)*

	<i>No match</i>	<i>Matches a little</i>	<i>Moderate match</i>	<i>Matches a lot</i>	<i>Exact match</i>
1. My friends were going to university	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. No particular reason, I just drifted into it	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. My family expected me to enrol	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Study will help me to make a better career choice	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. I like doing better than I've done before	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. To prove to myself what I'm capable of	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. To help me to prepare for my chosen career	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. I like becoming absorbed in books or topics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. I feel good when I'm learning about interesting things	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. I'm stimulated by ideas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11. To get a better salary later	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
12. To show myself that I'm an intelligent person	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
13. I like learning new things	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
14. I feel good when I can do difficult academic tasks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
15. More education will make me a better worker	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
16. Studying helps me in my quest for excellence	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
17. Study will help me to get a job in a field I like	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
18. I feel good when I do well in my studies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
19. To show myself that I can succeed at university	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
20. I feel good when I can share ideas with others	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
21. To get a better job later	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
22. I want to live 'the good life' later	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
23. I like discovering things I didn't know about	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
24. I like broadening my knowledge	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
25. Studying lets me learn about things that interest me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
26. I feel important when I succeed	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
27. I won't get a high-paying job without a degree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## WHO OR WHAT INFLUENCED YOUR ENROLMENT IN FIRST SEMESTER 2004

**12.** How much was your decision to enrol in your 2004 course or program influenced by:

(Mark one oval in each row to indicate the degree of influence)

	Not applicable	No influence	A little influence	Moderate influence	Large influence
1. A careers advisor at school	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. A careers advisor at university or TAFE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. A careers advisor somewhere else	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Your school or TAFE teachers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Your family	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. Your friends	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. Former or current students	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. Information from the university	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. Managers or colleagues at your work	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. Your Year 12 results	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11. Availability of Youth Allowance/Austudy/ABSTUDY	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
12. Work experience in a field of interest to you	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## BEFORE YOU ENROLLED IN FIRST SEMESTER 2004

**13.** In 2003 I was mostly:  
(Mark as many ovals as you need to)

- Studying at school
- Studying at TAFE
- Studying at university
- Studying elsewhere
- Caring for a family member or friend
- Taking a year off after Year 12
- In full-time paid work
- In part-time or casual paid work
- In unpaid work
- Looking for work
- Not in paid work and not looking for work
- Sick
- On holiday or travelling
- Other – please specify

**14.** Had you studied at a *university* before you enrolled in first semester 2004?

- No ► **Go to question 17**
- Yes, in a degree program
- Yes, in a diploma program
- Yes, in a preparatory or bridging program
- Yes, in some other program – please specify

**15.** Did you complete this program?

- Yes
- No

**16.** Was your experience of this program:

- Mostly positive
- Mixed
- Mostly negative

## WHILE YOU WERE ENROLLED IN FIRST SEMESTER 2004

**17.** Were you in paid work or working unpaid in the family business?

- No ► **Go to question 22**
- Yes ► **Go to question 18**

**18.** On average, how many hours per week did you spend on this work?

hours per week

**19.** Did your employer allow you study leave to attend classes, exams or to study?

- No – I was the employer or self-employed
- No – but the hours I worked were flexible
- No – and I worked fixed hours
- Yes – but I found it difficult to use my study leave
- Yes – and I used my study leave

**20.** Did you miss lectures, classes or tutorials because of this work?

- No, I did not have to attend classes
- No, never
- Yes, but rarely
- Yes, sometimes
- Yes, frequently

**21.** Did this work interfere with your study during the semester?

- No, not at all
- Yes, but only a little
- Yes, somewhat
- Yes, a great deal

**WHILE YOU WERE ENROLLED IN FIRST SEMESTER 2004 – continued**

**22.** What were your *main* sources of financial support during the semester?

(Mark as many ovals as you need to)

- Government income support – *Youth Allowance, Austudy, ABSTUDY, a pension, NewStart*
- Paid employment
- Spouse or partner
- Parents or guardian
- Other relatives
- Savings or sale of assets
- Commercial borrowing or loans
- Loans from family or friends
- Government scholarships
- Non-government scholarships
- Other – *please specify*

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**23.** Did you receive Youth Allowance?

- Yes, *the full amount at the independent rate*
- Yes, *the independent rate reduced because of the income or assets test*
- Yes, *the full amount of the dependent rate*
- Yes, *the dependent rate reduced because of the income or assets test*
- No

**24.** Did you receive Austudy?

- Yes, *the full amount*
- Yes, *reduced due to the income or assets test*
- No

**25.** Did you receive ABSTUDY?

- Yes
- No

**26.** Did you receive any other government support for study?

- No
- Pensioner education supplement
- A government scholarship
- Other – not already indicated – *please specify*

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**27.** Did you enrol as:

- A Commonwealth government supported student, **deferring ALL of your HECS payment?**
- A Commonwealth government supported student, **paying ALL of your HECS upfront?**
- A Commonwealth government supported student, **paying PART of your HECS upfront?**
- An Australian full fee paying student

**28.** While I was enrolled in 2004 I was *mainly* living:  
(Mark as many ovals as you need to)

- with my parents or guardian
- with my spouse or partner
- with my or my partner's children
- with other relatives
- with other people
- at a university college/other residence
- by myself
- Other – *please specify*

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**29.** On average, how long did it take you to get to university from your home or work?

minutes per trip

- I did not travel to university

**RESULTS FROM YOUR STUDY IN 2004**

**30.** In first semester 2004:

(Mark as many ovals as you need to)

- I passed *all* my subjects or units
- I passed *some* subjects or units
- I failed *some* subjects or units
- I failed *all* subjects or units
- I withdrew from *some* subjects or units before they were assessed
- I withdrew from *all* subjects or units before they were assessed
- Some subjects or units were not assessed
- No subjects or units were assessed

**31.** In second semester 2004:

(Mark as many ovals as you need to)

- I did not re-enrol in the same course or program in second semester **▶ Go to question 32**
- I passed *all* subjects or units
- I passed *some* subjects or units
- I failed *some* subjects or units
- I failed *all* subjects or units
- I withdrew from *some* subjects or units before they were assessed
- I withdrew from *all* subjects or units before they were assessed
- Some subjects or units were not assessed
- No subjects or units were assessed

## RE-ENROLMENT AT THE SAME UNIVERSITY IN FIRST SEMESTER 2005

**32.** Did you re-enrol at the same university in first semester 2005?

- Yes, in the same course or program  
▶ **Go to question 49**
- Yes, in a different course or program  
▶ **Go to question 49**
- No ▶ **Go to question 33**

**33.** Were you granted intermission, deferment or leave of absence from the course or program you were studying in first semester 2004?

- No, and I do not intend to re-enrol
- No, but I hope to re-enrol later
- Yes, and I re-enrolled in second semester 2005
- Yes, and I intend to re-enrol later
- Yes, but I do not intend to re-enrol

**34.** When did you decide to discontinue the study you began in first semester 2004?

- When I got a better course offer
- When I got my mid-year results
- When I got my end-of-year results
- Other

**35.** In which month did you decide to discontinue your 2004 study?

- Before March 2004
- March – April 2004
- May – June 2004
- July 2004
- August 2004
- September 2004
- October 2004
- November 2004 or later

## YOUR DECISION TO DISCONTINUE YOUR FIRST SEMESTER 2004 STUDY

**36.** How much was your decision to discontinue the study you were doing in first semester 2004 influenced by each of the reasons below?

(Mark one oval in each row)

	No influence	A little influence	Moderate influence	Large influence
<b>Academic reasons</b>				
1. I didn't feel adequately prepared	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. I felt that I couldn't cope with the work as well as the other students could	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. The work was harder than I expected	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. There was too much work	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. I needed a break from study	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>University-related reasons</b>				
6. I felt that I didn't fit in at university	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. The university was not prestigious enough	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. I wanted to study somewhere else	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. I always intended to move to another university	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. I felt I was not treated fairly at university	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11. I felt lonely, isolated or unwelcome	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Course or program related reasons</b>				
12. I couldn't study the subjects I wanted	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
13. The course or program didn't challenge me enough	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
14. I didn't like the way the course or program was taught	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
15. The subjects weren't as interesting as I expected	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
16. The course or program timetable didn't suit me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
17. The assessment methods were too inflexible	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
18. The course or program wasn't what I expected	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
19. The course or program was too theoretical	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
20. The course or program was too practical	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
21. I had trouble finding out things I needed to know	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
22. I didn't get enough help from academic staff	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
23. I discovered that the course or program would not help me to achieve my career goals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**YOUR DECISION TO DISCONTINUE YOUR FIRST SEMESTER 2004 STUDY – Continued**

**36.** How much was your decision to discontinue the study you were doing in first semester 2004 influenced by each of the reasons below? – *continued*

(Mark one oval in each row)

	No influence	A little influence	Moderate influence	Large influence
<b>Resources, facilities and support</b>				
24. I had trouble getting the study resources I needed	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
25. The childcare I needed wasn't available	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
26. I did not have a computer at home	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
27. My computer couldn't support the course software	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
28. I couldn't get access to computers at university	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
29. I needed help and didn't know who to ask	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
30. I couldn't get the disability support I needed	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
31. I had difficulties with physical access	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
32. I couldn't get or use study leave from my employer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
33. I couldn't find suitable accommodation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Work-related reasons</b>				
34. It was difficult to balance study and work commitments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
35. I was offered a good job	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
36. My employer offered me more hours of work	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
37. My study clashed with my part-time work commitments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
38. My study clashed with my full-time work commitments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
39. My job was transferred to a new location	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Changing priorities</b>				
40. I found something I'd like to do better	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
41. I found a better path to my career goals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
42. I changed my career goals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
43. I was offered a place in a course I preferred	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Social reasons</b>				
44. My friends wanted me to do something else	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
45. My friends were at another university	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
46. I had trouble making friends	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
47. I felt different from the other students	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
48. My friends are not studying at university	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
49. I felt unsafe or insecure in the university environment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Financial reasons</b>				
50. I couldn't afford the childcare I needed	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
51. I couldn't afford the study materials I needed (e.g. books)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
52. I couldn't afford the travel costs to university	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
53. I couldn't afford the fees I had to pay upfront	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
54. I couldn't get government income support (e.g. Youth Allowance, Austudy, ABSTUDY)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
55. I couldn't afford accommodation near the university	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
56. My family could not afford to support me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Health-related reasons</b>				
57. Illness – my own	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
58. Illness or death – family member or friend	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
59. I felt stressed and anxious about my study	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Family-related reasons</b>				
60. My study clashed with my family commitments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
61. No one in my family has studied at university	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
62. My family wanted me to do something else	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
63. Family members study/studied at a different university	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
64. I moved with my family to another location	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**YOUR DECISION TO DISCONTINUE YOUR FIRST SEMESTER 2004 STUDY – Continued**

**37.** Did you discuss your decision to discontinue your study with anyone?

- Yes ▶ *Go to question 38*
- No ▶ *Go to question 39*

**38.** Who did you discuss your decision to discontinue with and what was their influence?

*(Mark one or two ovals in each row)*

	<i>No, did not discuss it</i>	<i>Yes, did discuss it</i>	<i>No influence at all</i>	<i>A little influence</i>	<i>Moderate influence</i>	<i>A lot of influence</i>
1. A university course or program advisor	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Family members	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. University lecturers, teachers or tutors	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Other university staff	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. A careers advisor	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. A counsellor	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. Friends	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. Other students	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. Secondary school teachers	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. Other – <i>please specify</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 300px;"></div>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**39.** Did you formally withdraw from the university?

- Yes ▶ *Go to question 40*
- No, *just stopped attending* ▶ *Go to question 41*

**40.** Did you attend a withdrawal interview with the university?

- Yes
- No – *I wasn't asked*
- No – *but I was asked*

**OUTCOMES OF YOUR STUDY IN FIRST SEMESTER 2004**

**41.** My study in first semester 2004 helped me to:

*(Mark one oval in each row)*

	<i>Not applicable</i>	<i>Not at all</i>	<i>A little</i>	<i>A moderate amount</i>	<i>A lot</i>
1. Prepare for further study	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Clarify my career objectives	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Clarify my study objectives	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Obtain a job	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Keep a job	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. Obtain a promotion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. Make friends	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. Find a purpose in life	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**42.** Looking back, do you think of the study you did in first semester 2004 as:

- Mostly positive
- Mixed
- Mostly negative
- Don't know

## WHAT YOU WERE DOING IN APRIL 2005

43. In April 2005 I was:
- not studying ▶ *Go to question 47*
  - studying at another university
  - studying at TAFE
  - studying elsewhere

44. I was studying:
- the same or a similar course or program
  - a different course or program

45. Did your study in first semester 2004 help you to gain admission to the course or program you were studying in April 2005?
- Yes
  - No

46. Was your first semester 2004 study credited towards the qualification for which you were studying in April 2005?
- Yes – all of it
  - Yes – some of it
  - No

47. In April 2005 I was:
- Not employed and not looking for work ▶ *Go to question 49*
  - Not employed but looking for work ▶ *Go to question 49*
  - Employed (or self-employed) in a paid job
  - Employed in an unpaid job

48. On average about how many hours per week did you spend on this work?
- hours per week

## YOUR PERSONAL & FAMILY BACKGROUND

49. Sex:  Male  Female

50. Date of birth:     19

51. Are you of Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent?
- No
  - Aboriginal
  - Torres Strait Islander
  - Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander

52. Were you living in Australia when you were 15 years old?
- No ▶ *Go to question 54*
  - Yes ▶ *Go to question 53*

53. What was the postcode of your home address when you were 15 years old? (*not a post office box, but a suburb, town or other location*)
- 
- postcode

54. If you were not born in Australia, in what year did you first arrive in Australia?
- 

55. When you were 15 years-old, was English the main language spoken in your home?
- Yes, the only language
  - Yes, the main language
  - No, but spoken frequently
  - No, rarely or never used

56. Formal educational attainments (*Mark as many ovals in each column as you need to*)

Your own	Your mother's	Your father's	
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	None
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Some/completed primary school
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Incomplete secondary school
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Highest level of secondary school
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	No post school qualification
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	A university degree <i>or higher</i>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	A diploma or its equivalent
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	A trade or apprenticeship qual.
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	A vocational certificate
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Another qualification
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Don't know

57. Country or region of birth (*Mark one oval in each column*)

Your own	Your mother's	Your father's	
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Australia
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	UK or Ireland
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	New Zealand
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Europe
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Middle East
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Asia
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Africa
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	North America
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	South America
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Pacific Islands
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Don't know
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Other – <i>please specify</i>

**YOUR PERSONAL & FAMILY BACKGROUND – continued**

**58.** Are you the first person in your immediate family (parents, guardian, brothers, sisters) to attend university?

- Yes
- No

**59.** What type of secondary school did you last attend?

- Government public school in Australia
- Govt. selective school in Australia
- Catholic school in Australia
- Private school in Australia
- An overseas school
- Other

**60.** Do you have any financially dependent children living with you?

- No ▶ **Go to question 61**
- Yes  
– How many?

**61.** Are you the *main* carer for someone who is dependent on you?

(Mark as many ovals as you need to)

- Yes, child/ren under school age
- Yes, child/ren at primary school
- Yes, child/ren at secondary school
- Yes, child/ren no longer at school
- Yes, a sick or vulnerable friend or relative
- Yes, a person with a disability
- Yes, other
- No

**62.** Do you have a disability, impairment or long-term medical condition that may affect your study?

(Mark as many ovals as you need to)

- No
- Yes – hearing
- Yes – learning
- Yes – mobility
- Yes – vision
- Yes – medical
- Yes – mental health
- Yes – other

**63.** When you were about 15 years old what work did your parents or guardian do?

(Mark one oval in each column)

Your mother	Your father	Your guardian	
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Manager or administrator. <i>e.g. general manager, marketing, farm or IT manager.</i>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Professional. <i>e.g. teacher, registered nurse, accountant, doctor, lawyer, scientist, musician.</i>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Technician or associate professional. <i>e.g. medical or scientific technical officer, building or engineering technician, financial advisor, office manager, supervisors, police, paramedic.</i>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Tradesperson. <i>e.g. qualified carpenter, metal worker, mechanic, plumber, hairdresser, electrician, chef, printer, jeweller, cabinet maker, fire fighter.</i>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Advanced clerical or service worker. <i>e.g. secretary, accounting clerk, insurance agent, desktop publishing operator.</i>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Intermediate clerical or sales. <i>e.g. general clerk, keyboard operator, receptionist, travel agent.</i>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Intermediate production or transport. <i>e.g. machine operator, driver, backhoe operator.</i>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Elementary clerical, sales or service. <i>e.g. filing clerk, switchboard operator, call centre worker, sales assistant, checkout operator, service station attendant, security officer, caretaker.</i>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Labourer or related worker. <i>e.g. cleaner, factory labourer, hand packer, trades assistant, railway labourer, garbage collector, kitchen or farm hand.</i>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Full-time home duties.
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Unemployed.
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Retired.
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Not working (other than retired or unemployed).
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Deceased.
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Don't know / not applicable.

**JUST A FEW FINAL QUESTIONS...**

**64.** If you enrolled in 2005 in the same *course or program* and *university* as you did in first semester 2004:  
▶ *Go to the end of the questionnaire*

**65.** Complete this sentence:  
*I would have remained in the course and university in which I enrolled in first semester 2004 if...*


**66.** If you changed to a different course or program, please briefly explain why:


**67.** Please briefly explain any other reasons that influenced you to discontinue your first semester study in 2004:


**THE END**

**68.** Thanks very much for your time

Please place your questionnaire in the envelope provided and return it to:

Michael Long  
Centre for the Economics of Education and Training  
C/- Pearson Assessments and Testing  
Reply Paid 1211  
EASTERN MC VIC 3110

Information on the availability of the report of this survey (expected in mid 2006) will be provided on CEET's website  
[www.education.monash.edu.au/centres/ceet](http://www.education.monash.edu.au/centres/ceet)