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ABSTRACT

Using official records and two sample surveys, this longitudinal study analyzed patterns of attendance and persistence among University of Minnesota General Extension Division evening class (EC) students. They tended to be young (under 30), male, and married. Roughly half each year were new to the university as well as to the evening classes. About 35% of the EC students registered only once; and 31% for two quarters or a year. The rest attended intermittently. Those with day and evening classes registered more persistently and intermittently over the years than "EC only" students. More than 72% of all EC students had had some college; over 27% held degrees (mainly from the University of Minnesota). Degree holders included 13% with baccalaureates and 14% with graduate degrees or some graduate work. Most EC students (70-75%) either attended evening classes only, or combined day and evening study to gain a degree and/or certificate. Relatively few pursued combinations involving summer sessions or independent study. (LY)

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
GENERAL EXTENSION DIVISION  
EVENING AND SPECIAL CLASSES



# PATTERNS OF STUDENT ATTENDANCE

1964 - 65 --- 1967 - 68

Research Report Number Four  
Part One

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Spring, 1970

## FOREWARD

Although many thousands of Minnesota citizens (30,496 in 1968-69) register in General Extension Division Evening Classes every year, there is no routinely available information about persistence of registration patterns or about the enrollment overlap between Day School and Evening Class programs. The description in the following pages reveals that approximately half of Evening Class students are new to the University and new to Evening Classes every year. Although about half of Evening Class students also have some Day School registrations, patterns of persistence in Evening Class registrations are not homogeneous either among the students with Day School histories or among the Evening Class only students. Students with Day School histories more persistently register in intermittent patterns over a number of years.

The following is the first of a series of papers about the General Extension Division Evening Class Program at the University of Minnesota. All of the findings in these papers have relevance to the evaluation of the relationship of Evening Classes to the total University program and are essential to rational decisions about the future of Evening Class programs within the University.

Acknowledgement and appreciation is given to Willard L. Thompson, Dean of General Extension Division and Summer Session at the University of Minnesota, for his support of the research program from which these papers have been drawn. The Extension organization at the University of Minnesota with a Department of Research is unique among the major Universities in the country.

Clara Kanun

More than any other University of Minnesota program, the General Extension Division Evening Classes provide the open door to the University for thousands of students every year (predicted 1969-70 enrollment will be 33,000). Approximately half of the students registering in Evening Classes have their first and only contact with University classes through this program. For this group, registration in the Evening and Special Class program is literally an extending of the University opportunity and not just a provision of a continuation or repetition of an earlier experience. For the other half, the Evening Class registration provides a second or supplementary chance to complete a degree or para-professional certificate program.

With approximately half the Evening Class registrants new to this program and to the University each year, and with the addition of new participants in the many other General Extension Division programs, the number of Minnesota residents who know the University through the General Extension Division are equal to or greater than the new and continuing registrants in the traditionally identified degree and professional programs of the Day School.

This first in the 1970 series of papers on the Evening and Special Classes program at the University of Minnesota describes the patterns of attendance and patterns of mobility of Evening Class students among the registration units of the University for a four-year period -- 1964-68.

SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS: Patterns of attendance and registration within Evening Classes are not homogeneous. Slightly more than one-third (35.04%) of the students register only once. A second group (30.64%) register for two quarters or one year; and the remaining one-third continue intermittent

registration patterns over many years.

For many thousands of students each year (approximately one-half of the total), the Evening Class registration is the first and only contact with the University. For the other half, registrations in the Day School in combination with Evening Classes is the pattern. Among the latter half are substantial numbers of students who register in Summer Session as well as academic year classes and a smaller group who combine Evening Class registration with Summer Session only registration.

Descriptions of patterns of registration in Evening Classes can be classified as terminal for a single registration; sequential for two or more registrations; or intermittent and persistent over a number of years. Day and Evening students are somewhat more persistent in attendance than Evening Only students when proportions of all students are compared. Among the Evening Class students who register only once are the 20.53% Evening Only and 14.51% Day and Evening. Larger proportions of the Day and Evening students persistently register in intermittent patterns over a number of years when compared with registrations of Evening Only students.

The responses of all 1965-66 Evening Class students reveal that the educational background is very high. More than 72% have some college background; more than 27% hold college degrees. The degree holders include 13% with a bachelor's degree and 14% who hold graduate degrees or have completed some graduate work.

Most Evening Class degree holders have earned the degrees at the University of Minnesota. Among students in the sample group, 22.34% hold University of Minnesota degrees. Although the largest proportion of the University of Minnesota degrees were awarded during the 1954-64 decade, 6.43% of the sample population earned their University of Minnesota degrees after 1964-65 Evening registration.

The majority of Evening Class students is young, more than two-thirds are 30 years or younger. Two-thirds are male; one-third female. More than half are married; less than half are single; small proportions are divorced or widowed.

SOURCES OF THE DATA: Evening Class student records have been maintained by the Office of Admissions and Records of the University, although neither the current nor historical records have been integrated into the University automated data processing system. Therefore, a series of studies have been undertaken to develop a more detailed description of the students' registration, interest and achievement patterns.

The data have been drawn from four sources: (1) a survey of the 1965-66 Evening Class students; (2) a sample study of the 1964-65 Evening Class students selected on a random basis from an alphabetized file of all the registrants during that year; (3) a follow-up search of sample study student records in all registration files of the University at the end of the 1967-68 year; (4) a mail survey in 1968-69 of the cases in the 1964-65 sample study.

In addition to providing a variety of information about Evening Class students, the several bodies of data supply verification of the descriptive materials reported.

EVENING CLASS CALENDAR AND COURSES: There are no residence or entrance requirements for admission into the courses of the Evening and Special Class programs, although credits earned in Evening Class degree credit courses carry



residence credit towards degree programs of the University. Students may begin work in Evening Classes toward degrees in all the areas in which the University awards degrees and may complete work for the baccalaureate degrees in the College of Liberal Arts and the School of Business Administration.

Evening Classes are scheduled on the quarter basis identical with the Day School calendar and also on a two-semester basis within each academic year. There are four regularly scheduled academic year registration periods and special registration periods are set for Summer Evening Classes and special term courses throughout the year. Some courses are offered on the quarter and semester basis and other courses on either schedule. It is, therefore, possible for a student to be registered in an Evening quarter and a semester and also concurrently registered in Day School.

Evening Classes in the General Extension Division are offered on a seven-week semester basis in the fall and spring of each year and also on an eleven-week quarter basis which parallels the day school Fall, Winter and Spring Quarters. (It should be noted that the number of hours spent in the classroom in each term is approximately the same for a three-credit course: for the quarter, two and one-half hours or three 50-minute class hours once a week for eleven weeks; for the semester, one hour and 40 minutes or two 50-minute class hours once a week for seventeen weeks). In order to accommodate registration processes to this calendar organization, four registration periods are routinely set during the year. Registration for special classes and programs occurs in the interim periods.

More than 750 degree credit courses, drawn from the Day School curriculum, are currently offered by Evening Classes. In addition, the program includes certificate credit and "no" credit courses. For example, in the 1967-68 year, a total of 1713 classes were offered in discrete as well as multiple sections. Certificate credit and degree credit courses carry similar standards and requirements, but certificate credit courses do not carry degree credit because there are no parallel courses in the Day School curriculum. "No" credit courses include graduate language courses, recreation courses, preparatory English and mathematics courses, and special discussion groups in response to particular interests and needs of various groups of students.

In addition to the degree programs, twenty-one certificate programs in liberal arts, business administration, engineering science (for engineer technicians) and a variety of other fields can be completed in Evening Classes. Certificate programs consist of degree credit classes or a combination of degree and certificate credit classes.

Approximately 75% of the Evening Class faculty are regular University of Minnesota faculty. The remaining faculty are drawn from area colleges and from business and industry.

Classes are routinely scheduled on the Minneapolis Campus, the St. Paul Extension Center, the MacPhail Extension Center (new since 1966), Duluth Campus and Extension Center and several suburban centers. Special courses are scheduled in a variety of locations. Approximately 70% of students attend classes on the Minneapolis Campus; approximately 7% at the St. Paul Extension Center and 7% at the Duluth locations, and the remaining 16% at the suburban centers and other special locations.



**PATTERNS AND ORDER OF REGISTRATION:** Based on the numbers of registrations in recent years, it can be predicted that more than 33,000 students will register in Evening Classes during the current academic year and summer. Since the data contained in the following pages is presented in proportions because materials are drawn from a variety of sources and are most easily compared in this form, it is important to note the actual and substantial numbers of students involved in each of the years covered in this paper. For a more detailed view of trend, the enrollment for 1968-69 is also shown.

The unduplicated<sup>1</sup> enrollment in Evening Classes for a five-year period, 1964 through 1969, is shown in Table 1. During this period the enrollment increased from 23,368 in 1964-65 to 30,496 in 1968-69, an increase of 27.7%.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Enrollment</b>	<b>% Increase</b>
1964-65	23,868	
1965-66	24,603	3.07
1966-67	26,795	8.99
1967-68	28,522	6.44
1968-69	30,496	6.47

**\*From Table IVA, President's Biennial Report**

1. In the unduplicated enrollment a student is counted only once whether he registered once or more than once in any academic year.

**PATTERNS OF REGISTRATION:** Approximately half of the Evening Class students in any recent year (and specifically in the period covered by this study) had their first and only contact with University classes through this program. More than half of the students entered University programs by first registering in Evening Classes. It is possible to enter University class programs in four ways: through registration in Day Classes, Summer Session, Evening Classes and Independent Study.<sup>2</sup>

The order of registration in University programs was recorded from the sample 1964-65 Evening Class students, and this order is shown in Table II.

<b>Program</b>	<b>First Registration</b>	<b>Second Registration</b>	<b>Third Registration</b>	<b>Fourth Registration</b>
<b>Evening Classes</b>	<b>58.70%</b>	<b>26.71%</b>	<b>13.27%</b>	<b>0.90%</b>
<b>Day School</b>	<b>34.51%</b>	<b>5.89%</b>	<b>1.37%</b>	<b>0.17%</b>
<b>Summer Session</b>	<b>5.00%</b>	<b>12.12%</b>	<b>3.50%</b>	<b>0.43%</b>
<b>Independent Study</b>	<b>1.79%</b>	<b>2.86%</b>	<b>1.45%</b>	<b>0.94%</b>
<b>Did not attend</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>52.43%</b>	<b>80.42%</b>	<b>97.57%</b>

**2. Formerly Independent Study was known as Correspondence Study.**

Registrations in each of the units was counted only once whether a student registered once or in a sequential or intermittent pattern. For example, if a student registered first in Evening Classes, this registration was counted once in the 58.70% shown for the Evening Class category under the column headed "First Registration." If his second registration was in Day Classes, this would be counted once in the 5.89% shown under the column headed "Second Registration" in the Day Classes category.

The Summer Session attendance was recorded independently from the academic year Day Classes because of a variety of other studies in process. As the data will show, such separation of University units yielded some discriminating descriptions of student histories. All the percentages in Table II refer to first registration entry into the University, but the common condition for all students covered in this table is Evening Class registration during the 1964-65 year.

From Table II, the proportions of registration in each of the four units can be read under the respective headings of order of attendance, that is, from the first to the fourth unit of registration within the University. For example, under the heading "First" the proportion of 58.70% represents Evening Class students (the majority) who have their first registration within the University in Evening Classes. Approximately one-third (34.52%) of Evening Class students have their first registration in Day Classes; 5.00% have first registration in Summer Session, and 1.79% first registered in Independent Study.

Under the heading "Second", the second University registration of 1964-65 Evening Class students is shown. The common characteristic of all students in this sample was 1964-65 Evening Class registration. Therefore, for 52.43% of the

students shown under the "Second Registration" column as "Did not attend", the Evening Class registration was the only University experience. Evening Classes was the second University registration for 26.71% of the students; Summer Session the second registration for 12.12%; Day Classes the second registration for 5.89%; and Independent Study the second registration for 2.86%.

In view of the patterns of first and second registrations, the proportions of 80.42% who had no third University registration experience; and 97.57% who had no fourth registration experience are consistent. Evening Class registration was the third University experience for 13.27% of the 1964-65 Evening Class students; Day School the third registration for 1.37%; Summer Session the third registration for 3.50%; and Independent Study the third registration for 1.45%. Less than 3% of the 1964-65 Evening Class students had a fourth University of Minnesota registration.

THE SAMPLE STUDY FOLLOW-UP: The first follow-up of the 1964-65 study was made four years later, at the end of the 1967-68 academic year. All possible records of student University registration were reviewed -- the Day School, including Summer Session, the Evening and Special Classes, and the Independent Study. This three-way search was necessary, because records of Evening Class and Independent Study registrations are only added to Day School transcripts at the specific request of the student. The original 1964-65 sample, a 10% sample, included 2,344 cases. By the end of the 1967-68 academic year 21 cases were dropped from the study because files of students were out of the routine filing positions.

Unless transfer records were recorded on student transcripts, no information about educational experiences at institutions other than the University of Minnesota is available in this phase of the study.

COMBINATION OF UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA REGISTRATIONS: Students may register in the several units of the University in a variety of sequences and combinations of units. There are no entrance requirements in Evening Classes or Independent Study. In addition to registration patterns described in the preceding sections, observation of combinations of units of registration adds information about the role of the Evening Class program. Such a comparison of the registrations recorded through 1964-65 with the added registrations accumulated over a four-year period (1964-65 to 1967-68) for a sample of Evening Class students is shown in Table III.

(See Table III, next page)

**TABLE III:**  
**PATTERNS OF COMBINATION OF ATTENDANCE**  
**UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA**  
**SHOWING SHIFT OF PATTERNS FROM 1964-65 --- 1967-68**

<b>Registration Unit Combinations</b>	<b>1964-65 Proportions</b>	<b>1967-68 Proportions</b>
<b>Evening Classes</b>	<b>52.43%</b>	<b>46.93%</b>
<b>Evening and Independent Study</b>	<b>2.43%</b>	<b>2.79%</b>
<b>Evening and Day</b>	<b>22.70%</b>	<b>23.03%</b>
<b>Evening, Day and Summer Session</b>	<b>13.82%</b>	<b>16.51%</b>
<b>Evening and Summer Session</b>	<b>3.24%</b>	<b>3.74%</b>
<b>Evening, Independent Study, Day and Summer Session</b>	<b>2.69%</b>	<b>3.73%</b>
<b>Evening, Day, and Independent Study</b>	<b>2.22%</b>	<b>3.27%</b>

Inspection of Table III reveals two groups of Evening Class students: an Evening Class or General Extension Division only half (including some registration with Independent Study) and the second group or other half which combines Day School with Evening Classes in pursuit of degree and/or certificate goals. The first group included 52.43% who registered in Evening Classes only through 1964-65; by 1967-68, this proportion was reduced to 46.93%. The students shifting from this category within the four-year period added Summer



Session and Independent Study registrations to their records. These latter units are consistent with academic year or other full time employment commitments which prohibit participation in Day School programs. The largest proportion increase was in the category of Evening Classes, Day and Summer Session-- from 13.82% in 1964-65 to 16.51% in 1967-68. Each of the categories combining "Evening with Day and Independent Study" and "Evening with Day, Summer Session and Independent Study" increased slightly more than one per cent over the four-year period.

TIME SPAN AND TYPE OF REGISTRATION: Within a typical academic year, one-third of Evening Class students register more than once; two-thirds register only once. For instance, in 1964-65, 32.39% of a sample of students registered more than once; 67.61% registered only once.

It is possible for a student to be in continuous or intermittent attendance in Evening Classes. Occasionally, it is more efficient for a student to process application for a degree or certificate through Evening Classes although not registered for courses. In the 1964-65 sample, 11 students fall into this group as shown in the following table. The sequence and the period of time over which registrations occur are important items of information, particularly relevant to decisions about programming and rotation of courses. Description of the time span related to the type of registration is the subject of this section as shown in Table IV.

(See Table IV, next page)

TABLE IV: TIME SPAN WITH TYPE OF ATTENDANCE

Type of Attendance: Terminal	Sequential	Missed One Term	Missed Two Terms	Missed Four to Nine Terms	Missed More Than Nine Terms	Degree/Certificate Only	Row Proportions
Time Span							
One quarter or semester	--	--	--	--	--	--	35.04%
Two quarters	5.17%	5.51%	2.93%	3.44%	1.38%	--	18.42%
Three quarters or two semesters (one yr)	2.58%	2.45%	2.11%	3.36%	1.72%	--	12.22%
From one to two years	1.33%	1.85%	4.77%	6.04%	4.74%	--	18.74%
From two to four years	0.39%	0.60%	1.55%	4.39%	4.05%	--	10.98%
From four to six years	0.13%	0.09%	0.13%	0.95%	1.58%	--	2.88%
From six to ten years	0.04%	0.09%	0.09%	0.34%	0.64%	--	1.20%
More than ten years	--	--	--	--	0.04%	--	0.04%
Degree/certificate Only	--	--	--	--	--	0.47%	0.47%
Column Proportions	9.64%	10.59%	11.58%	18.51%	14.16%	0.47%	

The sequence of registrations is described in the categories running across the top of Table IV. The category "Terminal" indicates a single registration. The category "Sequential" indicates two or more consecutive registrations. To illustrate the application of the remaining categories, for example, if a student missed one registration, he may have registered in two registration periods or he may have registered any number of times more than two, but he would have been counted in the column headed "Missed One Registration."

The type of registration is described in the categories listed at the left of Table IV. Reading from top to bottom, the category "One Quarter or Semester" is the same as "Terminal" describing the sequence of registrations. The second category, "Two Quarters," can mean two sequential registrations but can also include any two quarter registration with one or more missed intervening registration periods. The third category, "Three Quarters or Two Semesters," covers a one-year time span which may have occurred in sequential registrations or many variations of missed registration periods. The remaining categories listed in the left margin of Table IV categorize registration patterns in the equivalent of number of years of registration.

For a summary of the sequence of registrations, the proportions shown as column proportions running across the bottom of Table IV should be read. For example, these proportions show that 35.04% of the 1964-65 sample of Evening students register once only or for a terminal registration; 9.64% register in a sequential pattern consisting of two or more consecutive registrations. Similarly, the remaining proportions: 10.59% "Missed One Registration;" 11.58% "Missed Two Registration;" include students who registered two or more times with

the specified missed number of intervening registration periods in each case.

The summary of "Time Span" over which registrations occur can be read from the proportions listed under "Row Proportions" at the right of Table IV. The proportion of 35.04%, registering for one quarter or semester is identical with the proportion of students for whom a terminal registration was recorded. More than eighteen (18.42%) per cent of the students registered for two quarters and 12.22% for three quarters or two semesters. Combination of these three proportions shows that 65.68% of the 1964-65 sample of Evening Class students registered for one year or less, a pattern of transiency for the majority of students.

Each of the cells in Table IV can be read for more detailed observation of patterns of attendance in Evening Classes. For example, 5.17% of 1964-65 Evening Class students have registered sequentially for two quarters. Reading the remaining cells in the row titled "Two Quarters": 5.51% registered for two quarters and missed one registration period; 2.93% registered for two quarters and missed two registration periods and similarly for the remaining cells.

The generalizations to be drawn from Table IV are; The largest group, of Evening Class students, (35.04%) register only once in Evening Classes. Intermittent but persistent patterns of attendance are characteristic of large proportions of students. For example, almost one-third (18.51% plus 14.16%) register intermittently for two or more registrations over periods covering more than three to more than ten years. Since the current Evening Class population will include approximately 33,000 students, the potential and need for a substantial and varied Evening Class program is very great.

**Evening Class students are almost equally divided into an Evening Class Only group and a Day and Evening Class group as described in the preceding pages. There is no homogeneous pattern of attendance among Evening Class students as a whole nor within either of the groups as the comparison shown in Table V reveals.**

**(See Table V, next page)**

<b>Type of Attendance</b>	<b>Evening Only Proportions</b>	<b>Evening and Day Proportions</b>	<b>Total Sample</b>
<b>Terminal (One registration)</b>	<b>20.53%</b>	<b>14.51%</b>	<b>35.04%</b>
<b>Sequential</b>	<b>4.70%</b>	<b>4.94%</b>	<b>9.64%</b>
<b>Missed one registration period</b>	<b>5.38%</b>	<b>5.21%</b>	<b>10.59%</b>
<b>Missed one year</b>	<b>5.42%</b>	<b>6.16%</b>	<b>11.58%</b>
<b>Missed more than one year</b>	<b>7.96%</b>	<b>10.55%</b>	<b>18.51%</b>
<b>Missed more than three years</b>	<b>5.94%</b>	<b>8.22%</b>	<b>14.16%</b>
<b>Degree/certificate courses</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>0.47%</b>	<b>0.47%</b>



The proportions of the students in the 1964-65 Evening Sample in the respective type of attendance categories for each of the groups -- Evening Class Only and Evening and Day Classes are shown in Table V. More than one-third (35.04%) of Evening Class students register only once, that is for a terminal registration. When this group is sorted into Evening Only and Day and Evening groups, a larger proportion, 20.53%, who are Evening Only compared with 14.51% who are Day and Evening register terminally. Similar proportions are shown for each group in sequential patterns: 4.70% for Evening Only and 4.94% for Day and Evening. In the more persistent and intermittent patterns over a number of years the Day and Evening Students recorded larger proportions, 10.55% registering intermittently after more than one year lapse of time and 8.22% after more than three years lapse of time compared with the respective proportions of 7.96% and 5.94% for the Evening Only group.

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND AND DEGREES EARNED:** There are no routine records of educational background or attainment and no basis for presumptions about these matters for Evening Class students. Records of students with University of Minnesota Day School attendance are available showing educational background or degrees earned. Information about educational histories based on experiences at other institutions must be obtained from student reports. Both sources have been used for the following description of student educational background and attainment.

Approximately 50% of Evening Class students also have University of Minnesota Day School attendance records. More than forty-six (46.17%) per cent indicate educational backgrounds at other universities or colleges. Specifically, attendance at schools other than the University of Minnesota is indicated by 1965-66 Evening Class students as follows:

Minnesota Colleges	20.98%
Out-of-State Colleges	22.74%
Both Minnesota and Out-of-State Colleges	2.45%

**TABLE VI:**  
**EDUCATION COMPLETED**  
**1965-66 EVENING CLASS STUDENTS**

<b>Less than High School</b>	<b>0.90%</b>
<b>High School</b>	<b>26.19%</b>
<b>One year College</b>	<b>14.13%</b>
<b>Two years College</b>	<b>16.40%</b>
<b>Three years College</b>	<b>13.62%</b>
<b>Bachelor's Degree</b>	<b>13.72%</b>
<b>Beyond Bachelor's- less than Master's</b>	<b>9.03%</b>
<b>Master's Degree</b>	<b>2.09%</b>
<b>Beyond Master's- less than Ph.D.</b>	<b>2.35%</b>
<b>Ph.D.</b>	<b>0.49%</b>
<b>Completed two year program</b>	<b>0.71%</b>
<b>No information</b>	<b>0.90%</b>

Educational background of the 1965-66 Evening Class students, shown in Table VI on the preceding page supports the generalization that participants in adult education programs have higher educational attainments than the population as a whole. Approximately 72% of the 1965-66 Evening Class students have had some college level educational experience. More than 27% hold degrees: 13.72% the bachelor's degree; 13.96% have completed work toward graduate degrees or attained graduate degrees.

The University of Minnesota is the degree awarding institution for most Evening Class students who hold degrees. Registration in Evening Classes is essential to the degree pursuits of many of these students as indicated in the comparison of degree status in 1964-65 and in 1967-68 of a sample of 1964-65 Evening Class students. The details are shown in Table VII.

(See Table VII, next page)

**TABLE VII:  
HIGHEST DEGREE EARNED AT  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
BY SAMPLE OF 1964-65 EVENING CLASS STUDENTS**

Degree	1964-65	1967-68
Associate in Arts	1.54%	2.50%*
Associate in Liberal Arts and Certificates in Science	0.55%	
Bachelor's Degree	9.81%	14.03%
Master's Degree	3.63%	4.13%
Medical Technology and Dental Hygiene	0.13%	0.13%
General Extension Division Certificates	0.21%	0.64%
Bachelor's in Education	--	0.17%
Ph.D. and Doctor's of Education	0.04%	0.69%
M.D. and Law	--	0.09%
No University of Minnesota Degree on Record	84.09%	77.62%

\* This proportion includes the first two categories.

In 1964-65, 15.91% of Evening Class students held degrees awarded by the University of Minnesota. By 1967-68, 22.38% of 1964-65 Evening Class students had earned degrees from the University of Minnesota. From Table VII, showing the proportions holding the respective degrees in each period, the increases from 1964-65 to 1967-68 can be noted.

The largest proportion of the University of Minnesota degrees held by 1964-65 students and described in Table VII were awarded before 1964-65. (Detail of dates of degree award not shown). Although most (11.02%) of the University of Minnesota degrees were earned during the 1954-64 decade, 0.94% of the students held degrees earned before 1944; 2.32% earned degrees in 1944-54. A number (1.46%) of students earned their degrees during the year in which the sample was drawn, 1964-65, and 6.63% after Spring Quarter, 1965.

Among the records of degrees or certificates awarded during 1964-65 are the 0.47% included among the Certificates of Science shown in Table VII. An example of this would be the student who drops out of the Institute of Technology having accumulated enough credits for a technology certificate, and finds it most convenient to process his application for this certificate through the Evening Class program.

**SOCIOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS:** Age and sex characteristics of Evening Class students are remarkably stable when two consecutive years are compared. The comparison of the 1964-65 sample with the 1965-66 total student group on age and sex is shown in Table VIII.

(See Table VIII, next page)

**TABLE VIII:  
SOCIOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS**

<b>Classification</b>		<b>1964-65 Sample Proportions</b>	<b>1965-66 Total Population Proportions</b>
<u><b>Sex</b></u>			
Male		62.81%	63.20%
Female		36.29%	36.00%
Unknown		0.90%	0.81%
<u><b>Age</b></u>			
Unknown		2.07%	1.40%
25 or Under		46.40%	51.06%
26-30		20.36%	18.72%
31-35		10.89%	10.93%
36-40		6.76%	6.65%
41-50		9.17%	8.18%
50 and Over		4.22%	3.06%
<u><b>Marital Status</b></u>			
Single		--	43.33%
Married		--	52.81%
Widowed		--	0.75%
Divorced		--	1.74%
No Answer		--	1.36%



In each group, approximately 63% of the students were male; 36% were female; less than one percent were not identified.

More than two-thirds of the Evening Class students are 30 years or younger. Specifically, 66.76% of the 1964-65 sample and 69.78% of the entire 1965-66 student body fall into this category. Somewhat higher proportions of the sample study group are in the categories of older age groups: 9.17% of the sample students compared with 8.18% of the 1965-66 group fall into the 41-50 age class; and 4.22% of the sample and 3.06% of the 1965-66 group fall in the 50 and over class.

There were no details on marital status on student records in the sample study. Among the 1965-66 students, 52.81% are married; 43.33% are single; relatively small proportions are widowed and divorced or gave no answer to this question.

The descriptive detail for students in the sample study is drawn from student records. The detail for the 1965-66 students is based on student responses to a questionnaire.

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