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#### **ABSTRACT**

To gather curriculum planning information, the Research, Planning and Development Division of Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC) conducts student surveys biennially. Responses of 579 MATC students enrolled in consumer and hospitality services division (CHSD) programs to the 1994 survey were compared with those of the 5,071 students constituting MATC's overall student population. Special attention was paid to students' reasons for attending MATC, educational background, major objectives for taking courses at MATC, and student status. Compared to the overall student population, the CHSD students were more likely to be female, have a lower average family income, have chosen MATC based on program rather than on schedule and/or cost, already have a vocational diploma/certificate, and be a full-time student. For both groups, the three biggest factors influencing their decision to attend MATC were the following: class schedule; printed mailed materials, and parents, relatives, and current/former MATC students. The following were among the study recommendations: (1) each program in the CHSD should be promoted to the entire MATC service area; (2) brochures/printed materials should reflect diversity of students and successful graduates; and (3) programs should address students' and industry's need for short-term programs providing skills facilitating employment. (The bibliography contains 11 references. Appended are key study findings and recommendations.) (MN)



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# COMPARISON OF RESPONSES ON THE 1994 BIENNIAL STUDENT SURVEY BY THE CONSUMER AND HOSPITALITY SERVICES DIVISION AND OVERALL STUDENTS OF THE MILWAUKEE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Research Methodology

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A practicum report presented to Programs for Higher

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January, 1995

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by

Marietta M. Advincula-Carpenter

January, 1995

The occupational programs in the Consumer and Hospitality Services Division (CHSD) have always been the target of close scrutiny by various administrators for the following reasons (a) small FTE, (b) low-paying jobs of graduates, and (c) programs with low employment rate. The problem is that the student surveys and some other statistical data from the RPDD have not been studied to compare CHSD students with the overall students of MATC in terms of (a) reason for attending MATC, (b) educational background, (c) major



objective(s) for taking courses at MATC, and (d) student status.

This study was based on the 20th biennial student survey at MATC. The purpose of the study was to compare the responses of the CHSD students with those of the overall MATC students to help establish the importance of the CHSD occupational programs as part of MATC's goal to serve its customers in the Milwaukee area.

The research question was "What are the differences in the responses between the CHSD and overall MATC students on selected questions?" Hence the research hypothesis was: based on responses on the selected questions from the student survey, the occupational and educational motivation of CHSD students are not different from the overall MATC students.

The percent responses of the CHSD and overall MATC students were compared using the z test, a 0.01 level of significance, and two-tailed region of rejection based on the  $\pm 2.58$  critical value of z.

The results of the study provided some data that seemed to demonstrate different characteristics and needs of students in the CHSD compared with the overall



students at MATC. However, further study of the survey should be done by other academic divisions to compare their students' response with the overall MATC students as well as a comparison of student responses from the various occupational divisions. Recommendations for implementation of some activities to market and plan occupational programs were included in the report.



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# Chapter 1

#### INTRODUCTION

The Research, Planning and Development Division (RPDD) of Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC) conducts student surveys every even year on the eighth week of the Spring semester. Some of the items on the questionnaire elicit responses that can be useful in making curricular decisions.

#### Nature of the Problem

The occupational programs in the Consumer and Hospitality Services Division (CHSD) (Appendix A) have always been the target of close scrutiny by various administrators for the following reasons (a) small FTE, (b) low-paying jobs of graduates, and (c) programs with low employment rate. The problem is that the student surveys and some other statistical data from the RPDD have not been studied to compare CHSD students with the overall students of MATC in terms of (a) reason for attending MATC, (b) educational background, (c) major objective(s) for taking courses at MATC, and (d) student status.

# Purpose of the Study

This study was based on the 20th biennial student survey at MATC. The purpose of the study was to



compare the responses of the CHSD students with those of the overall MATC students to help establish the importance of the CHSD occupational programs as MATC serves its customers in the Milwaukee area.

Significance to the institution

Programs in the CHSD have been considered as less important than other occupational programs because they are generally associated with home economics, traditionally female, and are viewed as less technical and usually generate low paying jobs. The Director of the RPDD observed in the various program evaluations within the CHSD he has completed, that the adviscry committees of the CHSD are very supportive of its occupational programs (personal communication, August 10, 1994). The comparison of CHSD students with the overall MATC students would help establish the status of the CHSD programs. The results of the study would also assist the CHSD administrators and faculty to design relevant programs as well as develop recruitment strategies.

Relationship to seminar

This practicum was directly related to the Research Methodology seminar in that statistical inference was used to determine if there was a



significant difference between the responses on the 1994 biennial student survey of the CHSD and overall MATC students on selected questions.

#### Research Question

The purpose of this study was to compare the responses of CHSD students with those of the overall MATC students on the student survey. The research question was "What are the differences in the responses between the CHSD and overall MATC students on selected questions?" Questions numbered 1 to 20 the questionnaire were selected for the purpose of this study (Appendix B).

## Research Hypothesis

Based on responses on the 20 questions from the student survey, the occupational and educational motivation of CHSD students are not significantly different from the overall MATC students.

#### Definition of Terms

The following definitions are provided to eliminate confusion and to provide a uniform operational definition of specific terms.

CHSD students. All students who marked their major area of study in the Consumer and Hospitality Services division and the Service Occupations. The



programs in these areas are shown in Appendix A.

<u>College transfer</u>. Courses taken from the Liberal Arts and Sciences division that will transfer to four-year colleges and universities.

College Transition. The developmental programs that help students develop or upgrade certain skills i.e., basic skills, adult high school, GED, English as a Second Language, and career exploration courses.

<u>Dependent variables</u>. Responses on the items of the 1994 biennial survey.

<u>Independent variables</u>. The CHSD associate degree and diploma occupational programs (Appendix A).

Overall students. All students who responded to the survey when it was administered in the Spring Semester of the academic year 1993-94.

1994 biernial student survey. The MATC Day and Evening School Student Questionnaire developed and administered by the Research, Planning and Development division every even year.

<u>Job out</u>. A student interrupting the completion of his/her occupational program to work in the industry given the skills acquired to date.



# Chapter 2

#### REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

#### Introduction

A review of literature show some studies somewhat related to the purpose of this study - to compare the responses on a student survey of a given student population enrolled in specific occupational programs to the overall student population of a college.

Armistead, Pendleton & Vogler (1987) show that graduates and leavers in occupational programs took more than the required general education in their programs. In a later study, Armistead et al. (1987) find that this pattern seems to take place even in a rural two-year community college.

In 1988, Hollenback studied some general decision making behaviors of students from public and non-profit institutions offering occupational programs. The study does not show correlation between the decision making behaviors and with the choice of occupational programs.

Earlier, in 1987, the Maryland Community Colleges 1986

Program Evaluation Report included data on student trends and characteristics which also does not show any comparison between groups of students and the overall students of the college. However, in 1990, Fadale



reports that students tend to enroll in colleges based on a positive college environment. A similar study in Connecticut (1990) shows that besides the increase of part-time students, more female are enrolled in the community colleges and less in the technical colleges.

Tien & Lin (1994) find that in Taiwan, the parental influence on educational choices and career aspirations of students is very important. The parents decide for their children to attend or not attend vocational schools. They suggest that because the concept of vocational education is associated with low social status, greater attention is needed to win the trust of parents in any occupational program promotions.

More recently, Thompson & Young (1990) show some relationship between enrollment objectives of students, satisfaction with programs among other indicators in his study. Similarly, Baldwin (1990) reports a survey at Miami-Dade Community college which correlates preprogram interests of students and the enrollment trend on each of the college's occupational programs.

The La Follete report on the growth of business services in Wisconsin by Nichols (1993) provide information that would influence students in making



occupational program choices. The report discuss the employment trends of various occupations including personal services where most of the occupational programs in the CHSD fit in. The inclusion of employment trends in promotional materials for each of the program in all probability, may assist students in making occupational program decisions.

#### Summary

Although it seems apparent that most studies are done on enrollment trends and demographic data of students, it seems significant to consider other factors that could influence decision making in occupational program promotions and planning. This study will provide some information that will identify some predictors for choosing programs included in the CHSD at MATC.



## Chapter 3

#### METHODOLOGY AND PROCEDURES

#### Procedures

The study was conducted using five procedures.

First, a further search of the literature was conducted to find studies on areas related to the research question and purpose of the study. Second, the research methodology was used to analyze and report the results of the study.

Third, a committee of experts was convened to review the report of the Dean of CHSD based on her analysis of the results of the survey. The Dean analyzed and used the results of the survey in setting realistic goals in her divisions's strategic planning activities to review, modify, expand, delete and develop programs and plan recruitment efforts. The report was based on significant difference(s) between the responses on the 1994 biennial student survey of the CHSD and overall MATC students on the 20 questions selected by the Dean of CHSD for the study. The report also included recommendations for divisional implementation.

The formative committee consisted of the Assistant Director of the Research, Planning and Development



division, and two Associate Deans from the CHSD (Appendix B). This committee reviewed the report of data analysis and the recommendations for divisional implementation. The recommendations included but were not be limited to the use of the results in program planning and student recruitment.

Fourth, the draft report and recommendations were reviewed by a summative committee to validate the recommendations for feasibility. This committee consisted of the Executive Vice President who is also the Chief Academic Officer (CAO) of MATC, the Director of RPDD, the Dean of Instructional Design and three faculty from the CHSD (Appendix C).

Fifth, the final recommendations were turned over to the Dean of CHSD for implementation and dissemination.

#### Data Collection

#### Description of Population and Sample

There were 5,071 students who responded to the 1994 biennial student survey conducted in the Spring semester of the academic year 1994-1995. Of those who responded, 579 indicated they were students of the Consumer and Hospitality Services and Service Occupation Programs. The 5,071 students made up the



population for the study and were also referred as the overall MATC students. The 579 students made up the sample of the study and were also referred as the CHSD students.

#### <u>Instrument</u>

The survey was conducted on the Wednesday of the eighth week of the Spring semester of the 1993-1994 academic year to all students attending classes scheduled at 10:00 a.m. of that day and at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday using the MATC Student Survey Questionnaire (questionnaire). The questionnaire was the same instrument used by MATC in the last 15 years. Except for some updates, the content of the instrument has remained the same over the years.

The student survey was conducted by the RPDD every even year on approximately the same time, day and week of the Spring Semester. The Director of the RPDD, claimed that the instrument has been tested for validity and reliability (personal communication, September 27, 1994). A copy of the instrument is found in Appendix D.

The overall student respondents served as the control group while the students who identified themselves in the Consumer and Hospitality Services and



Service Occupation program served as the experimental group for this study.

# Scoring and Data Presentation

The questionnaire consisted of 55 questions. For the purpose of this study, only the first 20 questions were used and analyzed. The responses were reported as percentages of responses.

# Data Analysis

## Null Hypotheses

The null hypotheses of the study was that there were no significant differences in the responses on the 1994 biennial student survey of CHS and overall students at MATC on the first 20 questions of the questionnaire as follows:

- What is your sex?
- 2. What is you age?
- 3. What is your present marital status?
- 4. How many dependent children do you have living with you?
- 5. Would you use child care services if it were available at or near the campus you attend (fees based upon costs)?
  - 6. What is your annual family income?



- 7. To which ethnic group do you belong?
- 8. Which <u>one</u> language do you usually speak at home?
  - 9. How many hours per week are you employed?
- 10. Have you experienced discrimination at MATC because of your race, religion, sex, ethnic background, or handicap?
- 11. Do you consider yourself to be physically handicapped?
- 12. Which <u>one</u> of the following best describes why you chose to attend MATC?
  - 13. Are you receiving student financial aid?
- 14. Which <u>one</u> of the following best describes how you most often get to MATC?
- 15. Which <u>one</u> of the following BEST describes your highest level of formal education?
- 16. Which <u>one</u> of the following MOST influenced you to attend MATC?
- 17. Which <u>one</u> of the following BEST describes your major objective for taking courses at MATC?
- 18. Which <u>one</u> of the following BEST describes the class you are in now?
- 19. In which instructional division is your major area of study?



20. Which one of the following describes you?

The details of the above questions are found in Appendix D. The remaining 35 questions, 21 to 55, are reported in Likert scale. These were opinion items responses and did not seem to effect program planning and marketing.

# Alternative Hypotheses

The alternate hypothesis was that there were differences in the responses between the two groups on the first 20 questions of the questionnaire as listed above.

#### Statistical Test

The null hypotheses was tested using the z test of a proportion or fraction, ratio or percentage that indicates the part of the population or sample having a particular trait of interest at the 0.01 level of significance. The z test provides a useful measurement for making comparisons between different sets of data such as percentiles which are measures of position useful for comparing different sets of data (Triola, 1989). The 0.01 level of significance was used because n = 0.00, and  $\pm 0.01$  level of rejection.



The population was the overall students of MATC and the sample was the Consumer and Hospitality Services and Service Occupation Program students. Based on the level of significance used, 0.01, the two-tailed region of rejection was  $\pm 2.58$ .

## Assumptions

For statistical purposes, it was assumed that the population provided responses that were statistically measurable. For this study it was further assumed that the formative and summative committees had the expertise to review and validate the report of the Dean of CHSD drawn from the results of the survey. The two committees made the recommendations to the Dean of CHSD for implementation. It was also assumed that similar studies have not been done.

#### Limitations

The results of this study were limited to the student population at MATC. The expert committee's recommendations were limited to the Consumer and Hospitality Services Division.



# Chapter 4

#### RESULTS

The literature was further searched for similar studies that would validate the study. There was an apparent dearth on information and data that related student survey with students' educational and occupational program choices in programs similar to those offered by the CHSD.

The Dean of the CHSD met with the Assistant
Director of RPDD, to discuss the results of the 1994
Student Survey her division prepared and presented to
the MATC Dean's Council. The CHSD Dean convinced the
Assistant Director of RPDD that further evaluation of
the data would provide information for more relevant
and targeted program planning and student recruitment.

Encouraged by the meeting with the Assistant

Direct r of RPDD, the Dean took the responses expressed as percent of responses of the overall MATC and CHSD students. A comparison was made using the z test given that the sample size was large. The result of the statistical test demonstrated some critical similarities and differences in the responses of the two groups that she felt could be used to plan programs and recruitment strategies.



The data, reported as percent responses of the population and sample was tested at the 0.01 level of significance. Since the hypothesis was nondirectional, the region of rejection was two tailed. Given that the critical value of z form the dividing point or points between the region where either the null hypotheses are rejected or accepted, it was determined that the area between zero and the critical values of z were found by distributing  $\alpha = 0.01$  equally between the two tails to 0.4950 area in each tail (0.5000 - 0.0050) which then gives a  $\pm 2.58$  critical value of z. Hence the rejection of the null hypotheses or acceptance of the alternate hypotheses were based on the computed values of z that fell within the critical region or beyond  $z = \pm 2.58$ .

Tables 1 to 9 show the computed values of z when the responses of the two groups were compared. It will be noted that the tables reflect the analyses of responses of the 20 questions from the survey.

The analyses of the responses on the 20 questions, Tables 1 to 9 seem to indicate no significant differences in the responses of the two groups in questions #2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, and 16. The test statistics showed sufficient evidence to warrant the acceptance of the claim that there are no



and CHSD students. Question #6 was not statistically tested and was reported as a mean difference of average income of the two groups and the difference in the average income. Question #19 served as an identifier question to sort students from the various academic divisions at MATC. Questions #1, 12, 15, 17, 18, and 20 revealed sufficient statistical significance in the responses in some items, of the two groups as shown in Tables 1 to 9, to warrant rejection of the claim that there are no differences in the responses between the overall MATC and CHSD students on some of the items in these question items.

Table 1 shows the various questions that address the demography of the two groups. Of the nineteen demographic items, only the gender item demonstrated a statistical significance. CHSD seems to show more female students. Except for the gender item, based on the computed values of z, evidences show that the null hypotheses on the other demographic items is acceptable while the null hypothesis on the gender item is rejected.



Table 1

Percent Responses from the Overall MATC and CHSD

Students: Demography

Ques	stion item	Overall	CHSD	Computed
				value of z
1.	Female	54.4	60.4	2.9177
2.	Male	45.6	39.6	-2.9177
3.	Mean Age	29.9	30.5	0.6
4.	Married	33.0	33.5	0.2585
5.	Never Married	53.0	54.2	0.5800
. 6.	No Dependent	•		
	Children	58.0	60.3	1.1211
7.	One or Two	30.0	27.9	-1.0883
8.	Three or More	12.0	11.8	-0.1682
9.	Would Use			
	Child Care	41.3	42.5	0.5784
10.	Mean Annual			
	Income	\$22,320	\$21,360	(\$960)
11.	African Am	19.1	21.9	1.7388
			( <u>table</u>	e continues)



Quest	tion item	Overall	CHSD	Computed value of z
12.	Am-Indian	1.4	0.9	-1.0074
13.	As-Pac Is	4.9	4.8	-0.0210
14.	Hispanic	4.9	3.8	-1.2109
15.	White	67.4	66.5	-0.4760
16.	Not employed	26.5	29.7	1.7519
17.	Mean weekly			
	hrs employed	32.0	32.5	0.5000
18.	Experienced			
	discrimination	13.0	16.2	2.2913
19.	Physically			
	Disabled	6.5	6.2	-0.2692

Note. Level of significance = 0.01, region of rejection = two-tailed, critical value =  $\pm 2.58$ 

Table 2 shows no significant difference between the two groups. While both groups show that English is the predominant language spoken at home, the calculated values of z show evidence to accept the null hypothesis.



Table 2

<u>Percent Responses from the Overall MATC and CHSD</u>

Students: Languages Spoken at Home

Ques	tion item	Overall	CHSD	Computed value of z
1.	African	0.5	0.2	-1.0788
2.	Asian	5.0	5.8	0.8684
3.	English	90.0	91.2	0.9299
4.	Spanish	2.0	1.7	-0.5248

Note. Level of significance = 0.01, region of rejection = two-tailed, critical value of  $z = \pm 2.58$ 

Table 3 shows that the CHSD students did not find time and cost as important reasons to choose MATC but considered program as an important reason to choose MATC compared to the overall students. Both groups seemed to consider location, program and financial aid availability as the important reasons to choose MATC. The computed values of z show evidences to accept the null hypotheses on the location, reputation, course and receipt of financial aid as reasons to choose MATC but



reject the null hypotheses on the time, cost and program as reasons to choose MATC.

Table 3

Percent Responses from the Overall MATC and CHSD

Students: Reasons for Choosing MATC

Ques	tion item	Overall	CHSD	Computed value of z
1.	Location	15.0	14.8	0.0329
2.	Time	5.4	2.8	-2.7678
3.	Cost	22.5	16.0	-3.7253
4.	Reputation	4.5	4.4	-0.0126
5.	Course .	16.1	19.0	1.9037
6.	Program	34.5	41.8	3.6993
7.	Received fin			
	aid	31.1	32.3	0.6320

Note. Level of significance = 0.01, region of rejection = two-tailed, critical value of  $z = \pm 2.58$ 

When asked how the students travelled to MATC, Table 4 shows no significant difference on the



responses of both groups. The result also shows that both groups seemed to predominantly travel by car. The computed values of z show evidences to accept the null hypotheses on this particular question.

Table 4

Percent responses from Overall MATC and CHSD

Students:Transportation

Question item	Overall	CHSD	Computed value of z
1. Auto	81.4	80.5	0.5748
2. Bus	14.9	15.7	0.5478
3. All Other	3.7	3.8	0.1515

Note. Level of significance = 0.01, region of rejection = two-tailed, critical value of  $\geq$  =  $\pm 2.58$ 

In terms of highest level of education, except for a vocational certificate or diploma, Table 5 shows that the computed values of z show evidence to accept the null hypotheses on the rest of the choices under this question. There seems to be evidence to show that CHSD



students who come to MATC are more likely to hold occupational diploma or certificate. As demonstrated in Table 6, students in the CHSD programs are less likely to seek credits for college transfer or merely to enroll in basic general education, high school or GED credits. The computed values of z show evidence to reject the hypotheses on the vocational certificate/diploma as highest level of education as shown in Table 5, as well as the credits for transfer, vocational certificate/diploma and basic general education, high school and GED as chief objectives in attending MATC shown in Table 6. Tables 5 and 6 show evidence to accept the null hypotheses on each of the other items.

It is interesting to note that both groups showed high school/GED and 1 to 30 college credits as their highest level of education. Additionally, it seemed apparent that the desire to acquire an associate degree and skills for new jobs were listed as the most likely chief objective in attending MATC.



Table 5

Percent Responses from the Overall MATC and CHSD

Students: Highest Level of Education

Ques	tion item	Overall	CHSD	Computed value of z
1.	<8th grade	8.2	6.4	-1.5502
2.	HS or GED	26.4	29.7	1.7940
3.	Vocational			
	Cert/Dip	4.6	6.9	2.6728
4.	1 to 30			
	college cr	25.1	22.5	-1.4562
5.	31 to 60			
	College Cr	14.2	15.0	0.5777
6.	>61 Col Cr	6.6	6.2	-0.3642
7.	Associate Deg	6.1	5.0	-1.0978
8.	Bachelor or			
	Graduate Deg	7.6	7.7	0.0050

Note. Level of significance = 0.01, region of rejection = two-tailed, critical value of  $z = \pm 2.58$ 



Table 6

Percent Responses from the Overall MATC and CHSD

Students: Chief Objective in Attending MATC

Ques	tion item	Overall	CHSD	Computed value of z
1.	Associate Deg	37.0	40.6	1.7795
2	Skills for			
	new job	15.2	14.3	-0.5776
3.	Credits for			
	Transfer	11.5	6.5	-3.7570
4.	Improve skills	5		
	for present			
	job	7.6	6.0	-1.4234
5.	Vocational			
	Dip/Cert	7.4	11.0	3.3287
6.	Basic General			
	Ed, HS, GED	10.6	6.8	-2.9428

Note. Level of significance = 0.01, region of rejection = two-tailed, critical value of  $z = \pm 2.58$ 



Table 7 shows evidence to reject the null hypotheses on the items in this particular question. However, both groups seemed to agree that class schedule and mailed materials, parents/relatives and current and former students were the biggest influences in their attending MATC. There was evidence to show reason to accept the null hypotheses on the items in this question.

Table 7

Percent Responses from the Overall MATC and CHSD

Students: Biggest Influence to Attend MATC

Ques	tion item	Overall	CHSD	Computed value of z	
1.	Class Sch/Mail	27.7	29.0	0.7134	
2.	Parent/rel	18.8	17.4	-0.8421	
3.	MATC student	16.9	18.5	1.0343	
4.	Employer	10.6	10.4	-0.1943	
5.	Media publicit	y 6.9	7.0	0.1386	
	( <u>table continues</u> )				

Question item		Overall	CHSD	Computed value of z	
6.	Social Service				
	Agency	5.0	3.8	-1.3518	
7.	HS Counsellor	4.6	5.2	0.6519	

Note. Level of significance = 0.01, region of rejection = two-tailed, critical value of  $z = \pm 2.58$ 

Table 8 seemed to demonstrate that CHSD students were more likely to be in vocational programs and less likely in a college transfer program. These evidences seem to support the results shown in Tables 5 and 6. Both groups showed that the students were more likely in an associate degree program. There is reason to reject the null hypotheses on the items in this particular question except for the college transfer and vocational program items.



Table 8

Percent Responses from the Overall MATC and CHSD

Students: Level of Class Student was in while

completing 'survey

Question item		Overall	CHSD	Computed value of z
1.	Associate Deg	43.6	41.7	-0.9364
2.	College Trans	15.3	9.9	-3.6402
3.	Vocational	13.3	24.7	8.0739
4.	Adult HS	10.7	8.0	-2.1331
5.	Adult Cont'g			
	Ed	5.9	5.7	-0.0414
6.	Apprentice	4.3	3.3	-1.2052

Note. Level of significance = 0.01, region of rejection = two-tailed, critical value of  $z = \pm 2.58$ 

Finally, Table 9 shows evidence that CHSD students are more likely to take full-time credit and less likely to take part-time credit loads. Full-time students carry 12 or more credits. The computed value of z on the items in this question shows reason to



reject the null hypotheses on the full-time and halftime items but accept that which pertains to less than half-time credit load.

Table 9

Percent Responses from the Overall MATC and CHSD

Students: Current Credit Load

Question item		Overall CHSD		Computed value of z
1. Ft	ıll Time	38.0	44.1	3.0010
2. Ha	alf-Time	30.1	25.0	-2.6708
3. <f< td=""><td>Half-Time</td><td>29.0</td><td>30.1</td><td>0.5761</td></f<>	Half-Time	29.0	30.1	0.5761

Note. Level of significance = 0.01, region of rejection = two-tailed, critical value of  $z = \pm 2.58$ 

Based on the results of the statistical analysis, the Dean wrote a report and recommendations for program planning and recruitment for implementation for the strategic planning process the CHSD is doing in preparation for the FY 96 budget, Appendix E, CHSD Dean's Report and Recommendations based on the 1994



MATC Student Survey. The Dean met separately with the members of the formative committee to discuss and review the report and recommendations. With the collective input from the formative committee, the Dean reviewed the revised report and recommendations with the members of the summative committee separately also. The meetings with members of the formative and summative committees were done separately because it was difficult to find a common time for everyone to meet.

Finally, the Dean incorporated the input of the members of the summative committee in the draft and the final report and recommendation as found in Appendix E. This report will be used as the basis for the strategic planning of the division in February and March of 1995 as they build the division's goals in program planning and recruitment for the FY96 budget and Academic year 1995-1996.



#### Chapter 5

# DISCUSSION, CONCLUSIONS, IMPLICATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Discussion

The results of the study provided some data that seemed to demonstrate different characteristics and needs of students in the CHSD compared with the overall students at MATC. The CHSD students are more likely (a) to be female, (b) to choose program as a reason to choose MATC, (c) to already have a vocational certificate or diploma but are still interested in pursuing vocational certificate/diploma occupational programs (d) to be in a vocational program at the time the survey was taken, (e) full-time and (f) to have a lower average family income compared to the overall In contrast, the CHSD students are less MATC students. likely (a) to be male, (b) concerned with time and cost of the program as reasons for choosing MATC, (c) to take credits for college transfer and to be in college transfer courses at the time of the survey, (d) to seek basic general education, high school or GED as chief objectives in attending MATC, and (e) to be half-time compared with the overall MATC students. Both groups seemed to agree that class schedule, printed mailed



materials, parents and relatives and current and former MATC students are the entities that most influenced them to attend MATC.

The apparent predominance of female students in the CHSD is not a surprise given that traditional female home economics programs are housed in the division e.g., Child Care and Development,

Barber/Cosmetology (diploma and apprenticeship),

Dietetic Technician, Dietary Manager, Alteration and

Textile Services, Interior Design (associate and diploma programs), and Human Service Associate. There are five programs in the CHSD that are traditionally attract male students, i.e., Hotel/Hospitality

Management, Environmental Services Management, Culinary Arts (Cook Apprentice), Food Service Production, and Baking Production. The industry for each program reflects the same demography on gender.

The trend in the CHSD students interests seems to be in the vocational diploma and certificate or short range training program to acquire skills for immediate employment. Those who already have vocational diploma/certificate seems to come back for more skills training in the same occupational program format - short term programs which show track records of



employment. Although the jobs from the majority of the CHSD programs are in the low-paying category, they are service jobs which are needed in the society, hence the employment outlook is good. According to Nichols (1993) in a report on the growth of business services in Wisconsin, Personal Services which include the occupations in child care, barbers, cosmetologists, cooks, tailors, hotel and hospitality industry, building services, social services, health (dietetic technician) appear to show strong and positive outlook in the next millennium. The study also seems to indicate that students choose programs that will provide a job that they personally like regardless of This seems to agree with the observation that CHSD students appeared to have a lower average family income.

The significant number of CHSD students who take part-time credit loads seems to agree with the observation that they are looking for short term programs that will provide them skills for immediate employability. It could be implied from this observation that the jobs from the CHSD programs are entry jobs in the work place to satisfy immediate needs.



The final observation is the role of class schedules, mailed printed materials, parents, relatives, former and current MATC students in influencing MATC students including the CHSD students to attend MATC. The various departments of the CHSD programs are active in sending program and schedule information in the mail to the community. As indicated in the study done by Tien and Lin, the division may need to tap the parents, relatives, and former and current students in its recruitment strategies.

Although Thompson & Young (1990) and Baldwin (1990) reported a study done in their institutions on enrollment, there is a lack of data on students in programs similar to those in the CHSD.

#### Conclusions

Program planning can drive recruitment in the CHSD. As the CHSD works on its strategic planning to review its various programs and recruitment, it may be worthwhile to include variable entry and exit ramps in programs to allow for job out for students who are keenly interested in short term skills acquisition. The variable access and completion from a program may help recruit students into the division. Male students may also be recruited in the program provided unisex



promotions are done. Finally, programs need to be delivered to meet the needs of part-time students which will continue to grow in the coming years. With technology driving educational delivery, programs must be sensitive to the needs of students who are unable to physically attend courses in the MATC campuses. Hence, distance learning program delivery may also enhance enrollment.

#### **Implications**

Some implications of the study include the development of occupational programs with curricula and enrollment management strategies that will help recruit and prepare the workforce of the 21st century. The results of the study will strengthen and improve the image of the occupational programs of the CHSD since the occupational programs that will be developed in the CHSD will address the needs of the full- and part-time students of the Milwaukee area community and the global workforce of the 21st century. The results and recommendations will assist the CHSD administrators and faculty to evaluate their programs in terms of student expectations.



#### Recommendations

Based on the results of the study, it seems logical for the administrators, faculty and staff of the CHSD to consider the following activities in their strategic planning activities for the year 1995 and beyond:

- programs should be promoted as opportunities
   both for male and female students;
- 2. brochures and any other printed materials should include successful male, ethnic, handicapped, young and older graduates;
- 3. recruitment of diverse faculty should serve as models to students;
- 4. alternative program scheduling should include evening, weekend and late afternoon classes;
- 5. the division should promote the image of successful programs and advertise in targeted communities;
- 6. the associate deans should evaluate less successful program for possible modification, merging, or deletion e.g., length of program, associate versus diploma program, inclusion of diploma programs in the associate degree programs, develop short term certificate programs within existing programs;



- 7. program planners should seek input from the business and industry as programs are reviewed;
- 8. curricula should address the needs of students and the business and industry for occupational skills; and
- 9. recruiters should maximize the use of the mailed printed materials, parents, relatives and former and current CHSD students to recruit new students.

The results of future surveys should be analyzed to interpolate student needs in choosing CHSD programs. Curriculum planning and enrollment management strategies could be enhanced by using information from the survey. Positive student responses can be used as material for promotional tools. Academic divisions other than CHSD can use the data to improve the image of its various programs not only within the MATC community but also in the service areas of MATC. Finally, further study of the survey should be done by other academic divisions to compare their students' responses with the overall MATC students and a comparison of student responses from the various occupational divisions.



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APPENDIXES



# Appendix A Occupational Programs in the Consumer and Hospitality Services Division



Appendix D

MATC Student Survey Questionnaires



#### Appendix E

# Dean's Report and Recommendations Based on the 1994 MATC Student

#### Survey Questionnaire

The 1994 MATC Student Survey showed the following comparison between the CHSD and Overall MATC students:

- 1. CHSD students are more likely female;
- 2. CHSD students seems to have lower average family income;
- 3. CHSD students are less likely to choose MATC based on schedule and cost but more likely to choose MATC based on program;
- 4. CHSD students are more likely to already have a vocational diploma or certificate but still seemed to show interest to acquire additional vocational diploma or certificate for skills for a new job;
- 5. CHSD students are more likely in the vocational programs at the time the survey was taken;
  - 6. CHSD students are more likely full-time;
- 7. the three biggest influences to attend MATC for both groups seemed to be class schedule, printed mailed materials, parents, relatives, current and former MATC students.



Based on the above observations from the survey, it is recommended that:

- each and specific programs in the CHSD should be promoted to the entire MATC service area;
- brochures and printed materials should reflect diversity of students and successful graduates and mailed to targeted population;
- 3. marketing should be coordinated with the Marketing Division;
- 4. recruiters should encourage parents and relatives from community organizations as well as former and current MATC students to participate in recruitment programs;
- 5. programs should address the needs of students and industry for short term programs that will provide skills that will facilitate employment;
- 6. all programs should be reviewed for alternate delivery, multiple entry and exit and distance learning;
- 7. the division should develop short term vocational diploma programs related to the service industry.



### Appendix A

# Occupational Programs in the Consumer and Hospitality Services Division

### MILWAUKEE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE Consumer and Hospitality Services Associate Dean Assignment

	PROGRAM COD	E	SUPERVISOR
	10-109-1	Hotel/Hospitality Mgt	Paula Wasielewski
	10-303-1	Dietetic Technician	Gus Keiley
	10-304-1	Interior Design	Nina Jo Look
	10-307-1	Child Care/Development	Barbara Cannell
	10-309-1	Environ Serv Mgt	Paula Wasielewski
	10-511-1	Culinary Arts	Gus Kelley
	10-520-3	Human Services	Marietta M. Advincula
	30-303-9	Dietary Manager	Gus Kelley
	31-304-2	Interior Design Residential	Paula Wasielewski
	31-303-2	Food Service Production	Gus Kelley
	31-303-6	Baking Production	Gus Kelley
	31-502-1	Barber/Cosmetology	Barbara Cannell
	32-301-2	Alteration & Textile Serv	Paula Wasielewski
,	50-518-1	Cook Apprentice	Gus Kelley
	50-502-1	Barber/Cosmet Apprentice	Barbara Cannell



### Appendix B

### Formative Committee

Dr. Teresa Kelley Assistant Director,

Research, Planning and

Development

Dr. Paula Wasielewski Associate Dean, Consumer

and Hospitality Services

Dr. Nina Jo Look Associate Dean, Consumer

and Hospitality Services



#### Appendix C

#### Summative Committee

Dr. Dorsey Kendrik

Executive Vice-President,

MATC

Dr. Keith Roberts

Director,

Research, Planning and

Development

Dr. Gail Cash

Dean, Instructional Design

Jean Dueling

Instructor and Department

Chair, Dietetic Technician

Program

Steve Kissler

Instructor and Department

Chair, Culinary Arts Program

Marcia Arndt

Instructor and Department

Chair, Alterationist and

Textile Services Program



### Appendix D

## MATC Student Survey Questionnaires

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#### Appendix E

# Dean's Report and Recommendations Based on the 1994 MATC Student

#### Survey Questionnaire

The 1994 MATC Student Survey showed the following comparison between the CHSD and Overall MATC students:

- 1. CHSD students are more likely female;
- 2. CHSD students seems to have lower average family income:
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- 4. CHSD students are more likely to already have a vocational diploma or certificate but still seemed to show interest to acquire additional vocational diploma or certificate for skills for a new job;
- 5. CHSD students are more likely in the vocational programs at the time the survey was taken;
  - 6. CHSD students are more likely full-time;
- 7. the three biggest influences to attend MATC for both groups seemed to be class schedule, printed mailed materials, parents, relatives, current and former MATC students.



Based on the above observations from the survey, it is recommended that:

- 1. each and specific programs in the CHSD should be promoted to the entire MATC service area;
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- 4. recruiters should encourage parents and relatives from community organizations as well as former and current MATC students to participate in recruitment programs;
- 5. programs should address the needs of students and industry for short term programs that will provide skills that will facilitate employment;
- 6. all programs should be reviewed for alternate delivery, multiple entry and exit and distance learning;
- 7. the division should develop short term vocational diploma programs related to the service industry.

