Overview

In 2014-2015, GPSC collaborated with the VETS and the CSW to gather data on childcare needs. The results show that undergraduate, graduate, professional, and VETS students along with faculty and staff have significant childcare expenses that are not currently being met by the UA. Below we report the results of the three surveys.

1. GPSC Childcare Survey Results – Graduate and Professional Students

The GPSC childcare survey results presented here are from a survey that was emailed to a random sample of graduate and professional students (N~4,000) between August 2014 and November 2014. Respondents did not receive compensation for participating. Of the 4,000 emailed surveys, there were N=431 responses.

Results

Of the 431 responses, 153 (35%) respondents indicated that they had at least one child; 105 (24%) respondents indicated that they had at least one child AND they paid childcare expenses. Childcare expenses ranged from $93 -- $550 per week and the average expenses per week for 105 respondents was $195 (median $179). The average number of hours per week that respondents required childcare services was 29 hours per week (median 32 hours per week). 70 of 105 respondents indicated that they had NEVER received childcare support from the UA. Of the 35 participants who had received childcare from the UA at any point, 22 indicated that they had received childcare support from the UA in the last year (mean support $1,038, median support $1,000). The average expenses for a semester are ($195 per week * 16 weeks = $3,120). 88 of 106 respondents indicated that they had NEVER received non-UA support for childcare expenses.

Graph 1: Childcare support satisfaction.

Graph 2: Childcare support and academic experience.

Graph 1: Childcare support satisfaction.

Of 106 respondents with childcare expenses, 97 (94%) respondents indicated that additional childcare support would help them graduate in a timely manner (graph 1). A large majority (96/103, 93%) of respondents also indicated that additional childcare support (graph 2) would improve their academic experience (see graph 2). Many respondents are also NOT satisfied with the level of childcare support that the UA provides (82/103, 80%).