The number of new freshmen enrolling at the University of North Dakota in the Fall Semester of 1996 totaled 1,651. Of this total 1,213 completed the Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) survey (see APPENDIX A) during their participation at “Getting Started” during the summer of 1996 (see APPENDIX C for 1996 findings). Four years later a follow-up was administered to this group of students in an effort to track their progress toward graduation. This survey was mailed to 875 students, still enrolled at UND, and achieved a 34.9% (305) response rate (see APPENDIX B).

CIRP is a national study of the American Higher Education System sponsored by the American Council on Education and administered by the Higher Education Research Institute at the University of California, Los Angeles. The findings of this study are given in APPENDIX D, with comparative nationally normed data for public universities. Below is a discussion of the 1996 UND new freshmen, with their responses four years later, and how they compare with their national counterparts.

**Demographics**

Of the 305 respondents, 33.4% were men and 66.6% were women. The majority of the respondents to the 2000 CIRP Senior survey were white (97.0%),
graduated from high school in 1996 (96.8%), and are currently full-time undergraduates (98.0%).

Since entering college, 7.9% have gotten married, 22% have joined a social fraternity or sorority, and 22.3% participated in leadership training. Nearly two-thirds (67.9%) of the respondents reported that their undergraduate grade point average was B+, A-, or A. When asked what the highest degree they will have earned as of June 2000, 46.7% indicated a Bachelor. When asked what the highest degree they will have earned eventually at any institution the respondents reported: Bachelor’s 46.1%, Master’s 34.0%, and Ph.D. 9.9%.

**Probable Fields of Study**

The 2000 seniors were asked what probable major field of study they intended to pursue. In general, the UND group (4.8%) was at least half as likely as their national counterparts to achieve a degree in the *Biological Sciences*. UND men (6%) and women (14.4%) were more than twice as likely as national men (2.9%) and women (6.9%) to choose *Education* for a degree. UND senior men (25%) were more than twice as likely to choose Business than the national group (11.4%). Seniors choosing *English* as a degree was the same as the national group, except that there were no men in the UND cohort. Those choosing *Health Professional* at UND (13.6%) more than doubled their national counterparts (6.7%). The UND men were very similar to the national average in this field, but the UND women (19.8%) far exceeded women in the national group (8.8%) for *Health Professional*. UND senior men (11.9%) chose *Other non-*