

Alumni Survey 2004 (2003 graduates)¹ University-wide Issues

What follows are direct comments students' made in answer to the following questions: *What had the most positive impact on you during your time at Eastern?* And, *What had the most negative impact on you during your time at Eastern?*

Facilities/Services/Community/Staff

Positive Impact

Campus Services/Offices/Facilities

- The International Students office support and care throughout my duration at Eastern. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! (512)
- I loved the school and became very involved in many things. My work as office manager at the Honors office perhaps had the most positive impact on me. (849)
- Working in the sexual assault counseling and information service (SACIS) was incredible. Please don't ever cut them loose. Hundreds of students I talked to were victimized and needed help. I was ashamed that Eastern listed rapes at zero for incoming freshmen. I personally witnessed several girls report to EIU police—personally. (192)
- I was able to work in the university computer department as a tech. That was great hands-on experience. (48)
- Access to Eastern's resources—PCs, Gym, Library, Cafeteria. (102)
- The various discussions on campus by various professionals in my area of study. (223, Accounting major)
- Excellent recreational facilities. (436)
- I was an off-campus student. Services (such as obtaining books) were always facilitated in a timely manner. (555)
- The new library. (574)
- All of the new construction/renovation. (593)
- Great technology with assistance always at hand when needed. (643)
- Working for the international students department as a recruiter. Having the ability and support the university to try a variety of organizations including the Walt Disney World College Program. (699)

People/Staff

- I met really fantastic people (the community, the staff, and of course the students). (77)
- The most positive impact on me during my time at Eastern was the overwhelming friendliness of the professors and civil staff members. Leaving my family behind was one of the hardest decisions I have ever had to make, but the helpful staff and wonderful professors/counselors made the adjustment easier. (84)
- The quality of faculty, staff, and most of students who attended or still attend EIU helped me to focus clearly on what was needed to [succeed]. (161)

¹ The numbers in parentheses following the comments are reference numbers to alumni identification data. More information about the alumni who made the comments is available.

- I also had the opportunity to develop positive relationships with various employees at Eastern. I am excited [President Hencken] is our current President and would like to thank him for going the extra mile for the students. (39)
- The people. (158)
- The positive attitudes of the support staff. Also, most staff members that I encountered were always willing to answer my questions and help if they were able to. (194)
- The people. (297)
- The people and teachers. (38)
- Faculty and staff. (301)
- Meeting [a counselor] from the counseling center. (304)
- The friendliness of staff (307)
- The people that make up Charleston's and Eastern's community. Students, faculty, staff, and community members made my time there wonderful and memorable. (375)
- I transferred to EIU from ISU 2 ½ years into my college experience. Obviously a bit scared at first I look back now and commend my brilliant decision. The faculty, the administration, the woman who worked at the bookstore everyday, all made my experience at EIU much more memorable. Thank you. (378)
- The constant support, interest, and encouragement from everyone involved with EIU – instructors and advisors through to staff. What a student-friendly environment. (501)
- Helping staff. (526)
- Faculty, staff, and administrators. (530)
- The staff at EIU is great too. (554)
- Eastern's staff is open, friendly, and truly caring of its students' needs. (588)
- The helpfulness and patience of the staff in the Special Education and disability services departments. (736)
- The people at the university, they were always professional. (817)
- The community of teachers, staff, and students helped me come out of my shell and realize what I should do with my life. (571)

Negative Impact

Campus Services/Offices/Programs

- Student Accounts Department negative. (270)
- The student Recreation Center should expand on facilities offered. Rec. Centers are a wonderful recruiting tool to attract students, get them involved, and aid them in a well rounded student experience. (16)
- Trying to check out books at the library. The debate if I needed an ID or not and trying to get an ID. (112)
- I mailed my books back and they were lost and I had to pay for them. (171)
- The U.P.D. is completely out of touch, and uses authority unjustly, without common sense. (220)
- Transferring in as a junior. There was a lack of orientation and affiliations for these students who have a high GPA. (323)
- Law enforcement and relentless pursuit of students. \$500 paid for unnecessary fines in 4 years, none were violent in any way. (345)
- Murder, rapes, general safety of students. (414)
- I am aware that a big part of life is jumping through various hoops, but I feel like I did a tremendous amount in the 2 years that I attended EIU. (455)
- Poorly organized admission records, i.e., I've been gone *less* that one year! (483)
- Raising price of medication from 5 to 15 dollars. (519)
- Unfortunately, I went to the Disney College Program Presentation held on campus. They scammed me into applying, and then when I accepted the opportunity to go down there, the

experience was horrible. And I had to make up a semester that I had missed because of it. They made it sound like I would get credit. I got one lousy hour from Eastern. All around I don't approve of the program, nor should Eastern allow them on campus to hire minimum wage work horses. (655)

- Campus police, I felt they were trying to make money with parking, instead of helping students to live peaceful and safe lives. (828)
- I found it disturbing that police presence was higher at events sponsored by the black student union. The show of force/strength was at times overbearing and unnecessary. I understand that safety is important, but it should be equally important for the entire student body and not for a select few. (837)
- The mind-numbing, almost drone-like bureaucracy. (842)
- Having to go to or attend classes and conferences held off campus with no means of transportation. (65)

Facilities/Technology

- The continuous construction that was on campus the five years that I was there. (20)
- Not prepared in the use of technology – Eastern classroom technology is lacking. (35)
- Also the technology on campus needs improvement, the computers and server were down a lot. (36)
- My parking tickets. You guys really need to reduce the prices. SIUC's tickets are only \$8.00 dollars and what is Charleston's, like \$10.00 maybe?!?! (29)
- Parking. As a commuter it was hard to find a spot. I would like to say that I usually parked 2 blocks away and that was fine with me. And I was at EIU this weekend and I saw that there were cars with flat tires parked in spots closest to the buildings (not dorms) and why should they get to leave their cars there all semester without moving them... Just one gripe. (33)
- Computer problems on campus. (41)
- The fact that the library was under construction for most of the time I was there. This was a very big inconvenience. (45)
- Construction, library (82)
- Construction and the constant changing of the look. Do a little and take a little time off. (136)
- I really thought technology could have been improved. However, I understand that budgets are tight and there was not much EIU could do. Overall, I had a positive experience at EIU. (138)
- Construction, several projects at once distracting from the learning environment and making travel difficult. Also, broken promises regarding completion dates. I know EIU is occasionally at the mercy of outside controls, but that should mean that promises shouldn't get made. Just say, "we don't know when we'll be finished." (192)
- During some weekend classes, the heat was turned off making learning very difficult because you would have to wear your winter outer garments in the classroom to stay warm. (194)
- Campus construction was a pain. (200)
- Never ending construction was a negative experience. I wanted to take an art class as an elective, but it was being taught at the old Wal-Mart, which is way too inconvenient for me. I felt bad for the Art majors who didn't have a choice. (208)
- The construction of the library was very difficult due to the dispersion of materials; however, the end result was tremendous. (212)
- Almost my entire time at Eastern, there was major construction going on. If it wasn't the library, they were tearing up one of the quads, or reconstructing the Union. It took away from the beauty of the campus. It probably looks nice now though, now that I am gone. (219)
- Campus construction, parking and parking tickets. Coleman hall being too hot, bad food. (230)
- Construction of library. (232)
- Parking would be my only concern. (235)
- The large amount of construction taking place during my time at campus (243)

- The lack of lab facilities. (249)
- Library never open. Accounting Department negative. (270)
- \$40.00 parking tickets, way too excessive! (298)
- Construction on the Art building. (303)
- Well, my girlfriend and I planted a Tulip Poplar out in the old IM fields (football). We used to take care of it and water it frequently. But all of a sudden, last summer it was bulldozed. That kind of upset me. If I had known that was going to happen, we would have picked a better place to leave a plant from our past. (327)
- Dealing with parking the first couple of weeks each semester. (336)
- The library being located in McAfee Gym. (339)
- I was very disappointed with how the library renovations were promised to be done by spring semester of my freshman year, when I went to campus prior to enrollment, and it was 2 years later than that when the library was finally opened. During those extra 2 years, where I was using McAfee Gym for a library, (which did not provide nearly the same study environment) I really felt as though I had been baited and switched. During my time at Eastern, the many inconveniences caused by renovations that were not finished when promised, seemed to negatively impact many peoples' overall impression of the University. (344)
- The destruction of the Music Dept. (354)
- Construction on campus, as a four year athlete, lack of funding, upkeep of athletic facility (pool, locker room, etc). (365)
- The excessive construction projects all over campus. Couldn't the University tackle one at a time? (385)
- Lack of student parking. (391)
- Construction work was particularly unpleasant. Also, lack of a decent shuttle bus service was big complaint. (393)
- The most negative impact on me was the parking situation. I know that sounds trite, but the lack of parking for visitors and off campus students is very limited. The heating/air conditioning situation in Coleman Hall could use some work! (400)
- Parking. (406)
- Difficulties on distance learning technology. (425)
- Constant delays on construction on campus. The general consensus that EIU did not always have the student's best interest in mind. (436)
- I would have to say all the renovations taking place. I believe it will be better for the students coming in, but it was a pain. (441)
- All of the construction made finding library materials extremely difficult for most of my time at EIU. It was also a terrible eyesore all across campus. (448)
- The most negative impact for me was the construction. I was never able to enjoy the new facilities! I understand that was out of your hands, it had to be done. (452)
- The library was closed for the first 3 years I was there so that was negative. But when it opened, it was fabulous! (461)
- Two things – The Art building not being finished on time and the attitude of the administration toward students. As for the Art building we had classes during construction and two of my classes couldn't work until the 5th week into the semester. (551)
- The construction of library made study and research difficult for 4 years. Poor internet reliability.
- The clinical environment we worked in as an undergrad. However, the new Health Services building is an amazing addition to my major. (494)
- Lack of parking! (529)
- Technological infrastructure of campus, internet access library hours and lack of business/technology books at library classrooms and residence halls, temperature control, job placement, career opportunities. (556)

- Problems with parking became difficult with inclement weather. Even though I had purchased permits, there was no where to park in close proximity to where I needed to be. I found myself having to walk to campus carrying a very heavy briefcase even in inclement weather due to the lack of parking spaces. However, [an administrator] heeded my request for increased student parking in Lantz lot after noticing numerous vacant staff spaces on numerous school days at various times. (552)
- I think the fact that we did not have a real library for a few years while I was on campus had the most negative impact on me. (558)
- The computer systems and network being down all the time. (561)
- Construction (but it was for good reasons), it was a mess. (574)
- Construction (582)
- Some buildings need more handicap parking. (584)
- Construction. (590)
- Walking through the new construction/renovation. (593)
- Outdated technology, old buildings, construction everywhere. (594)
- Construction delays. (601)
- The computer lab never seemed to be working and Booth library never had anything helpful. (622)
- I didn't feel that library was very student friendly. I rarely did research there, and when I had to, it was difficult to find what I needed. (627)
- No library that was very accessible. It was remodeling for 3 years. There was no good study area. (628)
- Construction all over campus! (648)
- The library being out of use for a portion of my educational career at Eastern. (654)
- Complications of parking and fines associated with parking. I feel that EIU takes advantage of inadequate parking to fine students for the university's benefit. It is not fair to fine for parking when there aren't enough spaces to park on campus, especially during public events. (658)
- All the construction, especially the library (although it looks great) my freshman through end of junior [year]. My professors actually omitted assignments that dealt with the library as they themselves had problems with their temporary system. This hurt many students as research opportunities were few in numbers during undergraduate. (668)
- The closing of the Fine Arts Building. As an Art major, having to readjust after 3 years was huge. It made my senior year slightly more stressful and inconvenient, having to go to the Art Park West. (674)
- The construction! (709)
- Having limited accessibility to the library, prior to its completion. (700)
- Parking issues. (706)
- The Music Building renovation mess. (728)
- The lack of available parking near the building that class is in. (736)
- The construction on campus made it look appealing from time to time. But I understand it will result in added beauty when finished so I tolerated it for future generations to enjoy. (752)
- The computer network problems, lack of 24 hour library or extended library hours. (756)
- Parking. (759)
- Parking availability limited for students during week days. (769)
- Parking, the parking situation this year seems better than last year. I would just suggest that EIU adds more parking. Parents that are visiting there children in the dorms are typical unable to find a place to park. Plus \$40 parking tickets seem a little extreme especially for college students. (776)
- The library being divided into four sections for three years made research more difficult at times. (786)
- Not having a library from my sophomore to mid senior year. (801)

- All the construction, and not having a library in one place. (810)
- Although very much needed, the construction around campus had the most negative impact. The construction of the library (and relocation), as well as the Art building. (813)
- Construction projects on campus. (824)
- Three years without a library to perform research. (826)
- The construction. (827)
- My time at EIU (1999-2003) was riddled with extensively long construction projects. I didn't have access to a decent library until my senior year! (829)
- All of the new construction/renovation. (593)
- Limited student parking. (837)
- The most negative [impact] at Eastern was the construction on campus. Although it is for the better of the campus and future students, it was at the time difficult to work around and affected some study habits and research abilities. (838)
- The Booth Library refurbishing project was a bit bothersome, but I think students and professors handled it well. (840)
- My concerns were parking. (844)
- Construction and the delays. (850)
- I commuted daily and found that the University was not as accessible for commuting students in comparison to campus housed students. (479)

People/Staff

- Certain university employees uninterested in student's college career. (The majority are great.) (64)
- The staff on campus making continuing ed students feel like we should be on campus. For example, stating "can you come to the office and sign your papers?" Being last at graduation. (67)
- The fact that most things at Eastern were not student oriented. From staff to faculty, to administration, it seems and feels like they are not interested in helping students and only interested in ways to make things more difficult than they should be. (108)
- Lack of interest in students at Eastern, lack of help in finding a job, lack of communication from administration down to students, not enough encouragement from school (102)
- The politics of Eastern. It seems all that's cared about is the reputation of the University. The students are just a bonus. (111)
- I felt like a number. When trying to get something accomplished on campus, individuals would pass you on to someone else like they didn't have time to help you. If they didn't know the answer to my question, then admit it and we can look for the information together, e.g. registration, general counseling. (190)
- The threat of strike. The teachers (most) do their job well and deserve all the respect and compensation they can get. It is difficult and saddening to see certain teachers do their best and not get much in return. (295)
- Frustration of trying to communicate with some of the staff. Different departments insisted on sending you to another Dept. over issues. Just running from department to department for a resolution. (306)
- No personal connection with the school. I never saw that anyone other than profs had the 'small school care and warmth'. I felt that the staff and the administration could be on a more personal basis. Students are the ones that keep the University going. For example, this survey assumes I have been a graduate for one year; that is incorrect. I graduated in December; how well do you know your students? (308) [note IBHE requires that we send the alumni surveys to students in a certain calendar year, not academic year]

- I also did not appreciate the lack of common courtesy from the non teaching staff when asking for information or assistance. I felt that the office staff was rude to the student paying to go the school at EIU. (346)
- Certain staff members' educational abilities. (377)
- The only other negative aspect I experienced was when the administration didn't appreciate and support my teachers. I still think all of my professors at EIU were not fairly or properly compensated for their inspiring work; their tireless, inspiring, and dedicated work that knew no end. (461)
- The most negative aspect was the fact that staff (cashier, health services) treated me like a 19 year old that they could bully. (480)
- Seeing some of the politics at work. (615)
- The administration seemed to be very separated from the student body. (718)
- Treatment by the non-teaching staff (i.e. secretaries or EIU police). (731)
- People treating me like dirt. (762)
- Frustration of officials not knowing or working together, but passing you around to get information. (17)
- As for the administration, my encounters led me to feel the students are a nuisance, or at least the students working for a change. I especially remember the time [the President's] secretary refused to let us make an appointment, or when [an administrator] was upset he had to sign into the Art building like everyone else. (551)

Charleston Community

- Landlords that took advantage of their clients. Police that felt the need to harass students when unnecessary. (73)
- The town of Charleston. (124)
- The landlords (not Eastern related but it affected my time there). (133)
- The surrounding Charleston community. A common complaint, but the lack of things to do in Charleston. (144)
- The mayor was very against the students and Eastern. He was so mean towards the students that I would not recommend Eastern to other students. College is supposed to be a fun experience and he wanted to take away all the fun. (149)
- I would have to say the lack of opportunity and advancement within the outside community. (288)
- Landlords. (314)
- I did not like the town of Charleston. (318)
- The town itself could be more supportive of the students that spend time living there. (389)
- The town itself didn't have much to offer as stores and job opportunities. (467)
- The people of Charleston, especially the businesses were very rude and impolite to college students. There were, and still are, a lot of times I was not (am) welcome in Charleston because of the way I was treated. (497)
- The surrounding community did not have many employment opportunities for students. (539)
- Also, there was a lot of construction and for the most of my four years; the library was in several different places. (542)
- How the town views the University almost as if we should not be there. (570)
- The small squabbles that the community and school were involved in from time to time and the apathy of the students toward anything extracurricular. (571)
- Charleston was pretty dull and I was always bored on weekends. (681)
- Charleston. It is not a college town by any means. (708)
- The town's size. (716)

- It felt like many of the more common policies were run inefficiently or backwards not very person friendly. By the time I was graduating it felt as though I really needed to leave Charleston quickly or sink into the strangely governed community. (802)
- The city was dilapidated. (812)
- The Charleston police department, I still have a bad taste in my mouth from them. (833)
- The most negative impact was the discordance between the community of Charleston and the students of EIU. (845)
- The weather? (216)

Diversity

Positive Impact

- Meeting students with different backgrounds. (56)
- Meeting different people from different backgrounds. (78)
- Meeting new people from different places and learning different cultures. (128)
- Coming from a small town, the diversity at the campus gave me a more open mind than what I started with. I enjoyed the diversity, my home town is probably 98% white. EIU helped open my mind to a whole new view. (255)
- Meeting various persons from various backgrounds, races, cultures, etc. (256)
- Classroom diversity in the continuing education classes. (280)
- There was a diverse population. (379)
- The people I met. Diverse people re-rounded my attitude, educations, and social skills. I felt I met a lot of different people who made me think outside of my normal realm. This helped me to be non-judgmental and more tolerable to every walk of life. (485)
- Not to mention the diversity of the students being from the cities, like St. Louis and Chicago and small towns all over. (752)
- Meeting different people from different backgrounds. I learned a lot from other people. (782)
- The racial activities. (828)

Negative Impact

- Honestly, the lack of diversity on campus was disheartening. Both personally as an R.A., I recognized the effort to promote diversity but could see that there was a large communication gap and cultural gap between many of the students. (44)
- The most negative impact on me as an EIU student was the underlying racism evident throughout the campus. For instance, it took 108 years for an African-American woman to become EIU's homecoming queen. At a tryout for EIU's Pink Panther's, about 100 females auditioned (most were talented African-Americans) and only one African-American is currently on the team. I hope in the near future minorities have the same opportunities as every one else. (99)
- Not enough diversity among each other. (165)
- Race factor. (193)
- Too small minorities on campus, and from that fact, many students had very narrow mind against international students. (368)
- The lack of integration between minorities and the majority had a negative impact on my EIU experience. (446)
- Racial incidents. (789)
- There wasn't a real diverse atmosphere. (682)

Personal Growth/Issues

Positive Impact

- I became more independent while being away from my parents. (539)
- I was inspired to study human interaction. (3)
- The experience of being on my own, making my own decisions. (13)
- The ability to be independent from home/parents. (73)
- Problem solving was the most positive impact on me at EIU. (93)
- Both positive and negative circumstances. I learned from both. (110)
- Through my course work and interactions with staff and students. I built up a wide variety of resources within the community that I use in my current employment. (140)
- The most positive impact was meeting and cooperating with the variety of people on campus. Learning to work with people outside of what I was used to. (174)
- I was a non-traditional student, so I was very nervous upon entering EIU. I studied hard and got good grades which boosted my self-esteem and self-confidence. (235)
- Learning to function in groups or teams. That as a whole a team can be very effective. Also learning it is OK to challenge long-held ideas and concepts. (237)
- Knowing that I wasn't the only student/person who wasn't sure what they wanted to do and knowing that it was okay. (238)
- Living on my own and discovering myself. (256)
- Being able to commute from home, 1hour drive (263)
- My determination to achieve my goal to graduate. (322)
- I learned that I could handle challenges that I never knew I could before. I learned that I could actually start something and see it through to completion. So I guess the challenges I faced at Eastern had the most positive impact on me—they increased my self-esteem. (334)
- Myself. (340)
- People skills, communication, organization and independence. (345)
- Myself (407)
- Moving away from family and home into a new and different system or way of life was the greatest experience. Being independent and learning to live on my own while holding the responsibility of a student taught me most. (519)
- I became more independent while being away from my parents. (539)
- It was an experience that challenged me intellectually and socially as well. It was gratifying to find that I could fit in a socially younger environment and also succeed in the modern day classroom. It brought me up to date on current trends, theories, and methods of communication and business. (556)
- Achieving a goal that I worked towards for a number of years. (573)
- The new knowledge base I have now. (584)
- Learning to communicate more effectively and building my confidence. (589)
- I did what I had to do. (599)
- The challenges I faced gaining the knowledge I was seeking (613)
- I worked in housing for 2 years and I saw how disorganized it was. Seeing this made me realize I had to work harder at my position, but in the long run, I think, helped me to become more responsible and organized myself. (668)
- My relationship with Jesus Christ. (697)
- A different life style and out look on life being able to go away to school. (729)
- I feel that going away to school in general was a positive experience. It allowed me to feel more responsible and independent. (746)
- Being able to expand my horizons through education, social activities, and personal responsibility. (773)

- I felt that I really gained overall personal growth and understanding of the importance of education. (774)
- Having a job and taking classes also helped me manage my time and make sure I got everything done and was productive. (822)
- I had the opportunity of meeting and learning from professionals who were not unlike myself. They encouraged me to grow and learn, and also challenge myself. Education is a fundamental tool which one should not waste. Life only gets better with growth. (592)

Negative Impact

- Just some of my personal issues seemed to get the best of me & my time on occasion. No one to blame but myself. (117)
- I think the negatives were all challenges that allowed me to grow by choice. My positive attitude did not allow them to stop me in any way. (104)
- Working 55 hours a week and then attending classes was the most difficult for me. (137)
- The thing which would impact me the most in a negative way would be if I studied or tried to achieve a good grade and the outcome wasn't what I expected. This would be very discouraging, knowing I tried my best and still didn't get the results I wanted. In the same aspect, it teaches a person how to deal with discouragement and how to do better next test, project, or assignment. (694)
- My time management skills had the most negative impact on me during my time at Eastern. (743)

Overall Experience/Nothing Negative

Positive Impact

- I had a wonderful experience at Eastern, I would go back in a heartbeat. I have made lifelong friends and my education prepared me for the job I am presently employed at. (10)
- I loved my time spent at Eastern, and student who just loved being at Eastern Illinois University. (77)
- I absolutely love Eastern! (85)
- I had a wonderful time at Eastern and I am very proud I graduated at EIU. Thanks! (97)
- I think EIU is a wonderful institution because it is such a student friendly atmosphere. (118)
- The university and its atmosphere. (122)
- Outside experiences. (184)
- Eastern was great. I just wish I would have chosen a job in the field of my major. I was the fifth person in my family to go to EIU. And my sister will be there in the fall. We are all very pleased with EIU. (207)
- The availability of resources was a key part of my success at Eastern. (212)
- The campus in general—a very beautiful and friendly place. (215)
- Great campus, great people. (216)
- The college experience itself. (219)
- I am proud to have graduated from Eastern. (257)
- Friendly, non-competitive atmosphere that allowed me to attain my education and participate in whatever I wanted, while being able to enjoy myself throughout the 4 years. (274)
- The college was accessible and I was able to return at an older age and obtain my degree. (279)
- I really enjoyed being in an atmosphere where learning was the ultimate goal. Everyone knew why he was there and worked towards his aims. (287)
- The overall closely knit campus atmosphere. The inexpensive cost of education at EIU allowed me to fully apply myself socially and academically. (288)

- I enjoyed EIU's smaller campus, I was able to interact more with students as well as faculty to enhance my learning. (294)
- I felt like I was in a place where I belonged. I seemed like everybody knew everybody, and I always felt safe and comfortable. (307)
- The most positive impact I remember about Eastern is the atmosphere and the activities that keep the life of EIU going. (337)
- I feel I received a quality education at a good price and feel prepared for when I get my first job. (369)
- Enjoyed smaller campus setting. (379)
- Eastern really changed my life. You may meet friends or have fun doing the college stuff. But sometimes it gets rough—both in and out of school. Eastern's counseling program helped as well. (384)
- Small Campus. Centrally located. (391)
- A warm, pleasant campus atmosphere. Friendly people. (393)
- I liked the smaller population at Eastern. (399)
- The environment was friendly. (409)
- The atmosphere that surrounded the campus—I always felt safe, comfortable, and at home there. (419)
- The wide variety of services in comparison to the many junior colleges I attend. (420)
- The closeness of the EIU community . . . staff, students, and community members. (435)
- Eastern provided me with some of the best years of my life and allowed me to become what I am today. (453)
- I really liked how the campus was arranged. It was really easy to find the classes. (496)
- The overall look and appearance of campus made EIU more pleasant and beautiful. (500)
- At the moment there is not just one thing that sticks out. The experience as a whole from classes to dorm life to extracurricular [activities] made my time at EIU amazing. (505)
- All of EIU was great! I love EIU. (519)
- The size of the campus and accessibility to classes/recreation. I was extremely happy with every aspect of campus life—I miss it very much, it was the best match for my personal criteria. (534)
- The atmosphere was always positive and fun. (562)
- Campus unity. (614)
- One reason being the small, family setting at EIU. (616)
- In general my time at Eastern was very positive. I cannot say that there was any one thing that made it this way. I took most classes during the day and the students were great. I had always wanted to finish school, so actually completing my degree was a very positive experience. (620)
- Eastern's safe environment allowed me to pursue my freedom and independence. (625)
- I felt very safe on the campus. (626)
- The knowledge that the staff provided to me, most of it I still use as if I were still in classes. (630)
- Eastern also provided an environment that was conducive to learning. (682)
- Very comfortable (705)
- The campus size, ease of accessibility to services and faculty. (716)
- Friendly atmosphere, and nice campus. (719)
- The atmosphere was very conducive to learning and helped make the experience worth while. (722)
- The atmosphere of a small campus made my experience the best I could have had. (724)
- I loved my time at Eastern Illinois University. (734)
- Abundance of resources. (760)
- Small compact campus, transportation services to suburbs, book rental, affordable tuition. (769)
- EIU is a smaller, more comfortable university. (786)
- I got a great education and had a good time doing it. I am doing great and couldn't be happier. (792)

- The small campus atmosphere gave the availability to meet and run into many, many people. (802)
- The smaller campus also had a positive impact on me as a student—everything seemed comfortable or rather closely knit. (813)
- The atmosphere. (827)

Nothing Negative

- No answer/nothing negative (26, 28, 38, 47, 54, 62, 72, 77, 96, 105, 120, 153, 157, 163, 167, 175, 178, 188, 197, 222, 226, 234, 266, 353, 364, 375, 419, 421, 426, 435, 439, 444, 469, 474, 512, 515, 526, 528, 530, 541, 548, 560, 562, 573, 585, 612, 614, 629, 685, 722, 741, 782, 785, 788, 832, 841, 846, 848, 851, 852)
- I had no negative experiences with EIU. (12)
- Still have not found a negative. I'd do it all over again. (13)
- I have nothing negative to say about EIU. Great school! (16)
- Nothing! My time at EIU was the best 4 years I have spent! (30.)
- I had no negative impacts while I was at Eastern. (32.)
- Overall, my time at EIU was great; I plan to be an active alumni. (34)
- Overall, I have positive experiences from Eastern. (39)
- While I was at Eastern, I don't recall any negative impacts. (66)
- I don't believe Eastern or my education at Eastern had any kind of negative impact. I had enjoyed most of my time spent at Eastern. (75)
- I don't recall anything being a negative impact. I'll be paying student loans until I'm 40, but hey—college is expensive! The people and facilities however, were wonderful. (85)
- I don't think any of the courses I took had a negative impact on me. (88)
- Nothing, you make college what it is. Overall, I think EIU was the best thing that happened to me. (93)
- I did not have any negative experiences of anything I did not like. (97)
- I honestly can say nothing negative about my time at EIU. (118)
- I honestly cannot single out anything that had a negative impact on me at Eastern. (172)
- Honestly, looking back on my four years, I really can't think of a negative impact. (210)
- I really didn't have too many negative experiences at EIU. (218)
- No negative impact, but I believe EIU should offer graduate classes at DACC. (221)
- I had a wonderful college experience! (235)
- Everything was great, I can not think of any negative experiences during my time here. (241)
- There was nothing really negative at Eastern that I experienced. (242)
- My experience at Eastern didn't negatively impact my life. (255)
- I can't think of one thing that really negatively impacted me while at EIU. I had a wonderful experience while there and now look forward to going back to visit. (264)
- I really can not think of any negatives. I was just happy to be there. (279)
- Nothing, I had a very positive experience. (399)
- Honestly, I'm unable to think of any negative impact Eastern had on me. (450)
- I do not feel that anything had a real negative impact on me. (458)
- Nothing, other than I only had 4 years to enjoy EIU! (465)
- There have been no negative impacts on me during my time at Eastern. (525)
- There was not an excess of negativity. Most experiences were positive. (534)
- There were no negative aspects of my time at Eastern. (543)
- Overall, I just liked Eastern! (554)
- Overall, I was pleased with my educational experience at EIU. (555)
- There was no part of my time at EIU that had a negative impact. All aspects of my time at EIU, from the super support staff at the BOT office to the wonderful networking in class, EIU was incredible. (559)

- The only thing negative about my time at Eastern is that it had to end. I enjoyed every minute of my time in college. (567)
- The small squabbles that the community and school were involved in from time to time and the apathy of the students toward anything extracurricular. (571)
- Can't really say anything had a negative impact on me. (572)
- I can honestly say nothing. I enjoyed every minute of my journey through EIU. (587)
- I did not have any negative experiences. (589)
- Time flew. (599)
- Nothing comes to mind, that Eastern is negative. (626)
- I can't think of any negative experiences or anything negative that I got from EIU. (650)
- I really can not think of any negative impact. (666)
- Cannot think of anything, I loved EIU! (679)
- No negative impact, my whole experience with EIU has been and continues to be very positive. (687)
- EIU was great. (812)
- Time went by too fast. (823)
- The only negative in my life while I was at EIU, had nothing to do with the school. All in all, a great experience. (830)