A COMPARISON OF JUNIOR COLLEGE EDUCATORS'
PERCEPTIONS TOWARD POSTSECONDARY
TECHNICAL-OCCUPATIONAL PROGRAMS
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Thesis Approved:

$\frac{\text { Merman of the Graduate College }}{\text { Dean of }}$

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## CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

Technical-occupational programs have multiplied rapidly in Oklahoma's Junior Colleges during the past ten years. In 1965, there were only 75 technical-occupational programs being operated in the Oklahoma State System of colleges and universities. During the 1975-76 academic year 380 programs were offered at 27 colleges and universities throughout the State.

The increase in numbers of programs has been accompanied by substantial increases in enrollments. Individuals of various ages and backgrounds have enrolled in these programs. It seems that the technical-occupational programs are gaining acceptance in the eyes of students and the general public.

The public image of all vocational education may be changing. For example, Shultz (1971) found that public opinions toward vocational education are generally favorable, but the general public was relatively uninformed about the specific goals and purposes of vocational education programs.

In a somewhat related study, Darby (1976) solicited parents' perceptions of technical-occupational programs as opposed to a liberal arts education. He found that upperclass parents tended to view technical-occupational programs


#### Abstract

less favorably than middle- or lower-class parents. Darby also concluded that further research needed to be conducted concerning different groups' perceptions of technicaloccupational programs at the postsecondary level.


Statement of the Problem

The development of expanded technical and occupational offerings in Oklahoma junior colleges has had an impact upon the roles or functions of these institutions. Today there are 13 junior colleges in the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education which have been designated as comprehensive institutions. The three principal functions of these institutions are to provide: university parallel programs, technical and occupational programs, and community service programs.

Program offerings, enrollments and the money allocated to these programs has increased, there is however very little information available concerning the degree of acceptance these functions have gained among the faculty, administration and staff responsible for operating the institutions.

The problem with which this study was concerned was the lack of information concerning the views of junior college administrators and faculty toward technical and occupational programs. The problem was delineated by stating a series of questions. How are postsecondary technical-occupational programs viewed by college educators? Do administrators
view the programs differently than do faculty members? Do the faculty members involved in teaching the technicaloccupational programs view them differently than do other faculty members? Do educators view technical-occupational programs as being less prestigious than other academic areas? What are educators' opinions concerning the financing of technical-occupational programs? Do educators view postsecondary technical-occupational programs as being of equal or higher quality than university parallel programs? These were the primary questions investigated in the study.

## Statement of Purpose

The purpose of this study was to assess the perceptions of educators from selected Oklahoma Junior Colleges toward postsecondary technical-occupational programs. Specifically, the perceptions of junior college administrators, junior college university parallel faculty members, and junior college technical-occupational faculty members toward factors related to the prestige, cost, and quality of postsecondary technical-occupational programs and university parallel programs were studied.

## Questions Investigated

The following questions were investigated in the study:
Question 1: Is there a difference among the administrators' technicaloccupational faculty members' and university parallel faculty members' perceptions of the prestige of
postsecondary technicaloccupational programs and university parallel programs?

Question 2: Is there a difference among the administrators', technicaloccupational faculty members' and university parallel faculty members' perceptions of the financing (cost) of postsecondary technicaloccupational programs and university parallel programs?

Question 3: Is there a difference among the administrators', technicaloccupational faculty members' and university parallel faculty members' perceptions of the quality of postsecondary technical-occupational programs and university parallel programs?

Definitions of Terms

Several terms were defined in the study to avoid multiple interpretations. These terms were as follows:

Junior College University Parallel Faculty: Fulltime faculty members of the selected junior colleges whose primary teaching assignment was in a university parallel program.

Junior College Technical-Occupational Faculty/Program
Faculty: Fulltime faculty members of the selected junior colleges whose primary teaching assignment was in a technical-occupational program.

Junior College Administrators: Fulltime personnel of selected junior colleges whose primary assignment is administration but whose secondary responsibilities may be in teaching areas. Those regarded as administrators included
the following: Presidents, Vice-Presidents," Deans, Department Chairpersons, Program Directors and/or Coordinators, Librarians, Counselors, and Student Personnel Officers.

Selected Junior Colleges: All junior colleges in Oklahoma that are part of the institutions comprising the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education: Carl Albert Junior College, Claremore Junior College, Connors State College, Eastern Oklahoma State College, El Reno Junior College, Murray State College, Northeastern Oklahoma A \& M College, Northern Oklahoma College, Oscar Rose Junior College, Seminole Junior College, South Oklahoma City Junior College, Western Oklahoma State College, and Tulsa Junior College.

Technical-Occupational Program: An educational program in at least one of the selected junior colleges that is designed for immediate employment upon graduation or completion

University Parallel Programs: An educational program in the selected junior colleges that is designed to be the first two years of a four year degree program.

## Limitations

Junior college administrators were fulltime employees of the selected junior colleges in Oklahoma who indicated that their primary assignment during the 1976-77 academic year was administration.

Junior college parallel faculty members were limited to those who were teaching fulltime at the selected

Oklahoma junior colleges during the spring semester of the 1976-77 academic year.

Junior college technical-occupational faculty members were limited to those fulltime faculty members who were teaching technical-occupational programs in the selected participating Oklahoma junior colleges during the spring semester of the 1976-77 academic year.

Measures of participants' perceptions concerning the prestige of technical-occupational programs were limited to the sixteen items contained in the data collection instrument.

Measures of participants' perceptions concerning the financing of technical-occupational programs were limited to the eighteen questions contained in Section II of the data collection instrument.

Measures of participants' perceptions concerning the quality of technical-occupational programs were limited to the program areas contained in Section III of the data collection instrument.

## Need for the Study

Many factors influence the development of quality educational programs. Some of the more obvious factors are finances, facility, and faculty. According to Divita (1968) a less obvious but important factor is the manner in which programs are viewed by personnel in the sponsoring institutions. Positive views toward a program by those directly
responsible for program operation enhances the development of quality.
The primary responsibility for the development of quality technical-occupational programs rests with faculty and administrators. Thus, knowledge about how they view these programs could be useful in program improvement.

## CHAPTER II

## REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND RESEARCH

This Chapter presents a synopsis of the pertinent material related to the investigation. However, this does not imply that the factors included comprise an exhaustive list.

Shultz (1971) conducted a study which was concerned with the public image of vocational and technical programs. He sought to identify the perceptions regarding several aspects of vocational and technical education as held by the public in Oklahoma

Shultz concluded that the general opinions toward vocational education programs were favorable, but the general public was relatively uninformed about the goals and purposes of vocational education programs. Schultz recommended that it would be of value to conduct research of this type to determine the attitude of school administrators, school board members, parents, and students toward vocational programs.

Ballard (1973) conducted a study which was concerned with the role and function of public junior colleges in Oklahoma as perceived by citizens, students, faculty, administrators, and trustees. The specific objectives of this study were to determine the degree of differences, if any, among the publics' perceptions of the appropriate
extent of the colleges' involvement in the various functions.
The results of this study were such that it was felt that the perceptions of the appropriate activities and function priorities of the institutions held by the publics of all the colleges with the possible exception of one were so divergent as to constitute an obstacle in the achievement of educational excellence.

Fritze (1974) conducted a study concerning the opinions of public junior colleges held by public secondary school personnel involved. in advising college-bound students.

Selected conclusions and recommendations from the Fritze study were:
(1) Positive opinions of the junior college held by Oklahoma high school personnel were related to the visitation of junior colleges where their graduates attended. Due to this apparent positive influence, it would appear to be a valuable practice for Oklahoma junior college officials to regularaly invite high school personnel who assist students with college planning to the campus.
(2) Positive opinions of the junior college held by Oklahoma high school personnel were related to regular visitation of high schools by junior college representatives.
(3) Positive opinions of the junior college held by Oklahoma high school personnel were related to having attended junior colleges. Thus, it would appear to benefit junior colleges if more high school personnel who have attended junior colleges were assisting students with college planning (p. 10).

In a somewhat related study, Darby (1976) solicited parents' perceptions of technical-occupational programs as
opposed to a liberal arts education. He found that upper-
class parents tended to view technical-occupational programsless favorably than middle- or lower-class parents.Based upon the results of this study the following con-
clusions and recommendations were offered:
(1) Upper dominion parents hold a lowerregard of vocational education as anacceptable educational endeavor fortheir children.
(2) Lower dominion parents hold a higherregard of vocational education as anacceptable educational endeavor fortheir children.
(3) There was a discernible difference inthe perception of educational valuesbetween upper dominion and lowerdominion parents.(4) Social status does influence one's per-ception of education, educationalprograms, and what is an acceptablelevel of educational attainment.
(5) Those concerned with vocational educa-tion should further investigate theimplications of the social statusinfluence of educational programs.
(6) Additional studies should investigateparental perception of vocational edu-cation to determine if change is takingplace. Specifically, if upper dominionparents' attitude toward vocationaleducation is perhaps becoming morefavorable?
(7) Vocational education should continue to expand its total public relations program. More effort is needed to describe and inform the public regarding the broad and diversified vocational curricula and the expanding opportunities for the graduate (p. 27).

The Vocational Education Amendments of (1968) are having
a very positive effect upon the image of vocational education according to many writers. For example, Shilt (1970) enumerated some of the image changes that are taking place including the following:
(1) Vocational education has received a vote of confidence from the United States Congress to make a major contribution to the social and economic welfare of the nation through educating persons for work.
(2) There is a general awakening on the part of school superintendents and principals which recognizes the potential of vocational education as an educational process.
(3) One of the most significant factors in the changing image of vocationaltechnical education can be found in the type and amount of research being conducted in the field.
(4) New programs in vocational and career education are being developed for persons who have not previously benefitted from the traditional programs of vocational education.
(5) Guidance and counseling is taking on new and added responsibilities as vocational education moves toward serving more people at all levels and stages of development. Occupational information is being given to pupils in the elementary and junior high grades, and work experience is becoming an integral part of their total education. All school personnel are becoming more and more oriented toward occupational education.
(6) Vocational-technical educators have been alert to newer teaching devices and techniques (p. 15).

According to Shultz (1971):
Vocational education, the neglected stepchild
of the educational system, has been downgraded by the public and relegated by educators to unmotivated students. Many parents have felt that vocational education was good only for someone else's children.

As pointed out by an editorial published in the Stillwater News Press (1971):

The U. S. Office of Education estimates that half of all jobs opening up in the 1970's will require training beyond high school but less than a four-year degree.

Society is creating a large number of educated incompetents because of its unrealistic demands that a student must have a four-year degree, charges Irving Goldstein, president of CharronWilliams Systems, Inc., a leading network of commercial and technical training schools in the Southeast.

Very often when a student drops out of a fouryear college program he has a feeling of failure and is completely lacking in direction.

By contrast, a student pursuing a vocational education course has a sense of immediate accomplishment, a sense of purpose. He knows what type of career he is being prepared for. The course of study is intense and the student has not time for campus protesting.

Society must stop placing a stigma on young people who don't go to college. It must stop looking down on vocational education as nonintellectual or noncreative. The entire concept of vocational education needs to be upgraded.

The National Advisory Council on Vocational Education (1970) stressed that vocational education in the United States suffers from a national preoccupation that everyone must go to college. Government at all levels--school administrators, teachers, parents, and students--are all guilty of the attitude that vocational education is designed
for somebody else's children.

## School Personnel and the Image of <br> Vocational Education

Fritze (1974) indicated that educators have decided that superior schools are measured by the number of graduates who later enroll in college. Educators know that parents will support superior schools. Non-college preparatory vocational education, when available, is operated as a charitable, civic enterprise.

Guidance associations insist that occupational goals are short-term goals, and too modest for high school students. (In their view, any pursuit less than college is short-term and all vocational education is modest, Fritze, 1974).

Administration and guidance seem hopelessly confused by the terminology of "work experience," "work study," and "cooperative work education." Some guidance counselors misrepresent the objectives of industrial cooperative education to potential students (Workman, 1970).

It is essential that all school personnel, and counselors in particular, hold an image of vocational education which is accurate in terms of today's thrust in vocational education. However, this apparently is not always the case, because Hoyt (1970) found the following negative perceptions of vocational education present among counselors in all parts of the United States:
(1) The first negative perception is one of
vocational educators' trying to turn out skilled technicians and craftsmen at the secondary-school level.
(2) The second negative perception has resulted from what was formerly the major claimed purpose of high school vocational education-to prepare people for gainful employment.
(3) A third negative perception has been that vocational education has failed to offer a sufficient variety of choice to students.
(4) A final perception held by many counselors is that vocational education exists as something separate and apart from "regular" school (pp. 41-43).
In a more positive vein, Hoyt further indicated that in spite of certain negative images held by more than a few individual counselors, the overriding image--the hopes and aspiration--which the guidance movement hold for vocational education, is positive. This "ideal" image, which is entirely consistent with the goals and objectives of the guidance movement itself, has nine aspects that deserve comment, according to Hoyt. These were as follows:
(1) Vocational education should be seen as representing a means of expanding the spectrum of educational opportunities.
(2) Vocational education should be seen as representing an opportunity for young people to discover and develop the special talents they possess.
(3) Vocational education represents one aspect of the school which does, by its basic mode of operation, provide for individual differences.
(4) Vocational education represents an opportunity to discover and reflect purposefully on the values of a workoriented society.
(5) Vocational education provides
opportunities for all students to
experience success at some level in theireducational undertakings. It isinherent in the nature of vocationaleducation that no student ever failscompletely.
(6) Vocational education represents a mean-ingful and direct contact between theschool and the world of work.
(7) Secondary-school vocational education represents a different avenue by which young people can explore and make decisions regarding the need for and desirability of postsecondary training and education.
(8) High school vocational education represents one place where students whose abilities are too low to profit from training after high school can acquire basic job skills which will enable them to become productive workers.
(9) Vocational education represents an opportunity for young people to explore and develop basic job skills which have wide application in a variety of occupational areas (p. 42).
According to Hoyt (1970) it can be concluded that the negative image of vocational education held by many practicing counselors, as members of the public, has been created both by the practices of vocational educators and by the lack of clear thinking on the part of many counselors. The true image of vocational education, expressed in terms of its basic goals and objectives, is one which should be viewed positively by all professional counselors if optimum program effectiveness is to be attained.
A study conducted in Massachusetts (Massachusetts Vocational Educational Research Coordinating Unit, 1969), found
junior high school staff members to have favorable attitudes toward vocational education with two major exceptions: vocational education was not perceived to be a suitable experience for scholastically able students; and the occupations for which vocational students were trained were not as socially respectable as other employment alternatives.

The attitudes of junior $h$ igh school staff members toward vocational education are crucial to the development of programs that meet the total educational needs of students. It might be stated that junior high school staff members differentiate between technicians and theorists and perceive vocational education as a suitable experience for tradesmen and technicians, but not for students with the ability to become theorists.

Divita (1968) found that a "low status" stereotype associated with vocational education programs and students was felt to be a serious factor which hampered the growth of vocational education programs. Vocational education students were often perceived as being sterotyped as students of low intelligence and from low income families. It was felt that improvement of programs and educating the public about vocational education would do much to remove the "low status" stereotype associated with vocational education programs and students; however, the respondents did not feel that county school systems were presently doing an adequate job of educating the public about vocational education. It was felt that vocational education programs made enough
students useful members of society to justify their cost.
Punke (1968) concluded that previously, "vocational image" reflected work involving gross muscular activity and skills which presumeably anybody could acquire.

Punke further relates that currently the business and industrial world look upon the earlier concepts of vocational education as essentially obsolete but perhaps of historical value--for clues on how to go on from where we are now. One obstacle to going on is the inferiority status implied in the vocational image that seems to be embedded in the personalities of some teachers in vocational and industrial arts education. Perhaps such teachers thus signify that their own learning and teaching experience has not developed in them a broad understanding of the role which vocational activity actually plays in a modern industrial culture.

The business and industrial community in America seems more alert than the educational community to the idea that the vocational scene is changing as rapidly as the civil rights and urbanization scene. Several aspects of the philosophy of vocational education have not changed accordingly. Does it seem realistic to infer that the philosophy and implementation of vocational education can lead in the nation's vocational development if their present rate of advance leaves them in the trail of dust as industry and technology race over the next hill (Punke, 1968)?

Punke concludes that if vocational education does not
assume leadership responsibility, it will have to be content with the "Flunky image" of its followership.

Childs (1970) concluded that jobs are made by industry not by schools. Too many educators isolate themselves in the classrooms and school shops and teach as they believe a subject should be taught with no consideration of industry, its changes, or its needs for training in new techniques of service and skill development on new unit designs. Educators too often develop a "know-it-all" attitude and as a result do not communicate with industry. Also, there are those who are afraid industry will find out just how much they do not know about the subject.

## Summary

The literature reviewed seems to be divided regarding attitudes toward vocational education. In general, the public seems to view it more favorably than do those groups, directly or indirectly connected with it. Several sources cited positive attitudes held by the public at large while school administrators and faculty were less positive and guidance counselors were the least positive of all.

The very existence of such divided attitudes among those concerned with vocational education indicates some need for more detailed study.

## CHAPTER III

## METHODS AND PROCEDURES

## Pre-Survey Procedures

The purpose of this study was to assess the perceptions of educators from selected Oklahoma Junior Colleges toward postsecondary technical-occupational programs. Specifically, the perceptions of junior college administrators, junior college university parallel faculty members, and junior college technical-occupational faculty members toward factors related to the prestige, cost, and quality of postsecondary technical-occupational programs and university parallel programs were studied.

This Chapter of the study contains an explanation of the methods and procedures used in conducting the study. Methods and procedures were divided into three areas: (1) pre-survey procedures, (2) data collection procedures, and (3) data analysis procedures.

## Selection of Study Participants

Participants for the study were all fulltime administrators and fulltime faculty members at the thirteen Oklahoma Junior Colleges which are members of the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education.

The numbers of fulltime university parallel faculty members, administrators, and technical-occupational faculty members employed by each junior college during the 1976-77 academic year as indicated by college catalogs are shown in Table I.

Information from item number two of the questionnaire (see Appendix A) was used to place each respondent into one of three groups. These were; (1) administrators, (2) university parallel faculty members, and (3) technical-occupational faculty members. Data relative to technical-occupational faculty members', parallel faculty members', and administrators' job responsibilities were used to assign each participant to one of the three groups. Those individuals who indicated their primary assignment was administration were placed in the administrator's group. Faculty members whose teaching assignments were in one of the technicaloccupational programs were placed in the technical-occupational faculty group. All other faculty members were placed in the university parallel faculty group.

Development of the Survey Instrument

A survey instrument was developed by determining the categories or types of information sought and then formulating a number of questions under each category. A copy of the Educational Survey is presented in Appendix A.

The areas or types of questions were classified as
follows:

TABLE I
RESPONSE PATTERNS OF THE ADMINISTRATORS, PARALLEL FACULTY AND TECHNICAL-OCCUPATIONAL FACULTY FROM

THE THIRTEEN JUNIOR COLLEGES

| Junior College |  |  | Number of Usable Responses by Group |  |  | Number of Unusable Responses | Total <br> Number of Responses | Percent of Return** |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number of Questionnaires "Sent * Ret. |  | University Parallel Faculty | TechnicalOccupational Faculty | Administrators |  |  |  |
| 1. Carl Albert Jr. College | 22 | 20 | 11 | 3 | 6 | 0 | 20 | 91\% |
| 2. Claremore Jr. College | 68 | 58 | 25 | 3 | 15 | 15 | 58 | 85\% |
| 3. Connors State College | 57 | 42 | 21 | 13 | 8 | 0 | 42 | 74\% |
| 4. Eastern Oklahoma State Col. | . 86 | 63 | 26 | 22 | 15 | 0 | 63 | 73\% |
| 5. El Reno Jr. College | 33 | 32 | 21 | 4 | 7 | 0 | 32 | 97\% |
| 6. Murray State College | 66 | 38 | 14 | 15 | 9 | 0 | 38 | 58\% |
| 7. Northeastern Okla. A \& $M$ | 106 | 71 | 36 | 18 | 17 | 0 | 71 | 67\% |
| 8. Northern Oklahoma Col. | 61 | 42 | 16 | 19 | 6 | 1 | 42 | 69\% |
| 9. Oscar Rose Jr. College | 154 | 87 | 39 | 21 | 26 | 1 | 87 | 56\% |
| 10. Seminole Jr. College | 62 | 40 | 20 | 10 | 10 | 0 | 40 | 65\% |
| 11. South O. C. Jr. College | 105 | 83 | 33 | 23 | 23 | 4 | 83 | 79\% |
| 12. Western Oklahoma State Col. | 1. 39 | 34 | 19 | 7 | 8 | 0 | 34 | 87\% |
| 13. Tulsa Jr. College | 145 | 83 | 31 | 28 | 24 | 0 | 83 | 57\% |
| Totals 1 | 1,004 | 693 | 312 | 186 | 174 | 21 | 693 | 69.0\% |

* Number sent was determined by the personnel listings in the college catalozs.
** Percent of return was calculated from the total number of responses.
(1) Biographical Information
(2) Section I: Program Prestige
(3) Section II: Program Financing
(4) Section III: Program Quality
(5) Individual Comments

The biographical information section included level of educational attainment, present assignment, sex, age, and past experiences. This information was used to develop a brief description of study respondents and to provide categories for data analysis.

Sixteen questionnaire items were used to assess perceptions of program prestige. Each participant was asked to choose between "technical-occupational programs" or "university parallel programs" in response to each of the 16 items related to prestige.

Potential respondents for this study were employees of institutions which officially gives equal status to "technical-occupational" and "university parallel" programs. It was expected that the use of a forced choice instrument would reduce the response rate. This technique should, however, determine whether the respondents view one program as having more prestige than the other. If respondents viewed the two programs equally, could not make a conscious choice and used a random method to select responses, the responses for any group would be approximately equally divided between "technical-occupational" and "university parallel" programs. If, however, the respondents did
consciously choose one program over the other the responses for any group would not necessarily be equally divided between "technical-occupational" and "university parallel" programs. Any differences between the responses rates would reflect differences in perceptions of prestige.

The sixteen items in this section of the instrument were related to several aspects of program prestige. Items 1 and 14 were related to ability. The two items were, however, considered to be opposites. For example, the program chosen as the response to item 1 "which requires more academic ability?" is considered to be of higher prestige than the program not chosen. (Table III) The program chosen as the response to item 14 would, however, be considered to be of lower prestige than the program not chosen.

Items 2-6 were related to program outcomes. The program chosen in response to each of these items was considered to be of higher prestige than the program not chosen.

Items 7, 8, and 9 were items of a personal nature. Again the program chosen in response to each of these items was considered to be of higher prestige than the program not chosen.

Items 10,11 , and 12 were concerned with social class. The program chosen in response to item 10 was considered to be of lower prestige than the one not chosen. The program chosen in response to items 11 and 12 was considered to be of higher prestige than the one not chosen.

The program chosen in response to item 13 was considered
to be higher than the one not chosen. The program chosen in response to item 15 was considered to be of higher prestige than the program not chosen.

Item 16 deals directly with the issue of prestige. The program chosen in response to this item was considered to be of higher prestige than the one not chosen.

The respondents' opinions of program costs were based on 18 questionnaire items related to facilities, equipment, materials, personnel, travel, per diem, and consultants.

Program finance item one was concerned with the amount of building space needed per program.

Items two and three were concerned with program personnel requirements.

Student support services, such as transportation, counseling, guidance, and health care were the essence of item four.

Items five and nine were concerned with community support and contacts within the community.

Items six and seven were concerned with special qualifications required for each type of program's faculty and administration.

Item eight was concerned with the amount of nonprofessional support staff needed by each type of program, while item 10 was related to student recruiting.

Items $11,12,13$, and 14 were concerned with the amount of teaching materials, supplies, equipment, and library facilities required by each type of program.

Items 15,16 , and 17 were related to the costs of travel and per diem for administrators, faculty, and students.

Item 18 was a direct question concerning the type of program which required the most money per student. The final question was actually a summary of the previous 17 questions. The program chosen in response to these items would be more expensive than the program not chosen.

A third questionnaire area, Program Quality, was unique to each institution. A separate instrument for each institution was developed by listing technical-occupational and university parallel programs offered by each junior college.

Individual estimates of program quality were determined by having each participants place an " H " by the three highest quality programs and an "L" by the three lowest quality programs at their institution. The highest-quality and lowest-quality rankings or choices were then tabulated for the university parallel and technical-occupational programs at each junior college.

The final section of the questionnaire was a space for making subjective comments and observations about the previous sections.

Questionnaire Validity

The content validity of the questionnaire was established by the consensual or jury method. Copies of the
questionnaire were distributed to all five members of the Doctoral Committee. Each member was asked to determine whether the questions being asked would, in fact, solicit the kind of information needed in the study. Committee suggestions and changes in format or items were incorporated in the final instrument.

## Survey Procedures

The following procedures were followed in conducting the mail survey.

Surveys were mailed to the presidents of the participating colleges. These presidents, in turn, gave the materials to their chief academic officers for distribution and collection.

The data presented in Table I show that a total of 693 responses were received yielding a response rate of 69.0 percent. However, 21 of the responses were unusable, and this lowered the actual response rate to 672 or 66.93 percent. The highest percent of returns was received from $E 1$ Reno Junior College (97\%), while the lowest percent of returns was from Oscar Rose and Tulsa Junior Colleges, 56 percent and 57 percent respectively.

## Data Analysis Procedures

Quantitative values were assigned to the participants' responses and entered on cards for further processing. A copy of the card format and the raw data are presented in

Appendix $C$.

Statistical Analysis

Next the response to each "prestige" and "cost" item of the questionnaire were analyzed by generating frequency counts for several categories. These categories and the groups within each category are shown as follows:
a. Highest Degree Earned
i. Doctorate
ii. Masters
iii. Educational Specialist
iv. Bachelor's
v. Associate
vi. Certificate or "Other"
b. Institutional Assignment
i. Technical-Occupational Faculty
ii. University Parallel Faculty
iii. Administrator
c. Age
i. 20-30
ii. 31-40
iii. 41-50
iv. 51-60
v. Over 61
d. Sex
i. Male
ii. Female
e. Professional Experience
i. College experience in teaching, research, administration, or a related academic staff position: At this institution

The chi square statistic was used to test for differences among or between groups in each category. This test is most appropriate for nominal level data.

The statistical package for the social sciences currently operational at the Oklahoma State University computer
center was used to generate frequency counts and chi square analysis.

Frequency counts of the programs listed as being of "highest" and "lowest" quality by position were generated. The chi square statistic was used to test for differences among the three groups.

## CHAPTER IV

## RESULTS OF DATA ANALYSIS

The purpose of this study was to assess the perceptions of educators from selected Oklahoma Junior Colleges toward postsecondary technical-occupational programs. Specifically, the perceptions of junior college administrators, junior college university parallel faculty members, and junior college technical-occupational faculty members toward factors related to the prestige, cost, and quality of postsecondary technical-occupational programs and university parallel programs were studied.

In this study, 672 administrators, technicaloccupational faculty members, and university parallel faculty members from 13 junior colleges in Oklahoma responded to a Program Survey Questionnaire in an attempt to determine if there were any differences among the administrators' ( $\mathrm{N}=$ 174), parallel faculty members' ( $\mathrm{N}=312$ ), and technicaloccupational faculty members' ( $\mathrm{N}=186$ ) perceptions of the prestige, financing, and quality of postsecondary technicaloccupational programs and university parallel programs. Three general questions were studied in comparing the three groups' responses to three questionnaire areas. Secondary comparisons were also made among the three groups' (1)
educational levels, (2) ages, and (3) gender. Participants' comments were also presented and analyzed.

This Chapter contains the results of investigating all research questions as well as secondary findings.

## Biographical Information

The participants' educational level, sex, age, and professional experience are presented in Table II. These data show that the administrators had the highest level of education, parallel faculty members had the second highest educational level, and technical-occupational faculty members had the least amount of education.

There was a difference among the percentages of males and females in the three groups. There were more males among the administrators than among the two faculty groups.

Ages of the three groups of participants were different. Administrators were older than either of the faculty groups and the university parallel faculty members were older than the technical-occupational faculty members.

Parallel faculty members reported the greatest amount of experience at the institution. Administrators reported exactly six years average experience, while technicaloccupational faculty members showed an average of less than five and one-half years experience.

## . $\quad$

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TABLE II
SUMMARY OF BIOGRAPHICAL DATA AS REPORTED BY ADMINISTRATORS, PARALLEL
FACULTY MEMBERS, AND TECHNICAL-OCCUPATIONAL FACULTY MEMBERS

|  |  | TechnicalOccupational faculty members ( $\mathrm{N}=186$ ) | $\begin{gathered} \text { Parallel } \\ \text { faculty } \\ \text { members } \\ (N=312) \end{gathered}$ | Administrators $(N=174)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| EDUCATIONLEVEL | Doctorate | 3 | 33 | 41 |
|  | Master's Degree | 128 | 257 | 112 |
|  | Education Specialist | 3 | 1 | 3 |
|  | Bachelor's Degree | 44 | 19 | 13 |
|  | Associate Degree | 2 | 1 | 2 |
|  | Certificate or Other | 4 | 1 | 3 |
|  | Non-respondents | 2 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Totals | 186 | 312 | 174 |
| . SEX | Males | 56\% | 63\% | 71\% |
|  | Females | 38\% | 33\% | 25\% |
|  | Non-respondents | 6\% | 4\% | 4\% |
| Totals |  | 100\% | 100\% | 100\% |
| AGE |  | $X=37.54$ | X $=38.37$ | $\bar{X}=39.96$ |
|  |  | $s=8.17$ | $s=10.12$ | $s=9.22$ |
|  |  | X $=5.437$ | X $=6.502$ | X $=6.000$ |
| YEARS AT PRESENT INSTITUTION |  | $s=10.221$ | $s=9.173$ | $S=8.347$ |

## A Comparison of the Three Groups' Perceptions of the Prestige of Postsecondary TechnicalOccupational Programs

The responses to each questionnaire item were analyzed by calculating the frequencies and percentages. The chi square statistic was used to test for differences among the three groups. The results of these analyses are shown in Table III.

All three groups felt that the university parallel programs required more academic ability. Percentages of each group choosing the university parallel programs ranged from a low of 81.6 percent for the technical-occupational faculty members to a high of 98 percent for the university parallel faculty members.

All three groups felt that university parallel programs would yield a better general education. Percentages of the three groups expressing this opinion were technicaloccupational faculty members, 81.6 percent; university parallel faculty members, 94.5 percent; and administrators, 91.8 percent.

There were differences of opinion among the three groups as to which type of program led to a better occupation. Over sixty percent (62.2\%) of the technical-occupational faculty members preferred the technical-occupational programs, while 74.3 percent of the university parallel faculty
table III
a COMPARISON OF THE RESPONSES MADE IY TECHNICAL FACULTY MEMBERS
PARALLEL FACULTY MEMBERS, AND ADMINISTRATORS
TO EACH QUESTIONNAIRE ITEM

| Which trpe Of education plogram | Technical Faculty$(N=186)$ |  | Porallel Facully$(N=312)$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Administrotors } \\ (N=174) \end{gathered}$ |  | $x^{2}$ | Significance Leval |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Technical | Porallel | Tachinical | Parallal | Technical | Parallel |  |  |
| 1. requires more acodemic abllity? | 18.4 | 81.6 | 2.0 | 98.0 | 9.3 | 90.7 | 40.45 | $p<. .0001^{-\cdots}$ |
| 2. olves a betler general education? | 18,4 | 81.6 | 3.5 | 94.5 | 8.2 | 91.8 | 22.20 | p < . 0001 |
| 3. leods te e belter occupolion? | 62.2 | 37.8 | 25.7 | 74.3 | 41.2 | 58.8 | 62.48 | $p$ < . 0001 |
| 4. leods to more job opportunities? | 60.3 | 31.7 | 43.8 | 56.2 | 56.6 | 43.4 | 28.03 | $p$ \& . 0001 |
| 5. Leods ta more job solisfaction? | 68.7 | 31.3 | 23.2 | 76.8 | 42.1 | 57.9 | 94.36 | $p$ \& .0001 |
| 6. leodi to more job odvoncement? | 47.0 | 53.0 | 18.0 | 82.0 | 18.5 | 81.5 | 55.60 | $p$ \& .0001 |
| 7. mould you odvise for your son? | 51.4 | 48.6 | 11.5 | 88.5 | 27.2 | 72.8 | 88.45 | $p$ ¢ . .0001 |
| 8. would you odvise for your daughter? | 49.7 | 50.3 | 8.9 | 01.1 | 23.2 | 76.8 | 99.80 | P - . |
| 9. mould you prefer? | 48.6 93.7 | 51.4 | 5.4 | 94.6 23 | 20.0 | 80.0 | 125.93 | $p$ a . . MOI |
| 11. is belter for students in middla clesis? | 93.7 60.6 | 6.3 39.4 | 76.2 25.2 | 23.8 74.8 | 80.2 47.2 | 19.8 52.8 | 23.15 58.53 | p<.0301 |
| 12. is better for students in weality clasi? | 23.4 | 76.6 | 4.9 | 74.8 95.1 | 47.2 13.5 | 52.8 86.5 | 58.53 34.25 | P< . 0001 |
| 13, Is baller for most studenta? | 71.5 | 28.5 | 28.2 | 71.8 | 47.6 | 52.4 | 34.25 83.64 | P < . P -.000 1 |
| 14. Is baller lor students with limited ability? | 88.3 | 11.7 | 92.3 | 7.7 | 92.0 | 8.4 | 2.45 |  |
| 15. do you feel is more Important? | 61.0 | 39.0 | 16.3 | 83.7 | 35.6 | 64.4 | 97.43 | P - |
| 16. do you fool is most prostigion? | 12.4 | 87.6 | 2.7 | 97.3 | 4.2 | 95.8 | 19.96 | $p$ < . 0001 |
| WHICH TYPE Of EDUCAIION PROGRAM REQUIRES |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. more bullding spoce per progrem? | 87.9 | 12.1 | 84.8 | 15.2 | 90.6 | 9.4 | 3.43 | $p>.05$ |
| 2. more foculiy per 100 students? | 88.6 | 11.4 | 84.8 | 13.2 | 90.6 | 9.4 | 3.76 | $p>.05$ |
| 3. more odministrative porsonnal? | 49.7 | 50.3 | 45.7 | 54.3 | 49.4 | 50.6 | 0.93 | $p \rightarrow .05$ |
| 4. more student suppoth servicert | 61.5 | 38.5 | 45.2 | 54.8 | 48.2 | 51.8 | 12.20 | PR-.05 |
| 5. community support? | 84.5 | 15.5 | 69.0 | 31.0 | 79.6 | 20.4 | 16.29 | P < . 01 |
| 6. more special qualifications for foculty? | 76.5 | 23.5 | 46.2 | 53.8 | 67.1 | 32.9 | 47.39 | $p<.0001$ |
| 7. more speclal qualiflcations for odminilirators? | 53.0 69.8 | 47.0 30.2 | 29.9 68.2 | 70.1 31.8 | 51.5 | 48.5 33 | 32.62 | P < . 0001 _.. |
| 9. more contactis in the communily? | 89.6 | 10.4 | 79.8 | 31.8 20.2 | 66.1 84.0 | 33.9 16.0 | 0.57 7.97 |  |
| 10. more siudent recrulting? | 82.5 | 17.5 | 60.1 | 39.9 | 72.2 | 27.8 | 27.31 | P < . 0000 L |
| 11. more specialized equipment? | 95.7 | 4.3 | 91.6 | 8.4 | 94.1 | 5.9 | 3.17 | P ? 0.05 |
| 12. more suparvised laboratory work? | 93.4 | 6.6 | 82.6 | 17.4 | 86.5 | 13.5 | 11.40 |  |
| 13. more teoching materialo/supplies? | 89.6 | 10.4 | 78.6 | 21.4 | 82.7 | 17.3 | 9.41 | $p<.01$ |
| 14. more library focilitios? | 21.9 | 78.1 | 5.0 | 95.0 | 10.7 | 89.3 | 32.56 | P ¢ . 0001 _ |
| 15. more Iraval by odministrators? 16. more traval by foculiy? | 54.5 | 45.5 | 49.7 | 50.3 | 58.0 | 42.0 | 3.10 | $p>05$ |
| 16. more troval by foculiy? | 68.5 77.0 | 31.5 23.0 | 50.7 72.2 | 49.3 27.8 | 60.4 83.6 | 39.6 16.4 | 15.00 7.72 | p< . 001 |
| 18. more monay per itudent? | 80,3 | 19.7 | 74.5 | 25.5 | 84.6 | 15.4 | 6.94 | P ¢ < . 05 |

-The total number of respondenis for esch group is shown in the column headings. Eoch respondent did net however rappond to each questionnaire llem. The numbers shown in the columne are percentages of the numbers responding
proilige $\mathrm{lom} / 10$.
members and 58.8 percent of the administrators felt that university parallel programs would lead to better occupation.

As far as job opportunities, most of the technicaloccupational faculty members (68.3\%) and administrators (56.6\%) felt that technical-occupational programs would yield more job opportunities. However, most of the university parallel faculty members (56.2\%) felt that university parallel programs would lead to more job opportunities.

Job satisfaction was the next area of consideration. Most of the university parallel faculty members (76.8\%) and administrators (57.9\%) felt that university parallel programs would lead to more job satisfaction than technicaloccupational programs, but more than two-thirds (68.7\%) of the technical-occupational faculty members felt that technical-occupational programs would yield the most job satisfaction. The majority of all three groups agreed that university parallel programs would lead to more job advancement than technical-occupational programs. Of the technical-occupational faculty members, 53 percent held this opinion, while 82 percent of the university parallel faculty members and 81.5 percent of the administrators were in agreement.

The next three questionnaire areas were concerned with the respondents' program preferences for their children and themselves. Interestingly enough, the majority of all three groups preferred university parallel programs for their daughters (technical-occupational faculty members, 50.3
percent; university parallel faculty members 91.1 percent; and administrators, 76.8 percent). On the other hand, a majority of the technical-occupational faculty members preferred technical-occupational programs for their sons (51.4\%), but 88.5 percent university parallel faculty members and 72.8 percent of the administrators preferred university parallel programs for their sons. All three groups felt that the technical-occupational programs were more advisable for their sons than for their daughters.

A majority of all three groups chose university parallel programs as their personal preference. The highest percentage was with the university parallel faculty members ( $94.6 \%$ ), while 80 percent of the administrators and 51.4 percent of the technical-occupational faculty members preferred the university programs.

The next questionnaire area was concerned with type of educational program and socioeconomic level. All three groups felt that technical-occupational programs were better for working class tudents. Percentages for each group were as follows: technical-occupational faculty members, 93.7 percent; university parallel faculty members, 76.2 percent; and administrators, 72.8 percent.

Prestige question number thirteen was actually a summary of the three previous items. Nearly seventy-two percent (71.8\%) of the university parallel faculty members and 52.4 percent of the administrators felt that university parallel programs were better than technical-occupational programs
for most students. However, 71.5 percent of the technicaloccupational faculty members felt that technical-occupational programs were better for most students and only 28.5 percent felt that university parallel programs were better for most students.

The majority of all three groups felt that technicaloccupational programs were better for students of limited ability. Percentages of each group favoring the technicaloccupational programs were as follows: technical-occupational faculty members, 88.3 percent; university parallel faculty members, 92.3 percent; and administrators, 92 percent.

Participants were asked to compare the overall importance of technical-occupational and university parallel programs. A majority of the university parallel faculty members (83.7\%) and administrators (64.4\%) felt that university parallel programs were more important. On the other hand, only 39 percent of the technical-occupational faculty members felt that the university parallel programs were more important than the technical-occupational programs.

The final prestige question required participants to choose the type of program which they felt was more prestigious. All three groups overwhelmingly selected the university parallel programs as the most prestigious. Percentages of each group selecting the university parallel programs were as follows: technical-occupational faculty members, 87.6 percent; university parallel faculty members,
97.3 percent; and administrators, 95.8 percent.

The chi square results presented in Table III show that there were differences among the three groups' responses in all cases except one. There was no difference among the three groups' responses concerning the type of program which is best for students of limited ability. All groups felt that technical-occupational programs were better for students of limited ability.

Although the three groups' responses to all other prestige questions were different, responses to some questions showed more diversity than others. For example, 80 percent of the administrators and 94.6 percent of the university parallel faculty members chose university parallel programs as their personal preference, while only 51.4 percent of the technical-occupational faculty members indicated a personal preference for university parallel programs over technical-occupational programs. This item reflected the greatest discrepancy of opinion among the three groups.

The area which showed the second greatest amount of diversity among ratings was concerned with the type of program most advisable for the respondents' daughters. Over ninety percent (91.1\%) of the university parallel faculty members felt that university parallel programs were more advisable for their daughters, and 76.8 percent of the administrators were in agreement with the university parallel faculty preferences. On the other hand, only 50.3 percent of the technical-occupational faculty members indicated that
university parallel programs were more advisable for their daughters than technical-occupational programs.

The subtleties of the program preferences indicated by the three groups' for their siblings and themselves are limitless. However, there are two which need further explanation.

First, program preferences showed that all three groups felt that technical-occupational programs were more advisable for their sons than for their daughters. There is no logical explanation for this discrepancy, but may be the result of having more and higher quality technicaloccupational program available for male participants. Another possible explanation would be that employment in skills areas does not afford as many job opportunities or advancement opportunities for females as males.

The second discrepancy which should be cited was differences among program preferences for their children and program preferences as advisable for themselves. The majority of all three groups felt that university parallel programs would be more advisable for them than technicaloccupational programs. While there was only a slight majority of the technical-occupational faculty members who preferred the university parallel programs over technicaloccupational programs (51.4\%), the critical analyst must wonder if technical-occupational faculty members are thoroughly convinced of the merit and long-term effectiveness of postsecondary technical-occupational programs.

Another observation which should be made is that faculty members, both technical-occupational and university parallel, may prefer university parallel programs because they feel that job opportunities afforded by the technicaloccupational programs are not as important as having a general education.

One section of the questionnaire was reserved for participants' comments concerning program prestige. These comments may be summarized as follows.

Nearly all of the 216 comments on Section I were directed toward the participants' inability and/or willingness to respond to the questionnaire items $5,7,8,10,11$, and 12.
(5) Which type of education program leads to more job satisfaction?
(7) Which type of education program would you advise for your son?
(8) Which type of education program would you advise for your daughter?
(10) Which type of education program is better for working class students?
(11) Which type of education program is better for middle class students?
(12) Which type of education program is better for wealthy class students?

## A Comparison of the Three Groups' Perceptions of the Costs of Postsecondary TechnicalOccupational Programs

The analysis of perceptions of program costs was accomplished by comparing the frequencies and percentages calculated for each group. A chi square statistic was used to test for differences among the three groups' responses. Results of these analyses are presented in the second part of Table III.

A majority of all three groups felt that technicaloccupational programs required more building space per program than university parallel programs. Of the technicaloccupational faculty members, 87.9 percent felt that technical-occupational programs required more building space than university parallel programs, while 84.8 percent of the university parallel faculty members and 90.6 percent of the administrators shared the same opinion.

Along the same line, 88.6 percent of the technicaloccupational faculty members, 84.8 percent of the university parallel faculty-members, and 90.6 percent of the administrators felt that technical-occupational programs required more faculty per 100 students than university parallel programs. This is probably because of the small classes usually associated with technical-occupational programs.

Somewhat of a paradox was noted on the next
questionnaire item. The majority of all three groups indicated that university parallel programs required more administrative personnel than technical-occupational programs even though technical-occupational programs required more faculty per 100 students. This question may have been interpreted in two different ways which could cause some discrepancy. Technical-occupational programs may require fewer administrative personnel simply because there are fewer technical-occupational programs than university parallel programs. A second interpretation could be that the technical-occupational programs require fewer administrative personnel per 100 students than university parallel programs. Percentages of all three groups who saw more administrative personnel for university parallel programs than technical-occupational programs were slightly above 50 percent. Percentages for the three groups were as follows: technical-occupational faculty members, 50.3 percent; university parallel faculty members, 54.3 percent; and administrators, 50.6 percent.

Participants were asked to indicate which type program they felt required more student support services. Over sixty percent (61.5\%) of the technical-occupational faculty members felt that technical-occupational programs required more student personnel services than university parallel programs. On the other hand, 54.8 percent of the university parallel faculty members and 61.8 percent of the administrators felt that university parallel programs required more
student personnel services than technical-occupational programs.

The next area to be considered was that of community support. An overwhelming majority of all three groups felt that technical-occupational programs required more community support than university parallel programs. The highest percentage (84.5\%) was noted for the technical-occupational faculty members, while 79.6 percent of the administrators and 69 percent of the university parallel faculty members shared the same opinion.

Participants were asked to indicate which type of program they felt would require more special qualifications for faculty members. Over three-fourths (76.5\%) of the technical-occupational faculty members and over two-thirds (67.1\%) of the administrators felt that technicaloccupational programs required more special faculty qualifications than university parallel programs. However, slightly more than one-half (53.8\%) of the university parallel faculty members felt that university parallel programs required more special qualifications for faculty members than technical-occupational programs.

A similar question was asked concerning the type of program which required more special qualifications for administrators. In this case, there was a tendency toward the university parallel programs, but opinions were about equally divided for both the technical-occupational faculty members and the administrators. Fifty-three percent (53\%)
of the technical-occupational faculty members and 51.5 percent of the administrators felt that technical-occupational programs required more special qualifications for administrators than university parallel programs. At the same time, 70.1 percent of the university parallel faculty members felt that university parallel programs required more special qualifications for administrators than technical-occupational programs.

Another area of program expense is classified as nonprofessional support staff. The three groups were asked to indicate the type of program they felt required more nonprofessional support staff. Approximately two-thirds of all three groups felt that technical-occupational programs required more nonprofessional support staff than university parallel programs. Of the technical-occupational faculty members, 69.8 percent selected technical-occupational programs, while 68.2 percent of the university parallel faculty members and 66.1 percent of the administrators were of the same opinion.

The next questionnaire area was concerned with the number of community contacts. This is essential to all technical-occupational programs because of the information sought in needs assessments; consultation, equipment and training materials furnished by business and industry; and the training and employment opportunities offered by local businesses. The majority of all three groups agreed that technical-occupational programs required more community
contacts than university parallel programs. Percentages of the three groups who expressed this opinion were as follows: technical-occupational faculty members, 89.6 percent; university parallel faculty members, 79.8 percent; and administrators, 84 percent.

Student recruiting can be an area of additional program expense, especially if faculty and student travel is involved. Participants were asked to indicate the type of program which they felt required more student recruiting. All three groups felt that technical-occupational programs required more student recruiting. Over eighty percent (82.5\%) of the technical-occupational faculty members, 60.1 percent of the university parallel faculty members, and 72.2 percent of the administrators felt that technicaloccupational programs required more student recruiting than university parallel programs. Percentages reported by the university parallel faculty were lower than those reported by technical-occupational faculty members and administrators.

Specialized equipment was the next area rated by the three groups of participants. Over ninety percent of all three groups felt that technical-occupational programs required more specialized equipment than university parallel programs. The highest group percentage was reported for technical-occupational faculty members (95.7\%). This was compared to 94.1 percent of the administrators and 91.6 percent of the university parallel faculty members. These results came as no surprise, because specialized equipment
program requiring more specialized equipment. All three groups indicated that technical-occupational programs required more specialized equipment than university parallel programs.

Participants were asked to indicate the type of program which they felt required more library facilities. Undoubtedly, library facilities are associated with university parallel programs more than technical-occupational programs, because 78.1 percent of the technical-occupational faculty members, 95 percent of the university parallel faculty members, and 89.3 percent of the administrators indicated that university parallel programs require more library facilities than technical-occupational programs.

The next three questionnaire items were concerned with the amount of administrator, faculty, and student travel associated with each type of program. A majority of the technical-occupational faculty members (54.5\%) and administrators (58\%) felt that technical-occupational programs required more administrator travel than university parallel programs. However, only 50.3 percent of the university parallel faculty members shared the same opinion.

Differences in opinion concerning the program which required more faculty travel were much more pronounced. A majority of all three groups felt that the technicaloccupational programs required more faculty travel than university parallel programs. Over two-thirds (68.5\%) of the technical-occupational faculty members, 50.7 percent
of the university parallel faculty members, and 60.4 percent of the administrators felt that technical-occupational programs required more faculty travel than university parallel programs. Additional faculty travel could be a source of program expense.

A majority of all three groups felt that student travel was more a part of technical-occupational programs than university parallel programs. Seventy-seven percent (77\%) of the technical-occupational faculty members, 72.2 percent of the university parallel faculty members, and 83.6 percent of the administrators felt that technical-occupational programs required more student travel than university parallel programs.

The issue of staff and student travel may be summarized by saying that in most cases, technical-occupational faculty members, university parallel faculty members, and administrators felt that technical-occupational programs required more administrative, faculty, and student travel than university parallel programs.

The final program costs question was intended to determine directly the three groups' opinions as to which type of program was considered most expensive. The overwhelming majority of all three groups agreed that technicaloccupational programs were more expensive than university parallel programs. The percentages of each group who selected the technical-occupational programs as being more expensive were as follows: technical-occupational faculty
members, 80.3 percent; university parallel faculty members, 74.5 percent; and administrators, 84.6 percent. These results came as no surprise when the results of the previous seventeen questionnaire items were summarized. All three groups agreed that technical-occupational programs required: (1) more building space per program, (2) more faculty per 100 students, (3) more student support services, (4) more nonprofessional support staff, (5) more student recruiting, (6) more contacts in the community, (7) more specialized equipment, (8) more supervised laboratory work, (9) more teaching materials and supplies, (10) more faculty travel, and (11) more student travel than university parallel programs. All these areas require at least some monetary support and some are quite expensive. This would account for the final conclusion by most participants that technicaloccupational programs are more expensive than university parallel programs.

Most of the 235 comments on Section II were directed toward the lack of response patterns. The two specific comments made most often were (1) there needed to be at least a 5-point continuum for responses and (2) one response needed to be "not sure or no opinion."

The few comments which were related to the content of the questionnaire generally conceded that technicaloccupational programs were more expensive than university parallel programs because of the extra equipment and facilities needed for technical-occupational programs.

A Comparison of the Three Groups Perceptions of the Quality of Postsecondary TechnicalOccupational Programs

The third research question was concerned with the quality of postsecondary technical-occupational programs as compared to university parallel programs. Respondents from each participating junior college were asked to indicate the three programs which they considered to be the highest quality at their institutions and the three programs which they considered to be the lowest quality. This resulted in six rankings made by each participant. Rankings were then categorized as technical-occupational programs or university parallel programs. Comparisons of the number and percent of lowest-quality and highest-quality program ratings associated with the technical-occupational and university parallel programs are presented in Tables IV and $V$.

The results presented in Table IV show that a majority (57.6 percent of the total) of the lowest-quality program ratings were associated with the university parallel programs.

Over forty percent ( $44.5 \%$ ) of the technical-occupational faculty members lowest-quality program ratings, 53.6 percent of the university parallel faculty members' lowest-quality program ratings, and 59.6 percent of the administrators' lowest-quality program ratings were associated with

## table IV

> THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF LOWEST-QUALITY PROGRAM RATINGS ASSOCIATED WITH TECHNICAL-OCCUPATIONAL AND UNIVERSITY PARALLEL PROGRAMS

|  | Lowest-Quality Program <br> Ratings Made of Technical- <br> Occupational Programs | Lowest-Quality Program <br> Ratings Made of University <br> Parallel Programs |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Technical-Occupational Faculty | 272 | 54.5 | 227 | 45.5 |
| University Parallel Faculty | 309 | 36.4 | 541 | 63.6 |
| Administrators | 195 | 40.4 | 288 | 59.6 |

$$
x^{2}=43.936 ; d f=2 ; p<.001
$$

TABLE V
THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF HIGHEST-QUALITY PROGRAM RATINGS ASSOCIATED WITH UNIVERS!TY PARALLEL AND technical-OCCUPATIONAL PROGRAMS

|  | Highest-Quality Program Ratings Made of TechnicalOccupational Programs |  | Highest-Quality Program Ratings Made of University Parallel Programs |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Technical-Occupational Faculty | 381 | 71.6 | 151 | 28.4 |
| University Parallel Faculty | 207 | 23.2 | 684 | 76.8 |
| Administrators | 243 | 50.4 | 239 | 49.6 |
| TOTALS. | 831 | 43.6 | 1,074 | 56.4 |
| $\mathrm{X}^{2}=330.02 ; \mathrm{df}=2 ;$ | $p<.001$ |  |  |  |

university parallel programs.
The results presented in Table $V$ show that 43.6 percent of the highest-quality program ratings were associated with technical-occupational programs, while 56.4 percent of the highest-quality program ratings were associated with the university parallel programs. The greatest percent of highest-quality program ratings was made by the university parallel faculty members of university parallel programs (76.8\%). On the other hand, technical-occupational faculty members highest-quality program ratings were associated with technical-occupational programs 71.6 percent of the time. Administrators' highest-quality program ratings were slightly more frequent with the technical-occupational programs (50.4\%), but the 49.6 percent of highest-quality program ratings associated with university parallel programs was not lower.

It should be noted that a comparison of the data presented in Tables IV and V will show that a majority of the lowest-quality program ratings and highest-quality program ratings were both associated with the university parallel programs.

Approximately nine percent of the participants did not respond to Section III of the questionnaire. The most common reasons given for non-response were as follows: participants had no way of judging the quality of the programs and (2) participants refused to acknowledge that some programs were of lower quality than others.

Many other comments ( $\mathrm{N}=84$ ) were too vague and esoteric to be of any value to the study. Most of these comments were an attempt to explain the philosophy and long-range goals of the junior college.

## Additional Analyses

In addition to the comparison of ratings made by participants from three occupational groups within each junior college, comparisons were made on other variables believed to be related to the perception of postsecondary technical-occupational programs. Comparisons were made among responses made by participants from three levels of educational training, both sexes, and four age categories. These data are summarized in Table VI, VII, and VIII. While the results of these comparisons were interesting, it should be noted that the additional comparisons simply resulted in a verification of findings presented in Table III. This was because of the duplication of comparison categories. For example, original comparisons were made among technicaloccupational faculty members, university parallel faculty members, and administrators. Secondary comparisons were made among participants who had doctorates, masters degrees, and bachelors degrees. The second categories proved to be almost a duplication of the first in that most doctorates were administrators, most of the masters degree people were university parallel faculty members, and most of the bachelor degree people were technical-occupational faculty members.

IAble VI
a Comparison of the response percentages made by participants from three educational levels to each questionnaire item

| educational level | Doctorate$(N=82)$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mosler's } \\ & (N=491) \end{aligned}$ |  | Bochelor's$(N=75)$ |  | $x^{2}$ | Significance Level |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Technical | Parallal | Technical | Parallal | Technical | Parolle: |  |  |
| WHICH TYPE OF EDUCAIION PROGRAM |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. requires more acodemic abilly? | $10.1{ }^{\circ}$ | 89.9* | 7.7* | $92.3{ }^{\circ}$ | 10.8* | $89.2{ }^{\circ}$ | 1.18 | $p>.05$ |
| 2. gives a batter general education? | 7.3 | 92.7 | 8.8 | 91.2 | 17.3 | 82.7 | 6.08 | pme.05 |
| 3. loods to a batter aceupation? | 37.2 | 62.8 | 36.7 | 63.3 | 59.2 | 40.8 | 13.25 | $p<.01$ |
| 4. leods 10 more job oppariunilior? | 60.3 | 39.7 | 49.6 | 50.4 | 74.6 | 25.4 | 17.17 | $p<.001$ |
| 5. leods to more job satisfaction? | 11.4 | 35.6 | 36.5 | 63.5 | 65.8 | 34.2 | 22.70 | $p<.0001$ |
| 6. leads to more job advoncement? | 20.5 | 79.5 | 25.1 | 74.9 | 37.5 | 62.5 | 6.38 | $p$ P . 05 |
| 7. would you odvise for your son? | 23.4 | 76.6 | 23.8 | 76.2 | 47.0 | 53.0 | 16.38 | $p$ p . 001 |
| 8. would you advise for your daughter? | 20.3 | 79.7 | 21.7 | 78.3 | 40.9 | 59.1 | 12.40 | $p$ < . 01 |
| 10. would you profer? | 13.9 | 86.1 | 18.9 | 81.1 | 40.0 | 60.0 | 19.07 | $p$ < 001 |
| 10. is belter for students in the working clow? | 78.7 | 21.3 | 82.2 | 17.8 | 88.2 | 11.8 | 2.33 | P. ? 05 . ${ }^{\text {P }}$ |
| 11. is beller for students in middle class? 12. is baller forstudents in wealihy class? | 34.7 | 65.3 | 37.9 | 62.1 | 68.1 | 31.9 | 24.09 | $p$ - .0001] |
| 13. is bollor for most itudants? | 47.2 | 86.8 | 11.9 | 88.1 | 15.9 | 84.1 | 0.93 | $P \geqslant .05$ |
| 14. Is botter for students with limitod obility? | 88.5 | 32,6 11.5 | 41.9 | 58.1 | 66.7 | 33.3 | 13.01 | p-.00\% |
| 15. do you feal is more imporiant? | 25.3 | 74.7 | 91.6 | 8.4 | 90.1 | 9.9 | 0.89 | P... 05 |
| 16. do you feel is most prestigious? | 6.3 | 74.7 93.8 | 30.2 4.2 | 69.8 95.8 | 63.9 12.7 | 36.1 87.3 | 34.44 8.67 | p |
| WHICH TYPE OF EDUCATION PROGRAM REQUIRES |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. more building space per program? | 90.1 | 9.9 | 87.9 | 12.1 | 79.2 | 20.8 | 5.03 | $p \geqslant .05$ |
| 2. more foculiy per 100 sludenis? | 90.2 | 9.8 | 87.0 | 13.0 | 86.5 | 13.5 | 0.72 | $p \geqslant .05$ |
| 3. more odministrallve perannol? | 48.1 | 51.9 | 50.5 | 49.5 | 30.0 | 70.0 | 10.30 | P < . 01. |
| 4. more student support services? | 47.4 | 52.6 | 51.7 | 48.3 | 47.9 | 52.1 | 0.74 | $p>.05{ }^{-1}$ |
| 5. community supporl? | 80.2 | 19.8 | 75.4 | 24.6 | 76.1 | 23.9 | 0.90 | $\mathrm{P}=.05$ |
| 6. more speciol qualifications for foculty? | 65.8 | 34.2 | 56.0 | 44.0 | 79.2 | 20.8 | 15.19 | $p=.00{ }^{-}$ |
| 7. more spaciel quolifications for odministrators? | 45.3 | 54.7 | 40.0 | 60.0 | 45.2 | 54.8 | 1.31 | P . 2.05 |
| 8. more nonprofessional support staff? | 67.9 | 32.1 | 70.2 | 29.8 | 54.3 | 45.7 | 7.08 | P \ll . 05 - |
| 9. more contacts in the community? | 79.7 | 20.3 | 83.5 | 16.5 | 86.3 | 13.7 | 1.20 | P">.05 ${ }^{\text {c }}$ |
| 10. more student recruiling? | 70.5 | 29.5 | 70.5 | 29.5 | 65.8 | 34.2 | 0.69 | P $\geqslant .05$ |
| 11. more specialized equipment? | 95.1 | 4.9 | 92.8 | 7.2 | 95.9 | 4.1 | 1.41 | P $\geqslant .05$ |
| 12. more supervised laborotory work? | 88.8 | 11.3 | 88.6 | 13.4 | 86.1 | 13.9 | 0.32 | $\mathrm{P} \geqslant .05$ |
| 13. more leaching molerials/supplies? | 80.0 | 20.0 | 83.7 | 16.3 | 80.8 | 19.2 | 0.90 | $p \geqslant .05$ |
| 14. more librory facllitios? | 13.4 | 86.6 | 9.0 | 90.9 | 21.9 | 78.1 | 10.96 | - <-.01] |
| 15. more troval by adminitratore? | 51.3 | 48.7 | 56.2 | 43.8 | 39.4 | 60.6 | 7.18 | P - .05 : |
| 16. more troval by faculty? | 49.4 | 50.6 | 60.3 | 39.7 | 56.9 | 43.1 | 3.39 | $p>.05$ |
| 17. more program-ralated troval by the student? | 78.5 | 21.5 | 77.3 | 22.7 | 67.1 | -32.9 | 3.70 | $p \rightarrow 05$ |
| 18. more monay per student? | 88.9 | 11.1 | 79.3 | 20.7 | 67.1 | 32.9 | 11.04 | p 2 dor |

-The tetal number ef respondents for oach group is shewn in the column hoedinge. Each respondent did not, however,
respond to ceach questionnaire ltem. The nuabers chown in the columns ore percentages of the numbers reepponding to
the respective Items. The lowest parcent of responses ( $93.5 \%$ ) was mode to precilge Item number 10.

TABLE VII

## A COMPARISON OF PERCENTAGES OF MALES' AND FEMALES' RESPONSES TO EACH QUESTIONNAIRE ITEM

|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { MALES } \\ & (\mathrm{N}=423) \end{aligned}$ |  | FEMALES$(N=218)$ |  | $x^{2}$ | Significance Level |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Technical | Parallel | Technical | Parallel |  |  |
| WHICH TYPE OF EDUCATION PROGRAM . . . |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. requires more academic ability? | 8.6* | 91.4* | 7.6* | 92.4* | 0.07 | $\mathrm{p}>.05$ |
| 2. gives a better general education? | 10.5 | 89.5 | 9.3 | 90.7 | 0.11 | $\mathrm{p}>\mathrm{l}$ |
| 3. leads to a better occupation? | 42.0 | 58.0 | 37.3 | 62.7 | 1.08 | $\mathrm{P}>\mathrm{}$. |
| 4. leads to more job opportunities? | 56.8 | 43.2 | 51.4 | 48.6 | 1.38 | $p>.05$ |
| 5. leads to more job satisfaction? | 43.1 | 56.9 | 37.7 | 62.3 | 1.40 | $p>.05$ |
| 6. leads to more job advancement? | 26.5 | 73.5 | 24.9 | 75.1 | 0.11 | P ( $>$. 05 |
| 7. would you advise for your son? | 29.8 | 70.2 | 20.5 | 79.5 | 5.52 | Wginicumevichemmen |
| 8. would you advise for your daughter? | 26.3 | 73.7 | 19.0 | 81.0 | 3.57 | $\mathrm{P}>$. P |
| 9. would you prefer? | 24.1 | 75.9 | 15.5 | 84.5 | 5.52 |  |
| 10. better for students in working class? | 81.4 | 18.6 | 84.1 | 15.9 | 0.48 | $\mathrm{P}>.05$ |
| 11. better for students in middle class? | 42.2 | 57.8 | 40.6 | 59.4 | 0.08 | $p>.05$ |
| 12. better for students in wealthy class? | 14.3 | 85.7 | 9.0 | 91.0 | 2.92 | p , ${ }^{\text {P }}$ |
| 13. is better for most students? | 50.1 | 49.9 | 38.6 | 61.4 | 6.69 |  |
| 14. better for students with limited ability? | 90.0 | 10.0 | 93.2 | 6.8 | 1.35 | $p>.05$ |
| 15. do you feel is more important? | 36.2 | 63.8 | 30.8 | 69.2 | 1.48 | $p>.05$ |
| 16. do you feel is most prestigious? | 7.2 | 92.8 | 3.4 | 96.6 | 2.71 | $p>.05$ |
| WHICH TYPE OF EDUCATION PROGRAM REQUIRES |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. more building space per program? | 88.9 | 11.1 | 82.9 | 17.1 | 3.73 | P > . 05 |
| 2. more faculty per 100 students? | 87.8 | 12.2 | 85.1 | 14.9 | 0.67 | $p>05$ |
| 3. more administrative personnel? | 46.3 | 53.7 | 46.3 | 53.7 | 0.01 | $p>.05$ |
| 4. more student support services? | 46.8 | 53.2 | 52.7 | 47.3 | 1.66 | $p>.05$ |
| 5. community support? | 74.6 | 25.4 | 77.1 | 22.9 | 0.32 | $\mathrm{P}>.05$ |
| 6. more special qualifications for faculty? | 61.3 | 38.7 | 60.7 | 39.3 | 0.01 | $\mathrm{P}>.05$ |
| 7. more special qualifications for administrators? | 45.3 | 54.8 | 36.8 | 63.2 | 3.64 | $p>.05$ |
| 8. more nonprofessional support staff? | 67.7 | 32.3 | 66.0 | 34.0 | 0.11 | $\mathrm{P} \gg .05$ |
| 9. more contacts in the community? | 83.4 | 16.6 | 83.3 | 16.7 | 0.01 | $\mathrm{P} \gg .05$ |
| 10. more student recruiting? | 68.0 | 32.0 | 69.6 | 30.4 | 0.10 | $p>.05$ |
| 11. more specialized equipment? | 94.7 | 5.3 | 91.4 | 8.6 | 1.97 | $\mathrm{P} \gg .05$ |
| 12. more supervised laborotory work? | 86.2 | 13.8 | 87.1 | 12.9 | 0.04 | $\mathrm{P} \gg .05$ |
| 13. more teaching materials/supplies? | 82.5 | 17.5 | 82.4 | 17.6 | 0.01 | $\mathrm{p}>\mathrm{l}$ |
| 14. more library facilities? | 9.9 | 90.1 | 13.5 | 86.5 | 1.41 | $p>.05$ |
| 15. more travel by administrators? | 51.6 | 48.4 | 51.2 | 48.8 | 0.01 | $p>.05$ |
| 16. more travel by faculty? | 56.3 | 43.7 | 57.7 | 42.3 | 0.06 | P > . 05 |
| 17. more program-related travel by the student? | 79.0 | 21.0 | 69.7 | 30.3 | 5.79 | W0 \%Mymumin |
| 18. more money per student? | 82.7 | 17.3 | 69.3 | 30.7 | 13.66 |  |

*The total number of respondents for each group is shown in the column headings. Each respondent did not, however, respond to each questionnaire item. The numbers shown in the columns are percentages of the numbers responding to the respective items. The lowest percent of responses ( $91.7 \%$ ) was made to prestige item number 10.
table VIII
A COMPARISON OF THE RESPONSE PERCENTAGES MADE BY

| WHICH TYPE OF EDUCATION PROGRAM. | AGE GROUPS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $x^{2}$ | significonce loval |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{gathered} 20-30 \\ (N=116) \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} 31=10 \\ (N=298) \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} 41-50 \\ (N=159) \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} 51-60 \\ (N=79) \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |
|  | lech. | para. | loch, | para. | rech. | pora. | lech. | para. |  |  |
| 1. requires more acodemic obility? | $11.3^{\circ}$ | 88.7* | 7.79 | $92.3{ }^{\text {c }}$ | 5.94 | 94.10 | 11.5* | $88.5 *$ | 3.75 |  |
| 2. gives a beller generol education? | 18.1 | 81.9 | 24.6 | 75.4 | 11.5 | 88.5 | 11.1 | 88.9 | 15.79 | P- |
| 3. leods to a bellar accupation? | 46.0 | 54.0 | 41.5 | 58.5 | 35.3 | 64.7 | 36.0 | 64.0 | 3.93 | $p \ldots .05$ |
| 4. loods to more job opportunities? | 59.6 | 40.4 | 50.2 | 49.8 | 55.3 | 44.7 | 57.8 | 42.2 | 3.75 | $p>.05$ |
| 5. loods to more iob satisfoction? | 44.0 | 56.0 | 39.0 | 61.0 | 43.6 | 56.4 | 10.7 | 59.3 | 1.29 | $p ; .05$ |
| 6. leods to more lob advancement? | 27.4 | 72.6 | 27.3 | 72.7 | 26.3 | 73.7 | 21.3 | 78.7 | 1.35 | $p \rightarrow .05$ |
| 7. would you odvise for your son? | 32.1 | 67.9 | 25.1 | 74.9 | 26.4 | 73.6 | 27.0 | 73.0 | 1.93 | - . 05 |
| 8. would you advisa for your doughter? | 26.4 | 73.6 | 23.2 | 76.8 | 24.8 | 75.2 | 22.5 | 77.5 | 0.60 | -. 05 |
| 9. would you profor? | 24.8 | 75.2 | 21.6 | 78.4 | 22.1 | 77.9 | 15.4 | 84.6 | 2.77 | - . 05 |
| 10. In botter for siudents in the working class? | 84.1 | 15.9 | 83.0 | 17.0 | 80.0 | 20.0 | 82.1 | 17.9 | 0.88 | - .05 |
| 11, Is beflor for students in middle class? | 42.7 15.5 | 57.3 84.5 | 43.0 | 57.0 | 37.1 | 62.9 | 39.3 | 60.7 | 1.59 | - . 05 |
| 12. is beller for students in weality clasis 13. is belter for most students? | 15.5 48.1 | 84.5 51.9 | 12.3 | 87.7 | 9.1 | 90.9 | 15.1 | 84.9 | 2.94 | $p=.05$ |
| 14. is batter for students wilh limited abiliry? | 92.0 | 8.0 | 91.9 | 83.5 8.1 | 43.9 88.6 | 11.4 | 43.0 90.9 | 57.0 0.1 | 0.76 1.47 | P . 05 |
| 15. do you feal is more Important? | 41.1 | 58.9 | 29.9 | 70.1 | 35.6 | 64.4 | 90.9 36.1 | 97.1 63.9 | 1.47 4 | $\mathrm{P}=.05$ |
| 16. do you feal is most prestigious? | 9.0 | 91.0 | 4.6 | 89.4 | 6.0 | 94.0 | 3.7 | 84.3 | 2.80 | $p: .05$ |
| Which type of education program REQUIRES |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. more bullding spoce per progrom? | 86.5 | 13.5 | 87.2 | 12.8 | 87.6 | 12.4 | 86.7 | 13.3 | 0.08 |  |
| 2. more faculiy per 100 students? | 86.0 | 14.0 | 85.6 | 14.4 | 90.3 | 9.7 | 89.0 | 11.0 | 2.41 | $p: .05$ |
| 3. more odminisiralive periomni? | 48.7 | 51.3 | 48.8 | 51.2 | 44.5 | 55.5 | 47.2 | 52.8 | 0.76 | $p>.05$ |
| 4. more student support services? | 53.6 | 46.4 | 49.0 | 51.0 | 50.3 | 49.7 | 51.7 | 48.3 | 0.75 | P $\rightarrow .05$ |
| 5. community support? | 79.1 | 20.9 | 73.3 | 26.7 | 78.9 | 21.1 | 77.3 | 22.7 | 2.49 | $p \geqslant .05$ |
| 6. more speciol qualifications for foculty? | 69.6 | 30.4 | 57.9 | 42.1 | 62.0 | 38.0 | 53.4 | 46.6 | 6.70 | $p=.05$ |
| 7. more spectal qualifications for administrators? | 46.8 | 53.2 | 39.0 | 61.0 | 43.5 | 56.5 | 43.3 | 56.7 | 2.27 | $p=.05$ |
| 8. more nonprofessional support stoffl? | 68.1 | 31.9 | 68.0 | 32.0 | 66.7 | 33.3 | 71.6 | 28.4 | 0.64 | $p=.05$ |
| 9. mare contacts in the community? | 89.3 60.2 | 10.7 39.8 | 81.2 72.6 | 18.8 | 84.8 | 15.2 | 82.8 | 17.2 | 4.06 | P |
| 10. more student recruiting? | 60.2 96.5 | 39.8 3.5 | 72.6 | 27.4 8.0 | 75.5 | 24.5 | 62.1 | 37.9 | 10.80 | P. |
| 12. more suparvised laboratory work? | 88.5 | 11.5 | 92.0 84.8 | 15.2 | 94.2 90.3 | 5.8 9.7 | 92.1 83.0 | 7.9 17.0 | 2.98 3.93 | $\mathrm{P} \geqslant .05$ |
| 13. more teaching moterials/supplles? | 83.0 | 17.0 | 81.5 | 18.5 | 87.4 | 12.6 | 77.3 | 22.7 | 4.42 | $\mathrm{p}: .05$ |
| 14. more library focilitios? | 12.3 | 87.7 | 12.2 | 87.8 | 11.0 | 89.0 | 7.9 | 92.1 | 1.37 | $p=.05$ |
| 15. more troval by odministrators? | 48.6 | 31.4 | 41.8 | 48.2 | 57.8 | 42.2 | 54.0 | 46.0 | 2,40 | $p=.05$ |
| 16. more traval by faculty? | 58.9 | 41.4 | 56.0 | 44.0 | 60.8 | 39.2 | 58.0 | 42.0 | 0.97 | $p>.05$ |
| 17. more program related traval by the sludent? | 80.2 | 19.8 | 73.2 | 26.8 | 76.4 | 23.6 | 81.8 | 18.2 | 3.88 | $p>.05$ |
| 18. more monay per student? | 76.6 | 23.4 | 78.0 | 22.0 | 77.8 | 22.2 | 85.2 | 14.8 | 2.69 | $p=.05$ |

-The total number of respondents for each oroup is shown in the celumn heodings. Each respondent did not, however,
respond to sach queslionnaire litem. The numbers shown in the columns are percentages of the numbers responding to
the respective tiems. The lowest percent of responces ( $93.9 \%$ ) wes mede to prastige itiom number 10.

Thus, the results of comparisons made along educational level were almost identical to those found when job positions were considered.

It should be further noted that the age categories were somewhat replicates of the occupational categories. For instance, the older participants were usually administrators, middle-aged groups were more likely to be university parallel faculty members, and the youngest participants were most likely to be technical-occupational faculty members. Because of this duplication of categories, very little information was gained by the additional analysis by age categories.

The comparisons of males' and females' responses was not very informative because most of the administrators were male while the females were either university parallel faculty members or technical-occupational faculty members. Again, the duplication of categories resulted in the loss of information caused by grouping participants into the two gender categories.

The additional analyses were informative and helped to further explain some of the results of the study, but because they were secondary questions in the study and because they only tend to substantiate the results obtained from the primary analyses, the results derived from making the secondary comparisons are presented in summary form and not in the detailed manner associated with Table III.

## CHAPTER V

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The purpose of this study was to compare the perceptions of three groups of educators toward postsecondary technical-occupational programs. Specifically, the investigator compared the perceptions of junior college administrators, junior college university parallel faculty members, and junior college technical-occupational faculty members toward the prestige, financial support, and quality of postsecondary technical-occupational programs and university parallel programs.

Data for the study was collected by a three part questionnaire which was mailed to two hundred twenty-six ( $\mathrm{N}=226$ ) administrators, five hundred seventy-six ( $\mathrm{N}=576$ ) parallel faculty members, and two hundred forty-four ( $\mathrm{N}=244$ ) technical-occupational faculty members in thirteen ( $\mathrm{N}=13$ ) Oklahoma junior colleges. The survey questionnaire was designed to collect the three groups' opinions concerning the prestige, financing, and quality of technicaloccupational programs, university parallel programs, as well as selected biographical information.

Six hundred seventy-two ( $\mathrm{N}=672$ ) administrators, technical-occupational faculty members, and parallel faculty members responded to the Program Survey Questionnaire.

Question 1

A majority of all three occupational groups (technicaloccupational faculty, university parallel faculty, and administrators) indicated that university parallel programs require more academic ability, lead to more job advancement, are more advisable for their daughters, are preferred personally, are better for wealthy class students, and are generally more prestigious than technical-occupational programs.

On the other hand, a majority of all three occupational groups indicated that technical-occupational programs are better for working class students and students of limited ability. On the other eight items the three groups' perceptions were mixed.

Summary of Findings Related to

## Question 2

A majority of all three occupational groups indicated that university parallel programs require more administrative personnel and more library facilities than technicaloccupational programs.

On the other hand, a majority of all three occupational groups indicated that technical-occupational programs required more building space, more faculty, more administrative personnel, more student support services, more community
support, more community contacts, more student recruiting, more specialized equipment, more supervised laboratory work, more teaching materials and/or supplies, more administrative travel, more faculty travel, more student travel, and more money per student than university parallel programs.

Summary of Findings Related to

## Question 3

There were differences among the three groups' highestquality and lowest-quality program ratings. A majority of the programs rated as lowest-quality by technicaloccupational faculty members were technical-occupational programs. A majority of the programs rated as lowestquality by university parallel faculty and administrators were university parallel programs.

A majority of the programs rated as highest-quality by technical-occupational and university parallel faculty members were university parallel programs. The ratings of highestquality programs by administrators were approximately equally divided between university parallel and technicaloccupational programs.

## Conclusions

Three research questions were posed in this study. In this section, the data relative to these questions are summarized and conclusions drawn.

The first research question investigated in the study
was:
Question 1: Is there a difference among the administrators', technicaloccupational faculty members' and university parallel faculty members' perceptions of the prestige of postsecondary technicaloccupational programs and university parallel programs?

Results of the chi square analysis, presented in Table III, show that statistically significant differences (p < .0001) were noted among the three groups' responses on 15 of the 16 prestige questions.

Participants' responses to the prestige items were further analyzed in order to more fully address the question posed. The three occupational groups' program preferences are summarized in Table IX. In Table IX, an "X" appears under the type of program preferred by each occupational group. In those instances where no definite preference was shown a double asterisk (**) appears under both programs.

The results presented in Table IX show that the technical-occupational faculty members gave higher prestige ratings to technical-occupational programs on six items, higher ratings to university parallel programs on seven items, and rated the two programs of equal prestige on three items. The university parallel faculty members gave higher prestige ratings to university parallel programs on all 16 prestige items. The administrators gave higher prestige ratings to university parallel programs on 15 items and the administrators rated the programs of equal prestige on

TABLE IX

## SUMMARY OF PROGRAM PREFERENCES AS REPORTED BY THE THREE OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS ON EACH PRESTIGE QUESTION

| Questionnaire Item Number | Prog |  | Choices by Group |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | U-P Faculty |  | Administrators |  |
|  | Technical Programs | Parallel <br> Programs | Technical Programs | Parallel Programs | Technical <br> Programs | Parallel Programs |
| WHICH TYPE OF PROGRAM. . . <br> 1. requires more academic ability? |  | X |  | X |  | X |
| 2. gives a better general education? |  | X |  | X |  | X |
| 3. lecds to a better occupation? | $x$ |  |  | X |  | X |
| 4. leads to more job opportunities? | X |  |  | X |  | X |
| 5. leads to more job satisfaction? | X |  |  | X |  | X |
| 6. leads to more job advancement? |  | $x$ |  | X |  | $x$ |
| 7. would you advise for your son? | ** |  |  | X |  | X |
| 8. would you advise for your daughter? | ** |  |  | $x$ |  | X |
| 9. would you prefer? | ** |  |  | X |  | X |
| 10. is better for working class students? |  | X |  | X |  | X |
| 11. is better for middle class students? | X |  |  | X |  | X |
| 12. is better for wealthy class students? |  | X |  | $x$ |  | X |
| 13. is better for most students? | X |  |  | X | ** |  |
| 14. is better for students of limited abil.? |  | $x$ |  | X |  | X |
| 15. do you feel is more important? | X |  |  | $X$ |  | X |
| 16. do you feel is more prestigious? |  | $x$ |  | X |  | X |
| TOTALS . . | 6 | 7 | 0 | 16 | 0 | 15 |

*Decisions regarding programs viewed as having higher prestige were based on the majority of
respondents selecting the item alternative which favored technical-occupational or university parallel programs. (See Table III for response data)
**The two types of programs were judged to be of equal prestige on items which differed less than five percentage points in the responses. (See Table III)
one item.
It is concluded that all three occupational groups view university parallel programs as having higher prestige than technical-occupational programs.

The second research question investigated in the study was:

Question 2: Is there a difference among the administrators', technicaloccupational faculty members' and university parallel faculty members' perceptions of the cost of postsecondary technical-occupational programs and university parallel programs?

Results of the chi square analysis, presented in Table III, show that statistically significant differences (p < .0001) were noted among the three groups' responses on 12 of the 18 finance questions.

Participants' responses to the finance items were further analyzed in order to more fully address the second research question posed. The three occupational groups' program preferences are summarized in Table $X$. In Table $X$, an "X" appears under the type of program preferred by each occupational group. In those instances where no definite preference was shown a double asterisk (**) appears under both programs.

The results presented in Table $X$ show that the technical-occupational faculty members gave higher cost ratings to technical-occupational programs on sixteen items, higher cost ratings to university parallel programs on only one item, and rated the two programs equally expensive on
table $X$

## SUMMARY OF PROGRAM PREFERENCES AS REPORTED BY THE THREE OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS ON EACH FINANCE QUESTION

| Questionnaire Item Number | Program Choices by Group |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | T-O Faculty |  | U-P Faculty |  | Administrators |  |
|  | Technical Programs | Parallel Programs | Technical Pregrams | Parallel Programs | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Technical } \\ & \text { Programs } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | Parallel Programs |
| WHICH TYPE OF PROGRAM. . . |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. more building space per program ? | $x$ |  | $x$ |  | $x$ |  |
| 2. more faculty per 100 students? | X |  | X |  | $x$ |  |
| 3. more administrative personnel? | ** |  | $x$ |  | ** |  |
| 4. more student support services? | $x$ |  | $X$ |  | ** |  |
| 5. more community support? | $x$ |  | $x$ |  | $x$ |  |
| 6. more special faculty qualifications? | $x$ |  |  | $x$ | X |  |
| 7. more special administration qual.? | $x$ |  |  | X | ** |  |
| 8. more nonprofessional support staff? | $x$ |  | $x$ |  | $x$ |  |
| 9. more contacts in the community? | X |  | X |  | $x$ |  |
| 10. more student recruiting? | X |  | X |  | $x$ |  |
| 11. more specialized equipment? | X |  | $x$ |  | $x$ |  |
| 12. more supervised laboratory work? | $x$ |  | X |  | X |  |
| 13. more teaching materials/supplies? | X |  | X |  | X |  |
| 14. more library facilities? |  | X |  | X |  | X |
| 15. more travel by administrators? | $x$ |  | ** |  | $x$ |  |
| 16. more travel by faculty? | X |  | ** |  | X |  |
| 17. more program related travel by students? | $x$ |  | X |  | X |  |
| 18. more money per student? | $x$ |  | $x$ |  | X |  |
| TOTALS . . - | 16 | 1 | 13 | 3 | 14 | 1 |

[^0]one item. The university parallel faculty members gave higher cost ratings to technical-occupational program on thirteen cost items, higher cost ratings to university parallel programs on three items, and rated the two programs equally expensive on two items. The administrators gave higher cost ratings to technical-occupational programs on 14 items, higher cost ratings to university parallel programs on only one item, and rated the two programs equally expensive on three items.

It is concluded that all three occupational groups view technical-occupational programs as being more expensive than university parallel programs.

The third research question investigated in the study was:

Question 3: Is there a difference among the administrators', technicaloccupational faculty members' and university parallel faculty members' perceptions of the quality of postsecondary technical-occupational programs and university parallel programs?

Results of the chi square analyses showed that differences were noted among the three groups' highest-quality program ratings and lowest-quality program ratings. Participants' lowest-quality and highest-quality program ratings are summarized in Tables IV and $V$. These results show that the technical-occupational faculty members indicated that lowest-quality programs were in the technical-occupational field, while university parallel faculty members and administrators indicated that the lowest-quality programs
were in the university parallel area.
Technical-occupational faculty members felt that technical-occupational programs were of higher quality than university parallel programs most of the time.

University parallel faculty members felt that university parallel programs were of higher quality than technicaloccupational programs in most instances. Administrators showed no definite difference in their highest-quality program ratings.

It is concluded that the three occupational groups have different perceptions of the quality of the educational programs.

## Recommendations

It is recommended that further studies be conducted similar to the present study but with an expanded population of administrators, university parallel faculty members, and technical-occupational faculty members. Administrators and faculty members could be included from Oklahoma's four-year colleges and universities as well as such institutions in other states. Results of such a study would give some indication of the image and acceptance of postsecondary technical-occupational programs on a nation-wide basis.

The results of this study indicated that there was a general lack of understanding or a misunderstanding about the goals of postsecondary technical-occupational programs among university parallel faculty members and administrators.

Perhaps orientation seminars and/or workshops should be conducted for the administration and faculty in colleges and universities where postsecondary technical-occupational programs are being conducted. These seminars could help explain the goals of technical-occupational programs and act as a means of improving the program's image and acceptance.

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## PLEASE NOTE:

Appendices contain some pages with small indistinct print. Filmed as received in the best possible way.

UNI VERS ITY MICROFILMS INTERNATIONAL

## APPENDICES

## APPENDIX A

DATA COLLECTION INSTRUMENT

## WESTERN. OKLAHOMA STATE COLLEGE

Educational Survey
1976-77

Please fill in all spaces below which most accurately describe your status and complete this questionnaire.

1. Highest Degree Earned (respond by showing year degree earned):
b.___ Moctorate co__ Educ. Specialist e._____ Associate
2. Please indicate your primary assignment with the college:
a. Teaching area
(Please Print Name of Teaching Area)
b. Administration
3. Sex: $\qquad$ Male
$\qquad$
4. Age: $20-30$ 31-40_ 41-50___ $51-60 \_$Over 61
5. Professional Experience:
a. College experience in teaching, research, administration, or a related academic staff position:

Amount

At this institution
At other institutions in Oklahoma .........
At other institutions outside Oklahoma ...
b. Elementary or secondary school teaching or administrative experience $\qquad$
c. Nonteaching experience in business or industry relative to your area of specialization

AFTER COMPLETING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE,
PLEASE RETURN TO YOUR DEPARTMENT CHAIRPERSON:

A Questionnaire by Robert V. Keck

Yinctivis: please indicate your opinion comparing the advantages and requirements of postsecondary technical-occupational programs and the university parallel programs by placing a $\underline{X}$ check mark in each space under the appropriate column.

SECTION I PRESTIGE

| WHICH TYPE OF EDUCATION PROGRAM | Technical Occupational Programs | University Parallel Progi:ams |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. requires more academic ability? | ( ) | ( ) |
| 2. gives a better general education? | ( ) | ( ) |
| 3. leads to a better occupation? | ( ) | ( |
| 4. leads to more job opportunities? | ( ) | ( ) |
| 5. leads to more job satisfaction? | ( ) | ( ) |
| 6. leads to more job advancement? | ( ) | ( ) |
| 7. would you advise for your son? | ( ) | ( ) |
| 8. would you advise for your daughter? | ( ) | () |
| 9. would you prefer? | ( ) | ( ) |
| 10. is better for students in the working class? | ( ) | ( ) |
| 11. is better for students in middle class? | ( ) | ( ) |
| 12. is better for students in wealthy class? | ( ) | () |
| 13. is better for most students? | ( ) | ( ) |
| 14. is better for students with limited ability? | ( ) | ( |
| 15. do you feel is more important? | () | () |
| 16. do you feel is most prestigious? | ( ) | ( ) |

SECTION II FINANCE
WHICH TYPE OF EDUCATION PROGRAM REQUIRES . . .

1. more building space? per program?
2. more faculty per 100 students?
3. more administrative personnel?
( )
4. more student support services?
5. community support?
6. more special qualifications for faculty?
7. more special qualifications for administrators?
8. more nonprofessional support staff?
9. more contacts in the community?
10. more student recruiting?
11. more specialized equipment?
12. more supervised laboratory work?
13. more teaching materials/supplies?
14. more library facilties?
15. more travel by administrators?
16. more travel by faculty?
17. more program-related travel by the student?
18. more money per student?

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## SECTION III QUALITY

DIRECTIONS: The list of programs shown below comprises the approved and accredited programs offered by your institution. Read the list carefully. Based upon your personal opinion:

1. Place an (H) by the three (3) highest quality programs offered by your institution.
2. Place an (L) by the three (3) lowest quality programs offered by your institution.

## PROGRAMS

Accounting
Agri-Business
Airport Management
Art
Aviation
T Biology
Business Administration
Business Economics
Business Education
Commercial Art
Cooperative Business
Corrections
Drafting \& Design
Elementary Education
English
Foreign Language
General Physical Sciences
General Science
General Studies
Humanities
Journalism
Law Enforcement
Mathematics
Medical Secretary
Mid-Management
Music

Physical Education
Pre-Professional
Psychology
Secretarial Administration
Social Studies
Speech \& Drama
Fire Fighting Technology
Child Care Administration
Construction Technology

Review your responses in Sections I, II, and III. If you would like to make coments relative to your responses, please do so in this space.

## SECTION I RESPONSES

## SECTION II RESPONSES

## APPENDIX B

COVER LETTER SENT WITH DATA COLLECTION INSTRUMENT
500 Education Bui.lding State Capi.tol Complex Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

Enclosed is a brief questionnaire which is being used to collect data for a study. It has been designed to obtain the opinions of all full-time technical-occupational faculty, all full-time university parallel faculty, and all full-time adminisirators at each college.<br>The intent of the items in this survey is to obtain your point of view or opinion as to the prestige, finance, and quality of all education programs on your campus.<br>Please do not place your name on this document. The information requested will be published only in the form of statistical summaries.

Your cooperation in this survey is deeply appreciated.
Sincerely,

Rcbert V. Keck
Technical Education
Officer
RVK/p
Enclosure

## APPENDIX C

CARD FORMAT AND 80-80 LISTING
OF IBM CARDS

| Information | Card Column(s) | Range of values |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. Type of position | 1 | 1-3 |
| 2. Highest degree earned | 2 | 1-6 |
| 3. Type of position | 3 | 1-3 |
| 4. Gender | 4 | 1-2 |
| 5. Age | 5 | 1-4 |
| 6. Years of experience at this institution | 6-7 | 01-27 |
| 7. Years of experience at other institutions | 8-9 | 01-25 |
| 8. Years of experience at other institutions out of state | 10-11 | 01-25 |
| 9. Years of teaching experience | 12-13 | 01-30 |
| 10. Years of non-teaching experience | 14-15 | 01-40 |
| 11. Institution | 16-17 | 01-13 |
| 12. (Blank) | 18-20 | --- |
| 13. Responses to 16 prestige questions | 21-36 | 1-2 |
| 14. Responses to 18 finance questions | 37-54 | 1-2 |
| 15. Three highest quality programs | 55-60 | 01-65 |
| 16. Three lowest quality programs | 61-66 | 01-65 |
| 17. (Blank) | 67-80 | --- |

Figure 1: Card format used to enter coded data.


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# APPENDIX D <br> TECHNICAL-OCCUPATIONAL AND UNIVERSITY PARALLEL PROGRAMS OFFERED BY THE PARTICIPATING JUNIOR COLLEGES 

Tactuicol-Occupational and University Porallel Programe Offered by Westarn Oklahoma state College




Technical-Occupational and University Parallel Programs Offered by Northeastern Oklahoma A\&M College


Technical-Occupational and University Porallel Program Offered by EI Reno Junior College
Accounting
Accounting fechnology
Buiation
Chemistry
Connercial Art Jechnology
Corrections

- Technical-Occupational and University Parallel Programs Offered by South Oklahoma City Junior College


Technical-Occupational and Univarsity Porallel Programs Offered by Claremore bunior Colloge



| Music |
| :--- |
| Physics |
| Political Science |
| Pre-Nursing |
| Pre-Pharmacy |
| Speech |
| Banking \& Finance |
| Graphics Technology |
| Horse Ranch Management |
| Country Western Music |
| Recreation |
| Radio Communications |
| Social-Psychology |


: Technical-Occupational and University Parallel Programs Offered by Carl Albert Junior College



## Technical-Occupationol and University Parallel Programs Offered by Murray State College



Technical-Occupationol and University Parallel Programs Offered by Connors State College


vita 2<br>Robert V. Keck<br>Candidate for the Degree of<br>Doctor of Education

Thesis: A COMPARISON OF JUNIOR COLLEGE EDUCATOR'S PERCEPTIONS TOWARD POSTSECONDARY TECHNICALOCCUPATIONAL PROGRAMS

Major Field: Vocational-Technical and Career Education

Biographical:
Personal Data: Born in Weleetka, Oklahoma, January 4, 1933, the son of Arley and Dollie Keck.

Education: Graduated from Weleetka High School, Weleetka, Oklahoma, in 1952; received an Associate Degree from Eastern Oklahoma State College in 1954; received the Bachelor of Science in Industrial Education Degree from the University of Oklahoma in 1956; received Masters of Industrial Education Degree from the University of Oklahoma, 1957; completed requirements for the Doctor of Education Degree at Oklahoma State University in 1978.

Professional Organizations: The Council of North Central Community Junior Colleges, American Association of Community and Junior Colleges, The Council for Occupational Education, The Higher Education Alumni Council of Oklahoma, American Vocational Association, Oklahoma Vocational Association, American Technical Association, Oklahoma Technical Society, Oklahoma Council of Local Administrators, National Council of Local Administrators, Phi-Delta Kappa, Iota Lamba Sigma, The Red Red Rose; and Oklahoma Adult and Continuing Education Association.

Professional Experience: Draftsman for the Oklahoma State Highway Department, 1954-55; Engineering Correspondent for Linde Air Division of Union Carbon
and Carbide Corporation, 1956-57; Graduate Assistant for the University of Oklahoma, 1957; Assistant Professor for the University of Oklahoma, 1957-64; Visiting Professor for Oklahoma State University, 1964; Assistant Director of Vocational Education for the Oklahoma City Public Schools, 1964-66; Director of Vocational Education for the Oklahoma City Public Schools, 1966-67; Director of Technical Education for Eastern Oklahoma State College, 1967-68; Dean of Instruction for Eastern Oklahoma State College, 1968-69; Dean of Technical Education for Eastern Oklahoma State College, 1969-73; Consultant-Examiner for the North Central Association of Schools and Colleges, 1972-75; Coordinator of Technical Education for the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, 1973-present.

Leadership Activities: Executive Secretary, Executive Vice-President, President and Board of Director of the Oklahoma Technical Society; President of the Oklahoma Council of Local Administrators; Board of Director of the Oklahoma Vocational Association; Secretary Plains Region American Technical Association; Vice-President of the Wilburton Lions Club; Chairman of Education Committee for the Wilburton Chamber of Commerce; Director of the Southeastern Oklahoma Boy Scouts of America; President of Weleetka High School Senior Class; Sponsor of the Industrial Education Club at the University of Oklahoma; President of the Industrial Education Club at the University of Oklahoma.


[^0]:    *Decisions regarding the type of program as being the more expensive were based on the majority of respondents selecting the item alternative which favored technical-occupational or university parallel programs. (See Table III for response data)
    **The two types of programs were judged to be equally expensive on items which showed less than five percentage points between the two groups' responses. (See Table III)

