Taking into consideration their experiences at Missouri Valley College, students were asked to rate how well they thought the college has accomplished the following institutional goals. (Note: Some totals for percents may not be exactly 100 due to rounding.)

**Goal 1.** Missouri Valley College nurtures a campus culture to embrace all individuals with compassion, civility, and respect.

**Goal 2.** Missouri Valley College gathers a demographically diverse student body embracing differences in ethnicity, gender, culture, economic status, and regional and national origin.
Goal 3. Missouri Valley College extends access to higher education to students from all educational backgrounds with support to achieve success.

Goal 4. Missouri Valley College ensures high academic standards in all baccalaureate, graduate, and professional programs.
**Goal 5.** Missouri Valley College recruits and retains a dedicated, diverse staff and faculty well-educated and current in their fields.

![Goal 5 chart]

**Goal 6.** Missouri Valley College focuses curricula on developing interdisciplinary analytical and communicative skills, historical and cultural awareness, and critical and creative thinking.

![Goal 6 chart]
Goal 7. Missouri Valley College maintains a safe, healthy campus environment conducive to learning and research based on academic freedom, innovative teaching, and intellectual inquiry.

Goal 8. Missouri Valley College expands opportunities for applying academic learning in real-world settings and study abroad.
Goal 9. Missouri Valley College supports extracurricular activities to develop teamwork and leadership in arts, academics, and athletics.

Goal 10. Missouri Valley College promotes civic engagement through service to the community, special programming for the common good, continuing education for career development, and facilities for public gatherings.
Types of comments included in the **STRENGTHS** categories:

- **Small class size**—All comments were specific to class size.
- **Personalized education**—Many students mentioned one-on-one time with faculty, the “ability to connect with your teachers,” that teachers were “always there when you need something,” and that teachers know each student by name; other comments were about faculty and staff involvement with students and availability and willingness to help them, personal interaction/relationships with faculty, and the empathy and caring from faculty.
- **Diversity of students**—Comments focused on diversity in the student body, the variety of cultures and ethnic groups represented on campus, that it “creates grounds for good relationship building and expanding individual knowledge of people,” and that you have “the opportunity to meet people from all over the world and make lifelong friendships.”
- **Faculty**—Many students mentioned that faculty were helpful and supportive, that they “go out of their way to help students”; others mentioned faculty knowledge, availability, and the ability to build relationships with students, caring attitudes towards students, their dedication, and friendliness.
- **Friendly/family environment/friendly staff**—Many students mentioned that faculty and staff are friendly and caring. Others mentioned the “welcoming” campus environment, the devoted and supportive faculty and staff, and the “family atmosphere.”
- **Small campus/small student body**—All comments were about the size of the campus and the student/faculty ratio.
- **Athletics/Intramurals**—Students mentioned the “great athletic programs,” the variety of sports, and “the opportunity to play a collegiate sport.”
- **Academics**—Comments included the “quality of education,” the “many different programs offered,” the “striving to introduce new programs and improve current ones,” and some comments about specific programs.
- **Opportunities for involvement/extracurricular activities**—These comments were about the availability of opportunities for students to be involved in such things as clubs, organizations, intramurals, etc., and with each other.
- **Good academic support services**—Comments focused on the resources and services provided for student academic work.
- **Safe campus**—Comments were about feeling safe on campus.
- **Nice campus**—Comments were primarily about the attractiveness of the campus.
- **Tradition/history**—Comments were about the College’s rich tradition and history.
- **Facility improvements**—Comments mentioned the updates and improvements to the residential areas and other buildings.
- **Financial help**—Comments were about affordability.
Missouri Valley College Senior Exit Survey 2012-2013
Number of respondents: 189

Types of comments included in the WEAKNESSES categories:

- **Educational aspects (other than faculty)**—Many students mentioned that they thought the level of academic rigor or challenge in academics was not high enough. Other comments included scheduling of classes, not enough variety of classes and majors, and dissatisfaction with a particular discipline.
- **Housing**—All of these comments reflected general dissatisfaction with the condition of housing with some specifically mentioning the lack of maintenance and cleanliness. Many suggested updating the residential halls or providing more housing options.
- **Food service**—These comments reflected dissatisfaction with the food served in the cafeteria, the hours the cafeteria is open, and the lack of meal plan options.
- **Facilities (other than housing)**—Students commented on the need for improvements, updating, and more maintenance and cleaning. Some mentioned the need for a student center.
- **Faculty**—Many students commented on the lack of challenge from some faculty; others mentioned the lack of “real world experience” of some faculty and the lack of diversity in faculty.
- **Advising/Career Services**—Comments on weaknesses in academic advising, career counseling, and job placement were in this category.
- **Lack of activities**—All comments were about an inadequate number of recreational activities on campus.
- **Location**—Students mentioned the location of the college, the small town, and being far from a big city.
- **Cost**—Students commented that they felt some things cost too much, such as tuition, meal plans, and books, or that there was not enough monetary support for particular programs.
- **Offices/Staff**—Comments were about dissatisfaction with services from some offices.
- **Communication**—Students mentioned weaknesses in communication with advisors, teachers, and between different areas on campus.
- **Restrictions and rules**—Some students felt there were too many rules and/or the policies were too strict.
- **Level of security**—Students expressed concern about general security and thefts.
- **Athletics**—Comments were about the “emphasis on sports rather than academics” and that the gym is too crowded.
- **Technology**—Comments were about dissatisfaction about internet access and speed.
- **Voice for students**—Comment was about student-athletes not feeling like they were heard.
Number of respondents: 189

Types of comments in the categories:

- **Sports**—Almost all students mentioned a specific sport or sports.
- **Scholarship**—These comments specifically mentioned scholarships.
- **Academics**—Most of these responses were about specific programs in which they were interested.
- **Proximity to home/family/friends**—Many mentioned that Valley was “close to home” and/or family or friends were nearby.
- **Encouragement from family/friends**—Students reported that they received encouragement to come to Valley from friends or family, some of whom are alumni.
- **Small school/small classes**—Comments were specific to the small size of the college and class sizes.
- **Affordable**—This comment was about availability of financial aid.

(Note: Some students gave more than one reason.)
The graph below summarizes student responses about their status when coming to Missouri Valley College.