Why Freshmen Go to College

2003 DePaul Freshmen and Freshmen from Private & Public Universities Nationally: Reasons noted as "very important" in deciding to go to college

- To learn more things that interest me
- To be able to get a better job
- To gain a general education...
- To be able to make more money
- To prepare for grad/prof school
- To get training for a specific career
- To make me a more cultured person
- To improve reading/study skills
- My parents wanted me to go
- Wanted to get away from home
- A mentor encouraged me
- I could not find a job
- There was nothing better to do

How does DePaul compare to private universities nationally? For the reasons that at least 50% of DePaul freshmen said were "very important," DePaul was up over freshmen from privates nationally by at least 5 percentage points on:
- To be able to get a better job +7.6
- To get training for a specific career +7.1
- To make me a more cultured person +6.3
- To be able to make more money +5.1

How do DePaul freshmen differ from those at national public institutions? For these same top reasons, DePaul was up over freshmen from publics nationally by at least 5 percentage points on:
- To make me a more cultured person +19.3
- To gain a general education +9.5
- To learn more things that interest me +7.6
- To prepare for graduate/professional school +6.6

*OIPR coordinates the collection of the Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) data, which since 1966 have been a national barometer of the changing freshman profile. These 2003 data reflect responses from approximately 1,625 2003 DePaul freshmen.