



FAST FACTS 2010

Survey to GS/OAS Staff members recipients of Rowe Fund loans

"This letter is to thank you for all the years of continuous support to my education as a staff member of the Organization of American States. A colleague referred me to the Rowe Fund as an excellent opportunity to fund my career as an undergraduate student at the University of Maryland with a loan at a reasonable rate. During that time, not only as a student but as a recent OAS employee I was not able to fully pay my tuition, but right after I visited the Rowe Fund, the situation changed. [...] It was thanks to the Rowe Fund that I was able to pay for my undergraduate and subsequent graduate studies [...]. I want to thank the committee and all the staff in the Rowe Fund, not only as a staff member but also as an individual for being able to help me fulfill my personal and professional development."

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security-CICAD
MS in Applied Economics, Johns Hopkins University

A. RESULTS OF A SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE ROWE FUND Secretariat to GS/OAS staff and ex-staff members beneficiaries of loans to help cover the cost of their or their dependent's studies.

Summary:	Count	%
a. Surveyed	135	
b. Replied to survey	62	45.9%
Own professional Development	31	50.0%
Dependent's studies	29	46.8%
Emergencies	2	3.2%

Of those staff members who used the loan to help cover the cost of their studies, 87% agreed that they were linked with their line of work and five employees were either reclassified or promoted.

C. AREAS WITHIN THE GS/OAS:

Area	% of total
Secretariat of Administration and Finance	22.6%
ASG Office	21.0%
Executive Secretariat for Integral Dvmt	12.9%
Secretariat for Multidimensional Security	12.9%
Secretariat for External Relations	8.1%
SG Office	8.1%
Secretariat for Political Affairs	6.5%
Other	4.8%
Secretariat for Legal Affairs	3.2%

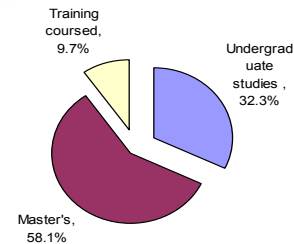
GS/OAS Staff members representing twenty-one OAS member countries responded to the survey.

E. PRIMARY SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Primary	% of total
Rowe Fund loans and other*	41.9%
OASFCU and savings	24.2%
Did not answer	21.0%
Savings and DHR	3.2%
Other sources	9.7%

* it includes OASFCU, personal savings or grants

B. STAFF MEMBER'S PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:



The top five universities chosen by staff members at which to pursue studies are: Johns Hopkins University, Strayer, Georgetown, American, and George Washington University.

D. FIELDS OF STUDY OF STAFF MEMBER:

Field of Study	% of total
Business Administration	22.6
Information Technology	16.1
International Service	12.9
Management	9.7
Accounting	9.7
Latin American Studies	6.5
Applied Economics	6.5
Painting	3.2
Law	3.2
Journalism	3.2
Communications	3.2
Art History	3.2
Total	100.0

The average age of the staff member when the loan was granted was 33

F. PORTION OF TOTAL TUITION COVERED BY THE FUND:

The Rowe Fund covered:	% of total
100% of the tuition	21.0
Between 75 and 99%	11.3
Between 50 and 74%	9.7
Less than 50%	41.9
Did not specify	16.1
Total	100.0



For sixty years, the Rowe Fund has proudly fulfilled Dr. Rowe's vision to contribute to the human development of staff members of the GS/OAS by granting student loans.



FAST FACTS 2010

Survey to GS/OAS Staff members recipients of Rowe Fund loans

My son Juan Ceballos' testimonial: "The opportunities that the Rowe Fund has given me are priceless. I was able to go to college and get a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science thanks to this fund. I was even able to travel abroad and study in Salamanca, Spain where I was able to continue practicing my Spanish and earn credits for graduation. Now that I look back as a Radford University alumni, I have to acknowledge that this would not have been possible without Rowe Fund"-Juan Diego Ceballos, Radford University Alumni 2008."

Secretariat for External Relations -America's Magazine

F. HOW STAFF MEMBERS LEARNED ABOUT THE ROWE FUND:

How they heard about us:	Nº	% of total
A Colleague	24	38.7%
No specified	1	1.6%
The OAS Connect	4	6.5%
Through the Rowe Fund Secretariat	33	53.2%

"Thanks to the loan that I received from the Rowe Fund, I was able to finish my undergraduate studies and the monthly payment was reasonable. Also it made me achieve my goal of becoming a professional at the OAS. In a personal way, it made me realize that there was a place in the OAS where people help you reach your dreams"

BA in Information Technology, University of Maryland
SAF-Information and Technology Services

H. LOANS RECEIVED BY RESPONDENTS:

One loan	13.9%
Two loans	31.1%
Three loans	19.7%
Four loans	6.6%
Five loans	28.7%
Did not answer	0.0%

"It has given me the opportunity to accomplish a dream and be able to study and work without having to choose one. The Fund is an exceptional resource for the OAS Staff and their families."

Master in Communication, John Hopkins University
SER- Press Department

G. TYPE OF GUARANTY:

Loan guaranteed by:	% of total
Staff Association	69.4%
US citizen	6.5%
Other	24.2%

"It would have been impossible for me to go back to school at this stage of my life with a mortgage, kids, and so many other expenses. [...]the Fund helped me realize a dream, improve my writing skills, and meet new people. The fact that the Staff Association guarantees the loan makes all the difference..."

Master in Journalism, Georgetown University
ASG-Conferences and Meetings

I. RATE THE ROWE FUND SECRETARIAT SERVICES:

a. During the repayment of the loan

Excellent	72.6%
Good	22.6%
Did not Answer	4.8%

b. During the loan application process

Excellent	72.6%
Good	24.2%
Did not Answer	3.2%

"I used a Rowe Fund loan to pay for my law studies and for a course on the DC Bar Exam. I then processed the DC exam and passed at the first attempt." Training courses in Law, University of the District of Columbia
DMS-Department of Public Security

J. SUGGESTIONS MADE:

a. Approve loans for whole year instead of for the academic period	3.2%
b. Clearer Procedures	3.2%
c. For current beneficiaries, promote the Online access to the status of account	3.2%
d. Increase loan amount	3.2%
e. Keep interest low	3.2%
f. Faster approval process	4.8%
g. More and accessible guaranty options in addition to OAS Staff Association	6.5%
h. Electronic process & forms online	8.1%
i. Increase promotion and awareness	14.5%
j. Not specified	21.0%
k. Pleased with the service	29.0%



For additional information, application forms, and FAQ's, please visit us online at: <http://oasconnect/Default.aspx?tabid=582>
Or e-mail: rowefund@oas.org