Executive Summary

2015 Pilot Campus Inclusivity Survey

Student Affairs Research Evaluation & Planning
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Executive Summary

This descriptive executive summary provides an analysis and evaluation of results from the 2015 Pilot Campus Inclusivity Survey. Oregon State University piloted and distributed the Campus Inclusivity Survey during spring term 2015. Students (undergraduate, graduate, international, transfer) as well as representatives from various academic departments, the Graduate School, and several Student Affairs departments collaborated to create the survey. The purpose of the survey was to gain perspective on student’s experiences of belonging, connection, and feeling included at the OSU main campus. The survey was organized into six themes: Communication, Accessibility, Financial, Support, Sexual Assault, and Representation. Themes were based on student focus group responses conducted with undergraduate, graduate, and international students during the 2014 fall term. The Oregon State University Registrar’s Office pulled a random sample of 4,000 OSU students who were then invited to participate in the pilot Campus Inclusivity Survey through an email invitation sent to their Oregon State ONID email accounts.

Findings

Demographics
- Student Status: undergraduates (74.9%), Gradate (25.1%), international (19.2%), and transfer students (19.9%).
- Gender: 50% self-identified as women and 46.1% self-identified as male.
- Race/Ethnicity: 64.3% self-identified as “White/Caucasian” and 35.7% self-identified as belonging to an emerging majority racial/ethnic group.
- Disability: 80.7% self-identified they did not experience a disability, 9.1% do experience a disability. 73.7% reported their disability is invisible.
- Military/Veteran Status: 2.7% of students self-identified as a current or former member of the U.S. Armed Forces. 67.9% of students reported they are on active duty.

Communication

Access
- Students responded that university policy updates and changes are communicated in a way that is clear (36.7%) and timely (49.9%), but do not find them to be communicated in a way that is easy to find (49.3%).
- 71.5% of students reported they did not have a voice in any university policy updates or changes.
- 77% of students reported they do not know where they can voice their opinion in regard to updates and changes to university policies.

Comfort Communicating
- Students reported they would feel more comfortable communicating about local, regional, national, and/or international issues with the following individuals or groups on campus if they knew there would not be any repercussions for their opinions:
  - Professor 58.1%, teaching assistant 43.7%, other students 40.7%, staff 45.8%, Associated Students of OSU (ASOSU) 31.6%, Coalition of Graduate Employees (CGE) 20.3%, International students of OSU (ISOSU) 28.8%, and Cultural Centers 29.6%.

Support
- The top individuals that students selected as university relationships that have helped them succeed academically include: Professors (83.1%), Peers (78.2%), and Advisors
The top individuals that students selected as university relationships that have helped them succeed personally include: Professors (57.3%), Peers (75.8%), Advisors (61.9%), and Roommate/Housemate (67%).

Sexual Assault

Students reported they are aware of Counseling & Psychological Services (76.3%), Student Health Services (81.7%), and Sexual Assault Support Services (54.7%) as resources for sexual assault.

Students reported they were not as aware of The Office for Equity & Inclusion (52.6%) and The Dean of Student Life (53%) as resources for sexual assault.

Students responded that they were “comfortable” (50%) or “somewhat comfortable” (39.7%) with knowing how to respond if a friend came to them and disclosed that they had experienced sexual assault.

48.5% of students responded they are aware that OSU has a written definition of consent as it relates to sexual misconduct; whereas 51.5% of students responded they were not aware that OSU has a written definition of consent as it relates to sexual misconduct.

Bias

53.4% of students responded they had not experienced an act of bias or had been impacted by an act of bias.

53.6% students responded “Unsure” and 28.2% responded “Yes” they feel university responds in an effective way to acts of bias.

Violence

86.5% of students responded they had not experienced an act of violence/had been impacted by an act of violence.

51.9% of students responded “Unsure” and 39.9% responded “Yes” they do feel the university responds in an effective way to acts of violence.

Value

78.9% of students indicated there is an individual, group, or space within OSU that makes them feel valued.

The top individuals students feel most valued by are: Peers (85.9%), Advisors (71.6%), Roommate/Housemate (69.8%), and Professors (69.1%).

Shared Identity

90% of students responded that they feel like there are people at OSU, like them, who share their identities.

44.6% of students responded it matters, whereas 55.4% responded it did not matter, if they saw people who shared their identities at OSU.

Limitations

This survey yielded a response rate of 29%. Undergraduate students as well as White/Caucasian undergraduates and traditionally aged college students (<25 years old) were overrepresented in the respondent sample. Therefore, data is broadly generalizable to OSU students. However, when considering specific populations of students these results most directly reflect the experiences of undergraduate and traditionally aged college students due to their overrepresentation in the respondent sample.