



Student Development Monthly Newsletter

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2016

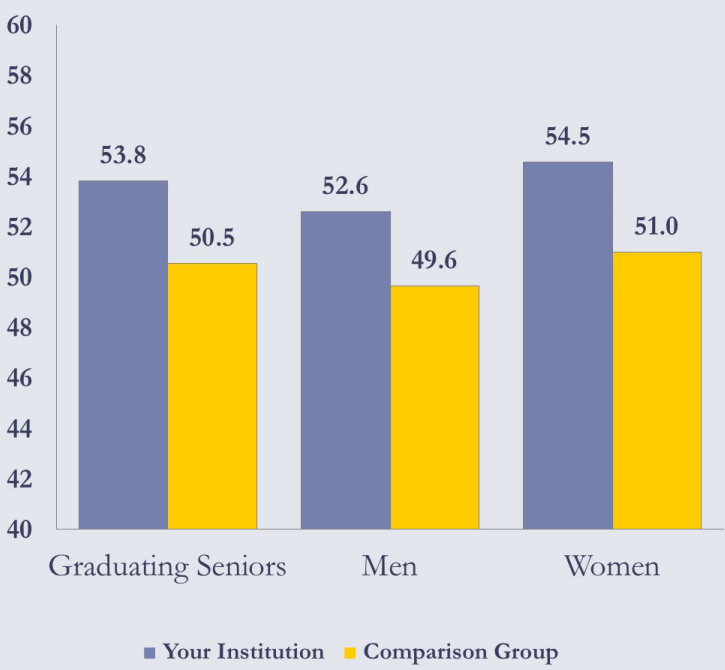
A MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

On Wednesday, December 7th from noon-1:30pm in the Hemmingson Auditorium I will be presenting the results from the Gonzaga University's 2016 College Senior Survey (CSS). The results from the CSS connect academic, civic, and diversity outcomes with college experiences in order to examine the institutional impact of: academic outcomes and experiences; co-curricular outcomes and experiences; diversity; future plans; and satisfaction. I have provided one of the slides (below) that focuses around "sense of belonging" as a teaser for you to attend this session.



Sense of Belonging

The campus community is a powerful source of influence on students' development.
***Sense of Belonging* measures the extent to which students feel a sense of academic and social integration on campus.**



Construct Items

- I feel I am a member of this campus
- I feel a sense of belonging to this college
- I see myself as part of the campus community
- If asked, I would recommend this college to others

2016 College Senior Survey

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Dr. Raymond Reyes, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, Chief Diversity Officer and Interim Director of Student Identity Development and Inclusion Initiatives; Fr. Pat Lee, Vice President for Mission; and I will be meeting with a broad range of constituencies to develop a way forward for Gonzaga University to continue modeling civil discourse and dialogue.

**Judi Biggs Garbuio, Ph.D., Vice President
Division of Student Development**

CAREER & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

On October 13th-14th, 109 students participated in the Spokane Trek Excursions, visiting employers and organizations and learning about career opportunities in the greater Spokane area. Excursion locations and student attendance is listed below:

- Desautel Hege - 16 students
- Etailz - 11 students
- Seven2 - 7 students
- Spokane Indians/Spokane Sports Commission - 54 students
- Washington Trust Bank - 36 students

On January 5th and 12th, Career & Professional Development is hosting the Portland and Seattle Treks. Last year, over 400 Gonzaga students visited high profile employers in Seattle & Portland, were given tours of facilities, informational presentations, and an opportunity to network with professionals in a variety of industries. This years' Trek locations are:



Pictured: 2016 Seattle Trek Excursion with the Seattle Mariners

Seattle Trek - January 12th, 2017

- Boeing
- Microsoft
- Amazon
- Alaska Airlines
- Expeditors
- Pitchbook
- Edelman
- Waggener Edstrom
- Starbucks, Inc.
- Nordstrom
- Liberty Mutual
- Mercer
- Seattle Mariners
- Seattle Repertory Theater
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Portland Trek - January 5th, 2017

- NIKE
- Columbia Sportswear
- Appearance
- Sparkloft
- Intel
- McKinstry
- Hewlett-Packard
- Oregon Health Sciences University

**O. Ray Angle, Assistant Vice President
Career & Professional Development**

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

"Community" and "Sense of Belonging" is the theme for this edition of the newsletter. It is honestly difficult to imagine much of our work that doesn't somehow influence – positively or negatively – these two concepts. Recently, I have been reading and thinking a lot about the University policy that requires all students to live on campus as first and second year students. This expectation is grounded strongly in a belief that living together in community has a positive impact on relationship development, connection to the University, and overall student success. Long-term research indicates this to be true and Gonzaga students report similar outcomes. However, there is emerging evidence that the current generation of students is less likely to experience these positive results. As a campus that places a significant amount of time and energy in building a community that lives together, we need to ensure that our efforts continue to enhance, not detract from, University goals. I believe that by framing this work around concepts of belonging, not merely community, we will be more likely to develop a campus climate that meets future generations of Zags.

**Matt Lamsma, Dean
Student Engagement**

STUDENT WELL-BEING & HEALTHY LIVING

One of the things we talk about here at Gonzaga is our strong sense of community. "Community" is the word that always seems to be used when people are asked the question, "What makes GU so special?" This of course is correct – we have a sense of history and identity which begins with our Mission and continues through various student experiences – we do have community! I want to present another question to the readers of our newsletter; is there a difference between community, belonging, and friendship?

Over the next several months there will be opportunities to review some of the data we collected in the 2015 NCHA-ACHA Survey. Many of the questions in this survey allow us to evaluate how community and a sense of belonging influence our student's well-being and their decisions that affect both their mental and physical health. For some students, there is a recognition of our community, but they still feel isolated. In some recent reading, I came across some interesting research that suggested young adults have lost the ability to make friendships. The researcher suggested that friendships for many people have been minimized to social media and personal relationships build around events or shared interests. The idea of a friendship being deeper than that – others that you can have deep conversations with that expose vulnerabilities and doubts. One of recommendations the writer suggested to assist in developing these skills of "making friends" was to have older adults (faculty and staff) exhibit behaviors of deep conversation – being present in the good and the bad, creating space to be vulnerable (and perhaps the most difficult thing for college students), being okay not having the "right" answers.

**Eric Baldwin, Dean
Student Well-Being & Healthy Living**

DIVISION OF STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

TRANSFORMING TOGETHER

