The following presentation was delivered to HCI’s Engage Well Pod in 2018. Please note that the slides may not provide the full context of the content presented. More information can be provided upon request.

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Graduate Student Connectedness

Kristen McKinney, Ph.D.
Esthela Chavez, M.A.
Overview

Brief overview of data source
Overall levels of engagement/connection
Support from advisors
Mentoring
Survey Context

- All currently enrolled graduate & professional students invited
- Administered online during Spring/Summer 2017
- Covers a variety of topics, including mentoring, climate, and engagement
- 26% Response Rate
Engagement and Connection
Overall good levels of connection; but room for improvement

% reporting "agree" or "strongly agree"

- I feel a sense of belonging on campus, overall: 71%
- I feel a sense of belonging with my department or program: 77%
- I would like to meet more people outside of UCLA but am not sure how to do so: 54%
- I have a social network outside of UCLA that supports me: 85%
More satisfaction with opportunities to interact within department than outside

% reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that they have "sufficient opportunity to"

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interaction Type</th>
<th>Within Department</th>
<th>Outside Department</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interact academically and make connections</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With people in my department/program</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With people at UCLA outside of my dept/program</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UCLA SAIRO
"I feel a sense of belonging within my department or program"
School/Division with Significant Mean Comparison (p<.05)
1 = "Strongly Disagree" to 4 = "Strongly Agree"

Overall Mean 2.92

L&S: Life Sciences: 2.79
L&S: Social Sciences: 2.62
Management: 3.16
Medicine: 3.06
Music: 3.27
Advising Support
Most students report having an advisor.

Your primary formal advisor is the one faculty member who serves in an official capacity as your academic advisor or research supervisor.

Do you have a formal advisor?

"Yes" 70%
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>L&amp;S: Life Sciences</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L&amp;S: Physical Sciences</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education and Information Studies</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L&amp;S: Humanities</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Health</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L&amp;S: Social Sciences*</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Affairs</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts and Architecture</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theater, Film, and Television</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dentistry</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Includes International Institute*
Likelihood of having an advisor increases with degree level

- Masters: 57%
- Doctoral: 68%
- Doctoral: Advanced to Candidacy: 98%
- Doctoral: ATC, enrolled > 9 quarters: 100%
90% of students who reported having an advisor met with them at least once per quarter.
Students are most likely to agree that their advisor supports them in academically focused compared to personal arenas.

% reporting "agree" and "strongly agree"

- Advocates for me and supports me in completing my degree: 90%
- Supports my professional/career goals: 89%
- Is focused on helping me gain the professional skills needed to be successful in my field: 83%
- Seems genuinely interested in my personal well-being: 80%
- Helps me establish a timetable for the tasks of my graduate training: 68%
- Is aware of and supportive of my financial well-being: 66%
"My advisor advocates for me and supports me in completing my degree"

School/Division with Significant Mean Comparison (p<.05)
1 = "Strongly Disagree" to 4 = "Strongly Agree"

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Mean Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>L&amp;S: Humanities</td>
<td>3.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L&amp;S: Life Sciences</td>
<td>3.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L&amp;S: Physical Sciences</td>
<td>3.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L&amp;S: Social Sciences</td>
<td>3.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law</td>
<td>3.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>3.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Affairs</td>
<td>2.66</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Overall Mean 3.35
Mentors
A mentor is an individual, who may or may not be your advisor, to whom you turn for advice; information on the academic discipline; general, emotional, or professional support; career guidance; help with a paper; a model of ethical behavior and values; opportunities to collaborate; and introduction to others in the field.

One in five students reported NOT having a mentor

Source of mentors...

- At UCLA: 24%
- Outside of UCLA: 19%
- Both at UCLA and outside: 37%
- I do not have anyone I could consider a mentor: 19%
Many students consider their advisor a mentor
Agreement: I would consider my academic advisor a mentor.

- Strongly Agree: 27
- Agree: 40
- Disagree: 23
- Strongly disagree: 11

Total: 101 students
“I have difficulty finding mentors at UCLA with whom I identify”

When compared to students overall...

Black/African American students significantly more likely to agree

White students significantly less likely to agree

“I feel a sense of belonging with my department or program”

When compared to students overall...

Black/African American and Native American/Alaskan Native students significantly more likely to disagree
Next Steps

Additional exploratory analysis by sub-populations

Factor analysis for data reduction

Regression exploring the relationship between advising and sense of belonging