Mentor:
It’s Not What You’re Called, But What You Do

Assessing Campus Experiences Subgroup (ACES)
April 2009 Forum
ACES Committee

Chuck Bagley  Facilities Management
Corbin Campbell  Institutional Research, Planning, and Assessment
Robert Crane  Arts & Humanities
Chip Denman  Office of Information Technology
Wallace Eddy  Eppley Recreation Center
Tom Harrod  University Libraries
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Jen Meyers  Institutional Research, Planning, and Assessment
Jessica Mislevy  Institutional Research, Planning, and Assessment
Erin Rooney-Eckel  President’s Promise
Rachel Rose  Clark School of Engineering
Adrienne Hamcke Wicker, Chair  Adele H. Stamp Student Union
Martha Baer Wilmes  College Park Scholars
Ronald Zeigler  Nyumburu Cultural Center
Today’s Presenters

- Chuck Bagley
- Jen Meyers
- Martha Baer Wilmes

Student Panel
- Bonnie Dux, Junior, Elementary Education
- Frank Robinson, Junior, Mechanical Engineering
- Raakhee Sharma, Senior, Government & Politics and Communication
University of Maryland Student Survey (UMSS)

- Annual spring survey since 1998
- Administered to juniors and seniors in Professional Writing
- Gathers data on upper-division undergraduates’ experiences at and perceptions of UM
UMSS 2008

➢ 65% return rate (1407 of 2150 students enrolled in Professional Writing)

➢ Topic areas
  • Academic advising
  • Mentoring
  • Civic engagement
  • Diversity in and beyond the classroom

Report available at www.umd.edu/cawg
About Our Sample

Percents

Female
- SAMPLE: 46%
- UM: 48%

Male
- SAMPLE: 54%
- UM: 52%

Direct Admit
- SAMPLE: 74%
- UM: 69%

Transfer
- SAMPLE: 26%
- UM: 31%

White: 57%
Asian: 15%
Black/Afr Amer: 11%
Hispanic: 6%
Amer Indian: .5%
Foreign: 2%
Unknown: 9%
How would you respond?
Question One

Do you have at least one UM undergraduate for whom you take an active interest in his/her academic, personal, and/or professional development?

☐ No, and I am not able to serve in this role. [STOP]
☐ No, but I would like to serve in this role. [STOP]
☐ Yes [CONTINUE TO QUESTION TWO]
Questions Two - Four

- Does this student consider you to be his/her mentor?

- Which of the following best describes how you connected with this undergraduate?

- What role(s) do you play in this undergraduate’s life?
Are you a mentor?
What did the students say?

Do you have at least one UM faculty or staff member who takes an active interest in your academic, personal, and/or professional development?

☐ No, and I do not want to have a person like this. 14%
☐ No, but I would like to have a person like this. 48%
☐ Yes 39%
What did the students say?

Do you have a UM faculty/staff member who takes an active interest in your academic, personal, and/or professional development?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No and want one</th>
<th>No and don't want one</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Entry Status</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct Admit</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer Admit</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class in Spring 2008</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Program</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Connecting with Faculty/Staff

Which of the following best describes how you connected with this person:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I took a class from this person.</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was assigned to this person.</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I met this person in a club/organization.</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I sought out this person on my own.</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was referred to this person by a faculty/staff member.</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was referred to this person by another student.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was referred to this person by someone else.</td>
<td>&lt;1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Helping Roles of Faculty/Staff

What role does this person from UM play in your life? Do they help you:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Percent “Yes”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>By giving you encouragement and support</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain insider knowledge or experience in your career field</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Find resources at UM</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connect with people important to your academic/career goals</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explore career/graduate school opportunities</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Helping Roles of Faculty/Staff (cont.)

What role does this person from UM play in your life?
Do they help you:

- By acting as a role model 60
- With your internship or job search 56
- Select your classes 47
- With your physical and emotional well-being 44
- By reviewing your resume 42
What role does this person from UM play in your life?
Do they help you:

- Choose a major 25
- With your social life 24
- With financial concerns 18
Helping Roles of Faculty/Staff

Differences by Sex

Acted as a role model

- Female: 66%
- Male: 54%

Helped with their physical and emotional well-being

- Female: 53%
- Male: 35%
Helping Roles of Faculty/Staff

Differences by Special Program

Helped with their physical and emotional well-being
- SP PGM: 33
- NOT IN SP PGM: 51

Choosing a major
- SP PGM: 17
- NOT IN SP PGM: 30

Reviewed their resume
- SP PGM: 36
- NOT IN SP PGM: 45

Helped with their social life
- SP PGM: 17
- NOT IN SP PGM: 28
Helping Roles of Faculty/Staff

Differences by Race/Citizenship

Received help with financial concerns

- BLACK/AFRICAN AMER (SIG): 40
- FOREIGN (SIG): 33
- ASIAN AMER: 13
- HISPANIC: 13
- WHITE: 16

0% 25% 50%
Mentor or Not?

- Do you consider this person to be your mentor?

- Yes: 43%
- Not sure: 20%
- No: 37%
Student Panel/Discussion

- Bonnie Dux
  Junior, Elementary Education
- Frank Robinson
  Junior, Mechanical Engineering
- Raakhee Sharma
  Senior, Government & Politics and Communication
The University of Maryland Student Survey 2008 report is available at

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