

## **Campus Climate FAQ**

### **1. What is the history of the Campus Climate Survey?**

Meetings to organize this project began in July of 2005. An action plan was developed on how to set goals, objectives, and a timeline for this initiative. It was tentatively planned to have the surveys for faculty/staff and students finished by October and the survey distributed by early November 2005. The survey was distributed via e-mail to members of the campus community from the second week of November until the first week in December. It was projected the results of the survey would be released in late February or early March 2006. Due to the large amount of qualitative responses, it took the analysis committee a longer period of time than expected to read and analyze all of this data. After this was done, two report formats were completed. One represents the responses of the faculty/staff and the other represents student responses. Several drafts of the reports and the executive summary were prepared in order to provide documents that can be shared with the members of the Boise State University campus community.

### **2. Who are the members of the campus climate survey committee?**

Faculty, students, and staff from across campus as well as one community member were invited to participate on the committee. The 21 member committee was made up of Boise State professional staff and faculty representing the Provost's Office, Athletics, the Student Union, Institutional Analysis, TRiO programs, the Cultural and Ethnic Diversity Board, Communication & Marketing, the Cultural Center, Human Resources, the College of Engineering, and the departments of Psychology, Anthropology, Modern Languages, Criminal Justice, Political Science and History.

### **3. What was the purpose of this survey?**

An assessment of the campus climate at Boise State University has never been done before. The Provost's office, members of Hers West and the Division of Student Affairs suggested that it would be a good idea to measure how members of the campus community perceive the working and learning environment at this university in terms of student/faculty relationships, issues of gender, class, ethnicity, religion, age and their relationship to civility and tolerance. The goal of the survey was to investigate equity and inequity in all of these areas.

### **4. Why should I care about this survey?**

It is everyone's responsibility to contribute to the assurance of a safe campus and one that accommodates all of its students, faculty, and professional and classified staff. As a member of the campus community of Boise State University, it is critical to be aware how some areas of the environment of the university can be either inviting to all members of this campus or may be contributing to the alienation of some individuals who attend school or work here. Assessing the campus climate helps make this possible.

### **5. Why is the survey coming out now?**

The committee began to work on the survey in July of 2005. A timeline was designated so that the survey could be designed, distributed to the campus community, and analyzed during the 2005-06 academic year. The analysis of the survey was intensive because a large quantity of qualitative data was accumulated. It took the team of analysts much longer than expected to read, interpret, and categorize the data, as well as prepare drafts of reports. The committee wanted to assure that the reports being made public are in the best form possible. This work reached its completion in October 2006 and was placed before the entire Campus Climate Committee for final considerations before entering the public arena.

**6. How did the analysis committee look at the data?**

Data gathered consisted of two groups: quantitative and qualitative. A team of professors whose field of expertise is in the analysis of these types of data was charged with interpreting the results of the survey. The same team was also responsible for writing the reports.

**7. How were the data and questions organized?**

The questions were organized to address issues regarding ethnicity, gender, political affiliation, religion, age, and veteran. Open-ended questions were also included, so participants could provide either concerns or general comments regarding the environment on campus.

**8. How many people participated in the survey?**

Approximately 25% of the campus community completed the survey. This participation included 3,370 students (18.1%), 367 professional staff (53.1%), 335 classified staff (51.6%), and 366 faculty (34.7%). Fifty-three percent (53.1%) of full-time faculty and 9% of adjuncts completed the survey.

**9. What will Boise State University be doing to address some of the issues raised as result of the survey?**

The list of recommendations provided by the committee in this study will be assigned by the provost and vice president of student affairs to different departments and offices across campus to help provide solutions. Some of the recommendations will be addressed quickly and others will necessitate more time to develop effective strategies leading to solutions. In some cases, it is anticipated that separate task forces will be assigned to address other issues or questions that arise out of this campus climate analysis. Also, it is the intent of the university to do further campus climate surveys every two or three years in order to regularly assess our progress with recommendations.

**10. If I have any further questions or concerns, who do I contact?**

Please send questions, comments, and/or concerns to [provost@boisestate.edu](mailto:provost@boisestate.edu). In the future, this website will have a comment section as well. All of your questions, comments, and/or concerns will be gathered by the Provost's Office to be addressed appropriately.

