2017-18 Climate Survey Results

Executive Summary

The 2017-18 Climate Survey was administered to students at Siena College in February, 2018. Approximately 29% (884) of the 3,058 students who were asked to participate completed the survey. The purpose of this document is to share the results of the Campus Climate Survey for those questions related to perceptions of the College; visibility; personal attitudes and behaviors; the co-curricular environment; student perceptions of their peers, faculty, staff, and administrators; College policies; campus safety; overall learning and satisfaction; and future intentions.

Overall, those questions that were related to students’ personal attitudes and behaviors and their future intentions with respect to their academic plans had the highest levels of agreement among all student responders and among the various gender, race/ethnicity, and sexual orientation subgroups. The questions in the personal attitudes and behavior and future intentions sections also ranked high the last time the survey was administered.

Those questions related to students’ perceptions of their peers and whether the college has students, faculty, and administrators from diverse backgrounds (the visibility questions) had the lowest percentage of students who agreed with the statements overall and among the subgroups. The questions about implementing administrative policies to prevent discrimination due to age and political ideology also scored low among some of the subgroups (age: diverse race/ethnicity and gay, lesbian, unsure/questioning, other students; political ideology: male, non-diverse race/ethnicity, and bisexual students). The questions related to visibility and the perceptions of peers question related to the open-mindedness of students also ranked low the last time the survey was administered.

In general females had a lower level of agreement compared to males with the questions on the survey, and racially/ethnically diverse students had lower levels of agreement compared to non-racially/ethnically diverse students. Students who identified with a sexual orientation of gay, lesbian, unsure/questioning, or other also had lower levels of agreement compared to heterosexual and bisexual students in general. These results are also consistent with the results of previous campus climate surveys.

When asked about their own experiences, 59% of the student responders did not select any areas in which they personally experienced bias, harassment, or discrimination. Out of the 41% of students who had a personal experience with bias, harassment, or discrimination, 45% reported experiencing harassment about politics; 40% gender; 29% race; 15% religion; 14% ability; 12% sexual orientation; and 6% citizenship. Approximately 35% of those who experienced bias, harassment, or discrimination indicated that they had experienced it in two or more of the above areas.
## 2017-18 Climate Survey Results

### Highest Percentage of Agreement [Question (% of responders in agreed category)]

#### Overall
- Comfortable having friends from diverse backgrounds (90.1%)
- Plans to graduate from College (88.0%)
- Comfortable interacting with students from different backgrounds (87.2%)
- Comfortable having roommates/neighbors from diverse backgrounds (86.6%)
- Plans to return to College for next academic year (84.6%)

#### Females
- Comfortable having friends from diverse backgrounds (91.1%)
- Plans to graduate from College (88.9%)
- Comfortable having roommates/neighbors from diverse backgrounds (88.1%)
- Comfortable interacting with students from different backgrounds (87.1%)
- Plans to return to College for next academic year (85.0%)

#### Males
- Comfortable having friends from diverse backgrounds (88.2%)
- Comfortable interacting with students from different backgrounds (87.2%)
- Plans to graduate from College (86.6%)
- Plans to return to College for next academic year (84.6%)
- Comfortable having roommates/neighbors from diverse backgrounds (83.7%)

#### Diverse Race/Ethnicity
- Comfortable having friends from diverse backgrounds (89.3%)
- Comfortable having roommates/neighbors from diverse backgrounds (85.5%)
- Comfortable interacting with students from different backgrounds (84.7%)
- Comfortable having discussions with people whose ideas and values are different from my own (81.4%)
- Plans to graduate from College (79.4%)

#### Not Diverse Race/Ethnicity
- Comfortable having friends from diverse backgrounds (90.3%)
- Plans to graduate from College (90.2%)
- Comfortable interacting with students from different backgrounds (87.8%)
- Plans to return to College for next academic year (87.6%)
- Comfortable having roommates/neighbors from diverse backgrounds (86.9%)

#### Heterosexual
- Comfortable having friends from diverse backgrounds (90.0%)
- Plans to graduate from College (87.7%)
- Comfortable interacting with students from different backgrounds (86.9%)
- Plans to return to College for next academic year (84.5%)

#### Bisexual
- Comfortable having friends from diverse backgrounds (94.7%)
- Comfortable interacting with students from different backgrounds (94.6%)
- Plans to graduate from College (94.1%)
- Comfortable having roommates/neighbors from diverse backgrounds (89.2%)
- As a result of my experiences, I can communicate effectively with people who are different from myself (87.2%)

#### Gay, Lesbian, Unsure/Questioning, Other
- Plans to graduate from College (94.1%)
- Comfortable having friends from diverse backgrounds (91.7%)
- Plans to return to College for next academic year (89.1%)
- Comfortable interacting with students from different backgrounds (88.9%)
- Comfortable having roommates/neighbors from diverse backgrounds (88.2%)

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Lowest Percentage of Agreement [Question (% of responders in agreed category)]

**Overall**
- The College has senior leadership from diverse backgrounds (35.1%)
- The College has students from diverse backgrounds (37.2%)
- Students are open-minded when it comes to sharing different ideas and beliefs (43.2%)
- Students encourage free and open discussions about difficult topics (46.0%)
- Students are willing to talk about group differences (46.4%)

**Females**
- The College has senior leadership from diverse backgrounds (30.0%)
- The College has students from diverse backgrounds (33.3%)
- Students are open-minded when it comes to sharing different ideas and beliefs (43.7%)
- The College has faculty from diverse backgrounds (44.5%)
- Students are willing to talk about group differences (46.9%)

**Males**
- Students are open-minded when it comes to sharing different ideas and beliefs (42.9%)
- Students encourage free and open discussions about difficult topics (45.0%)
- The College has senior leadership from diverse backgrounds (45.1%)
- The College has students from diverse backgrounds (45.1%)
- The administration proactively implements policies to prevent discrimination related to political ideology (45.3%)

**Diverse Race/Ethnicity**
- The College has senior leadership from diverse backgrounds (21.1%)
- The College has students from diverse backgrounds (23.2%)
- Students are open-minded when it comes to sharing different ideas and beliefs (32.6%)
- Students are willing to talk about group differences (32.8%)
- The administration proactively implements policies to prevent discrimination related to age (34.5%)

**Not Diverse Race/Ethnicity**
- The administration proactively implements policies to prevent discrimination related to political ideology (35.7%)
- The College has senior leadership from diverse backgrounds (38.8%)
- The College has students from diverse backgrounds (40.8%)
- Students are open-minded when it comes to sharing different ideas and beliefs (46.0%)
- Students encourage free and open discussions about difficult topics (48.9%)

**Heterosexual**
- The College has senior leadership from diverse backgrounds (36.6%)
- The College has students from diverse backgrounds (38.1%)
- Students are open-minded when it comes to sharing different ideas and beliefs (44.2%)
- Students encourage free and open discussions about difficult topics (46.7%)
- Students are willing to talk about group differences (46.9%)

**Bisexual**
- The College has senior leadership from diverse backgrounds (20.6%)
- The College has students from diverse backgrounds (26.3%)
- The administration proactively implements policies to prevent discrimination related to political ideology (32.4%)
- The College has faculty from diverse backgrounds (34.2%)
- Students are open-minded when it comes to sharing different ideas and beliefs (38.5%)
- Students are willing to talk about group differences (38.5%)

**Gay, Lesbian, Unsure/Questioning, Other**
- The College has senior leadership from diverse backgrounds (14.3%)
- The College has students from diverse backgrounds (20.0%)
- The College has faculty from diverse backgrounds (25.0%)
- The administration proactively implements policies to prevent discrimination related to age (29.4%)
- Students are open-minded when it comes to sharing different ideas and beliefs (30.3%)
The questions in the personal attitudes and behavior and future intentions sections also ranked high the last time the survey was administered. The questions related to visibility and the perceptions of peers question related to the open-mindedness of students also ranked low the last time the survey was administered.

Questions with Biggest Differences in Levels of Agreement by Subgroup

The questions listed below are those questions on the 2017-18 Climate Survey that had the largest difference in the percentage of agreement by student responders in each of the demographic subgroups that were analyzed for this report. The group with the highest level of agreement is shown in bold font and the difference between the groups is represented by the symbol delta, Δ. For the sexual orientation subgroup, the delta has a subscript showing which two sexual orientation groups had the largest difference in the percentage of agreement.

Gender [Male (M) versus (vs) Female (F)]
- The College has senior leadership from diverse backgrounds *(M:45.1% vs F:30.0%; Δ = 15.1%)
- The College has faculty from diverse backgrounds *(M:59.3% vs F:44.5%; Δ = 14.8%)
- The College has adequate outdoor lighting *(M:71.2% vs F:56.4%; Δ = 14.8%)
- As a result of my experiences at this College, I have recognized biases that affect my thinking *(M:55.3% vs. F:69.1%; Δ = 13.8%)
- The College has students from diverse backgrounds *(M:45.1% vs F:33.3%; Δ = 11.8%)
- As a result of my experiences at this College, I have felt challenged to think more broadly about diverse issues *(M:54.7% vs. F:66.5%; Δ = 11.8%)

Race/Ethnicity [Not Diverse (ND) vs Diverse (D)]
- The administration proactively implements policies to prevent discrimination related to race *(ND:67.0% vs D:38.1%; Δ = 28.9%)
- The administration proactively implements policies to prevent discrimination related to abilities/disabilities *(ND:66.1% vs D:40.1%; Δ = 26.0%)
- Students are treated fairly regardless of race *(ND:74.7% vs D:50.6%; Δ = 24.1%)
- The administration proactively implements policies to prevent discrimination related to gender *(ND:65.5% vs D:41.5%; Δ = 24.0%)
- The administration proactively implements policies to prevent discrimination related to age *(ND:58.4% vs D:34.5%; Δ = 23.9%)

Sexual Orientation [Heterosexual (H) vs Bisexual (B) vs Gay, Lesbian, Unsure/Questioning, Other (GLQ)]
- Students are treated fairly regardless of socioeconomic status *(H:67.3% vs B:56.4% vs GLQ:36.1%; Δ_{HvsGLQ} = 31.2%)
- Students organizations are welcoming *(H:70.9% vs B:53.8% vs GLQ:42.9%; Δ_{HvsGLQ} = 28.0%)
- The administration proactively implements policies to prevent discrimination related to age *(H:54.9% vs B:45.7% vs GLQ:29.4%; Δ_{HvsGLQ} = 25.5%)
- The College has senior leadership from diverse backgrounds *(H:36.6% vs B:20.6% vs GLQ:14.3%; Δ_{HvsGLQ} = 22.3%)
- Administrators regularly speak about the value of diversity *(H:56.8% vs B:61.5% vs GLQ:39.4%; Δ_{BvsGLQ} = 22.1%)