

Survey and focus group report findings: Belonging and sense of community

Creating community and belonging at NC State matters. The Academic and Student Affairs Retention Foundations Assessment project used survey and focus group data from first-year and transfer students to begin to identify ways that we can foster students' sense of community. Join us to meet this goal.

First-year students



45% don't experience a great extent of belonging in small groups¹

How can your unit help new students find belonging in small groups?

1, 2. 2017 First Year First Term Survey n=2583 (54% response rate)

More than half of surveyed first-year students report having a sense of community in their college/major is very important



less than one-third experience it to a great extent.²

How can your unit facilitate student connections in their college or major?

Transfer students



1 in 5 feel no sense of community with formal organizations (residence halls, villages, student organizations, and athletic groups.³)

How can your unit assist transfer students in connecting with formal organizations?

3. 2017 First Term Transfer Survey n=627 (49% response rate)

Underrepresented students

"I feel like my community director and residence director...have done a wonderful job of educating themselves about different diversity issues and...recognizing microaggressions and challenging people...to educate themselves."⁴

Faculty and staff can have a positive impact on sense of belonging for underrepresented students.

How can your unit challenge faculty and staff to educate themselves about microaggressions and other diversity and inclusion issues experienced by students?

4. University Housing spring 2018 focus groups with underrepresented (by race/ethnicity and sexual orientation) undergraduate and graduate students living in on-campus housing, on the topic of marginalized students' experiences on campus and in housing

Lead with us. Help your unit create a stronger community for our students.

To contact our staff for a workshop, visit go.ncsu.edu/communitybelonging