

# Did we ask them that...and should we ask them that?

A New System for Student Surveys at UC Davis

October 28, 2021

Erika Jackson, Budget and Institutional Analysis

Meryl Motika, Center for Educational Effectiveness

# **Existing Student Survey Landscape**

- Existing institutional surveys are valuable but lack flexibility in timing and content.
  - UC Undergraduate Experience Survey
  - Student Satisfaction Survey (through UCSD)
  - College Exit/First Destination Survey
  - Alumni/ National Alumni Career Mobility Survey
  - "Pop-up" surveys (eg., Summer Sessions, Travel, Belonging)

## Issues

- Existing surveys lack flexibility in timing and content.
- Survey fatigue threatens response rates
- · Question/survey design can be challenging and result in poor data
- Data management (security concerns, sensitive information)
- Duplication of efforts/data collected

## Goals

- · Center student voices in decision making
- Reduce survey fatigue
- · Strengthen trust among students that their feedback is utilized
  - Share results (data and resulting actions) with students
- Increase access to data so use of data is maximized
- · Give campus leaders a mechanism they can rely on

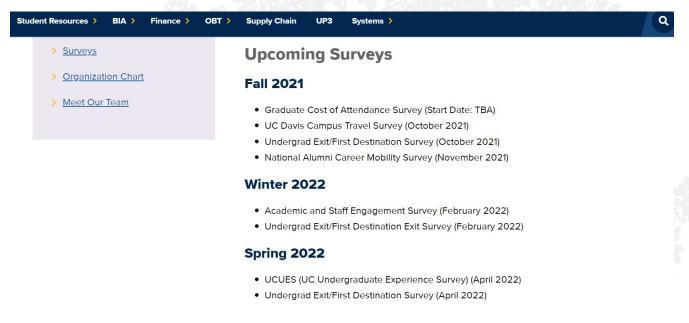
# Proposal

University-wide undergraduate student survey coordination and consolidation

#### **Components**

- Calendar for coordinating surveys
- Centralized short joint surveys
- Survey/question proposal process
- Shared results

# A Centralized Survey Calendar



#### **Recent Surveys**

https://financeandbusiness.ucdavis.edu/bia/i-a/surveys

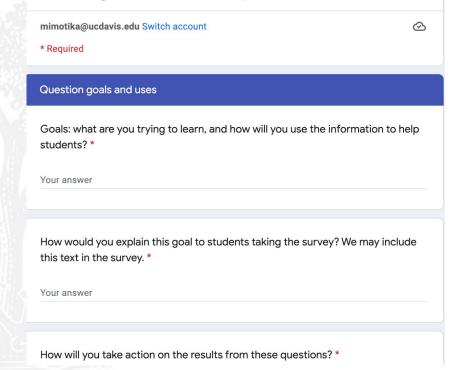
# Centralized Joint Surveys

- 5 minute survey 10 questions or less
  - Monthly? Quarterly?
- Any campus unit can submit questions
- Inclusion decision by Survey Committee
  - Rubric priorities: actionable, broad effect, broad usefulness, equity, strategic plan, appropriate questions, timeliness
- Different options for survey implementation
- ASUCD partnership
- Aggregate results shared with requesters, students, all UC Davis

## Question submission form

- Department approval
- Timing
- Ability to add new knowledge
- Goals
- Action
- Which students
- Strategic Plan alignment
- Share the impact

#### Question Submission for Centralized Undergraduate Survey - UC Davis



Criteria	2	1	0
How actionable will the data be?	Questions will lead to action that directly improves students' experiences within a year.	Questions will lead to policy change or action that will improve students' experiences.	Questions will not lead to action that improves students' experiences.

Criteria	2	1	0
How actionable will the data be?	Questions will lead to action that directly improves students' experiences within a year.	Questions will lead to policy change or action that will improve students' experiences.	Questions will not lead to action that improves students' experiences.
Number of affected students	The expected action will affect all or nearly all students.	The expected action will affect more than half of the student body.	The expected action will affect less than half of the student body.
			_
			_
_			_
	Alberta.	Marine Sea Constant	

Questions will lead to action that	0	
directly improves students' experiences within a year.	Questions will lead to policy change or action that will improve students' experiences.	Questions will not lead to action that improves students' experiences.
The expected action will affect all or nearly all students.	The expected action will affect more than half of the student body.	The expected action will affect less than half of the student body.
This question, or a variation of it, has been requested by many groups.	This question will be used by several groups.	This question is only needed by 1 unit.
		100.000
		-
	nearly all students.  This question, or a variation of it, has	nearly all students.  more than half of the student body.  This question, or a variation of it, has  This question will be used by

	2	1	0
ow <b>actionable</b> will the ata be?	Questions will lead to action that directly improves students' experiences within a year.	Questions will lead to policy change or action that will improve students' experiences.	Questions will not lead to action that improves students' experiences.
umber of affected tudents	The expected action will affect all or nearly all students.	The expected action will affect more than half of the student body.	The expected action will affect less than half of the student body.
ow many different rojects/departments eed this question?	This question, or a variation of it, has been requested by many groups.	This question will be used by several groups.	This question is only needed by 1 unit.
quity improvement	The action taken as a result of these questions will directly improve equity at UC Davis.	The action taken as a result of these questions may indirectly improve equity.	The action taken as a result of these questions will have no effect on equity.

Criteria	2	1	0
How <b>actionable</b> will the data be?	Questions will lead to action that directly improves students' experiences within a year.	Questions will lead to policy change or action that will improve students' experiences.	Questions will not lead to action that improves students' experiences.
Number of affected students	The expected action will affect all or nearly all students.	The expected action will affect more than half of the student body.	The expected action will affect less than half of the student body.
How many different projects/departments need this question?	This question, or a variation of it, has been requested by many groups.	This question will be used by several groups.	This question is only needed by 1 unit.
Equity improvement	The action taken as a result of these questions will directly improve equity at UC Davis.	The action taken as a result of these questions may indirectly improve equity.	The action taken as a result of these questions will have no effect on equity.
Alignment to <b>Strategic</b> <b>Plan</b>	The action taken as a result of these questions is directly aligned with the Strategic Plan.	The action taken as a result of these questions may be indirectly aligned with the Strategic Plan.	The action taken as a result of these questions is not aligned with the Strategic Plan.

Criteria	2	1	0
How <b>actionable</b> will the data be?	Questions will lead to action that directly improves students' experiences within a year.	Questions will lead to policy change or action that will improve students' experiences.	Questions will not lead to action that improves students' experiences.
Number of affected students	The expected action will affect all or nearly all students.	The expected action will affect more than half of the student body.	The expected action will affect less than half of the student body.
How many different projects/departments need this question?	This question, or a variation of it, has been requested by many groups.	This question will be used by several groups.	This question is only needed by 1 unit.
Equity improvement	The action taken as a result of these questions will directly improve equity at UC Davis.	The action taken as a result of these questions may indirectly improve equity.	The action taken as a result of these questions will have no effect on equity.
Alignment to <b>Strategic Plan</b>	The action taken as a result of these questions is directly aligned with the Strategic Plan.	The action taken as a result of these questions may be indirectly aligned with the Strategic Plan.	The action taken as a result of these questions is not aligned with the Strategic Plan.
Are the questions appropriate for this forum?	Questions are comfortable for students to answer & do not touch on sensitive or mandatory reporting issues.	Some questions may be a little difficult or awkward for students to answer.	Some questions may be very sensitive or touch on mandatory reporting issues.

Criteria	2	1	0
How <b>actionable</b> will the data be?	Questions will lead to action that directly improves students' experiences within a year.	Questions will lead to policy change or action that will improve students' experiences.	Questions will not lead to action that improves students' experiences.
Number of affected students	The expected action will affect all or nearly all students.	The expected action will affect more than half of the student body.	The expected action will affect less than half of the student body.
How many different projects/departments need this question?	This question, or a variation of it, has been requested by many groups.	This question will be used by several groups.	This question is only needed by 1 unit.
Equity improvement	The action taken as a result of these questions will directly improve equity at UC Davis.	The action taken as a result of these questions may indirectly improve equity.	The action taken as a result of these questions will have no effect on equity.
Alignment to <b>Strategic Plan</b>	The action taken as a result of these questions is directly aligned with the Strategic Plan.	The action taken as a result of these questions may be indirectly aligned with the Strategic Plan.	The action taken as a result of these questions is not aligned with the Strategic Plan.
Are the questions appropriate for this forum?	Questions are comfortable for students to answer & do not touch on sensitive or mandatory reporting issues.	Some questions may be a little difficult or awkward for students to answer.	Some questions may be very sensitive or touch on mandatory reporting issues.
Is this information already available?	No	Sort of - there's some but it doesn't fully address what's needed.	Yes

# Centralized survey results

#### So far

- Announced process through both formal and informal means
- Recruited committee members & questions
- Met with committee, drafted first survey
- Follow up with campus partners to determine best approach
- Release to students next week

#### **Next steps**

- Results turnaround
- Communicate results to students, faculty, and staff
- Figure out whether it should be monthly or quarterly

## What we learned

- Everybody is unhappy about survey fatigue.
- · A good cross-campus partnership helps information flow and buy-in.
- Getting people to submit questions is hard.
- Plan ahead for communication and approval roadblocks.
- Make space between question submission deadline & committee meeting to review & prepare them; more time for revising surveys.

### Discussion

Does your campus have similar concerns?

How are student surveys managed on your campus?

**Coordination? Calendar?** 

Central office approval?

How do you handle survey fatigue?

How do you share results?

Students?

Faculty, other staff units?

Do students see the impact of survey data?

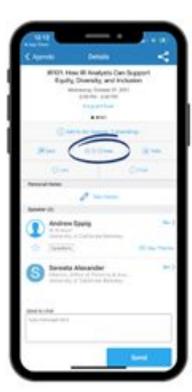
#### REMINDER: COMPLETE YOUR SESSION EVALUATIONS



#### **OPTION 01**

Home - Feedback

- Navigate to the Home page
- Click on Feedback
- Select Session
   Feedback
- Select the name of the session that you attended



#### **OPTION 02**

Agenda - Session

- Navigate to Agenda on the bottom menu
- Select session name
- Click
   ជំជំជំ Rate