GPSS Composition Survey Results

Winter 2019
Background

The purpose of the GPSS Composition Survey is to understand the various identities that comprise our senate, and the extent to which our organization accurately reflects the graduate student population at the University of Washington.

Thank you to everyone who participated!
Of the 5 officers and 126 senators currently listed on our roster, we received 55 survey responses for a response rate of 43%.
Survey Results: Academics
Fields of Study

- What degrees are you currently pursuing?
- What is your field of study/discipline?

Of the 55 survey respondents...

- 44% are pursuing a PhD
- 33% are pursuing a 2-year Master’s degree
- 15% are pursuing a professional degree

20% are in ‘Health Professions’
16% are in ‘Other’ fields of study
13% are in ‘Biological/Biomedical’
9% are in ‘Public Admin./Social Services’
7% are in ‘Languages/Literature’
Employment

- Are you currently employed? (This includes any off-campus, on-campus, or research related jobs)
- How many hours per week do you work for pay?

Of the 55 survey respondents...

80% are currently employed
32% work 16-20 hrs/week
22% work more than 20 hrs/week
20% work 11-15 hrs/week
19% work 0-5 hrs/week
First Generation Status

- Do you consider yourself a first-generation student (first in family to complete a 4-year degree)?
- Do you consider yourself a first-generation graduate student (first in family to enter graduate or professional school)?

Of the 55 survey respondents...

- 74% do not consider themselves a first-gen college student
- 24% do consider themselves a first-gen college student
- 55% do not consider themselves first-gen grad students
- 42% do consider themselves first-gen grad students
International Student Status

Do you identify as an International Student?

93% do not identify as an International Student
Age

61% are 25 - 30 years old
21% are younger than 25
17% are older than 31
Gender & Sexuality

- What is your gender identity?
- Do you consider yourself a member of the LGBTQIA+ community?

53% identify as female
42% identify as male
65% do not consider themselves members of the LGBTQIA+ community
28% do consider themselves members of the LGBTQIA+ community
Race & Ethnicity

What is your racial or ethnic identity?

- 71% identify as White
- 26% identify as Asian
- 7% identify as Latinx

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Count (Percentage)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alaskan Native</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>14 (25.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>2 (3.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino/a/x</td>
<td>4 (7.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous/Native American</td>
<td>1 (1.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North African/Middle Eastern</td>
<td>1 (1.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1 (1.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer not to respond</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White/Caucasian</td>
<td>39 (70.9%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Survey Results:
Other Characteristics
Local Residency

Where are you currently living?

- 35% live in NE Seattle
- 26% live in NW Seattle
- 18% live in Central Seattle
- 9% live outside of Seattle city limits

Detailed areas:
- On-campus housing
- Central Seattle (e.g. Capitol Hill, South Lake Union, Downtown)
- Northeast Seattle (U-District, Lake Washington)
- Northwest Seattle (e.g. Queen Ann, Ballard)
- South Seattle (e.g. Beacon Hill, Rainier Beach)
- West Seattle (e.g. Alki, Admiral, Juniper)
- Outside of Seattle city limits
- No steady housing
- Northeast Seattle
Caregiver Status

Are you a caregiver for one or more person? (This includes children, parents, other family members, close friends, neighbors, etc.)

96% are not currently a caregiver for more or one person
Veteran Status

Are you currently serving, or have you ever served, in the U.S. Armed Forces?

97% are not currently, or have not served in the Armed Forces
Disability Status

Do you require assistance or supportive services as a student due to a physical or mental disability?

93% do **not** require assistance or supportive services

7% do require assistance or supportive services
Moving Forward
### Moving Forward:
Increase recruitment efforts for underrepresented graduate student identities in GPSS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>UW Total</th>
<th>GPSS Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students of Color</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>29.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students Veterans</td>
<td>85*</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fields of Study</td>
<td>300+</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Students</td>
<td>21.6%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Estimated based on available UW data, no graduate student veteran data collected
Moving Forward:
Expand GPSS programming to address gaps in representation and inclusion

Support differences in **Identity** by hosting events that serve specific minority populations

Increase **Accessibility** for students with disabilities and student parents

Develop lasting **Partnerships** with campus groups advocating for underrepresented graduate students
Diversity requires commitment. Achieving [the] superior performance diversity can produce needs further action - most notably, a commitment to develop a culture of inclusion. People do not just need to be different, they need to be fully involved and feel their voices are heard.

- Alain Dehaze