

2015 Campus Climate Survey Results: Phase II Report to the Faculty Senate May 10, 2016

Presented by Jan Kottke

Co-authors:

Barbara Sirotnik & Kathie Pelletier

Our other members of the Ad hoc Campus Climate Committee are
Dorothy Chen Maynard, Robie Madrigal, and Rich McGee

What was examined in Phase I?

- Morale
- Leadership
- Shared governance/decision making

Overview of Presentation

- Phase II report of survey results covered:
 - Diversity
 - Trust and mutual respect (psychological safety)
 - Workload and performance evaluation
 - Potential for job growth and career advancement
 - Bullying
- Today's presentation will focus on:
 - Diversity, trust, and bullying
 - Conclusions and suggestions based on these data and the results from Phase I

Review of Background

- June 2015, 2 fora sponsored by the FS
 - More than 100 faculty and staff attended each
 - Concern for campus climate
- Faculty senate requested support from CO
 - CO declined; encouraged the campus community to work together to address the issues
- Ad hoc committee formed
 - Faculty and staff
 - Qualifications include: survey design, statistical analysis, qualitative analysis, measurement, leadership expertise, executive coaching, and knowledge of organizational behavior
 - Administrators asked to join, but declined

Method

- Committee considered what is known about organizational climate and common ways to assess
- Reviewed other relevant, recent surveys from:
 - 2015 Chico State
 - 2014 UC Berkeley
 - 2010 CSUSB Staff survey (sponsored by the CO)
 - 2009 furlough study
- Reviewed issues identified in the FS resolution sent to the CO (i.e., bullying, shared governance)

Method

- Developed an online instrument of Likert style scale items and open-ended questions
 - Hosted by external marketing firm
 - Link was sent to all campus employees with a working email address, as well as
 - Retiree association list serv
- Dimensions addressed:
 - job satisfaction, opportunities for job growth, leadership, communication and decision making processes, diversity, inclusion, equity, workload and work stress, collaboration, performance evaluation and feedback, shared governance/decision-making, and in-range progression process

Who responded?

| Position | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent |
|----------------------------------|------------|--------------|---------------|
| Tenured faculty (including FERP) | 151 | 20.0 | 20.0 |
| Tenure track faculty | 40 | 5.3 | 5.3 |
| Lecturer | 27 | 3.6 | 3.6 |
| Non-exempt staff (hourly) | 211 | 27.9 | 27.9 |
| Exempt staff | 203 | 26.9 | 26.9 |
| Administrator (MPP) | 75 | 9.9 | 9.9 |
| Former CSUSB employees | 48 | 6.3 | 6.4 |
| Total | 755 | 99.9 | 100.0 |
| No position listed | 1 | .1 | |
| Total | 756 | 100.0 | |

Analysis

- Mixed method
 - Summaries of the rated, numeric variables
 - Analysis of the comments into themes

STARTING WITH DIVERSITY

Diversity: Numeric Results

% who “agreed” or “strongly agreed” with the following items:

| | Faculty | Staff | Admin | Former Empl. | Overall |
|---|----------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|----------------|
| “My co-workers respect individual and cultural differences” | 77.1% | 74.7% | 88.7% | 84.2% | 77.4% |
| “My supervisors respect individual and cultural differences” | 72.8% | 70.4% | 88.5% | 64.9% | 72.5% |
| “I feel all people, regardless of differences, are valued at CSUSB” | 46.6% | 49.1% | 67.2% | 42.9% | 49.7% |
| “Senior management treats all people, regardless of individual and cultural differences, fairly” | 25.5% | 31.1% | 59.7% | 31.0% | 32.3% |

Diversity: Comments

Positive themes

- Diversity is valued (27)
- Though progress has been made, more diversity is needed (12)
- 116 respondents left comments; 88 responses were assigned a theme

Negative themes

- Preferential treatment (31)
- Gender bias (17)
- Racial bias (15)
- Purposeful, political use of diversity (13)
- Marginalization (12)
- Differential practice across university (6)

Diversity: Representative Comments

- *“Ethnic diversity is pretty good, but gender diversity is not. There are no female vice presidents.”*
- *“Diversity is championed in every direction one turns, but for a purpose. The purpose is to wield power and loyalty.”*
- *“Unfortunately, I think that recent efforts by the administration to highlight differences between groups of students tends to marginalize some groups.”*
- *“At the department and college level, differences are respected. At the university level, they are not.”*

TURNING TO TRUST

Trust: Numeric Results

| % who “agreed” with the following items: | | | | | |
|--|----------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|----------------|
| | Faculty | Staff | Admin | Former Empl. | Overall |
| Department level: “An atmosphere of trust exists” | 73.4% | 50.8% | 67.8% | 58.3% | 59.4% |
| College/division level: “An atmosphere of trust exists” | 54.9% | 32.0% | 47.5% | 44.4% | 41.0% |
| Campus/university as a whole: “An atmosphere of trust exists” | 13.7% | 28.5% | 25.4% | 28.9% | 23.9% |

Feelings of Safety: Numerical Results

% who “agreed” with the following items:

| | Faculty | Staff | Admin | Former Empl. | Overall |
|--|---------|-------|-------|--------------|--------------|
| Department : “I feel safe expressing my opinion without fear of consequences or retribution” | 77.6% | 56.6% | 73.8% | 66.7% | 65.0% |
| College/division: “I feel safe expressing my opinion without fear of consequences or retribution” | 59.9% | 37.7% | 47.5% | 48.6% | 45.9% |
| Campus/university : “I feel safe expressing my opinion without fear of consequences or retribution” | 23.8% | 32.4% | 37.3% | 31.6% | 30.3% |

TURNING TO BULLYING

Bullying: Definition

- Defined on the survey as:
 - verbal or physical conduct that a "reasonable person" would find threatening, intimidating, or humiliating

Bullying: Numeric Results

| % who said "yes" | | | | |
|--|---------|-------|-------|--------------|
| | Faculty | Staff | Admin | Overall |
| "Have you been bullied in the workplace this past year?" | 28.3% | 25.4% | 18.3% | 25.6% |
| "Have you witnessed bullying in the workplace this past year?" | 48.6% | 38.9% | 33.3% | 41.4% |
| "Have you been pressured to do something that isn't part of your job?" | 25.1% | 32.5% | 23.0% | 29.2% |
| "Have you been pressured to do something that you believe is wrong or unethical?" | 21.7% | 20.4% | 11.9% | 19.9% |

Bullying: Comments

- Nature of the bullying:
 - Emotional abuse and intimidation (28)
 - Incivility (16)
 - Verbal abuse/yelling (13)
 - Gender harassment (7)
 - Pressuring employees (6)
 - Targeting employees (3)

102 respondents left comments

Bullying: Comments

- Perpetrators of the bullying:
 - Top Leadership (8)
 - Department Chairs (6)
 - Senior Faculty (6)
 - President (5)
 - Supervisor (5)
 - Coworkers (5)

Bullying: Comments

- Level of bullying:
 - Department/Division (19)
 - University (18)
 - Human Resources (3)

Bullying: Was it reported?

- Only 28.6% reported the bullying they experienced
- Why did people choose not to report?
 - Fear of retaliation (38)
 - Futile to report (26)
 - Conflict avoidance (26)
 - Distrust of HR (20)
 - Power differential (13)
 - The bullying was only “borderline” (11)

Bullying: Representative Comments

- *“In my immediate workplace I have experienced shaming in meetings, condescension, and attacks on my professional abilities and knowledge.”*
- *“People are targeted if they disagree with the central administration.”*
- *“I was treated very rudely/offensively by a VP. His behavior was silencing and intimidating. It was a very nasty side of him I had never seen nor do I want to from him or anyone.”*
- *“HR protects and even encourages bullying by managers.”*

Bullying: Representative Comments

- *“I witnessed the President bullying a VP - horribly. I can't imagine anyone treating another human the way Dr. Morales treated the VP.”*
- *“I have seen several of my good coworkers leave the department due to unfair treatment, bullying, stress and unfair work demands.”*
- *“I have witnessed many managers bully and harass their employees. This is an ongoing problem that many employees refuse to make a stand against for fear of retaliation.”*

Phase I & II: Conclusions and Interpretations

- Our strengths to move forward:
 - faculty and staff value the campus and the diverse students they serve
 - many people are satisfied with their jobs, and find meaning in the work that they do

Phase I & II: Conclusions and Interpretations

- The issues:
 - Many faculty and staff (and some administrators)
 - have lost confidence in leadership
 - feel underappreciated, undervalued, unheard, overworked, stressed, and bullied
 - The sense of community that many believe once existed on campus has been replaced for many by
 - a climate of mistrust and fear

Phase I: Recommendations

- Restore trust
- To restore trust requires top leadership to
 - Acknowledge that a problem exists
 - Genuinely listen to employees—all employees—and address their concerns
 - Demonstrate
 - all employees are valued
 - active steps are being taken to restore trust

What has been done since Phase I?

- Two e-mails from the President
- Meeting with report authors
- Meeting with Senate Executive Committee
- Meetings with Deans
- Meetings with Department Chairs

- Sufficient?

Phase II: Recommendations

- Recommendations regarding bullying:
 - Create an explicit anti-bullying policy which include enforcement procedures
 - Appoint a trustworthy ombudsman or form a committee to investigate complaints
 - Require all campus leaders to attend training on bullying
 - Ensure a safe environment for the bullied target throughout the process

Phase II: Other Recommendations

- **Number 1:** Read Phases I and II of the Campus Climate Survey Report, and focus on changing *behaviors* to demonstrate a commitment to the campus community
- Invite input BEFORE decisions have been made
- Be willing to change direction if a majority of people affected by a decision are not in favor
- Take steps to improve feelings of psychological safety
- Implement further tracking of campus climate, including 360 degree reviews of senior management
- Hire an executive coach

Why Important?

- Why follow these recommendations?
 - To show leadership's commitment to the core values expressed in the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan
 - Inclusivity, integrity, respect, social justice and equity, transparency, and wellness and safety
 - To ensure everyone feels safe at work, empowered to live up to his or her fullest potential, to serve the mission of the university
 - And, for the students

Questions?

Phase II: Recommendations

- Recommendations regarding favoritism
 - Sponsor an audit of HR's practices and policies by an independent party
 - Follow fair employment practices and policies consistently