

2015 Campus Climate Survey: Graduate Students:
h2: What do you think needs to be done to improve the diversity climate at NC State?
Open-End Comments (Topic: Greek Organizations)

| h2 | Race | Gender |
|--|-------|--------|
| The university should get out in front of the growing national distaste for fraternities and proactively evaluate those groups' practices regarding hazing new pledges, sexual harassment, and racial discrimination. | White | Female |
| 1) Broadening the definition of "diversity" to include exploration of White, normative culture, and the privileges associated with it. Learning to "affirm" diversity includes learning to explore one's own identities and the ways in which those identities may or may not be reflected in normative culture. / / 2) More support of students who have been/may be sexually assaulted. For example, campus alert emails include tips/strategies to "protect" yourself, such as not taking drinks from strangers, etc. Why are these alerts not phrased in terms of a culture of consent? For example, why not include language directed towards potential perpetrators about asking for consent, not taking advantage of women when they have had too much to drink, or whose friend group has left the party, etc? / / 3) Requiring students (both graduate and undergraduate) to attend events where they may have to interact with people who are different from them. Requiring students to enroll in coursework that encourages them to explore their identities and culture so that they may have a deeper understanding of themselves and others may meet with much resistance initially; however, as a public, land-grant institution, NC State has an obligation to inform its curriculum (and students and faculty) based on research - there is a wealth of empirical research that details the benefits experienced by both Whites and non-Whites who live, work, and study in diverse environments (propinquity - increased workplace satisfaction/productivity, increased emotional well-being, increased self-efficacy and ability to connect with others, etc.) / / 4) Recruit more students of color, especially African American and Latino students. Increase efforts to retain students of color once enrolled. / / 5) Recruit more faculty of color, especially African American and Latino faculty. Increase efforts to retain faculty of color once hired. / / 6) Recruit more women faculty. / / 7) Provide (and require) more professional development opportunities for faculty to learn to interact with others who may be different from them. / / 8) Provide and require targeted programming to the Greek community (specifically White fraternities and sororities) about culture of consent, inclusive environments, | White | Female |
| I have had difficulty finding scholarships available through NC State. If there is a centralized location for this information, I am not aware of it. I have personally experienced bias coming from a poorer background compared to my peers, and needs-based funding for students from disenfranchised backgrounds would help those students in need attend college. / / I have had friends "work the system" for minority scholarships (for example, a person who came from a wealthy middle-class family is half-Puerto Rican but is not culturally Puerto Rican, does not look Puerto Rican, and does not speak Spanish received ample funding at her undergraduate college and at NC State because of her "minority" background). Many of my friends back home look for sports scholarships because they cannot compete academically against the so-called "minority" students as described above. Funding for minorities should be based on the individual's history and actual struggle associated with their minority status and not merely their bloodline. And, once such students are accepted and funded, support services should be made clearly available during orientation and throughout students' college careers. / / As for women's issues, the recent events regarding a fraternity's behavior are absolutely disgusting, and I am very glad NC State and the national organization disbanded the NCState frat chapter. I think fraternities should be under immense scrutiny, and that fraternity brothers should be held to a significantly higher standard with regard to sexual misconduct (i.e. parent money shouldn't be able to buy them out of expulsion and legal punishment). / / Such misconduct is certainly under-reported, regardless of whether the perpetrator is a frat brother or not. Speaking from experience, I chose not to press charges TWICE while in college after I was taken advantage while inebriated (in one instance I was purposefully drugged). I want to make it clear I did not and will not press charges now or in the future. The reasons I had then for not pursuing any school or legal action are: 1. It was my word against his, 2. There was no evidence and I did not know what to do the next morning once I realized what had happened, 3. Social stigma, 4. I imagined a long drawn out legal process that would not result in any justice anyway, 5. It was my decision, at least initially, to drink and I would be accused of making my own mistake and "wanting it." There is no justice in these situations. The victim is forced to re-live and fight, sometimes for months or years, for justice, and whatever happens to the perpetrator - if anything- is piddly compared to th | White | Female |

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| I have noticed the campus seems to react to problems (such as the recently found fraternity notebook, or writings in the free expression tunnel) after they occur. I'm not sure how, but it seems there should be more proactive way of discouraging such things before they happen. / / More activities where different groups (for lack of a better word) of people get together and discuss things - life, culture, sports, whatever they feel like - over a meal or snack or some activity that makes everyone work together and not just sit and hang out with their typical "group" offriends. | White | Female |
| Most of the ignorance and racism I experience on campus is coming from undergraduate males. I believe undergraduate males and fraternities need more diversity education. | White | Female |
| The administration doesn't take seriously enough racism and sexism. They say that any acts of discrimination do not represent the university, when those acts are actually widespread and little is done to punish or fire those who commit them. They refuse to see the institutionalized racism and sexism on campus and only care about PR. I guess they fear they would lose public support and potential students if they took serious actions that had a chance of working. The latest situation with the fraternity with the "little green notebook" is a great example. The statement from the chancellor said the content of the notebook did not represent the sentiment of the rest of the university when the content in fact DID represent tons of stuff said/thought/felt on campus. Greek life as a whole should be shut down--there are still plenty of clubs left to socialize in, but those organizations (Greek life) are white, patriarchal institutions who will act in white, patriarchal ways. Their housing and associations with national organizations and their rules literally create an environment in which they are allowed to act like pigs, so if you want to be effective when dealing with them, you've gotta get rid of them. Continuing to release statements about how the administration doesn't support those actions isn't going to do anything. If you want to "investigate" why this stuff happens, HIRE SOCIOLOGISTS. | White | Female |
| Don't support the Greek community. They are primarily racists and bigots. | White | Male |
| It seems that the logic of providing on-campus housing for greek life was to have a bit more oversight, but I still don't think it was a good idea. It's currently in the news and a hot topic right now, but overall I just don't see much benefit to upholding and supporting institutions that are exceedingly centered around promoting mono-ethnic party/beer culture. / / Sororities and Fraternities have historically provided a sort of second family to students as they step into adulthood, and they have done much to contribute to fundraising, alumni networks, university support, and volunteerism over the years. But it seems like these good effects have been used as a shield to hold up groups that genuinely do seem more focused on throwing parties and guarded exclusivity than anything else. The campus and the university would survive without them, and it's time to seriously consider winding Greek life down. | White | Male |
| The Office of Institutional Equity and Diversity is out of touch with students. They reach x thousand students per year, but they are not reaching the next student. In economics, we think on the margin. I challenge OIED to do the same. Mandatory trainings with accusatory messages don't solve the problem. Honest discussion and relationship building among peers do. Start with the Greek community - they are not your biggest problem. The Greek community is your biggest asset. The infrastructure is in place to facilitate productive conversations within this community. These improvements will transcend to other areas of the campus community. / / A true conversation about diversity cannot begin by asserting someone who does not believe in the importance of diversity is a bigot. While I disagree with that person, I must respect their fundamental right to believe this. OIED only cares about free thought if that thought aligns with their own. I'm ashamed of the organization and disconnect with the student body and campus community. | White | Male |
| We need to enhance our definitions of certain terms, including hate speech vs. free speech and be consistent with the law and punishment. / / Also, as an affiliate of a fraternity at a different school, and then having come into this school, and highly interacted with the Greek community, I believe the way we handle Greek life here is abysmal, and a comprehensive review is a great idea. I just hope the conversation is as comprehensive as the Chancellor says it will be. There needs to be serious change in our Greek Life. As much good as they do, it is being overshadowed by their mistakes. | White | Male |