

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: International Students)

h2	Race	Gender
Do more follow ups to the new international students in terms of their psychological issues, culture shock, etc.	Asian	Female
Please provide more opportunities of on-campus job for international students.	Asian	Female
In my department, only citizens or someone took undergraduate in united states get offers for the funding. Even if some of them are not doing well in the courses. I feel like it has somewhat changed this year, but I and other international students think this is quiet unfair because not only they got the funding from the first year but also they get that continuously even if they fail for the prelim for the first time. In our department, the others(who doesn't get funding) must pass the prelim in his/her first trial to get 2nd year's funding.	Asian	Female
Recruit more international instructors. There is not much of diversity at the instructor level, at least not in my department.	Asian	Female
If international students are admitted as well as international professors are hired, diversity will be automatically increased. I see that there are enough Chinese and Indian. You should recruit international students or faculties from a more diverse countries.	Asian	Female
I think graduate student is much friendlier that undergraduates. Maybe adding internation relation related courses to unders could help them know better about international students.	Asian	Female
More topics related to diversity should be included during the orientation. There should be an orientation regarding american culture in the orientation so that international students are not bogged down by what is right and what may not be.	Asian	Female
Also let first year international graduate student live on campus	Asian	Female
We could have ocssional seminars from international scholars, i.e. those not primarily based in U.S. Cultural events could be better publicised.	Asian	Female
Promotion of the available oppotunities for International students to interact with students of other race	Asian	Male
Give more chances to improve the foreign students' lauguage abilities.	Asian	Male
If you see the diversity in terms of ratio of students under a professor with the same diversity as of professor is high. NC State should work to reduce that. For example, American students would like to work an American professor. Similarly, middle-east students or Indian students would like to work under a middl-east or an Indian professor.	Asian	Male
In my program : More students from different backgrounds, most of the students i take courses with are Indians.	Asian	Male
It's fair enough, but it will be better if more activities can be held to help connect native speakers and international students together.	Asian	Male
I think international students need to be made more aware of the diversity activities take place on campus for example international students come here more for the exposure that they wish to achieve by interacting with students from other cultures especially American. so it would be good if provided an opportunity because most of us are either shy or uncomfortable to talk to Americans, are people from other cultures because we don't know how they will respond to us. so having more activities where we interact with each other and are given an opportunity would be a great experience	Asian	Male
Pay more attention to minority groups (Gay, Asian, international students...)	Asian	Male
I think the current diversity climate is good. We should not overdo stuff as well. I primarily came to the US to interact with Americans in class and learn from them and their way of life. However by accepting a tonne of international students esp from asia, the number of american students in our classrooms are decreasing. I think having diversity is good. But overdoing it will affect America in the long run. This coming from an international student.	Asian	Male
Reduce the number of Indians in the graduate programs. Due to the high number of Indians, I think the program is dominated by us(I am Indian) and the entry bar is low. This leads to dilution of the quality of incoming students and hence impacts diversity indices.	Asian	Male

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It's better to help international students, especially those whose native language is not English, to improve their English skills and fit in the greater community.	Asian	Male
Host more events for students to get involved and be open to interact with international students	Asian	Male
Create student groups making Hispanic and international students involve in some events and activities together. Making them friends not only for that event but forever.	Asian	Trans
Dating events, Events that require Americans to participate with international students. Opportunities to work with American students on different projects.	Asian	Trans
Acknowledge that diversity goes beyond race and sexuality and also encompass different nationalities and cultures. International students are not given enough attention on campus.	Hispanic/Latino	Female
At the veterinary school, I think more diversity activities can be interwoven into our daily lives. This could be by having different ethnic foods at lunch while a speaker from that culture comes to talk about their country/culture's relationship with animals and veterinarians. I think something to be careful of is that since vet school students are still primarily all white/Caucasian, activities about diversity should focus on education about the other cultures without being incredibly blatant about the activity. It's hard to describe, but I think more subtle insertions of diversity education would be more useful (often I think students think when they hear Latin history month, black history month celebration--well that's not me so I'm not interested in going). Instead, by centering the event around food, a religious holiday, a country, etc., it becomes less "me" and "them" and more "us." Making sure activities are about animals, animal welfare, and veterinarians will make the diversity talks more applicable to students.	Hispanic/Latino	Female
as an international student, I don't feel like OIS does enough to promote interactions between international students. At least that's my perspective from my graduate student point of view. I have talked to international undergrads, and they don't seem to think this happens at their level.	Hispanic/Latino	Male
Move away from talking about diversity and move into talking about cultural education. This could be from updating the foreign language requirement of all students. I learned Japanese in college and spent many years in Japan post graduation. That helped me learn about that culture and cultures around them that I feel like I'm in better understanding. / This could be broadened with other aspects of "diversity" too. But saying "diversity" sounds like a pipe dream where there is no real goal. It's fictitious.	Hispanic/Latino	Male
Awareness and appropriate behavior particularly through words and actions of faculty and students towards women and minorities needs to be reassessed. Tackling diversity from a caucasian male perspective will never suffice in a world that is becoming more multicultural and gender inclusive. Therefore, approaching these issues by first listening to underrepresented groups would be a significant starting point. Offensive behavior is often not understood as offensive by those who have never walked in an underrepresented groups role.	White	Female
Sometimes I feel like the abundance of of international students in the graduate school makes it feel like I am a minority as an American. Monitor the enrollment statistics across to the graduate programs to ensure that domestic students are not being excluded in an effort to promotediversity.	White	Female
I think it's very hard at NC State sometimes to handle the diverse student body with the students who come from rural NC and maybe have never seen a person from a different racial or religious background than their own. And sometimes I think the international students have a hard time adjusting to life here, but it's a major adjustment to move to a new country.	White	Female

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<p>Currently, the climate nationwide is one of hostility--everyone seems to take offense at one's opinions and everyone seems to think that everyone needs to have the same opinion. I would really like to see NCSU foster the idea that it is OK for people to have different opinions--in other words, a 'diversity' of opinions is a good thing. During my time at graduate school, there are times I feel like my religion (Christianity) has been mocked by different professors and has been labeled as being an intolerant religion. It hurts me when such broad labels are placed on such a large group of people. Just because one Christian has been portrayed in a certain light in the media doesn't mean that I feel that same way. For example, it seems to be a widespread belief that Christians 'hate' individuals of non-straight sexual orientation. That is simply an incorrect blanket statement. Just because a Christian marriage is considered to be between a man and woman only doesn't mean that Christians don't support the government to grant freedom for homosexuals to be legally married. Similarly, 'all Muslims are terrorists'--again, NOT TRUE. The same holds true for other religions and ethnicities. Everyone has a right to an opinion, but nobody is entitled to claim their opinion is 'right'--everyone needs to have respect for each other, regardless of whether or not they view the other person as intolerant or not. I realize this issue will likely never be solved on a global level, but I would love to see NCSU work on this. Additionally, although I love the idea of embracing and increasing diversity, I believe that the top priority in admission of students should ALWAYS be academic merit. I want to point out that I am well aware there is an abundance of minority individuals who are all-star students; however, I have seen in my time both here and at my undergraduate institution the admission of minority students based on their ethnicity rather than their academic merit. These students have struggled in college--and sadly, this only reinforces negative stereotypes about the academic prowess of minority students. I have actually been in a situation (not at NCSU) where I was blatantly 'reverse discriminated' against due to being Caucasian simply in an effort to increase minority interest in the program I was in. This is a problem that cannot be solved at the university level--this is an issue that needs to be tackled in elementary, middle, and high school. No student--minority or not--should be admitted to a university if his/her academic skills don't cut it.</p>	White	Female
<p>I would like to see greater diversity in the enrollment of qualified students and professors. Creating an environment where groups aren't segregated would likely draw more students in and create an environment where everyone feels welcome. It would also be nice to hear from caucasian students on the topic of diversity, particularly race.</p>	White	Female

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<p>/ The biggest problem in engineering graduate school is cliques that prevent intermixing of students. Its easy for me to talk to one student who is different, but approaching a whole group or sitting at their lunch table when they are speaking another language is difficult. One big reason why students group together is because they all have the same advisor. The chinese students have the chinese advisor, etc. I don't know why it happens. I guess it is a combination of students picking an advisor like them and the advisor picking students from their home country. Hard to fix, but I think this is one of the biggest barriers. / / As a woman, oftentimes, I feel self conscious about how I look and how I'm dressed and feel just a little unsafe and uncomfortable surrounded by mostly men all the time. There's not really something wrong that makes me feel this way, but more women would help I think. It can be hard to develop lasting friendships, because close friendships with men often lead to them becoming romantically interested. / / I really hate people using masculine pronouns all the time, even when describing my own work. They realize halfway through that I'm female and switch over to "her work", etc. This also happens in lectures. One prof was really good about this though. You could tell he made an effort on purpose. / / In general, the sciences put up this tough guy act like "are you good enough?" which I think intimidate people who are unsure/switching fields for graduate school, don't have a masters, are an underrepresented group, etc. It really depends on the person talking. / / When I first came to NCSU I got involved in a lot of student lead volunteering events, reaching out to younger students, and a few diversity related discussions. However, in addition to being burnt out, I can't focus on my status as being a woman anymore. It stresses me out and distracts me and makes me feel less confident. I can't handle any kind of discussion it seems "like maybe women are less logical" "women aren't interested in tech unless there is a more human element" is enough to set me off. So generally, I just focus on keeping my head down and being a researcher and that has made me very happy recently. / / I think a mandatory diversity seminar (to learn about different cultures, hear from different students with different backgrounds) and a mandatory sexual assault, how to determine consent seminar should be required for all incoming students.</p>	White	Female
<p>More support and integration of the Multi-cultural Student Affairs department. I think they could hire additional staff to focus on Asian and Middle Eastern students. / / More efforts to recruit and retain Black males, as they are one of the most underrepresented groups in higher education nation-wide. / / I think it would help to put more funds in the pack promise program to increase enrollment and retention of low-income students.</p>	White	Female
<p>Although NCSU makes a point to attract an international populations, these students do not interact as much with native students, and instead form groups of international students. Often time I think this is a laungage experience difference, and therefore US vs International students are on different learning levels making it frustrating for international students due to difficulty inunderstanding, vs native speakers who get bored when things have to br brought down a level. Therefore, it appears that NCSU is just trying to check off a diversity box, instead of providing a wholelistic experience for international students. Instead thisresponsiblity gets placed on native speaking students(some would call this a burden or people who think this is a bruden are notbeing educated on diversity or that these experiences are supposed to be teaching them diersity?-this is not clear)</p>	White	Female
<p>STOP WORRYING ABOUT IT. / / Also, if you want more "diversity", it might help to drop graduate student tuition so that there is no longer a financial barrier to accepting international students, who can never become NC residents for tuition purposes.</p>	White	Female
<p>In mechanical engineering grad school, there is a lot of foreign students. From my experience, there is not much interaction with them. Each ethnicity/country of origin seems to stick together for the most part.</p>	White	Female

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<p>International students are receiving visa support, but they are not receiving enough academic support. There are differences in writing culture (not just plagiarism but how/when to present a thesis in a paper, how to use citations, articulating your own thoughts into writing in English) that are not addressed and make it difficult for some international students to succeed in their classes. There is no specific support for LGBT international students that may not feel they fit in with the US LGBT culture/group and face different challenges of which there is little awareness. Also, diversity needs to be integrated into the whole of students' curricula not just as part of some classes by faculty preference. A required "cultural life program" like Furman University's would be useful for reaching students who most need to learn about diversity acceptance AND appreciation--otherwise the majority of students that participate in cultural programs on campus are already aware of these issues. We need to reach all populations on campus.</p>	White	Female
<p>I do not think my program (in CHASS) has enough racial or ethnic diversity in its graduate students. But I've heard that in some programs where there are many international students, graduate students form cliques in their labs and social lives and avoid interacting with people from different racial and ethnic groups. I also wonder whether undergraduate and graduate students who do not come from families with prior experience in higher education get enough support.</p>	White	Female
<p>It is difficult to say. I know for my field it is not as diverse it is either Whites or Asians but I know there is support for other minority groups but the applicant pool is limited. There is a good representation for the field at NCSU. I actually think NCSU is doing ok in the diversity front compared to other institutions. I would say keep supporting the support groups. Keep accepting diverse qualified applicants</p>	White	Female
<p>Engineering centers need genuine reform in their interactions with international, female students.</p>	White	Female
<p>Students' support for minority need to increase specially the support for international students</p>	White	Male
<p>The Computer Science master's level graduate department seems to be 99% foreign students from India. This is in no way a diverse population, and it was sad when my first years of course work involved working with no diversity. The phd population seems more balanced.</p>	White	Male
<p>Get international students to not clump up with each other and make small pockets of their own culture that feel very non-inviting to others.</p>	White	Male
<p>Most of the diversity seems to come from international students and less from American students. I would like to see more diversity among the American students, but not at the expense of fewer international students.</p>	White	Male

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<p>1) Understand the law. As an example, even within this survey, you incorrectly define stalking to be based on the viewpoint of the student rather than of a "reasonable person". In this survey, you also seem to have a false dichotomy between free (protected) speech and hate speech. See Snyder v Phelps as a start. // 2) Stop chilling protected speech. If speech is protected, regardless of how undesired it is, the university should not respond. // 3) Consult legal counsel before making statements about or adopting policies that restrain student speech. // 4) Privacy is necessary for protect the university as a place for free inquiry and speech. Adopt binding policies that curtail the university's ability to retain *all* network traffic *permanently* and do any inspection of it (assuming it is to ensure student compliance of university policy). This power, particularly when combined with the university's desire to stop some protect speech, is really concerning. // 5) Expand free speech zones on campus to Centennial to allow for the university to better fulfill its role as a marketplace of ideas. // 6) Respect due process in student conduct, particularly with accusations of sexual assault. You can maintain a presumption of innocence for the accused while assuming that the accuser is truthful. Also, use both a definition of consent and standard of proof consistent with criminal law or both consistent with civil law. Failure to do so tells some demographic groups that they are not as valued by the university as other demographic groups, either favoring groups that are typically victimized or groups that typically are the perpetrators. // 7) Have a diverse selection of US Diversity and Global Knowledge classes. Last time I checked, there was no class dedicated to men's issues or Caucasian heritage, etc, despite contributing to US Diversity. This program promotes awareness and understanding of only privileged people groups. // 8) Protect students' freedom of conscience and diversity of ideas. The US Diversity classes are just one attempt to implement thought reform on campus. The plan was implemented after an incident at the free expression tunnel and the university's inability to restrict protected speech. // 9) Quit conflating a desire to protect student rights, accurate and less-biased information, and efficient execution of organization missions with being sexist/racist/...ist. // 10) Foster greater diversity in attendance at diversity events. // 11) Transparency ! Make policies publicly available ! The restrictions on speech (window displays) in University Housing was never made publ</p>	White	Male
<p>I only see US citizens or Indian citizens on a daily basis. It would be nice to fill in some of the other continents for more ethnic diversity. South america is almost non-existent in engineering. Also, I feel very alone as an Atheist.... nothing unusual, I just wish there was a larger presence.</p>	White	Male
<p>Graduate school should admit more students from different countries, Right now most of the international students comes from China and India and it make kind of polar environment. For example in my classes I was the only international non-chinese student.</p>	White	Male
<p>I have almost zero interactions with undergraduates but the time six of them were sitting in the TOC Atrium making fun of a professor with a Chinese accent does stick in my mind. I think they might have actually been speaking of a teacher they had in highschool - I pointedly stopped listening and glared heavily at that point. // That wasn't really helpful, I just wanted to complain about them again. Ugh.</p>	Mult race	Female