

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

| h2 | Race | Gender |
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| -Please make classes more diverse and promote more culturally diverse programs. / -Please tell the Student Body President to stop making everything a black and white issue at meetings. / NCSU needs to tell the ex, and future Student Body Presidents and friends to stop making everything a black and white issue at meetings. / -Please help to erase the stigma that black students only get in the university because they are black. I hope to god this is not true with admissions. I hear this ALL THE TIME among White, Indian, and Asian students and staff. / -Forcing people to take diversity classes for a credit does not help 75% percent of the people. It's a shame that I still hear racial slurs and hate speech in the libraies. / -Reach out to minority students that do not participate in minority organizations, clubs, etc. There is a reason many of us do not participate in these activities or with these organizations. / / | AfAmer/Black | Female |
| Talking to people, helping people realize their tendencies and biases. | AfAmer/Black | Female |
| If anything, increased promotion of events that celebrate different cultures ! I think the student interactions (in my major) between students with diverse backgrounds has made more people aware of the vast range of diversity on campus. | Asian | Female |
| I think there is a limit to how much diversity initiatives can accomplish if the students themselves do not experience the same exposure to diversity as fictional scenarios may describe. For example, my experience has mostly been exposure to white students who identify as heterosexual. Not to say there is no diversity among the white student population, but trying to explain diversity issues such as race/ethnicity and sexual orientation has its limits when students may not be able to understand what it is actually like to interact with members from a different diverse group. / / That is not to say that NC State should force students into diverse groups simply to have students experience diversity. That may help some, but would most likely annoy the rest if done forcibly. I believe the diversity programmes that NC State provides now do a good job of preparing students to accept diversity at school or in their future careers. The rest must be up to the students in question to act appropriately in a diverse climate. | Asian | Male |
| Make events to where instead of just making sure that people know about a certain culture, race, etc and promoting them, somehow make events to where different groups interact and get to know each other better. | Asian | Male |
| Continuing to support interactions with one another. | Asian | Male |
| There's not much you can ever do about students who decide to be rude and cruel, and there's also not much you can do about students who act on it, other than communicating very clearly where victims can go, that it's NOT THEIR FAULT (specifically with rape, especially), and that they can find unwavering support on campus that they can TRUST in--places that won't tell their friends or family if they ask for it. | Asian | Trans |
| I think NC State's doing a good job. I've heard a little about the linguistics department doing some linguistic diversity work, I would like to see more of that because I think that is very important. Also with foreign diversity, if there were some way to work with in African and Central American countires or or make NC State's work with universities in African and Central American countires more public that would be cool. | Hispanic/Latino | Male |
| The university should make a fair admission process. When I mention fair, I mean lower the SAT scores and GPAs, this will promote real "diversity" because I will interact with people from all backgrounds, including people of color, poor people, and disadvantage citizens. Statistically and historically, people from low income families obtain lower SAT scores. Therefore, NC State University should work on the admission process to be fair and this will lead to a "diverse" population. | Hispanic/Latino | Trans |
| Like i said, make some of the ethnic events mandatory, or worth extra credit. These are real-world situations, and people should be exposed to them ! Other than that, people are going to interact with who they want, so just keep things diversified to encourage it! | White | Female |
| Stop pushing the 'we are so diverse' events because theyre not true. Have a real conversation about how the ethnic diversity of students is seriously lacking. Work with those who dont speak English fluently to improve their conversational English (especially with professors, Asian professors are avoided due to communication difficulties.) | White | Female |

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| I think far too much emphasis is placed on diversity. It's being forced upon us, all of the diversity propaganda, and just too much, all the time. There are so many ways that people can be different from one another... the world is such a global community nowadays that I doubt any student coming here has never seen a black person, or a gay person. Even if not in 'real life', then they have seen such diversity in the media. And learning how to interact with someone different from me isn't something a university needs to teach. If a student has gone to the grocery store at least once in their life, they have interacted with people different from them. And they don't have a choice but to do so in today's world. Continually marking someone as 'minority' or part of the 'GLBT community' does nothing but enforce the difference. So many resources here are devoted to diversity, especially the GLBT aspect, that could be far better used elsewhere- for scholarships, for hiring the best faculty, promoting the University in the community, etc. | White | Female |
| I think that N.C. State is very formally accepting of diversity, but informally has a great deal of work to do. The social/cultural aspect of the student community at N.C. State I do not perceive as being very accepting. Comments I have heard between friends in class, the brickyard, etc. I have found to evidence various forms of prejudice. I am proud of the work that N.C. State is doing related to generating conversations about diversity and privilege and am hopeful that these will take root and begin to cultivate an ethos of respect and inclusion throughout all levels of the institution. | White | Female |
| Many students don't know about the diversity resources available to them. It's also nerve-racking to approach some of these offices; there is still a stigma surrounding some of them. The GLBT community is one of the more unrecognized groups on campus, and one of the more targeted ones. Some racial groups also seem to be separate and unwelcome at times. The biggest problem with NC State's diversity efforts are its students. I have experienced negative interactions from other students because of my sexual orientation. | White | Female |
| I think that a more diverse climate could be created by continuing to encouraging students to interact with other students from different backgrounds than their own. I feel I have learned more about diversity in my interactions with others than I ever would have been able to in a classroom. | White | Female |
| As a female, I do not feel safe walking on campus at night. I know many friends and friends of friends who have been sexually assaulted at parties and around campus, especially those parties connected to Greek life. I have heard many negative comments from students connected to Greek life, both male and female, who resent that the university is took action against the frat that was disbanded because of the comments in its pledge book. This negative environment goes much deeper than one or two frats, because many students are loyal to Greek life before their university. NC State needs to step in and completely remodel the Greek system or people will just keep accepting that women are raped at their parties. | White | Female |
| Not exactly sure. Maybe more interaction between groups of people? | White | Female |
| Just continue to push that diversity is important. Even just hearing it in the background (of life in general) helps. Though I have to say the thing that students love the most is free food so having more cultural food based events would probably get people to go (like hand out free samples in the brickyard or something, and talk to them there) | White | Female |
| Need more opportunities to interact with diverse populations when the setting is not to emphasize diversity | White | Female |

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| <p>More unity between exchange students and American students, art or facts supporting diversity awareness in public, push fraternities to become more diverse, push/incentivize students to step outside their comfort zones (through scholarships, f.e.), improve the study abroad program and require more majors to study abroad...it is one of the best tools to get students outside their comfort zone and understand that we live on a diverse planet with diverse ethnicities and languages. / / One of my friends from China recently said to me "you know, when I first moved to the U.S., I would hear Americans saying a lot 'people who live in the U.S. and do not speak English or learn the language should go back to their country', yet English is the only language most Americans I meet [here or abroad] know". This student is well-traveled and makes a great point. Race and religion are approached differently in other countries as well, you will not find the same stigmas attached to skin color and religion play different roles. / / Also, the roles of race and religion are changing in America. It would nice to push multicultural student organizations to work together instead of promoting themselves individually (f.e. the southeast asian student association could give one of the african-american student associations a class on how to cook a popular Thai dish or go out to a foreign restaurant to expand their horizons). 'Legends' could be used as a venue to hold events, supporting students from various sexual orientations. (etc...)</p> | White | Female |
| <p>Sometimes I feel like NC State does too much trying to improve the diversity climate. For example, my freshman year I was in the global village in Carroll Hall. I am well traveled and wanted to meet people from different places. However, I ended up with a terrible experience as my roommate from China did not speak any English, was in total culture shock, and could not preform in her classes because of the language barrier. I was disappointed in NC State as while I had many smart and motivated friends who did not get into NC State, this student who could not even speak English was admitted. / In addition, I think that the people that come to the brickyard that harass students with hateful comments should not be allowed on campus. The preacher that tells everyone they should "go to hell" and criticizes all who walk by should be asked to leave the campus. Having someone scream negative comments and pressing their beliefs on you is not presenting a healthy climate of diversity. On similar lines, the people that come to the brickyard every year presenting their "abortion is genocide" campaign should also not be allowed on campus. Again, hateful comments that are harassing people of different faiths and experiences is offensive to many people and does not condone diversity. I understand that NC State is trying to provide an open environment with free speech, however I find the people that have hateful messages unwelcoming to a diverse conversation. / / My recommendation to improving diversity in a productive manner is supporting the foreign languages department. While learning a different language, one can view and understand a different culture. By learning another history an people, there can be more understanding in the world and less prejudices. I think in the general curriculum of the foreign languages classes there should be more emphasis on the historical events of other nations and problems that those societies have dealt with rather than the tourist activities that one can do there. / / My final suggestion for the school in promoting diversity is to host a short online education course before freshmen come to NC State about sexual assault and sexism. I personally think that this has more prevalence than the alcohol course I had to participate in before coming to state. Especially in a male dominated university, I think that this would be beneficial to the school as a whole.</p> | White | Female |
| <p>I think it is more of what individuals can do in their personal interactions, reactions, and judgments towards each other, rather than what the administration of NC State as a whole can do.</p> | White | Female |
| <p>I don't think it's something you can force upon students. You can't say, "Alright, get into groups and make sure not all of you are white." But you can encourage professors to promote diversity events, maybe even ask them to offer extra credit for attendance. Encourage more group work within classes.</p> | White | Female |

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| Perhaps a training on diversity, as well as a training on sexual assault, similar to the required Alcohol EDU course could help students better understand what the University expects of them. Although these online programs are not often taken seriously by students, having them click through them ensures that they have at least seen and thought about this information, like the definitions of sexual assault and violence, or the definition of hate speech and the knowledge that it is not acceptable. I think this could get everyone on the same page as to what is okay and not okay. Students may better hold each other accountable if they know that what their friends are doing is wrong by some standard that they have all seen. | White | Female |
| i think there should be more information given to us about the opportunities to meet with people from other cultures like the study abroad students. - international friendship program, outdoor program (like how they just went kayaking) could use some more publicity. | White | Female |
| I think women are definitely still looked at as inferior academically. I particularly had a professor for forestry that was VERY biased towards me and assumed I was a dumb stereotypical girl. It was annoying. And my male friends received better grades in the course than me despite my equal effort. Also, it is obvious that most people assume everyone is Christian. I am agnostic, so sometimes that can be agitating, but overall I have never been singled out for my religious beliefs. I think I've experienced sexism more than any religious discrimination. | White | Female |
| I believe that if you want to improve diversity and tolerance, then you need to educate people on how to interact in ways that are respectful. Stereotyping can also be negative to diversity and tolerance. This includes stereotyping of LGBT, women, and men of all races. One way to break down stereotyping barriers is informatic posters that show the diversity within specific groups of people. For example, not all women wear dresses and love flowers and that is okay. There are women who have many tattoos and love cars. | White | Female |
| There are very few diverse students here. Compared to the people that I was friends with at my high school I feel like there is very little diversity here, especially in certain majors. I think admission of diverse students could be increased. I have also noticed that given the large number of Caucasian students different ethnicities tend to stay together, which leads to most friend groups being primarily white. This only increases ignorance of diversity and creates an us/them dynamic. | White | Female |
| I think that there are plenty of events and classes that foster or inform people about diversity. I think that there are pockets of students who chose not to interact with people of other backgrounds nor take any class that help them learn about other diversity. I believe a general diversity and ethics class should be created and required of all students, which discusses sexual rights, religions rights, different backgrounds, what is legal and what is illegal in the US, NC, and on campus. Following the taking of this class, I also think that the school should have a ZERO TOLERANCE/expulsion for any students/organizations who discriminate against anyone in any way. Those who make racist, sexist jokes, those who sexually harass or assault, and those who behave in a violent manner towards others should be immediately expelled. I am very proud of the recent suspension of the fraternity whose book was found in a restaurant recently. I believe that by setting examples like that is paramount; where women/people of different ethnicities or religions/people of different sexual orientation and gender identification know for a fact that those who could cause them harm are no longer on campus or no longer organizing with like-minded people, the environment feels much safer and it can truly foster greater diversity. | White | Female |
| More events held where people of all cultures can come and interact with one another. | White | Male |

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| <p>The focus on diversity on this campus and likely many others is very bias and political. When a campus official or actions states they are for diversity it never truly means diversity. The university spends many efforts focusing on "diversity" but for all this trouble, for me I feel it is dividing individuals more than bringing them together. I am a RA/AC on campus and have observed a lot in the nature of diversity and inclusion on campus in the past few years. I find myself more afraid to speak up about my own beliefs now more than ever. Fearing for my job, people's opinions of me, and lash back from "diversity" officials. Diversity outreach on our campus means promoting views of passionate minorities (Africa America community, gay/lesbian community, Muslim community). This effort is good, but on the flip side it means diminishing any views that are contradictory to pop culture views on the topics. I fear persecution for my belief as a conservative christian, someone who voted for amendment 1, someone who is against abortion, and so on. Despite how everyone knows I interact and love people of all different types, views and opinions I myself feel muzzled to express my own views and I feel that that is how the university diversity views would like me to be. Based on my opinion diversity at this university and others in a joke and little more than a political view and propaganda. I've been through classes who tell me how evil the white male is and how horrible christianity is for the world. The diversity efforts are creating higher walls among people than ever. We see a "better" environment for some minority group but to do so we take so much focus off the whole body. In University Housing specifically we spend all our efforts doing diversity programs that residents couldn't care less about. We have people swipe in to our even so it looks like someone actually came and that is was actually successful. If we could do fun programs where people of all types could enjoy it would naturally create a better interaction between diverse individuals. Not this, lets invite everyone to our "diversity" program. When did that ever work and when will it? NC State's focus on diversity is going to someday backfire and hate is going to flip flop. Humans are always going to be imperfect and once a new view is dominate persecution of the less promoted view is going to start. In my opinion it already has. I fell I have to be a closet christian and conservative to avoid oppression.</p> | White | Male |
| <p>Less preaching what diversity is and more experiencing it. The more organic interactions I have with diversity, the better I can respond and become a better person.</p> | White | Male |
| <p>I think NC State needs to provide more straight people with information about how to appropriately talk to people with a different sexual orientation.</p> | White | Male |
| <p>More interaction between the groups on campus.</p> | White | Male |
| <p>Treat all students equally, not just minorities. I believe that all groups have the same struggles in college as well as life, and that nobody should be given any special attention just because of skin color or sexual orientation. Every student should have to work equally hard to achieve their goal. I believe that if a student is motivated and has determination they can overcome any obstacle to earn their degree. I do not want to see racism, sexism, or discrimination against any person due to religious belief on our campus but from my experiences interacting with students, the only racism or discrimination comes from these minorities.</p> | White | Male |
| <p>Discourage behavior antagonistic towards asian, indian, or other races that have initial difficulties speaking English. Additionally, lowering tuition price would encourage lower-class students to attend. Many of my friends could not attend NCSU due to the price. Since the price is so low for in-state but dramatically high for out-of-state, many types of ethnicity outside of North Carolina cannot attend.</p> | White | Male |
| <p>If there was a way to get the large groups of diverse students together just to talk and interact more on a regulate basis and exchange views to get a better understanding of how each group relates and feels about different topics pertaining to school and life.</p> | White | Male |

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| <p>1. Let the professors know that there is a difference between free speech and hate speech, and that saying that Saudi Arabia shouldn't behead people is not an affront to diversity. Truth is not the median between right and left, and I don't have to respect the opinion of a person unwilling to provide it with any substance. / / 2. Create a M.I.S.E. because as a white male atheist there is a surprising lack of social clubs I would be comfortable joining. It is kind of frustrating to be rejected from events and clubs because my race and gender. White privilege is the result of the faults of previous generations and a corrupt system and cannot be fixed by ignoring the very people who are needed to change the system. / / 3. Get rid of the Honors and Scholars program requirements and open up the ranks to all students. College is a clean slate and every student should have the opportunity to call themselves a Scholar. The current system puts transfers and those who did poorly in high school at a disadvantage, and deprives them of the very structure they might need to succeed. If a student meets the qualifications and participates in the development process I believe that they should be accepted into the program. / / 4. Provide a more structured opportunities outside of the classroom for learning about language & culture. Most students I know would love to learn another language, but cannot spare the credits and lack the will to teach themselves. I believe that having smaller (1 credit?) workshops that utilize Rosseta Stone or other language software combined with instruction would greatly increase students ability to interact with foreign students.</p> | White | Male |
| <p>It would be difficult for me to say as I've personally never experienced any discrimination nor have I been interested in participating in diversity events. I don't actively seek to improve how I interact with those that are different from myself, but from working and being friends with people who are different than me I have gained insight into other cultures.</p> | White | Male |
| <p>FORCING diversity does not work. It will lead to friction. Help foster it and give opportunities to students, but honestly, I'm getting tired and more distant from hearing about diversity. (I'm someone that has mostly friends of the same race as me, but still have had many diverse friends over the course of my life)</p> | White | Male |
| <p>Honestly, the best thing that NC State can do to improve the diversity climate on campus is to stop trying to improve the diversity climate on campus. I know this sounds like a cheeky answer, but I sincerely believe it from my college experience. / I live with an international student, ride the bus to class with individuals from nearly every continent, and learn from brilliant professors who hail from all over the world. NC State needs to learn that forced diversity is not what diversity is all about. / Diversity is plenteous in nature, just let it happen. / Maybe I'm just naive, but 99 percent of the students that I've interacted with don't really care about interacting or not interacting with certain students because of their ethnicity, sexual orientation, or disability. Sure, there may be severe personality differences between students, but it's not like a student can realistically expect to be best friends with everyone on campus. Students care about learning the material and working with students that can help them better understand the material; whether they are the same as each other has no relevance to the situation. I have encountered the very few that are intolerant of other races, religions, etc. and typically, those students end up cutting themselves off from the community of students surrounding them. / My challenge to NC State University is to bring the best and hardest working minds into the school and let the diversity take care of itself.</p> | White | Male |
| <p>Time and education in younger generations. At this stage most people are fairly set in their ways. All that can really be done is facilitated interactions between cultures.</p> | White | Male |

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| <p>I don't know how this would be done, but the most important thing would be to change the atmosphere among the students. The vast majority of intolerance that I have personally experienced or heard about comes from students. The fact that my experiences with CHASS have been SIGNIFICANTLY more positive in this regard than those with CALS (I have majors in both colleges and therefore take many courses in each) suggests to me that coursework can make a difference, although I realize there may be a correlation between previously held views and choice of studies. If it were feasible, I think it would be highly beneficial to replace the US Diversity Co-req with a required course designed to actually cover issues of diversity in the first year. Or simply add the requirement. I suspect this isn't possible with cost limits, but I suspect it would help greatly. / / I have also had some faculty who are far too comfortable making offensive jokes or comments despite not really meaning any harm. I find it somewhat frustrating that complaints about these problems have not been taken seriously, because while I don't want trouble for the professors, I do want them to be more considerate. / / One thing that I am especially concerned about is the fact that the LGBT training for RA's qualifies them to be listed as Project Safe Allies. This is not because I have a particular issue with the RA diversity training itself (I know little about it, except what I've heard from my RA coworkers), but because that training is required of all RA's and results in individuals who I would most definitely not qualify as Allies receiving that designation within the housing community and on the website. I have seen and heard RA's who are - because of their training - marked as allies make insensitive and derogatory comments in person and online, and I know from my interactions with them that they hold very negative views of the LGBT community. I would propose that this stay as part of RA training but that the ally designation require an optional outside training, so that only those truly committed are there. Although all RAs should be inclusive, the fact is that there are always some who aren't, and they will go through the training to get the job without any intention of learning from it. Regardless of whether that is right, we should do all we can to protect our residents from negative experiences. / / As an addition - though I've never visited GLBT-CA myself so this is just what I've heard - many LGBT people seem to find the LGBT student organization on campus very clique-y, stereotyped, and exclusive. As a result I've had many friends say that</p> | White | Male |
| <p>Keep encouraging people to interact with people from a different culture.</p> | White | Male |
| <p>This response is in no way meant to come across as hostile. I feel that a 20 minute survey about diversity is a waste of my time. I grew up as a military brat - I lived in several states and overseas. Then I was active duty for four years. / / I feel that too much emphasis is being placed on diversity. Perhaps it's because of the upbringing I've had, but when it comes to whether or not I'm going to work or interact with someone, thoughts of diversity have nothing to do with it - it's a non-factor. I most likely will not know someone's religion, sexuality, or socio-economic status without them saying so, and as long as they can do the job (or aren't a jerk, if in a social setting), it's all irrelevant anyway. / / Giving someone admission to the college, or offering them a job, simply because they may give the college more diversity, is a terrible thing if there is someone more qualified to do the job who perhaps doesn't meet these diversity requirements. The opportunity to achieve something is what should be offered equally - not handicapping some so others can move forward. / / I think at this point in time, everyone is aware of the fact that people are different. And exposure to these differences should be offered and encouraged, but not required. That breeds resentment, which in a case like this would be counterproductive.</p> | White | Trans |
| <p>I would like to see more open discussion and support for friends and family of minority group members. I would like to attend formal events to meet more people of various groups and speak to them openly to learn more about their perspective.</p> | Mult race | Female |
| <p>More events where you can interact with diverse students</p> | Mult race | Female |

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| More events, maybe every week or every month, accept more students of a different background, have things that every culture here can interact in. | Mult race | Male |
| In no way am I trying to suggest that NCSU is doing anything wrong. I understand that a university with such a huge population is difficult to manage. Some of my friends go to Meredith College, and at that institution, all students have to attend eight Academic & Cultural Events in order to graduate. Perhaps NCSU can adapt the similar strategy, such as making certain events/classes mandatory for all students, regardless of majors. From what I know (and I may be wrong), for the GEP/US Diversity courses, there are choices and options of specific cultures - ie: African-American studies, Christianity, Islam, etc. I am not aware of a course that covers ALL of the topics, in moderation. For example, it can be very general, but the purpose of the course could be just to expose students to all cultures and religions. If there is a course like that, then it should be mandatory, and if not, maybe one can be created? | Other/Unknown | Female |