

Chapter XVI: THE 1995 FACULTY SURVEY

Who takes it?

Faculty at Truman (including part time faculty).

When is it administered?

Approximately every three years. This survey was last given in 1995. It will be administered again this fall, Fall 1998.

How long does it take for the faculty to complete the instrument?

30 minutes.

What office administers it?

The Vice President for Academic Affairs Office.

Who originates the survey?

Higher Education Research Institute
UCLA Graduate School of Education and Information
3005 Moore Hall/Mailbox 95121, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1521
(310) 825-1925

When are results typically available?

The summer following the survey.

What type of information is sought?

The survey gives information on age, rank, title, principal activity, race, highest degree (along with its field and year of degree), degree currently being working toward, department, tenure information, primary interest (teaching, research, etc.), salary, father's and mother's education, marital status, and information on children. It also asks about the amount of time spent on teaching, research, advising, service and consulting, scholarly activity, goals for undergraduate education, evaluation and teaching methods in class, and community service required for campus. General opinions are sought on curriculum, college environment, priorities at the institution, satisfactory aspects of job, personal goals, desire to continue to teaching, and the amount and source of stress. Local questions (with no comparisons to other schools) were added; they deal with the core, the major, student's critical thinking school, diversity, and estimates on the amount of student homework.

From whom are the results available?

Vice President for Academic Affairs Office.

Distribution regularly made available to whom?

President, VPAA, Division Head, Assessment Committee, and selected administrators.

Are the results available by division or discipline?

No.

Are the results comparable to data of other universities?

The data is comparable to averages of other schools in a class or classes that we select. The comparisons in the most recent survey are with four-year private colleges, nonsectarian 4 year colleges, public four-year colleges, and all four-year institutions.

Comments:

Two hundred and nine faculty responded to this survey which is obviously three years old. The comparisons below do not address each question, though all of the data can be found in following pages. The comments below are comparisons to the public and private (all or non-sectarian) colleges.

1. Truman has more faculty who are less than 35 years old as compared to public and private colleges and universities.
2. Truman also has a smaller percentage full-time professors.
3. Truman has a smaller percentage African-American faculty.
4. Truman has a lower percentage of tenured faculty.
5. Truman faculty report less sexual harassment.
6. In regard to faculty who do not publish academic journals, our percentages are lower than public four years school but about the same in comparison to private four-year colleges.
7. The faculty are somewhat more politically liberal at Truman.
8. Concern for student problems is about the same.
9. Truman faculty report fewer problems in regard to minority/administration trust and fewer problems in racial conflict.
10. Concern for women faculty is about the same.
11. Truman faculty value more promoting students' intellectual faculties. Truman faculty show less concern with values than with private colleges, but more as compared to public institutions.
12. Truman faculty are less at odds with the administration.
13. A smaller percentage of Truman faculty believe they are rewarded for good teaching.
14. Truman faculty's satisfaction with salary is higher.

15. Truman faculty's satisfaction with teaching load is less.

16. Truman faculty report slightly higher stress.

17. 30.5% of Truman's faculty reported teaching interdisciplinary courses. Many faculty likely considered their freshmen week classes to fall into this category; however, those classes did not necessarily account for the bulk of the 30.5% because many other classes can also be considered interdisciplinary. Nonetheless, Truman's percentage lags behind other categories of colleges. At public 4-year colleges it was 32.5%. For all private 4-year colleges it is 45.4% and for all non-sectarian four-year colleges it 50.3%.

In regard to local questions, here are some comparisons in regard to whether faculty indicate they are very satisfied or satisfied (note there are no comparisons with other schools since they are local questions).

18. The percent that indicate students show mastery of their major field is 61.6%.

19. The percent that indicate that students exhibit higher order thinking skills is 49.8%.

20. The percent that believe that students are meeting liberal studies' objectives is 63.6.

Note that what follows in Volume III are two separate data reports. Both are for 1995. The difference in the two reports relates to the schools with whom we are compared.

Volume III has the complete data.