Graduate Student Experience Survey (2009)
Program Satisfaction, Satisfaction with Advisor and Program Climate
Summary for the School of Journalism and Communication

Program Satisfaction:

The three tables about Program Satisfaction show the percentages of students who rated their graduate programs as Excellent on a 5- point scale, Excellent or Very Good (combined) on that scale, and Fair or Poor (combined) on that scale.

Although fewer than one-third of students rated either the Journalism Masters or the Communication and Society (C&S) Ph.D. programs as Excellent on most items, both programs received combined ratings of either Excellent or Very Good from more than half of respondents on six (Journalism) or seven (C&S) of these items. Students expressed the greatest program dissatisfaction with the Journalism Masters, with 20% of more of respondents rating the program as only Fair or Poor on ten of the 16 items, followed by Communication and Society which received Fair or Poor ratings on half of the 16 items.

Students in the College expressed the greatest satisfaction in the following areas:

- ✓ Quality of the faculty
- ✓ Opportunities to present my research, studio projects
- ✓ Intellectual community
- ✓ Overall program Quality

The areas associated with the greatest dissatisfaction include:

- ✓ Program's performance in keeping pace with recent trends and developments in my field
- ✓ Clarity of evaluation criteria used to assess graduate students
- ✓ Financial support for students
- ✓ Space, facilities and equipment
- ✓ Processes for involving students in program decisions that affect them
- ✓ Efforts to promote a diverse, inclusive community

Advisors:

The two Advisor tables show the percentages of students who agreed or disagreed with positive statement about their advisors. Student satisfaction with their advisors is significantly higher in the Ph.D. program, where 50% or more of students strongly agreed with nine of 13 positive statements about their advisors. In Journalism this was the case for only one item.

Students most strongly agreed with positive descriptions of their advisors in the following areas:

- ✓ Encourages my scholarly pursuits
- ✓ Treats my ideas with respect
- ✓ Provides valuable feedback on my work

The areas that generated more negative perceptions of advisors (especially in the Master's

programs) included:

- ✓ Helps me secure funding for my graduate studies, research or creative work
- ✓ Helps me develop professional relationships with others in the field

Program Climate:

We asked students to rate 13 positive descriptors of program climate, choosing from a 5-point scale from Very (like the descriptor) to Not at All (like the descriptor). There are three tables for program climate. The first climate table shows the percentage of respondents who chose the top (most positive) rating, the second shows the percentage for the top two (positive) ratings combined, and the third shows the percentage who chose one of the bottom two (negative) ratings.

At least 1/3 of respondents from both programs chose the top ratings to describe program climate on eight of 12 items. However, 20% or more of students in the Journalism Master's program chose one of the two bottom ratings of climate on four of the 12 items.

Within the School program climates are experienced as most positive in the following areas:

- ✓ Welcoming
- ✓ Respectful
- ✓ Gender equitable
- ✓ Family-friendly
- ✓ Inclusive of students of all sexual orientations
- ✓ Supportive

The areas that generated the least positive perceptions of climate (mainly in the Master's program) are:

- ✓ Racially inclusive
- ✓ Diverse
- ✓ Intellectually open to different theoretical, methodological or creative approaches
- ✓ Encouraging

Program Satisfaction	(Total # of Respondents by Program)	
	Jo (20)	C&S (20)
Quality of the faculty	10.8	7.5
Program's performance in keeping pace with recent trends and developments in my field	5.9	0.0
Professional training and/or research opportunities in my program	10.8	0.0
Adequacy of preparation for my teaching	0.0	14.9
Quality of academic guidance and advising	4.9	0.0
Support for interdisciplinary inquiry	5.3	14.9
Clarity of evaluation criteria used to assess graduate students	5.9	0.0
Fairness of evaluation criteria used to assess graduate students	11.3	0.0
Adequacy of training about professional ethics/academic integrity	16.6	14.9
Opportunities to present my research, studio projects or performances	20.0	14.9
Intellectual community in the program	41.0	7.5
Financial support for graduate students	21.0	0.0
Space, facilities and equipment	24.9	0.0
Process for involving graduate students in program decisions that affect graduate students	4.9	0.0
Effort to promote a diverse, inclusive community	10.2	16.9
Overall Program Quality	0.0	0.0

*light green shading indicates that 50% or more of respondents strongly agreed with the above dimensions about their advisor.

**dark green shading indicates that 75% or more of respondents strongly agreed with the above dimensions about their advisor.

School of Journalism and Communication
PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WHO RATED THEIR PROGRAM AS "EXCELLENT" or "VERY GOOD" BY PROGRAM

Program Satisfaction	(Total # of Respondents by Program)	
	Jo (20)	C&S (20)
Quality of the faculty	83.2	84.4
Program's performance in keeping pace with recent trends and developments in my field	45.9	16.5
Professional training and/or research opportunities in my program	48.0	31.5
Adequacy of preparation for my teaching	21.0	46.4
Quality of academic guidance and advising	15.1	61.3
Support for interdisciplinary inquiry	21.0	52.2
Clarity of evaluation criteria used to assess graduate students	31.8	38
Fairness of evaluation criteria used to assess graduate students	42.1	37.3
Adequacy of training about professional ethics/academic integrity	56.7	44.8
Opportunities to present my research, studio projects or performances	52.5	61.3
Intellectual community in the program	67.5	53.9
Financial support for graduate students	25.9	61.3
Space, facilities and equipment	52.9	14.9
Process for involving graduate students in program decisions that affect graduate students	30.8	46.4
Effort to promote a diverse, inclusive community	30.2	41.1
Overall Program Quality	57.8	61.3

*light green shading indicates that 50% or more of respondents rated their program as "Excellent" or "Very Good."
**dark green shading indicates that 75% or more of respondents rated their program as "Excellent" or "Very Good."

School of Journalism and Communication
PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WHO RATED THEIR PROGRAM AS "FAIR" or "POOR" BY PROGRAM

Program Satisfaction	(Total # of Respondents by Program)	
	Jo (20)	C&S (20)
Quality of the faculty	4.9	0.0
Program's performance in keeping pace with recent trends and developments in my field	26.5	31.2
Professional training and/or research opportunities in my program	26.6	15.6
Adequacy of preparation for my teaching	25.9	15.6
Quality of academic guidance and advising	39.5	15.6
Support for interdisciplinary inquiry	41.6	7.5
Clarity of evaluation criteria used to assess graduate students	20.6	23.1
Fairness of evaluation criteria used to assess graduate students	9.8	23.7
Adequacy of training about professional ethics/academic integrity	16.7	15.6
Opportunities to present my research, studio projects or performances	10.2	15.6
Intellectual community in the program	10.8	23.0
Financial support for graduate students	51.4	23.7
Space, facilities and equipment	21.7	39.6
Process for involving graduate students in program decisions that affect graduate students	41.2	38.7
Effort to promote a diverse, inclusive community	25.5	24.9
Overall Program Quality	9.8	8.1

*red shading indicates that 20% or more of respondents rated their program as "Fair" or "Poor."

School of Journalism and Communication
PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WHO STRONGLY AGREED WITH EACH OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ABOUT THEIR ADVISOR

Advisor	(Total # of Respondents by Program)	
	Jo (20)	C&S (20)
Encourages me in my scholarly pursuits	43.0	58.6
Treats my ideas with respect	50.0	74.9
Provides valuable feedback on my work	43.0	74.9
Provides timely feedback on my work	27.2	46.1
Is available when I need help or advice	32.7	66.8
Communicates effectively with students across cultural and linguistics boundaries	18.6	66.8
Treats students in the department equitably	30.2	58.6
Has emphasized the importance of professional ethics	37.2	58.6
Helps me secure funding for my graduate studies, research or creative work	11.6	34.3
Helps me develop professional relationships with others in the field	18.6	34.3
Advises me about how to get my work published, performed, or shown	18.6	48.8
Encourages the expression of intellectual differences	19.8	66.8
Makes me feel comfortable talking about concerns I am facing in graduate school	19.8	65.0

*light green shading indicates that 50% or more of respondents strongly agreed with the above dimensions about their advisor.

**dark green shading indicates that 75% or more of respondents strongly agreed with the above dimensions about their advisor.

School of Journalism and Communication
PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WHO DISAGREED OR STRONGLY DISAGREED WITH EACH OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ABOUT THEIR ADVISOR

Advisor (Total # of Respondents by Program)

	Jo (20)	C&S (20)
Encourages me in my scholarly pursuits	0	0
Treats my ideas with respect	5.8	0
Provides valuable feedback on my work	0	8.1
Provides timely feedback on my work	6.1	17.6
Is available when I need help or advice	17.3	16.3
Communicates effectively with students across cultural and linguistic boundaries	11.6	0
Treats students in the department equitably	18.6	8.1
Has emphasized the importance of professional	11.6	8.1
Helps me secure funding for my graduate studies, research or creative work	28.9	8.1
Helps me develop professional relationships with others in the field	24.4	16.3
Advises me about how to get my work published, performed, or shown	11.6	8.1
Encourages the expression of intellectual differences	11.6	16.3
Makes me feel comfortable talking about concerns I am facing in graduate school.	11.6	8.1

*red shading indicates that 20% or more of respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statements above about their advisor.

School of Journalism and Communication
PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WHO RATED THE CLIMATE AS VERY MUCH LIKE THE DESCRIPTION (1 ON A 5 POINT SCALE)

Climate	(Total # of Respondents by Program)	
	Jo (20)	C&S (20)
Welcoming	47.6	81.5
Respectful	52.4	46.1
Encouraging	37.9	37.3
Racially Inclusive (race and ethnicity)	21.6	17.7
Gender equitable	42.7	46.1
Family-friendly	39.7	60.3
Diverse	6.3	19.6
Intellectually open to different theoretical, methodological or creative approaches	17.8	8.8
Accommodating for students with disabilities	29.0	21.5
Inclusive of students of all sexual orientations	48.6	34.6
Supportive	37.8	63.8
Fosters community among graduate students	60.3	19.6
Open to interdisciplinary inquiry	22.1	50.5

*light green shading indicates that 33.3% or more of respondents rated the climate as 1.
**dark green shading indicates that 50% or more of respondents rated the climate as 1.

School of Journalism and Communication

PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WHO RATED THE CLIMATE AS VERY MUCH LIKE OR LIKE THE DESCRIPTION (1 OR 2 ON A 5 POINT SCALE)

Climate	(Total # of Respondents by Program)	
	Jo (20)	C&S (20)
Welcoming	74.1	0.0
Respectful	64.3	17.6
Encouraging	62.0	8.1
Racially Inclusive (race and ethnicity)	52.4	16.3
Gender equitable	42.7	8.1
Family-friendly	55.1	100.0
Diverse	44.2	58.8
Intellectually open to different theoretical, methodological or creative approaches	52.4	63.8
Accommodating for students with disabilities	51.1	80.6
Inclusive of students of all sexual orientations	48.6	34.6
Supportive	69.2	90.3
Fosters community among graduate students	83.3	55.0
Open to interdisciplinary inquiry	50.0	91.1

*light green shading indicates that 50% or more of respondents rated the climate as 1 or 2.
**dark green shading indicates that 75% or more of respondents rated the climate as 1 or 2.

School of Journalism and Communication

PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WHO RATED THE CLIMATE AS VERY MUCH NOT LIKE OR NOT LIKE THE DESCRIPTION (4 OR 5 ON A 5 POINT SCALE)

Climate (Total # of Respondents by Program)

	Jo (20)	C&S (20)
Welcoming	4.9	9.6
Respectful	9.8	9.6
Encouraging	21.2	0
Racially Inclusive (race and ethnicity)	25.9	0
Gender equitable	15.1	0
Family-friendly	5.6	0
Diverse	38.0	0
Intellectually open to different theoretical, methodological or creative approaches	21.0	9.6
Accommodating for students with disabilities	0	0
Inclusive of students of all sexual orientations	0	0
Supportive	10.2	9.6
Fosters community among graduate students	0	0
Open to interdisciplinary inquiry	5.6	0

*red shading indicates that 20% or more of respondents rated the climate as 4 or 5.