Student Involvement Survey Report October 11, 2019

Department of Research and Advocacy



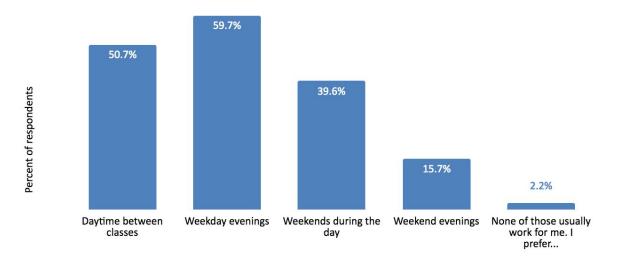
Overview

This brief survey was distributed through a UASU newsletter under the heading 'Two-Minute Survey: Let's Get Involved." It received 134 self-selected points of contact, presumably students who are especially interested in getting involved in student life.

Time for Involvement

"If you're going to get involved, what's the best time? Choose all that apply."

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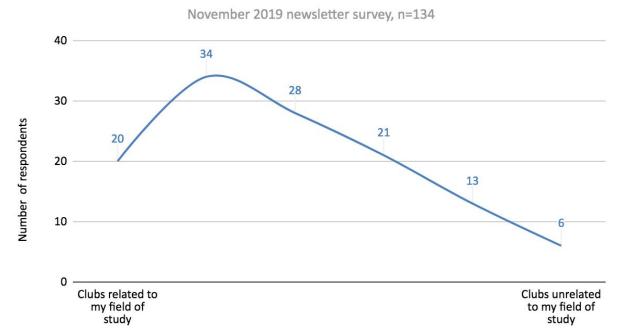


All three answers to the 'none of the above' option indicated a preference for weekday afternoons.

Clubs Related and Unrelated to Field of Study

Previous data from the 2018 annual survey indicated that this question, if presented as a binary choice of priorities, might be enlightening.

"What interests you more?" (slider scale)



Interest in Hypothetical Clubs

Q: "If you joined or created a club that focused on any interest or issue, what would it be?"



Noteworthy or representative responses included:

- Create a coupon club where unused coupons before expiry date can be offered and traded with others.
- A club for casual musicians to get together and jam.
- Afrobeats dancing, bass guitar.

- A student teaching club where students teach other students skills, like one month of learning coding, another month learning art, and another month learn 3D modeling.
- An equine club for experienced equestrians that would allow you to go ride or work with horses. experienced participants only, though, as taking in beginners would be difficult and dangerous for both the person and horse.
- Club with cats.
- Cooking/baking club!
- Criminology.
- Easily accessible and fun fitness!
- Game development. Depending on how many people join, we get together in small teams to make a game in x amount of time.
- Getting more girls involved in STEM.
- Gun/shooting club similar to those at other universities such as the University of Calgary.
- Harry Potter.
- Lobby to allow free run chickens to just be out here. You can take home any chicken for food as long as you're willing to slaughter it.
- Nutrition or urban planning.
- Older students with children.
- Reducing homelessness.
- Reptile club.
- Robotics/philosophy.
- Rock-climbing.

Interest in Hypothetical Volunteering Opportunities Q: "If you were going to volunteer for any cause, what would it be?"



Noteworthy or representative responses included:

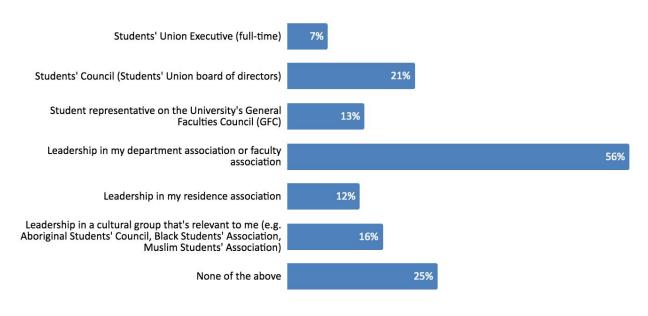
- A non-profit theatre arts society.
- Alzheimer's, cancer.
- Animal-related causes, such as a shelter or wildlife reserve.
- Anything with the poor and sick.
- Children and crime.
- Cleaning up campus or parts of the city.
- Conservation biology.

- Either something really random or something really important to me, like equal access to abortion, menstrual products, or bashing the university and its lack of accessibility.
- Environmental welfare or urban gardening.
- Financially and emotionally helping our childcare organizations.
- Food bank.
- Free speech.
- Graphic design.
- Helping people navigate the scary world of banking.
- Homeless animals.
- I love volunteering with children and the elderly. I've done this before. but anything people-related.
- LGBT+ rights, child rights and advocacy, victims of violence and assault, mental health, indigenous rights, poverty and homelessness.
- Mentor Indigenous youth. Volunteer within Native Studies and maybe outside of that field.
- Mustard Seed, nursing home, women's shelter.
- Women's rights and eating disorders.
- Preventing sexual assault/aiding sexual assault survivors.
- Pro-democracy movements.
- Providing first aid.
- Rehabilitation medicine.
- Something local and health or medicine related, where the volunteering actually made a difference rather than just being something people do to put on their resumes.

Interest in Running for Office

"If you were going to run in an election for any student office, what would it be? Choose all that apply."

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Percent of respondents

Building on previous research, especially the Identity Matters reports, this data can be used to chart correlations that might guide students from role to role in their leadership career.

Of students interested in this role	this proportion were also interested in an Executive role
Students' Council	28.6%
GFC Representative	17.7%
Department or Faculty Association leadership	9.3%
Residence Association leadership	6.3%
Leadership in a relevant cultural group	9.5%

Students may see a natural association or pathway between an Executive role and experience on Students' Council or (to a lesser extent) GFC. There may be significant benefits to drawing clearer lines between other leadership roles and an eventual

Executive position. One of those lines could involve the concept of a Council seat as an intermediate step.

Of students interested in this role	this proportion were also interested in serving on Students' Council
GFC Representative	52.9%
Department or Faculty Association leadership	22.7%
Residence Association leadership	50.0%
Leadership in a relevant cultural group	38.1%

These proportions, despite the small sample, suggest opportunities to build stable, well-understood pathways through all kinds of student leadership roles. A potential outcome might be a more robust and broadly representative pool of candidates for Students' Council and the Executive positions.