

Content: SRSU Satisfaction Survey Results, Library By: Alejandra Villalobos |Director of Institutional Research Office of Institutional Effectiveness Last Updated: 12/16/2016

SRSU Satisfaction Survey, Fall 2016

Summary Results – Library

Survey Period

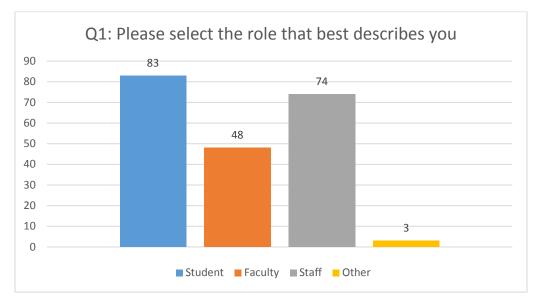
Start Date: 10/20/2016 End Date: 12/5/2016

Number of Responses

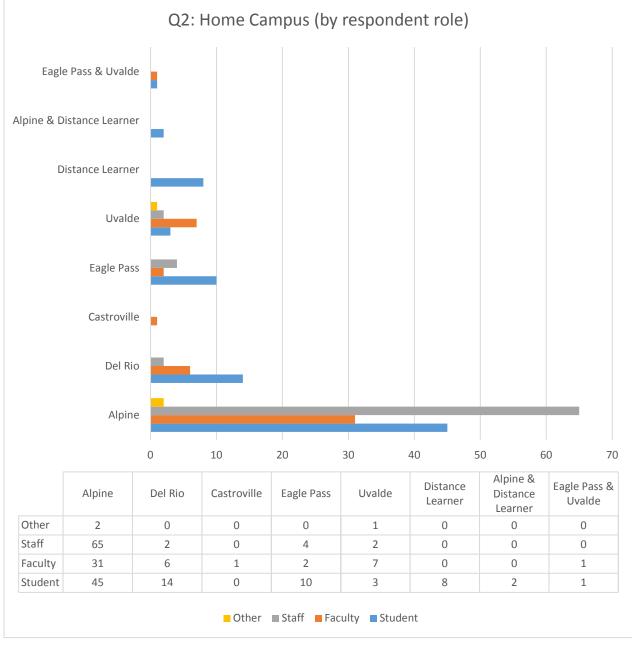
208 Responses

Summary Results

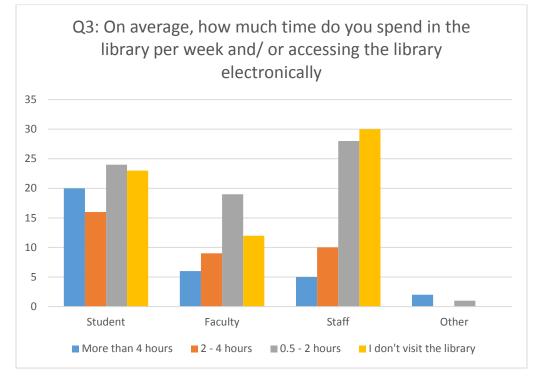
Question 1











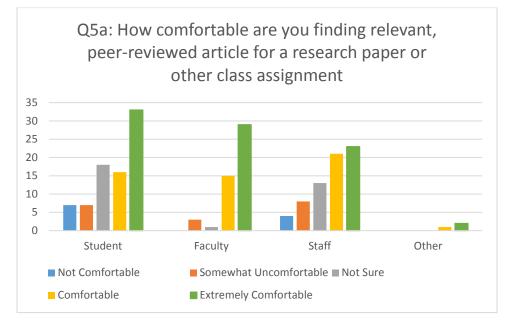




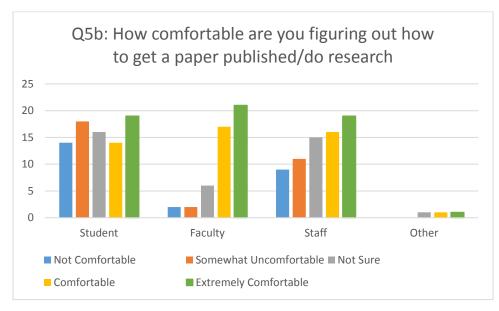




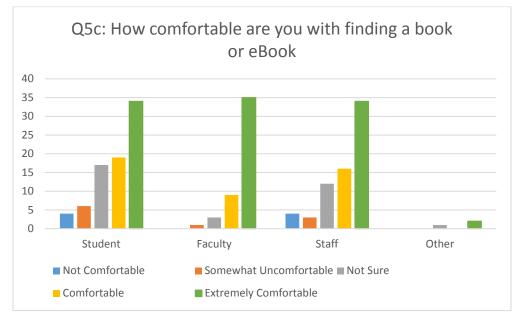




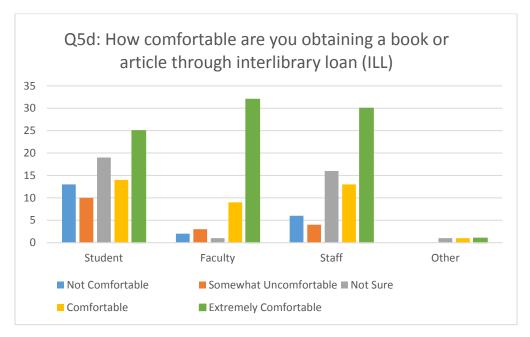
N=201





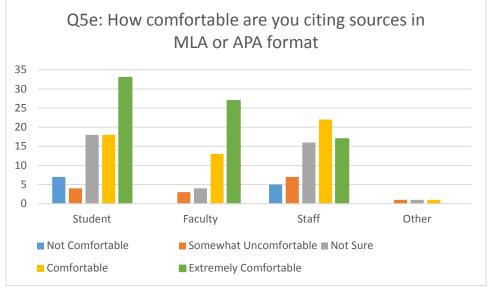


N=200







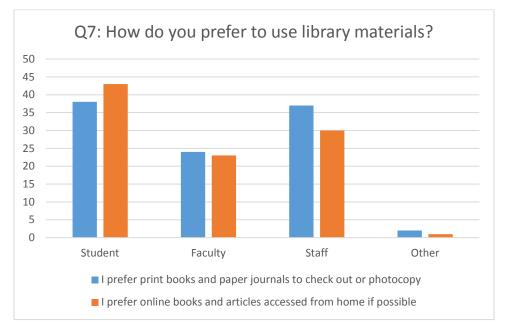






N=195







Q8: How could library services be enhanced

Students

A bit nicer people

Access to more materials would be nice.

Actually have a library on campus. The interlibrary loan process is tedious and time-consuming, then you still have to wait to receive your book/materials.

Computer access to the library's catalog is not user friendly and slow. I end up asking someone.

Del Rio campus does not actually have an on site library, having one would really change things.

Emails to help students understand more of the library services.

Extend library hours over the summer breaks. Not just Monday thru Friday from 8 to 5

have more resources available in the library. such as a variety of books used in the classes.

Have more selections of books and articles online.

hours could be extended, a certified librarian, a friendly knowledgeable staff.

i belive they provide very good help.

I don't know.

I don't know. I'm pretty satisfied. I haven't lately tried to access library sources from home though, because I'm on campus M-F for classes.

I haven't use the library other than for online services, so I really don't have any constructive feedback to proffer at the moment.

I think the library should be open a bit later on weekdays. At least until 10pm.

it is good

Keep the football team quieter when they visit, please.

Let more students know that the SWTJC library at the RGC locations are available to them.

Make books easier to find

Maybe if we actually had one here in the Eagle Pass Campus would be fantastic even a small one. Tuition is pretty high and I think that a library is much needed here, and sharing the library with SWTJC can sometimes be inconvenient.

More books.

More hours, I don't always need a librarians help but it would be nice to use the library at more convenient hours on the weekend or later at night

More print books about different subjects.

None

none need

Not sure where the library in EP campus.

Not sure, they are as good as they can get in my book.

Other than expanding the online selection, I'm not sure.

Providing seminars or more information

Providing students easier access to JSTOR.

Stay open 1 or 2 hours later on Fridays Open on Saturdays and Sundays during summer

stronger communication of all resources available



The library hours are inadequate for students. The times when I really need to study, it's closed. For example, weekends (especially Sunday nights) it should be open later. At my previous college, during finals weeks the library was open til midnight. SRSU is only open until 10pm.

The library is often closed during times I really need to study. For example, Saturday mornings and late Sunday nights.

The library services can be enhanced by expediting the process when a piece of literature has been requested.

The online library search engine is somewhat confusing. I'm not really sure how to find the articles that I need.

Wider access to scientific journals and databases

Wider range of electronic materials would be helpful. The collection as it stands is satisfactory though!

Faculty

Accessing library services via the staff in Alpine has proved incredibly difficult. I hear the same concerns from students.

additional science indexes

By allocating the Library a large enough budget that they can actually upgrade & improve the collection, hire enough student workers and staff to be open longer hours, and begin planning facilities expansion.

By providing on line courses to on how to conduct research in peer-reviewed journals to to seniors and MBA students.

Continue getting databases relevant to all areas.

Development of materials pursuant to faculty research (ie, who is doing the publishing and ask them!)

do not forget there are 2 other sites besides Uvalde, that serve a majority of the student body

Greater ILL allocation (ten per month is sometimes not enough). Previous ILL librarian was rigid and combative.

Grove Music Online is still one simultaneous user, after promised access for more users.

I don't use the library much, but from what I have observed, they do a good job.

I feel that the hours need to be modified. I usually have time to research on Fridays particularly in the evening, but the library closes at 5.

I prefer online journals and print books

I think they're fine.

I'm fine with it as is.

I'm happy with the service received, thank you.

IDK

If the ILL system could be streamlined and responsive, it would be a lot more useful.

In my field, it is necessary to subscribe to more journals(at least the two or three most importants) and we need to keep up buying new materials, books.

More journals, books and literature in a senior level library exclusively for undergrads (Bachelor) and graduate students (Masters) for RGC students.

More physically present book and journals. I know that costs money SRSU doesn't have right now.

no idea, other than being cynical about student reading and research habits...

Perhaps infrequent yet regular emails to faculty about resources for distance ed students such as possibilities of libguides etc.

Retain librarians for longer periods. Relationships cannot be built when there is so much turnover.

Services are fine.

Technology, more user friendly.



user friendly instructions

website

Staff

A wider selection of print books.

All employees provide information that I need.

already very good

By not liquidating practically the entire reference section of Wildenthal library for "just because" reasons. Now, the library has plenty of empty space but few reference materials.

Can't think of anything at this time.

Collection and access to materials needed

Doing a great job...

Excellent staff and knowledge on site.

having the tutoring center in the library would be very helpful and bring more students to the library.

I am a staff member and have to admit that I don't currently have a need to use the library as much ... perhaps in the future.

I don't use the library on a regular basis so I don't feel qualified to answer.

I think the library is great for this size of campus. I love the new seating and tables on the first floor!

I think they are already doing an awesome job there at the library!

increase the speed of the computers

Increase variety of newly released books available for checkout

increased funds to the library

Longer hours

More wall plugs to plug in my own laptop and cell phone.

Not discard 15,000 of 18,000 reference volumes!

Not sure. They are doing many things well, especially at scale...

Quit purging large quantities of books based on check-out data (some folks undoubtedly use books then put them back on the shelve).

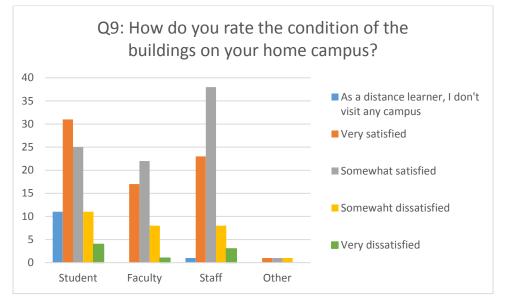
suggestion box for new titles, etc.

These questions are relative only to the Alpine campus and not the RGC campuses.

Other

By increasing their available budget to allow the hiring of enough personnel to keep the library open later hours during the semesters. By beginning the planning, and exploring funding options, to significantly enlarge the library and provide increased space for library holdings. Allow a large enough budget for the library to cull books and materials that are out of date and/or in poor condition. Then, replace the older materials with newer current materials. Pay library personnel higher wages in order to retain librarians and staff for longer periods of time. more CURRENT titles and topics within a field or subject; very soft background music for relaxing visit; self checkout with SR i.d. card; backless benches at various locations

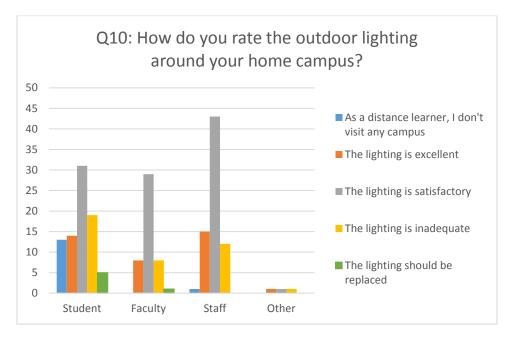




N=206

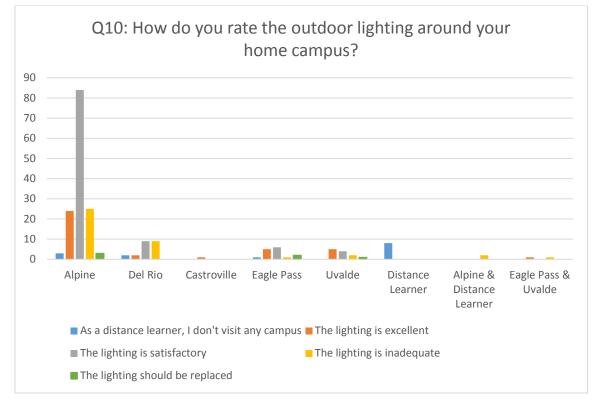
Question 10

*by Role





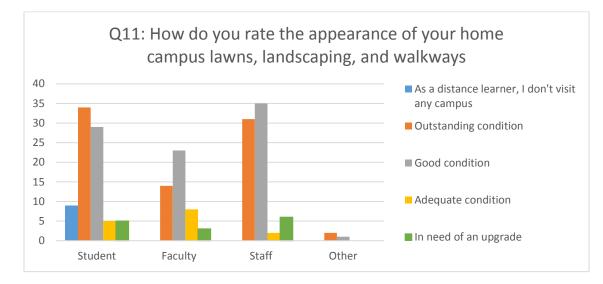
*by Home Campus





Question 11

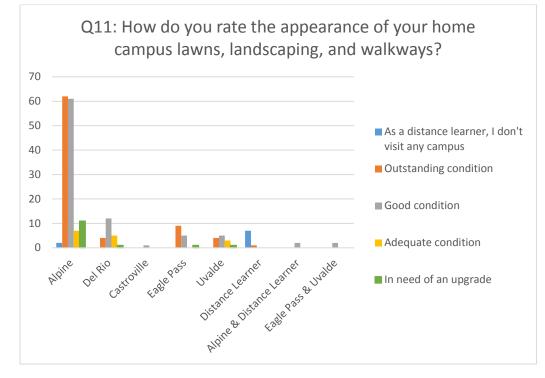
*By Role





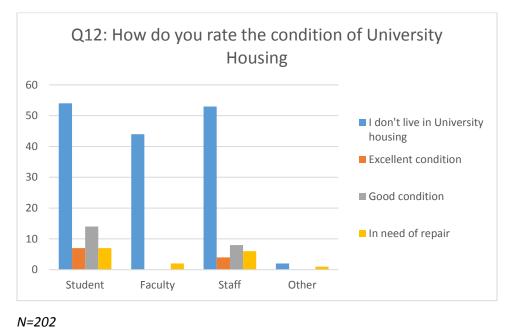


*By Home Campus



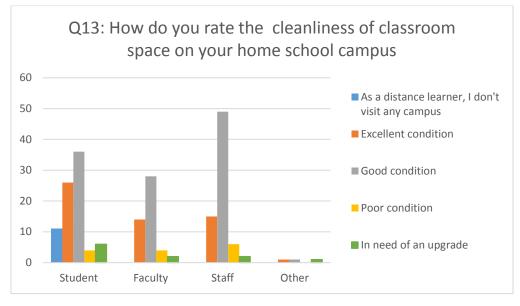
N=206

Question 12



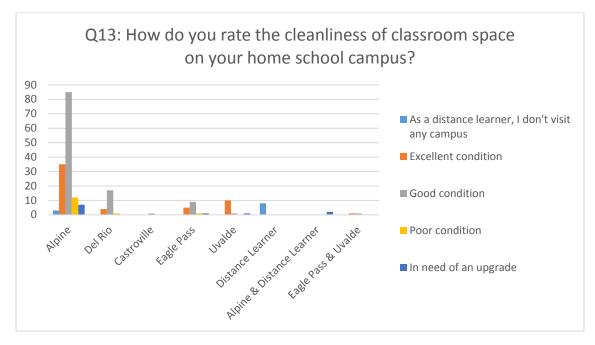


*By Role



N=206

*By Home Campus





Student

Although there has been more activity lately, the Industrial Technology building has been badly neglected for a long time. The restrooms are very old and poorly maintained. Also, from what I understand, work orders for general repairs and building upkeep have been mostly ignored for years. How can we attract IT majors to Sul Ross if the IT building looks like a relic from the 70s? I know changes are slowly happening, but there are decades of catching up to do in regard to the professional appearance of the IT building. It makes the program look unprofessional and antiquated.

Better lighting practices so as to allow for dark skies would be preferable. The light pollution emitted by the university is noticeable from across town.

By having more trash cans around campus

clean the dorms hallways

Dorms need to be fixed up and repaired a little more.

Dorms need to be updated and cleaner

Elevators seem to vary in condition across campus, some work all the time some do not. The elevator in the ACR building is scary how bad it is.

Equip rooms with updated technology. Also, MAKE SURE ROOMS HAVE AC!!! I attended classes earlier this semester; in the center of the room was a manual, run-of-the-mill fan. It was the same case this past summer, to which I was told "It's too expensive to turn on the AC, and we don't have enough students to make it worth it" (staff).

Everything is well.

Get rid of all this water-guzzling grass! The wasted water and cost of grass upkeep is not logical. We live in the high desert.

Handicap buttons for every door on campus so that it is easier to access the campus and campus restrooms. As well as extra lighting in between the computer building and the student building where majority of the classes are being held.

I believe that lighting on campus is an issue and more lighting similar to what has been placed by the addition would be ideal.

I don't know.

in my opinion they are perfect.

It was a dumb idea to cut the road that used to go through the middle of campus. Aesthetically it looks great, but it was not wise to cut short parking on a campus that was already limited. I have rarely seen or participated in classes that have used the other, circular outdoor classroom south of the mall and UC, and I do not doubt that the new one will not be used either. The outdoor lighting should be if it is not already dark sky friendly for our friends at the observatory's consideration. The landscaping is nice, but it would be better to get rid of all grass in favor of stone or rock work and native flora that are more tolerant of our climate here in the Chihuahuan Desert and would not be as expensive to keep up with in the future. Communication within departments and with other departments is mediocre at best, with tasks taking far too long to accomplish or having incompetent people in positions where better qualified applicants would be more successful. I have received my bachelors from Sul Ross and I am now working on completing my masters, and have accepted this inadequacy as the norm.



It would be great to have had a working AC in the Del Rio campus classrooms, luckily it is not too hot anymore. It would also be nice not to have to seek the water streaks from the leaks in the roof after it has rained. Lighting also seems to be an issue both inside and outside. Everything is so dim.

Its a bit blasé, however clean and maintained. perhaps more chairs, or a more warmer environment. colors, a cafeteria would be excellent and do wonders.

Its fine just the way it is.

Landscape is awesome, but the buildings and how they are, i guess they are okay.

Make Lobo Village 1 better. Fix the doors, spruce up the elevators, FIX LAUNDRY ROOMS, replace carpet/put in tile for the hallways

Maybe jobs for students to clean up certain buildings though out the university, to help janitors keep the university clean.

More money could be spent enhancing academic spaces rather than a football and intramural field. Equipment in the science department should be replaced.

More student involvement you don't see any faces in the Sul Ross in EP always behind closed doors. Especially the FA office is so not so student friendly, no customer service skills.

More Technology

n/a

n/a all good

No problem in that department.

None

open library (computer labs) on weekends.

Professors never have working dry erase markers.

Reconstruct the buildings that are old and can no longer be fixed and stop asking students for money that the budget has but does not spend the money on the things they are for

Restrooms are not always in first-rate condition. But what concerns me more is that grounds management doesn't seem to understand ecosystem function principles. Many trees have died, apparently due to lack of water. Could be remedied with careful attention -- not necessarily a lot of water.

Seriously! You are worried about how the university looks as opposed to the ability of faculty and output from the students?!

Some of them look like they could use an upgrade.

The chairs in Sul Ross buildings in Eagle Pass are very uncomfortable. Most are broken, the metals that keep the seat leveled are broken and therefore the seats have sunk and they make it very difficult to concentrate and painful on the legs. Especially in the A building.

The education lab needs to be updated and for the love all that's good a printer. It has been 3 semesters since printing has been possible in this lab. It is ridiculous to have to run to library when I'm already in the education building.

The floors in my classrooms were never vacuumed.

The place looks great - like an Ive League school. Keep it up!

The University facilities are in excellent condition



There are limited, safe study spaces on campus. I wish we allowed food trucks on campus (or some kind of fast food option. The computers are pretty outdated (save the new Macs in the library).

This campus needs more updated on-campus living facilities. Fletcher Hall is in dire need of repairs. The cafeteria could have more fast food options (like other schools). Also what's up with mountainside? We have a lack of places for students to live, and there's a huge dormitory that's like an urban ruin.

Those with comfort pets should not be in Lobo Villages; they should be in Fletcher. I see the maintenance men working hard to clean up after untrained pets, and this should not be their main focus. Students also should not have to deal with the problem until maintenance can get to it.

Faculty

1. Housekeeping in FAB is deplorable 2. FAB is too small. Need larger spaces, another dedicated music/theatre space for 300 people, more offices, more storage, an upgrade. 3. FAB needs a complete remodel or replace. Last remodeled? 4. Need more soundproof faculty studios and classrooms in FAB 5. Need larger music rehearsal spaces: FAB 100m 200 each have a fire marshal capacity of 49

better advertising and PR, to let communities know what University facilities are available to each community

By making all campus buildings truly ADA compliant (Francois and Morelock are not). Investing in necessary remodeling and upgrades to campus buildings.

By more frequent cleaning and vacuuming classrooms and faculty offices more frequently.

Can't think of anything.

cleanliness is the most important, picking up trash.

Employ more custodians and physical plant employees to regularly clean and fix up rooms (i.e. leaking roofs, plumbing issues, sweep/clean rooms, etc).

FAB needs to be renovated

Facilities are just fine.

Fix drainage issues in & around WSB. Remove the iron fence that causes a twisted walkaround from the fine arts parking lot to WSB. Use only unscented cleaning products in buildings because the perfumes in them cause headache.

Fully staff positions, quit deferring maintenance, ensure staff do what they're supposed to do in a timely manner or replace them.

Have toilet paper in restrooms. Fix leaks in ceilings. Elevators that work.

How many characters can I type? There needs to be a preventive maintenance plan implemented that maintains existing facilities and improves them. All too often routine maintenance is ignored and facilities fail or become unusable. For example, all office space should be on a painting and carpeting cleaning/replacement schedule just like the schedule for computer replacement. Instead, many offices and classrooms have not been painted in 20+ years. Chairs are "used up" as is the carpeting. Unfortunately, the perception among many of the staff and faculty is that only the higher ups get their offices maintained adequately. Whether this is fair or not, the perception is out there.



In Del Rio, the bathrooms are grimy; they need a good scrubbing from time to time. Doors were falling apart but recently fixed-good. Now that it is Fall, outside areas could be more usable: there are seats on hot concrete, but what about under trees? Uvalde: spotless and clean. Bathroom could have table for bags and purses--very awkward. Uvalde's entrance is just weird; it is a front door to a county highway but people cannot really use it unless they walk from back to front. So perhaps side and back should be developed as if they were the front (as they actually are)? I am based in Castroville and it is new and clean.

In reference to campus lighting, there is much talk of safety, and I don't disagree, but I hate the ugly glaring lights which create a glow you can see from a distance. Also, the lighting around the bull statue shines in the eyes of drivers and that needs to be fixed. In reference to the lawns etc. the upgrade needed is the one the President referenced, that is moving toward xeriscaping with native plants--we live in a desert and we should model good land and water stewardship.

Instructor podiums in all classrooms (still need carts in several classrooms)

longer computer lab hours

more parking by the buildings

More smart classrooms are essential

My classes meet on weekends, garbage never gets emptied after a Saturday class and is spilling over on Sunday. Also, my classroom is never unlocked, even though the department secretary sends emails to remind staff to unlock it.

No Comment at this time.

None

Revamping the classroom space to make it more user friendly. Having more tables or easily movable desk and or chairs to facilitate group work. Having more stunner work spaces within the classroom buildings themselves to prromote collaborative student efforts.

RGC campuses would benefit from having some type of unifying aesthetic feature(s). The Uvalde campus has no area that promotes student communication or collaboration. The only place students mingle with faculty is in a classroom or faculty office. Common areas would be a great benefit. updated bathrooms, custodial workers who actually work, better watering for plants, esp. during dry spells.

updated carpets, paint, insides

Staff

Additional handicap parking and easier accessibility.

Better computers and projectors in each classroom, with the projectors mounted in the overhead and the computers set up so that there aren't wires and cables going all over the place.

better supervision

Building interiors could be updated.

classrooms that need updating should be on a rotating basis and get the updating they need. We shouldn't have to rely on grants to do it.

Computers need to be upgraded more often to keep up with technology and growing need.

Get rid of dead trees around campus. Also dead tree branches, clean the fountain. It is nasty at times.

Hire more people to maintain the grounds and buildings



Hiring adequate staff.

I think the university needs to move to native plants, low water use plants, xeriscaping, diverse plantings, and get rid of a lot of the grass. This would make the campus much more inviting and interesing to outsiders and new students and make the university stand out from other colleges. Sul Ross needs to celebrate it's unique environment.

Improve lighting. More maintance staff to prevent lag on repairs.

Increased safety inspections to decrease safety hazards.

Keep doing what they are doing.

Maintain all buildings properly.

Maintain the facilities--fix leaky roofs especially. Do something so the elevator in LH doesn't break so frequently. Weed the native landscaped areas.

Maintain the landscapes. Physical plant needs to do more than mow and blow.

More availability of face to face courses

More personnel to do the work

Movie theater and museum dedicated entirely to art from the Western United States

N/A

Not sure.

Old buildings need to be renovated or upgraded.

replace the steer with a lobo on the front lawn, move steer to below flag poles- visitors ask if SR mascot is a steer

Restroom facilities in the D building are in poor condition

Some updating to older buildings would be nice.

There is trash from the previous day in my classroom

universal Wi-Fi available on all campus properties

upgrade technology and furniture in the hallways for students usage

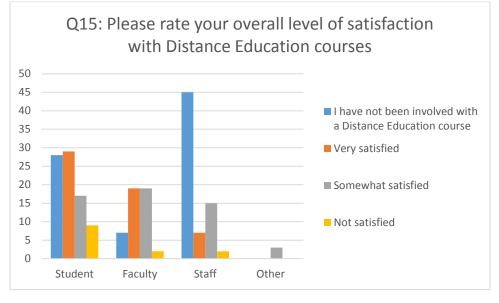
work needs done on existing landscaping yet we continue to add more high-maintenance landscaping without adding personnel to take care of it.

Other

Actually renovate buildings that haven't been renovated in 20 to 30 years.

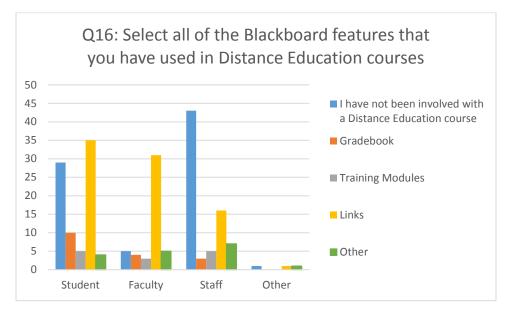
better and closer parking for limited students and visitors; more handicapped parking spots; better parking arrangement





N=202

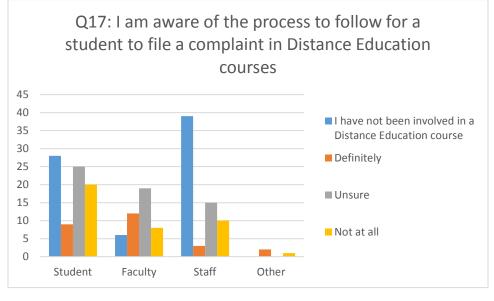
Question 16





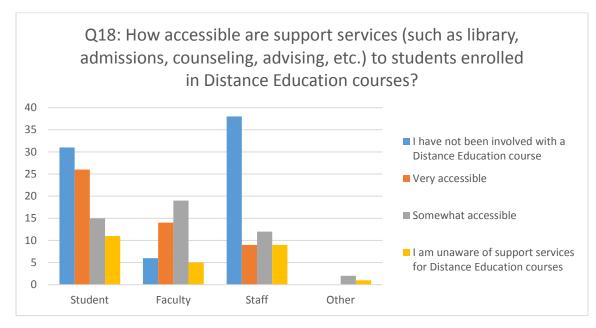
tudent	
lackboard and email.	
ollaborate	
iscussion boards	
Discussion boards	
think the gradebook is what I accessed as a teaching assistant. That wasn't a particular p	oroblem.
m not really sure what the features or called to know where I've used them.	
yllabus	
ests and quizes	
pols	
aculty	
ulletin boards	
ollaborate, videos	
Course Combining, Accurate student enrollment, issues with specific browsers	
reating quizzes, tests, worksheets	
iscussion board, assignments, tests, group discussions	
le storage (posting notes) and assignment features, email users	
am excited about web conferences via Collaborate Ultra. I wish we had support for creati ideos.	ng shor
/a	
ortfolio, Collaborate	
eports	
Staff	
И.	
Class assignments	
Collabotate	
landing in assignments	
retty much everything else in Blackboard	
tandard class taking	
Dther	
ile	





N=197

Question 18





Student

Allow Distance Education students with more access to on campus library or student center with after hours printer and computers, not just 8 to 5 Monday to Friday

Distance Education could become more personal, perhaps with sending txt messages, allowing students to check out a laptop would allow more students to be enrolled, involved, and come on campus a bit more.

distance education sucks, it is the worst thing to ever be invented. make the class online or in person. distance is just a waste of time and money for everyone and the quality is crappy.

Don't know. I have taken only one DE course that I can recall, other than the one I dropped because I despised it so. I think it was misrepresented, and I'm sure the course itself was misleading. I wasted \$1,000 on it and it still steams me to think of it.

Having more course available

i don't know

I have not been involved with a Distance Education course.

I have spoken on several occasions to the department that handles payments, and the persons on the phone were rude and condescending - not a good trait for working with the public.

I was not aware of support services for Distance Learning

I would like more lessons. Thus far in my distance learning, I am given a syllabus and assignments but no lessons.

I would say admissions and library services are feasible for distance education. Advising is difficult since we are supposed to speak with a faculty member who doesn't always seem to check their Sul Ross email or does not return calls.

it is just great!

It seems like there is very little support for distance ed students. It's "Sink or swim".

Make information about filing complaints more available.

more emails.

n/a

N/a

N/A

None

Not in distance education course.

Not taking them this semester, but next.

Proactive communication from those departments at the start of distance courses would be nice. Like "Hey, distance learner, we're such and such departement, and we can be contacted like this and used in these ways (examples)."

That the professor visit the campus at least once or twice within the semester for any concerns.

There is no outreach whatsoever; to demonstrate the severity of this problem, many students I have spoken to do not even know who their advisor is, where student services are located or their hours of operation. Unsure

Faculty

(1) Much larger monitors showing the far-side students. As the teacher I can't see their faces on the tiny TV at the back of the room. (I mean HUGE, 4x bigger at least.) We have very little connection since I can't make out their face. (2) Ability for far-side students to see the students in the Alpine classroom in addition to content and instructor. Again, for a more cohesive class.

Additional advertisement for services offered.

as a liaison to the faculty

Better and more compatible equipment at the sites for teleconference.



Better informing students of their support services on their campus and helping them know how to access it.

Can't think of anything.

Definitely need to offer support services for Distance Ed students. They receive emails (and we know how effective that is). But I cannot offer solutions--look at institutions that succeed. Heard at a conference that WGU does a good job of making students feel that someone at the institution cared about them. (There was a collective gasp at this, since we love to hate WGU).

Expand collaborate features to see all dtud nuts at once

Financial aid, admissions, unnecessary charges to off campus students (parking, athletics).

I am not sure how to respond to this item.

I received information (via email) about graduate level support late in the semester--could have used it sooner! Some of my bilingual students really need help writing.

Increased visibility

No comment at this time.

no input

Retain librarians for longer periods.

standardization

Standardization of equipment used in D.L. courses.

This survey is a good start.

Staff

24/7 - full time staff support for students and faculty

Advertisement of services available and how to access them more.

Better communication between RGC libraries and Alpine's library

Continue to do what they are doing.

designated department of distance ed and a website with resources

Do not know.

Haven't used Services for Distance Education.

I have not been involved with a Distance Education course.

I just searched and the only info online is from OIT. I didn't find any info for students needing advising, counseling, etc. Having a web page with FAQ's would probably help.

List services via Blackboard directly for students.

More email updates

N/A

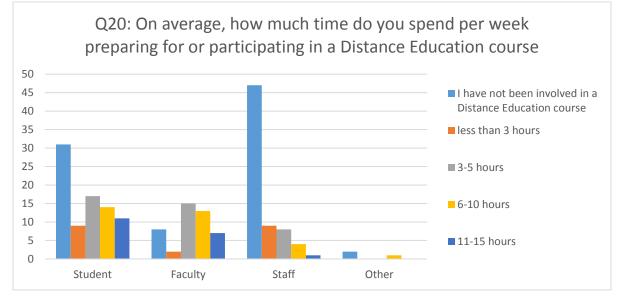
Not sure.

Sul Ross doesn't seem to support the teleconferencing part much. They have had such great opportunities to partner with Midland College and others and seem to not put any importance on it or effort into it. Midland College is way above Sul Ross in teleconferencing quality and support. So many other colleges with good reputations offer online programs. Why would anyone want to choose a second rate school like Sul Ross over them? I think it was stupid of the university to move away so much from the weekend Master's of Education program. Sul Ross doesn't have anything special to offer anymore. They are competing in the online course market with everyone else and their dog. At least when students actually attend classes to get a Masters, it is viewed by employers as superior to online degrees.

The only problem I have encountered is Internet outage, but that is generally not the University's fault.

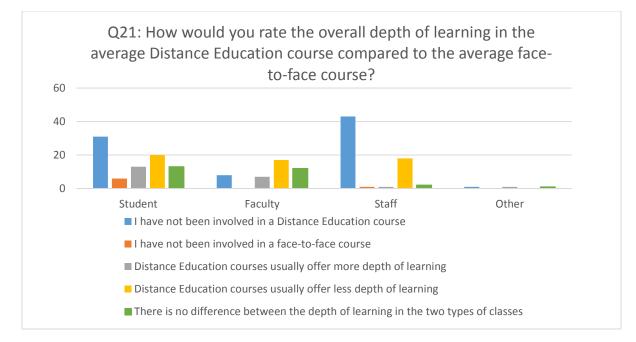
There should be standards for Distance Education. Like required course materials should be listed no later than X# of days or weeks prior to the course. All assignments should be graded no later than X# of days after being turned in.

SR STATE OF	Content: SRSU Satisfaction Survey Results, Distance Learning By: Alejandra Villalobos Director of Institutional Research Office of Institutional Effectiveness Last Updated: 12/16/2016
Other unsure	



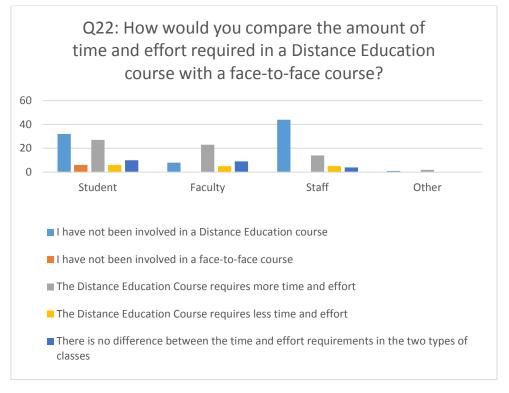






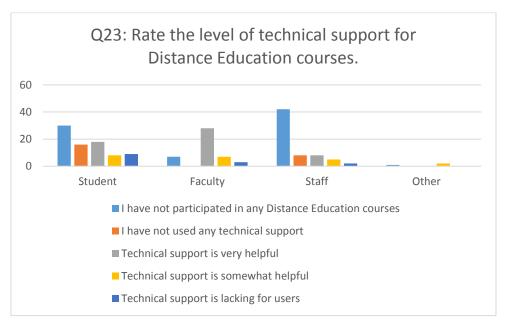






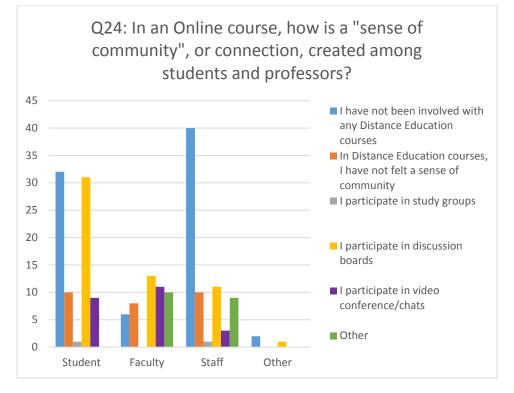














Other, please specify

Student

Actually has a greater sense of community than physical courses

Blogs

Clubs in the area of study at the far end. Field experiences together.

DE will never measure up, in my opinion, to face-to-face contact with professors and classmates. I'm old and old fashioned.

depends on the class and instructor

I communicate by email with students on an individual basis outside of class time.

I provide timely feedback to my students on assignments.

I think it is not a rich learning environment.

None of your answers include "not involved in online courses," which is my answer.

Professors are unapproachable and ridicule students via teleconference.

Really, this is part of the problem intrinsic to online courses. Online education is to education what Facebook friends are to true friendship.

Student study guides, URL, videos.

texts & phone calls

That is the nature of distance learning, to learn from an online community is difficult because the participants work, presumably, full-time so the only time they have to connect is in the evenings, thus, the likelihood of establishing a



"sense of community" is difficult under those circumstances. I personally do find this situation a deal breaker because it works for me and my current schedule.

This COMPLETELY depends on the instructor; there is no administrative oversight so faculty can do as much or as little as they like. When faculty want to create a sense of community they (I) often fail because the system is so clunky or just doesn't work. I have tried to use groups twice and ended up with frustrated students and me looking like an idiot. The BB support is excellent, but beyond one person, we need oversight and systematic support. Instructors need to teach and OIT needs to make that happen either by helping with videos or helping set up groups and web conferences, etc.

This is highly dependant on the instructor's communication with students.

This varies by professor. Some are great at building community (Dr. Payne is a role model for this) and others are HORRIBLE (______).

Faculty

Blogs

Clubs in the area of study at the far end. Field experiences together.

I communicate by email with students on an individual basis outside of class time.

I provide timely feedback to my students on assignments.

None of your answers include "not involved in online courses," which is my answer.

Really, this is part of the problem intrinsic to online courses. Online education is to education what Facebook friends are to true friendship.

Student study guides, URL, videos.

texts & phone calls

This COMPLETELY depends on the instructor; there is no administrative oversight so faculty can do as much or as little as they like. When faculty want to create a sense of community they (I) often fail because the system is so clunky or just doesn't work. I have tried to use groups twice and ended up with frustrated students and me looking like an idiot. The BB support is excellent, but beyond one person, we need oversight and systematic support. Instructors need to teach and OIT needs to make that happen either by helping with videos or helping set up groups and web conferences, etc.

Staff

Actually has a greater sense of community than physical courses

depends on the class and instructor

I think it is not a rich learning environment.

This is highly dependant on the instructor's communication with students.

Question 25

Q25: How could Distance Education courses be enhanced?

Student

better signal and better speakers

Better training and accountability for distance education professors.

By having the required technology for example computers or other devices available for students. I have no problem bringing my laptop to class however students do not have that option.

Distance Education courses can be enhanced by having a better reception and less interruptions during the class.

Don't know. As you've seen, I wasn't happy with them, and am not much invested in seeing that they're improved. However, I may in fact take one or more in the future. I just don't know how to make them better or more satisfying.

Get better teachers who can communicate well with the students for the courses.



Have professors teach and not just assign. I feel I am missing out on their knowledge and input. They just throw assignments (excessive!) and chapters or books to read and then just grade.

Having now taken both types of classes, I can say with certainty that distance education courses are extremely draining and time-consuming. The amount of time it takes to write out well-formed discussion responses, outside reading, and research is immense, because you are pretty much teaching yourself the subject matter. Most professors seem pretty uninvolved or unaware of how to use the tools necessary to make the class work. Some distance learning professors do not even use blackboard. Don't get me wrong, I'm SO grateful SR has this option. I just thing the profs need a little training and accountability to make their classes more user-friendly and less time consuming.

Hire professors who want to do their job and won't make it seem like a chore.

I am not in a distance education course.

I don't know

i dont know im not in those classes

I feel like the quality of learning -- especially from professors -- is lacking in Distance ed. Professors generally do not post their lectures, so most distance ed is basically "read this book and write a paper about it", which is fine for some, but as learners we tend to crave knowledge and context that only professors can provide. I have not been involved with a Distance Education course.

I like it just as it is.

I like it the way it is - I login and submit the assignments by the due date.

It can disappear thats how.

it is good

like i mention before. by the professor visiting the campus at least once or twice within the semester.

maybe meet at least once face to face in order to get to know your classmates

more emails

None

Not enrolled this semester, but two next semester.

Nothing. I prefer face to face courses. Distance Education courses are not for me

perhaps a button to extend the teleconference when needed. a fax machine.

Teachers can actually lecture, rather than just posting readings and assignments. Students can be encouraged to talk to each other via discussion boards or blackboard collaborate. Resources, such as seminars can be offered online, rather than just on campus (the Alpine graduate center has a habit of ignoring the distance learning community).

The distance education courses have good work plan

Faculty

Allow for real time interaction via video streams that are adequate and allow for interaction with no pauses. The video displays currently sold at Best Buy show a way forward that might allow for true virtual interaction. Until that happens on-line education will at best be a poor substitute for face to face interaction.

By face-to-face orientation in the beginning of each semester.

DE courses are enhanced to the extent that the feeling of "distance" is reduced/eliminated by technical elegance that delivers transparency and lack of interruptions.

Enhance internet and network capabilities

Having greater support at the other campuses with proctoring of exams, labs, etc

Hybrid experiences - distance ed with possibility for F2F interaction a couple times during the semester, along with video capture for students who cannot attend

I do not teach distance learning due to the fact that support for students is limited.

I don't know.... I frequently wonder about "student integrity" and mastery of the information.



I like the concept of support services. I do hear complaints about the inability for students to get timely responses from faculty.

Keep equipment updated. Allow travel by faculty to distant site several times per semester. Test new software earlier than the week before class starts.

More creative assignments, not "read a chapter, write a reflection"....

More training as to what features we can utilize in Blackboard.

No comment at this time.

Provide administrative oversight in the sense that "empty" run-by-themselves Blackboard courses don't happen; make sure faculty are assisted in creating learning communities, allow instructors to spend their efforts with content and teaching by having OIT facilitate that teaching.

Reliable Internet connections; 24/7 help desk

See #19. All equipment. Also a document camera that is landscape-orientation and larger so that it's more like using lots of space drawing on a white board (more creative concepts taught), and not like making a list. Standardize the Distance Learning equipment in each classroom. Better lighting for the stack of equipment.

Staff

All DE courses should use Blackboard and include group discussion questions every week.

By having the same standards as traditional classes.

Can't answer since I haven't used Distance Education.

Continue to do what they are doing.

Depends on the class and instructor...some instructors have been excellent at utilizing different features in an online environment to make it more community-like, but some do not

Do not know.

Faculty more interactive with courses and student services communication to students

faculty training as well as student resources. A dedicated section on the website for SR would be helpful also.

For teleconferencing classes the university needs much better tech support and qualified tech support. Not undependable, poorly qualified student workers. The university needs to work harder to make teleconferencing classes a good experience for students not a big frustration. One professor told me once that students at Sul Ross got steak and the students at the other end got hamburger.

Have more blended approaches to instructional delivery!

having a set of standards with best practices available for faculty along with proper training. I haven't taken an online course but I've heard about them from students. Some just have vocabulary, some have discussion questions...

I don't use DE courses therefore, I don't have an opinion on them.

I have not been involved with any Distance Education courses.

Increased variety of courses

N/A

Not sure.

Professors should spend as much time preparing for their online courses as they do for their face-to-face courses. Group work should not be the only graded assignments. Professors should be make video lectures and post them for students instead of just having chapters to read alone.

Some distance ed courses are excellent, with discussion boards that are very active. Other distance education courses are basically "read these books, write a paper" with NO interaction at all. The university needs to develop a minimum standard for distance ed classes and require all faculty to meet those standards.

Other

unsure