

Quality of Life Initiative

Student Affairs Committee, University Senate

Prepared by:

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Rationale

University Senate Student Affairs Committee

- ◆ Comprised of all the student University Senators across Columbia
- ◆ Represents 28,000 students across 20 schools and affiliated institutions
- ◆ Uniquely positioned and mandated to improve student life



Rationale

Context



- ◆ **Governing bodies need data to implement policies, determine their impact objectively and methodically, and measure their success and sustainability**
- ◆ **Several schools and departments administer student satisfaction surveys of their own, or variations of such surveys for specific one-off needs, but there is no comprehensive, campus-wide data-collection mechanism to assess quality of life of Columbia students**
- ◆ **Consequently, our efforts have been one-off, incremental improvement projects, based on immediate needs rather a comprehensive, well-strategized approach grounded in real feedback**

Purpose

Quality of Life Survey

- ◆ University-wide survey designed to capture student quality of life through qualitative and quantitative elements
- ◆ Ensuing recommendations will drive short-, medium-, and long-term projects designed to improve student quality of life



Implementation

Plan

- ◆ **Baseline 2013 data of student quality of life on a range of topics**
- ◆ **Implemented every two years for longitudinal analysis**
- ◆ **Will not seek to evaluate the performance of individual Columbia services, but focus on common themes that affect all Columbia students in some way**
- ◆ **Minimum actionable data to warrant further investigations**



Implementation

Survey Design

- ◆ Four parts in each category:
 - Satisfaction
 - Importance
 - Applicability and satisfaction on specific aspects of category
 - Open ended recommendations for category
- ◆ Randomized order of categories
- ◆ Overall quality of life scales
- ◆ Policy questions in addendum (will change from cycle to cycle)

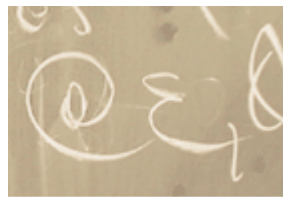
Career Preparation
Housing
Space
Student Life/Clubs
Fitness
Fiance Academics
Administration
Family Life
Safety
Libraries
Transportation
Health

Implementation

Partners

- ◆ **Survey design partner: Behavioral Research Lab (Columbia Business School)**
- ◆ **Data analysis partner: Statistics Consulting Service (Statistics Department)**
- ◆ **Local student councils**
- ◆ **Ownership of data: Student Affairs Committee and Office of the Senate**

The Behavioral Research Lab at Columbia Business School



Department of Statistics



Implementation

Timeline

- ◆ **Fall 2012: Survey design and development**
- ◆ **February 2013: Pilot to selected students**
- ◆ **February – April, 2013: Engage stakeholders; Improve Survey**
- ◆ **April 2013: Launch**
- ◆ **2013-2014: Analysis and recommendations**



Thank You

Questions

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