

Athletics Climate Study Summary
SA Well Being Committee
4-29-15

Staff Survey:

- 74 staff members agreed to participate; 2 did not
 - Total staff: 104
 - Varied representative from teams/staff
- 73% did not know a LGBTQ student or staff member
- 32% heard negative comments from coaches/staff a few times or more a semester; this is higher than the average heard by students from staff
- 58% said they never heard negative comments from students; 40% said heard negative comments a few times a semester from students
- 75% said they do not believe sexual orientation should be directly addressed; 80% do not want to address it
- 91% believe their team/staff would be very welcoming to a LGBTQ student-athlete (higher than the students expectations)
- 81% said they would be somewhat or extremely comfortable recruiting a LGBTQ student
- 65% said they would be interested in being an ally
- Comments were centered on treating others with respect no matter what and controlling language.

Student-Athlete Survey:

- 311 students agreed to participate; 16 did not
 - Total student-athletes: 524
- Varied representation of class year and team
 - Under-represented teams (of those that identified):
 - Football, Swimming
- 89% did not know LGBTQ SA on team
- 81% said they would feel comfortable coming out as a SA on their team
 - Those that said no made comments such as judgmental teammates, being undressed in front of teammates, awkward.
- 68% said they would feel comfortable coming out to their coach; 31% said no.
 - Older and wouldn't understand; more traditional; it's not of their business (commented several times); judgmental
- 49% said they never hear negative comments from teammates; 48% ranged from a few times a week to a few times a semester
 - Calling other students gay, saying that's so gay, many commented that it's more ignorance than real negative comments
 - Overall positive that they recognize this can have a negative impact
- 92% said they never hear negative comments from their coaches
 - Very positive.
 - Mostly stereotypical and/or saying "that's gay"
- Majority thought coaches would be accepting of an LGBTQ SA on their team

- 95% did not believe there would be repercussions from coaches if they were LGBTQ
- 75% felt their team would welcome a LGBTQ SA on their team either knowing that or coming out during the season.
- 41% said they wanted to learn about becoming an ally
 - Could be seen two ways:
 - Is this low?
 - On the other hand, 41% said they actively would want to be involved

Overall Impressions and Next Steps:

- Overall, positive impressions.
 - Seems coaches want to create a positive, open and respectful environment.
 - SA are aware of negative use of language, even when unintentional and seem welcoming to LGBTQ student.
- Next steps:
 - Create positive and welcoming environment.
 - You Can Play video
 - Policy statements
 - Links to resources on campus for LGBTQ SA
 - Deal with comments as they happen from both coaches and SA
- Other suggestions?