College students want more campus mentoring

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**College students want more campus mentoring**

In previous articles I have summarized the latest results of opinion polls given to university presidents, faculty, and the general public on the state of higher education. Yet, we rarely hear about opinion polls conducted on students about how their lives feel about higher education, not only in the United States but worldwide. This is an important factor not only because students are the ones supposed to be served by universities, but also because in the current student loan crisis, opinion of students is of great importance to those institutions.

In 2014, Lumina Foundation, a non-profit organization focusing on improving higher education in the United States, created the Student Opinion Index (SOI) to gauge the opinions of students on various aspects of higher education. One of the reasons they conducted this survey was to identify trends among U.S. college students on various aspects of college life.

**Methodology**

The SOI is an ongoing survey of student opinions conducted by the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago. It is conducted biannually, and the most recent surveys were conducted in July 2015 and January 2016. The surveys are conducted online, and participation is voluntary.

**Findings**

The SOI highlights several key trends among college students:

1. **Student satisfaction with their college experience**

   - College students are generally satisfied with their college experience. A majority of students said that they are satisfied with their college experience, and this satisfaction is highest among students in their second year of college.

2. **Student satisfaction with their college programs**

   - Students are satisfied with the offerings of their college programs. A majority of students said that they are satisfied with their college programs, and this satisfaction is highest among students in their second year of college.

3. **Student satisfaction with the academic environment**

   - College students are generally satisfied with the academic environment at their institutions. A majority of students said that they are satisfied with the academic environment, and this satisfaction is highest among students in their second year of college.

4. **Student satisfaction with the social environment**

   - College students are generally satisfied with the social environment at their institutions. A majority of students said that they are satisfied with the social environment, and this satisfaction is highest among students in their second year of college.

5. **Student satisfaction with the financial situation**

   - College students are generally satisfied with the financial situation at their institutions. A majority of students said that they are satisfied with the financial situation, and this satisfaction is highest among students in their second year of college.

6. **Student satisfaction with the career services**

   - College students are generally satisfied with the career services at their institutions. A majority of students said that they are satisfied with the career services, and this satisfaction is highest among students in their second year of college.

7. **Student satisfaction with the diversity of students**

   - College students are generally satisfied with the diversity of students at their institutions. A majority of students said that they are satisfied with the diversity of students, and this satisfaction is highest among students in their second year of college.

8. **Student satisfaction with the diversity of faculty**

   - College students are generally satisfied with the diversity of faculty at their institutions. A majority of students said that they are satisfied with the diversity of faculty, and this satisfaction is highest among students in their second year of college.

9. **Student satisfaction with the diversity of students**

   - College students are generally satisfied with the diversity of students at their institutions. A majority of students said that they are satisfied with the diversity of students, and this satisfaction is highest among students in their second year of college.

10. **Student satisfaction with the diversity of faculty**

    - College students are generally satisfied with the diversity of faculty at their institutions. A majority of students said that they are satisfied with the diversity of faculty, and this satisfaction is highest among students in their second year of college.

11. **Student satisfaction with the diversity of students**

    - College students are generally satisfied with the diversity of students at their institutions. A majority of students said that they are satisfied with the diversity of students, and this satisfaction is highest among students in their second year of college.

12. **Student satisfaction with the diversity of faculty**

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14. **Student satisfaction with the diversity of faculty**

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