

Listening Session: Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging

The questions for these listening sessions were pulled directly from another student voices session performed by Grays Harbor College. GHC wanted to ask the same questions to see if we had made progress in addressing the concerns and areas for change that were communicated in previous forums.

Students of Color

Questions	Student Responses	Suggestions for Change
As a student, in what ways do you feel GHC supports or fails to support a culture of diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students communicated that they love the Diversity and Equity Center. • Students wanted to see more diverse workshops and programs from the DEC. • They feel they are welcomed, seen and heard. Students also said that Student Life staff are very supportive and care about them and want to see them be successful 	They would like to see support for mor affinity groups like a black affinity group; appropriate Latinx workshops, etc.
In what ways have you witnessed or experienced discrimination and/or prejudice at GHC?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They stated they have heard slights like, “I didn’t know black people wrestle”, or they call him “a boy” and not his name. • One student said they were constantly called out on things they weren’t doing, and they were the only black student in the class. • They feel that staff are welcoming • Students stated that they can often feel avoided because they make other people uncomfortable. • Students knew who to confine in and who to avoid. 	Provide educational workshops on EDI for students; make a requirement to attend this specific training/workshop
To what extent do courses provide opportunities to learn about cultures, backgrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students state they do not know about any classes that focus on different cultures but would love to see some. 	Students want to see a black history class and would love to see assignments that allow students to

<p>and experiences different from your own?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One student stated they had learned more about different cultures from their coach’s hoodie. • Students voiced that they wanted hands-on experience in the classroom and that it was essential for students to have faculty represent the culture that is being taught 	<p>connect with, learn, and apply their culture to their learning.</p> <p>Classes to be taught by faculty that represent the culture.</p>
<p>To what extent do you feel a sense of belonging at GHC?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students expressed that they feel a strong sense of belonging in DEC, Student Life and Athletics. • However, an athlete took us aside and communicated racist comments and exclusion is real in athletics and shared that what was stated about athletics is not accurate. • Students also said they haven’t seen, heard or experienced what other SOC might be experiencing. • One student said that others will change their behavior to try to be “like us.” The student wishes people would just be themselves around them. 	<p>Provide students with support programs and workshops that support the student body.</p>
<p>What could the college do to promote a climate of equity, diversity, inclusion and belonging at GHC?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One student stated they tried to get a multicultural club and really struggled to get things scheduled and get meetings going. • Several students expressed being scared to go into the local community alone because they do not feel safe. They always go with another student. • A Student shared confederate flags are in people’s yards. • Some students mentioned that there have been passive-aggressive comments being made by other 	<p>Students suggested clubs/affinity groups where they can connect with people that look like them.</p> <p>They would like the college and community to work together to make the community feel inviting to everyone.</p> <p>They want to see more sports opportunities because it will increase Students of Color (SOC) on campus.</p>

	<p>students and when addressed—those students will say they are joking.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One student shared that the president of Student Life was racist, and they removed him 	
Additional Questions:	For the students that have been at the college longer, there was a slight change in culture that supported the EDI movement that is college focused.	Students want to see a more dedicated New Student Orientation and have workshops that provide workshops (learning and cultural).

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This listening session had very low attendance and not every student spoke.

General Session

Questions	Student Responses	Suggestions for Change
As a student, in what ways do you feel GHC supports or fails to support a culture of diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging?	The DEC space is great and a big positive	N/A
In what ways have you witnessed or experienced discrimination and/or prejudice at GHC?	Never witnessed or experienced prejudice or discrimination	N/A
To what extent do courses provide opportunities to learn about cultures, backgrounds and experiences different from your own?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students stated they have taken some classes that are connected to other cultures, but they are limited to the arts. Students wanted to see more options as far as cultural courses on campus. 	Work with instruction to discuss the student's feedback and determine if it is possible to have more cultural centered courses.

<p>To what extent do you feel a sense of belonging at GHC?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One student expressed that they feel like they belong here. They also enjoy the fact that the college is close to home and is reasonably priced. • They shared that they participate in activities on campus like nature walks and feel they have good connections and a feel a sense of belonging. 	<p>N/A</p>
<p>What could the college do to promote a climate of equity, diversity, inclusion and belonging at GHC?</p>	<p>Students would like to see more workshops on different types of mental health disorders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could we have a month to celebrate mental health disorders? • Suicide ideation/prevention awareness workshops? • Drug/alcohol awareness workshops? • Bring awareness on mental health awareness/challenges? 	<p>Partner with the Mental Health Department to discuss when these events are available for students to access.</p>
<p>Additional Questions: Is there anything else you would like to see at GHC?</p>	<p>Students also want to see better communication about what is going on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage faculty in recruiting • Utilize Canvas for sharing information • A universal calendar of events • Student newspaper or newsletter 	<p>Work with various departments to ensure that these areas are discussed and worked on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty • IT/Canvas • Marketing • Student Life
	<p>Other Questions to Consider:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How do we incorporate Ilwaco and Raymond Student Life opportunities? (Student Life/Gov't) 2. How do we get information to rural areas that don't have internet-suggested we use graphics, so it is more engaging? 3. How do we create a sense of belonging for people of different religions? 	