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2002 Faculty Senate Survey Results for All Colleges - Four Year Comparison

Faculty Senators

University of South Alabama

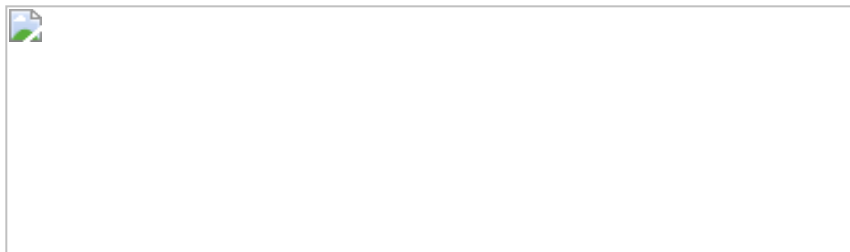
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Fifteenth Faculty Survey

June 2002

This document contains results of the 2002 Faculty Survey for all colleges combined (232 faculty members responding). Results from the previous three Faculty Surveys in 1999, 2000 and 2001 are provided for comparison's sake (when possible).

Those interested in comparisons of a single college's or division's results over the last four years should [return to 2002 Faculty Survey home page](#) and select the appropriate college, school, or division.

Those interested in comparisons among colleges from this year's data should [go to the 2002 Summary Table](#).

Administrative Ratings

Faculty were asked, on a scale of 1 to 5, to indicate their confidence in, or opinion of, the effectiveness of the following USA personnel. On the scale, 1 represented "very poor" and 5 represented "excellent." The higher, the better.

	2002	2001	2000	1999
President	3.30	3.30	3.51	3.38
Vice-President for Academic Affairs	2.87	2.78	3.07	3.02
Vice-President for Medical Affairs	3.28	2.70	3.35	3.10
Vice-President for Financial Affairs	3.36	3.20	3.35	3.14
Vice-President for Student Affairs	3.33	3.27	3.49	3.45
Your Own Dean	3.23	3.17	3.50	3.38

University Leadership (President, VPs)

Indicate your opinion about how highly you rate the university leadership in each of these respects (1 indicates "very poor"; 5 indicates "excellent").

	2002	2001	2000	1999
Honors all promises and commitments	3.09	2.98	not asked	not asked
Is impartial and professional in relations with faculty	3.01	2.92	not asked	not asked

Conveys administrative expectations in a clear and effective manner	3.01	2.89	not asked	not asked
Informs faculty of developments critical to the accomplishment of the mission of the university	3.05	3.06	not asked	not asked
Seeks and incorporates faculty input into decisions concerning matters vital to the mission of the university	2.52	2.50	not asked	not asked
Encourages new initiatives which further the mission of the university	3.02	2.77	not asked	not asked
Seeks and dedicates ample resources to fulfillment of university mission	2.69	2.55	not asked	not asked
Responds to crisis with appropriate measures				
Yes	42.2%	53%		
No	31.1%	47%		
No Opinion	26.7%	not a response	not asked	not asked

Deans

Faculty were asked, on a scale of 1 to 5, to indicate their opinion of their own college's dean. On the scale, 1 represented "very poor" and 5 represented "excellent." The higher, the better.

These figures provide a picture of how deans *as a group* are viewed by the *entire faculty*. To view how each college's faculty has rated its own dean over the past four years, go [back to the home page for the 2001 survey](#) and click on the college, school, or division you are interested in under "Four-Year Comparative Results."

Evaluate Your Dean on each of these matters	2002	2001	2000	1999
Honors all promises and commitments	3.34	3.25	3.68	3.60
Is impartial and professional in evaluating the performance of co-workers	3.19	3.06	3.57	3.52
Informs faculty of developments critical to the accomplishment of the mission of the unit	3.17	3.20	3.46	3.18
Conveys administrative expectations in a clear and effective manner	3.22	3.16	3.44	3.18
Seeks and incorporates faculty input into decisions concerning matters vital to the mission of the unit	2.88	2.73	not asked	not asked
Encourages new initiatives which are logical extensions of existing programs	3.29	3.09	3.42	3.24
Seeks and dedicates ample resources to assure success/completion of an assignment	3.14	2.95	3.30	3.22
Is a proficient and productive administrator, and should be retained	3.35	3.27	3.50	3.48

Experiences at USA

Teaching	2002	2001	2000	1999
At USA, how would you rate the importance of teaching performance to your personal career satisfaction? (1="of no importance"; 5="very important")	4.29	4.27	4.20	4.17
How much emphasis do faculty leaders and administrators at USA place on effective teaching for career advancement? (1="too little emphasis"; 5="excessive emphasis")	2.85	2.73	2.72	2.75
Are you provided with adequate and appropriate resources to teach effectively at USA? (1="very inadequate"; 5="very adequate")	3.33	3.15	3.20	3.13
Will an additional course per semester added to faculty teaching loads have a damaging effect on the university's research mission? An additional course per semester added to faculty teaching loads have a damaging effect on the university's research mission (1 = "strongly disagree"; 5= "strongly agree") -- this was the format for this question in 2002, so the results are expressed as a mean and can't be compared with other years.	4.49	Yes 84% No 16%	not asked	not asked

Research and Publications/Creative Work	2002	2001	2000	1999
At USA, how would you rate the importance of research or creative work to your personal career satisfaction? (1="of no importance"; 5="very important")	3.90	4.02	3.85	3.93
How much emphasis do faculty leaders and administrators at USA place on research or creative work for career advancement? (1="too little emphasis"; 5="excessive emphasis")	3.58	3.40	3.57	3.49
Are you provided with adequate and appropriate resources to conduct research or creative work at USA? (1="very inadequate"; 5="very adequate")	2.64	2.40	2.58	2.64

Service and Leadership	2002	2001	2000	1999
At USA, how would you rate the importance of institutional service to your personal career satisfaction? (1="of no importance"; 5="very important")	3.30	3.28	3.43	3.37
How much emphasis do faculty leaders and administrators at USA place on institutional service for career advancement? (1="too little emphasis"; 5="excessive emphasis")	2.74	2.81	2.81	2.87
Are you provided with adequate and appropriate resources to engage in institutional service at USA?	2.91	2.95	2.92	3.06

(1="very inadequate"; 5="very adequate")

Computer Services Center

	2002	2001	2000	1999
How satisfied are you with the USA Computer Services Center in terms of its ability to keep abreast of the latest technologies? (1="very dissatisfied"; 5="very satisfied")	3.15	3.10	3.22	3.17
How satisfied are you with the USA Computer Services Center in terms of the services provided? (1="very dissatisfied"; 5="very satisfied")	3.28	3.11	3.29	3.16

Libraries

Faculty were asked to respond to these questions for the library (or libraries) they use.

University Library	2002	2001	2000	1999
How satisfied are you with the USA Library in terms of its ability to keep you abreast of the latest trends and developments in the field of your research? (1="very dissatisfied"; 5="very satisfied")	3.60	3.39	3.36	3.12
How satisfied are you with the services provided by the Library faculty and staff? (1="very dissatisfied"; 5="very satisfied")	4.21	4.13	4.10	3.95
How satisfied are you with the electronic library and Internet-based services provided by the Library? (1="very dissatisfied"; 5="very satisfied")	4.10	3.87	3.77	3.65

Biomedical Library	2002	2001	2000	1999
How satisfied are you with the Biomedical Library in terms of its ability to keep you abreast of the latest trends and developments in the field of your research? (1="very dissatisfied"; 5="very satisfied")	4.02	3.91	3.86	3.63
How satisfied are you with the services provided by the Library faculty and staff? (1="very dissatisfied"; 5="very satisfied")	4.31	4.19	4.19	3.87
How satisfied are you with the electronic library and Internet-based services provided by the Library? (1="very dissatisfied"; 5="very satisfied")	4.14	4.02	4.07	3.70

Faculty Morale

If you had a variety of professional options, would you prefer to:	2002	2001	2000	1999
Remain at USA with little or no change in duties	38.8%	37%	43%	47%
Remain at USA with significant change in duties	16.4%	21%	23%	19%
Move to another institution	34.1%	36%	29%	27%
Move to non-academic employment	4.7%	6%	5%	9%
No Opinion	6.0%	not a choice	not a choice	not a choice

	2002	2001	2000	1999
How satisfied are you with opportunities currently provided by USA to concentrate on what you do best? (1="very dissatisfied"; 5="very satisfied")	3.02	2.70	3.03	3.09
How do you feel about your degree of academic freedom within the classroom? (1="very dissatisfied"; 5="very satisfied")	3.90	3.94	4.13	4.14
How satisfied are you with the amount of freedom you have at USA to express your opinions regarding University policies and procedures? (1="very dissatisfied"; 5="very satisfied")	3.00	2.95	3.12	3.11

Miscellaneous

Note: the single question used prior to the 2000 survey regarding the Faculty Senate was divided into two parts beginning in 2000 and thus cannot be directly compared. The previous question read "The Faculty Senate serves as an effective representative body." In the 1999 survey, this question received a mean response of 2.86; in the 1998 survey, the question received a mean response of 2.90.

	2002	2001	2000	1999
The organization and administration of the University allow the Faculty Senate to serve as an effective representative body (1="strongly disagree"; 5="strongly agree")	2.84	2.84	2.82	not asked in this form
Members of the Senate work hard and concentrate on the proper issues to promote faculty interests effectively (1="strongly disagree"; 5="strongly agree")	3.51	3.77	3.51	not asked in this form
The USA Board of Trustees serves as an effective governing body for the institution (1="strongly disagree"; 5="strongly agree")	2.76	2.62	2.59	2.24

The USA Foundation Board serves as an effective body in managing USA's endowment (1="strongly disagree"; 5="strongly agree")	1.64	1.26	1.57	1.76
Please rate the USA Bookstore in terms of providing adequate and affordable services, materials, and texts to your students (1="very poor"; 5="excellent")	3.06	3.06	3.13	3.01
Please rate the USA Bookstore in terms of providing faculty with timely notification of materials which have to be back ordered or requested texts which are found to be out of print. (1="very poor"; 5="excellent")	3.17	3.27	not asked	not asked
Please rate the idea of establishing a conference center on the main campus for meetings, seminars, retreats, etc. (1="very poor"; 5="excellent")	3.97	3.68	3.78	not asked
The availability of cultural activities on campus is: (1="very poor"; 5="excellent")	2.75	3.06	not asked	not asked

Parking on Campus

	2002	2001	2000	1999
Do you consistently have difficulty finding parking on the main campus?				
Yes	9.5%	13.0%		
No	80.6%	87.0%		
No Opinion	9.9%	Not a choice	not asked	not asked
If yes, do you believe greater control is needed in issuing parking permits?				
Yes	18.5%	31.0%		
No	25.4%	69.0%		
No Opinion	56.1%	Not a choice	not asked	not asked
If yes, do you believe a significant increase in the parking fee would solve the problem?				
Yes	2.6%	5.0%		
No	46.6%	95.0%		
No Opinion	50.8%	Not a choice	not asked	not asked
If yes, do you believe only one permit should be issued per family member?				
Yes	19.4%	37.5%		
No	21.6%	62.5%		
No Opinion	59.0%	Not a choice	not asked	not asked
Do you believe that zoned parking for students on the main campus should be initiated?	32.6%	66.7%	not asked	not asked
	13.4%	33.3%		
	50.0%	Not a choice		

	Yes			
	No			
	No Opinion			

USA Health Plan

	2002	2001	2000	1999
What type of Health Plan do you have?				
USA Health Plan family coverage	62.5%			
USA Health Plan single coverage	24.6%			
Non USA coverage	10.3%			
No opinion	2.6%	not asked	not asked	not asked
How satisfied are you with your ability to make timely appointments with your primary care physician? (1="very dissatisfied"; 5="very satisfied")	3.70	3.53	3.35	3.16
How satisfied are you with your ability to make timely unscheduled (emergency) appointments with a physician? (1="very dissatisfied"; 5="very satisfied")	3.39	3.23	3.19	3.09
How satisfied are you with the speed with which you are seen (time in waiting room)? (1="very dissatisfied"; 5="very satisfied")	3.23	3.23	3.02	2.97
If you have had problems with the administration of the USA Health Plan, please rate the handling of appeals and resolution of your problems. (1="very poor"; 5="excellent")	2.81	2.42	2.52	2.40
How satisfied are you with the overall provision of services under the USA Health Plan? (1="very dissatisfied"; 5="very satisfied")	2.86	2.91	3.04	2.96
How has the overall quality of USA medical services changed over the last five years? (1="declined"; 5="improved")	2.48	2.37	2.70	2.53
What is your interest level in switching your health insurance carrier (from Prime Health to Blue Cross) (1="no interest"; 5="great interest")	not asked	3.91	not asked	not asked
Regarding the switch from Prime Health to Blue Cross as a health insurance carrier, do you feel that your situation is better or worse now? (1="much worse"; 5="much better")	2.60	not asked	not asked	not asked
What is your interest level if changing health care providers significantly decreases revenue for USA Hospitals and the College of Medicine? (1="no interest"; 5="great interest")	not asked	3.02	not asked	not asked
With the USA Health Plan, I have an adequate choice of primary care doctors. (1="strongly disagree"; 5="strongly agree")	3.09	not asked	not asked	not asked

To play for increased health care expenses indicate which options you might prefer. (1="increase in copay to discourage use"; 5="increase in monthly premiums to cover costs")	2.49	not asked	not asked	not asked
To play for increased health care expenses indicate which options you might prefer. (1="increased coverage for preventative solutions including screenings, weight management, etc."; 5="coverage of costs resulting from lack of preventative solutions")	3.99	not asked	not asked	not asked

Graduation

	2002	2001	2000	1999
Did you attend Spring 2001 Graduation?				
Yes	39.7%			
No	53.4%			
No Opinion	6.9%	not asked	not asked	not asked
Did you attend Fall 2001 Graduation?				
Yes	39.2%			
No	54.3%			
No Opinion	6.5%	not asked	not asked	not asked
If graduation were shorter, would you feel better about attending?				
Yes	57.8%	68.9%		
No	15.1%	31.1%		
No Opinion	27.1%	not a choice	not asked	not asked
If graduation were organized with individual ceremonies for each college, would you feel better about attending?				
Yes	58.2%	67.3%		
No	18.1%	32.7%		
No Opinion	23.7%	not a choice	not asked	not asked

Technology

	2002	2001	2000	1999
How important is Internet access to your teaching ? (1="not important"; 5="very important")	4.59	4.42	4.26	3.99
How important is Internet access to your research ? (1="not important"; 5="very important")	4.70	4.66	4.44	4.32

How important is it in your teaching and lecturing to utilize technology in the classroom? (1="not important"; 5="very important")	4.08	3.99	3.99	not asked
How satisfied are you with your technology resources in the classroom? (1="very dissatisfied"; 5="very satisfied")	3.45	3.30	3.05	not asked
How satisfied are you with your computing resources at work? (1="very dissatisfied"; 5="very satisfied")	3.79	3.68	3.52	not asked
The University should institute a plan to replace faculty office computers at 3-year intervals in order to keep pace with technology (1="strongly disagree"; 5="strongly agree")	4.33	4.22	not asked	not asked
I support the University decision to adopt Microsoft as a standard for word processing/ spreadsheet software (1="strongly disagree"; 5="strongly agree")	3.50	3.44	not asked	not asked
The University should maintain site licenses such that programs can be purchased (by faculty and students) for a nominal fee (1="strongly disagree"; 5="strongly agree")	4.45	4.54	not asked	not asked
How satisfied are you with Novell Groupwise/ USAMAIL (USA's e-mail system)? (1="very dissatisfied"; 5="very satisfied")	3.23	3.21	not asked	not asked
The University should increase Internet bandwidth to support the increased number of users on campus (1="strongly disagree"; 5="strongly agree")	not asked in this way (see below)	4.63	not asked	not asked
The University's current internet bandwidth is adequate for most of my needs (1="strongly disagree"; 5="strongly agree")	3.30	not asked in this way (see above)	not asked	not asked
How satisfied are you with your access to help on technology issues? (1="very dissatisfied"; 5="very satisfied")	3.14	2.99	3.23	not asked

Distance Learning

	2002	2001	2000	1999
Are you currently involved in distance learning?				
Yes	18.1%	20.5%		
No	69.4%	79.5%		
No Opinion	12.5%	not a choice	not asked	not asked
There are adequate supports for developing distance learning courses (1="strongly disagree"; 5="strongly agree")	2.60	2.41	2.70	not asked

There is adequate time allotted to develop and to teach distance learning courses. (1="strongly disagree"; 5="strongly agree")	1.83	1.68	2.06	not asked
There are adequate rewards for developing distance learning courses. (1="strongly disagree"; 5="strongly agree")	1.56	1.58	1.94	not asked
Distance learning is important and should be a priority for USA. (1="strongly disagree"; 5="strongly agree")	2.83	2.60	2.91	not asked
I am satisfied with the services provided by my college in support of distance learning. (1="strongly disagree"; 5="strongly agree")	2.59	2.78	not asked	not asked
The university has a systematic plan for developing distance learning courses ("programs" in 2002 survey). (1="strongly disagree"; 5="strongly agree")	2.05	2.04	2.37	not asked
Faculty should retain intellectual property rights to distance learning courses and materials they develop. (1="strongly disagree"; 5="strongly agree")	4.49	4.43	4.31	not asked

End of Survey Results

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URL: <http://www.southalabama.edu/fsenate/evaluation/2002/overall.html>