Summary of Results from Workplace Culture Survey 2022

MIKE PETERSEN AND LAURA KEATING

QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS: MARGO MOUAT

QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS: SUSANNA RICHMOND

https://forms.office.com/r/cxLSyB0V8Z



Physics & Astronomy Workplace Culture Survey 2022

Welcome

The aim of this survey is to better understand how school culture is perceived by staff and students, including your views on policies and attitudes concerning wellbeing at work, maintenance of work-life balance, and equality of career development opportunity for all. It should take around 10 to 20 mins minutes to complete.

The key findings of the survey will help guide our Equality, Diversity & Inclusion action plan for the next 2 years and our application to renew our Juno status with the Institute of Physics. Some questions relate specifically to gender equality within the School: responses to these questions will feed into an Athena Swan application.

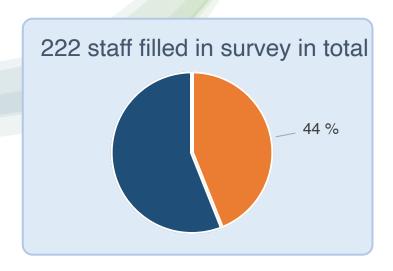
Your responses will help us to assess the current culture within the School of Physics and Astronomy and contribute to improvements that benefit everyone who works and studies in the School.

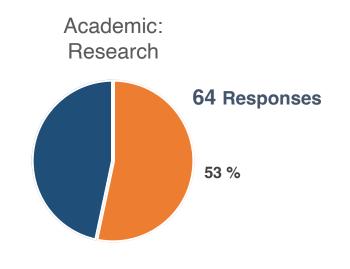
The layout of the survey is limited by the tool used to create the survey - if any question doesn't apply to you or you don't want to answer, please skip the question.

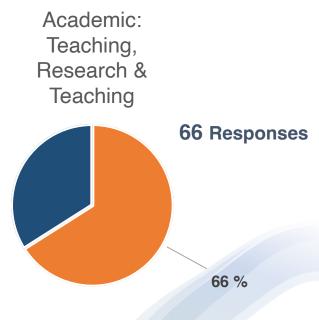
There are free text boxes in each section if you wish to make a comment or suggestion.



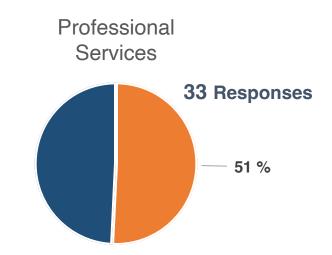
Demographic Information

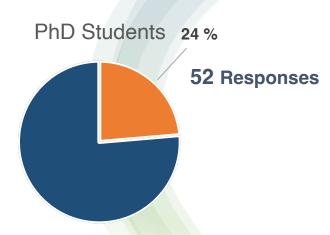












Summary of Survey Topics

- 1. Belonging and Inclusion
- 2. Work-life Balance
- 3. Bullying and Harassment
- 4. Wellbeing

Other topics covered but not discussed here:

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, Career Development, Inductions, Covid-19

Belonging and Inclusion

		The culture in the school is welcoming and friendly	My contributions are valued in my department	The culture in the school is collegial and respectful	
	Number of respondees	Agree / Strongly Agree	Agree / Strongly Agree	Agree / Strongly Agree	
PhD students	52	94%	75%	87%	
Academic: Research (including PDRAs)	64	8 <mark>9</mark> %	83%	84%	
Academic: Teaching, Research & Teaching	66	91%	<mark>8</mark> 6%	<mark>8</mark> 6%	
Professional Services	33	94%	82%	67%	
Prefer not to say	7	57%	43%	43%	
White	187	90%	80%	80%	
African, Asian, Black, Carribean, Mixed, Other	26	96%	92 <mark>%</mark>	96%	
Prefer not to say	9	<mark>89</mark> %	78%	78%	
Women	73	92%	84%	79%	
Men	129	91%	81%	83%	
Prefer not to say	17	82%	65%	76%	

 Lower level of agreement among Professional Services staff that the School culture is collegial and respectful

Belonging and Inclusion

- Feelings of isolation for new starts
- Lack of community between staff at ROE and in JCMB
- Need for more in person/more informal events
- Issues with negative comments on race/ethnicity
- Calls for more unconscious bias training
- Professional Services staff feeling under-appreciated by Academic staff

Work-life Balance

		The School enables flexible working	The School's workload model is transparent	Work is allocated on a clear and fair basis	My workload is manageable
	Number of	Agree / Strongly	Agree / Strongly	Agree / Strongly	Agree / Strongly
	respondees	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree
PhD students	52	92%	33%	46%	71%
Academic: Research (including PDRAs)	64	95%	41%	52%	61%
Academic: Teaching, Research & Teaching	66	94%	55%	42%	47%
Professional Services	33	82%	36%	52%	55%
Prefer not to say	7	100%	0%	14%	43%
White	187	93%	41%	47%	59%
African, Asian, Black, Carribean, Mixed, Other	26	92%	46%	50%	54%
Prefer not to say	9	89 <mark>%</mark>	33%	33%	44%
Women	73	93%	37%	49%	59%
Men	129	93%	44%	49%	59%
Prefer not to say, N/A	17	82%	35%	18%	35%

- Most staff don't find the workload model transparent or feel work is allocated fairly
- Significant numbers do not feel that their workload is manageable
- Note that a review of the workload model is part of the JUNO Action Plan

Work-life Balance

- Issues with the workload model
 - only rewards teaching based activities
 - teaching given more weight than research
- Workload is constantly increasing (unpaid overtime)
- Pressure on PDRAs to take on teaching activities
- Problems with expectations for TAs to take on work

Work-life Balance

- Culture of overworking and overcommitment in the School
- School culture doesn't support taking time off
- Understaffing in and under-appreciation of Professional Services
- Lack of resources to support parents/carers
- Feeling that people are only appreciated for going above and beyond, not doing their job well and competently

Bullying and Harassment

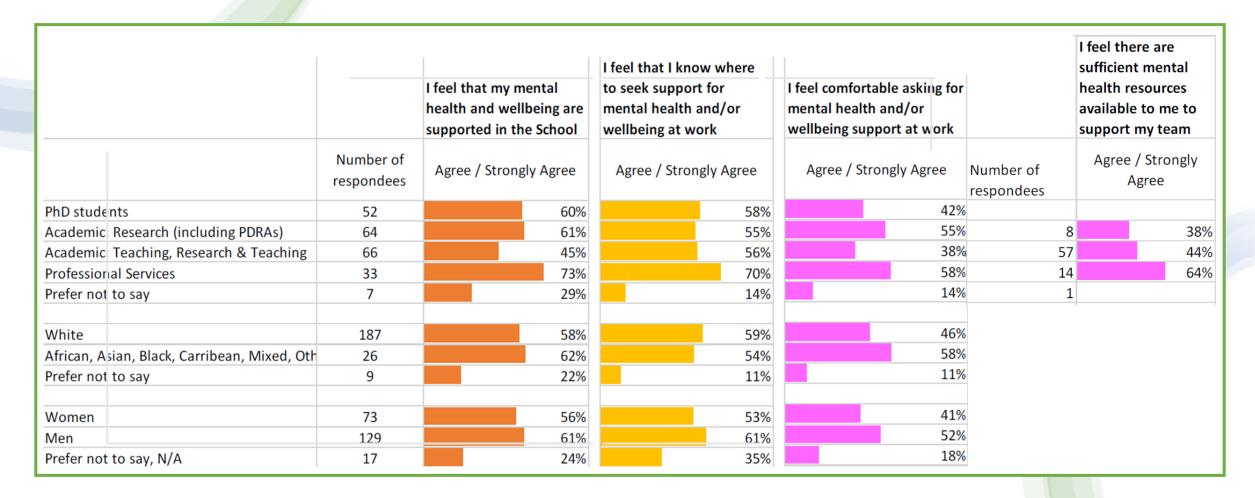


- UoE's Dignity and Respect policy needs to be better circulated
- Many staff were unaware of the online 'Report and Support' tool

Bullying and Harassment

- Lack of knowledge on how and when to report bullying and harassment
- Inexperience of managers/supervisors in dealing with bullying and harassment
- People not confident where to go for advice
- Positive feedback about existing workshops (Where do you draw the line?)

Wellbeing



- Feelings of mental health and wellbeing support relatively low
- Many staff uncomfortable asking for mental health support at work

Wellbeing

- Need for more information on available supports
- Mental health not discussed openly
- More information on mental health needed in relation to neurodiversity
- More training needed to help with mental health particularly for line managers
- Impacts on staff mental health:
 - Feelings of isolation among staff members
 - Increasing workload and culture of overcommitment

Reoccurring Themes from Free-form Responses

- Most staff felt that the School is generally welcoming and friendly
- Flexible and hybrid work options greatly appreciated
- Many staff expressed feelings of loneliness and isolation (due to pandemic and flexible working)
- Calls for more training on unconscious bias and micro-aggressions
- More data needed from some groups:
 - → Postdocs, PhD students, BAME staff and staff with disabilities

Many survey concerns covered by goals of the JUNO Action Plan



https://uoe.sharepoint.com/sites/IOPJunoChampionAward2023/

Juno Champion Renewal Action Plan – November 2022

THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH SCHOOL of PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY

Additional new actions proposed:

- Look into developing 'Welcome Pack' for new starters
- Investigate the possibility of mentors or a buddy system for staff
- Work on tackling stigma around mental health
- Follow up on issue of staff professional names in People and Money