



ADVANCE

ADVANCING WOMEN IN THE SCIENCES 2022 SURVEY RESULTS



Invitations were forwarded to 484 faculty (ranks: Professor, Associate Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, Sr. Instructor, Instructor) with a request to complete the survey from ADVANCE.

The response rate included 212 complete surveys (44%) + 52 partial surveys (11%) for a total of 264 respondents (55% overall). We appreciate the time taken to complete our survey.

Top Five Sources of Stress 2022:

- Household responsibilities
- Salary

Thank you MSU!

- Meeting work expectations
- Successful academic career
- Personal work-life interference





Mentoring and Networking

Women in STEM/SBES fields reported spending less time mentoring other faculty. Forty-five percent (45%) of women compared to 29% of men reported that networking opportunities w/colleagues was a source of stress. 87% of STEM women noted mentoring for "Improving teaching and managing students" as important while 51% of STEM men noted this area as important. In the area of "learning department/unit/college politics", 87% of STEM women and 63% of STEM men ranked it as important. STEM men appear to have more intellectual discussions with colleagues in their departments (3.65/semester vs 2.86/semester for STEM women).

Balance

Women in STEM/SBES indicated some issues with work/life balance. While 79% indicated feeling overloaded with all roles they feel responsible for, 73% indicate their chair/director is supportive of their leave needs, and 68% indicate most faculty in their department/unit are supportive of the need to find balance for work and life. Percentages indicating issues with work/life balance remained close to the same from 2017 to 2022.

Climate

Women faculty members in STEM/SBES believe that MSU should hire more women faculty and work harder to retain those faculty members. Women faculty members in STEM/SBES believe that MSU is doing better with placing women in leadership positions as well as assigning committee work fairly. Women faculty members in STEM/SBES noted they must work harder to

convince colleagues of their competence, and some indicated feeling isolated.

Sixty nine percent (69%) of women and 83% of men agree that they would be as comfortable with a woman chair/head as a man.



Retention

The number of STEM/SBES women faculty who anticipated leaving MSU in the next three years increased since 2017 by approximately 30%. The number of STEM/SBES women faculty who anticipated being employed at MSU for the rest of their career decreased by approximately 15%. Reasons for these numbers included: leave for non-academic jobs, reduce stress, increase time for research, find a more supportive work environment, and increase salary.

Tenure and Promotion

Over 60% of women faculty in STEM/SBES areas indicate they received feedback on progress towards tenure. Over 50% of women faculty in STEM/SBES areas indicate tenure decisions are based on teaching/research/service excellence rather than politics, demographics, or relationships. Over 50% indicate they are held to the

same standards as others at the same level. Sixty percent (60%) feel the requirements for tenure are reasonable.



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Recommendations

- 1. Improve perception that work/life balance is a priority at Murray State.
- 2. Further develop faculty support network by institutionalizing the ADVANCE Mentoring Circles and other activities.
- 3. Continue to provide opportunities for leadership development for women faculty.
- 4. Revise/extend how service is counted in annual evaluation forms and Tenure & Promotion process.
- 5. Increase salaries to be comparable to peer institutions and establish mechanisms for annual increases.
- 6. Continue bias training and increase clarity in tenure & promotion processes.
- 7. Continue to improve recruitment activities for greater faculty diversity.
- 8. Increase exposure to policies about the extension of the probationary period (see Faculty Handbook).

MURRAY STATE ADVANCE

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We are advocates.
We are Racers.