“I think the Blue Hen Poll is a great way to reach students and administration. I look forward to the results each year. You guys do great work, keep it up!”

“A few questions seemed ambiguous, like whether I had gained an interest in learning since enrolling at Delaware. I had already been very interested in an education before coming here, but that doesn’t mean Delaware hasn’t enhanced it as well. There should be a wider range of options to choose from so that the most accurate answer can be given.”

“Other companies on campus put out polls that claim that they use the information to make positive changes and I have yet to see anyway changes so I hope this poll actually makes a positive impact!”

“I think that you might want to look into using a Likert scale, because I felt that at some points in the survey I would have liked to have a ‘neutral’ option.”

“I really enjoyed doing this survey! Thanks so much.”

“Sometimes during this poll I had trouble determining where I fell on particular issues. Undecided options might have helped as well as more ability to explain.”

“No one thinks like I do, so I know this will just be a speck on the lists of responses.”

“There should be a blue hen poll that asks for curious little details about the student populace such as what illicit drugs students use, how frequently, how many students have STDs, how many friends students have on average, how many relationships they’ve been in during their college career, etc.”

“I think the Poll included a lot of good questions, and I really hope the University takes into account what people have to say.”

“This survey has the same major flaw that I see in all the Polls that UD administers. The creators of the survey are trying to touch face on too many issues at once, and in addition to those issues, try to incorporate all facets of them. To a certain degree, the survey also treats UD more as an entity in a largely overwhelming world, rather than focusing in solely on University issues. Many issues are being forgotten, or not followed up on. For example, there’s the state of the UD Review paper, which is dreadfully drenched in the nuisances of bias and outright nonsense-content. Instead of one survey, administer multiple surveys throughout the course of the school year, focusing in on certain issues, or certain groups of issues. The survey, as well as the feedback, will contain less ambiguity, as well as draw attention to views of issues that would otherwise be overlooked.”

“You should have an odd amount of multiple choice answers when constructing a survey in order not to skew the data.”

“Love the new topics discussed, would like to see more questions about the laptops in class, a lot of times they are used as a distraction during boring classes.”

“One thing not addressed in this poll were the dining hall hours. I know that the Dining Hall has its own poll and may not have to do with the SGA, but I believe it should be something that is addressed.”

“I hope our voices will be heard. Thank you for listening to us!”
“I feel like the administration and faculty/staff here feel inconvenienced and annoyed by students and they don’t care about us.”

“Academic Advisers should pay more attention to the advice they are giving to students. Misjudging schedules or even one class can cause someone another semester or even an entire additional year. The University seems more interested in another year of tuition and less interested in taking into account the effects on the students (and their families). It costs a lot of money to come here and while it is becoming more common to attend college for 5 years, it should not be a result of misguidance from someone whose job it is to advise.”

“I am also continually frustrated with the language barrier of our educators. I understand that the school strives for great researchers and the best-educated professors, however if they cannot speak clearly they are not teaching clearly. Many of the subject matters are difficult enough to learn when clearly taught, but trying to fight through a language barrier is extremely frustrating and de-motivating. The same applies for almost all TA that I have ever had at UD.”

“Things that are required for students to do should be exhibited more clearly. Things should be explained better. Everything is really confusing.”

“I think advisors need to be more aware of what they can do to help students graduate on time. My advisor told me I would have to go to college for an entire extra year in order to graduate. However, with the help of my peers, I figured out what I needed to do in order to graduate on time. When I ran it by my advisor, she agreed that this plan would work. It should not have been discouraged by my advisor to pursue graduating on time.”

“I strongly believe, that a few professors/departments use too much harshness when it comes to grading in classes that are say group D requirements or other required miscellaneous subjects not extremely relevant to our majors.”

“I feel that the University should require advisors to go through training each year to be educated all the situations and rules so they can actually be of service to the students. With so many students on this campus, I know there are a large number of advisors. And it makes me angry to know that I’m helping to pay for their salary and none of them can provide the service they are intended for.”

“I think a huge problem at UD is how difficult it is for some people to change majors and stay on graduation track. I changed my major halfway thorough my sophomore year to elementary ed., and I am working really hard to catch up but it’s impossible for me to graduate on time.”

“As a graduating senior I wish that my major had done more to prepare me for seeking employment post-graduation. Many of the jobs require prior experience, but most internships require one to be an enrolled student. I believe that the university should be more focused on getting the students experience in their field which will prepare them for the real world.”

“If a student wishes to meet with their advisor, that is up to them. We are in college now and it is up to us as individuals to determine the amount of guidance we need especially since many advisors’ office hours conflict with students’ class time or are ill equipped to answer their students’ questions.”

“I would like UD to become a more prestigious college where it is associated with its academics and not its party atmosphere. My education is the purpose for me attending UD and I would only like for it to improve.”
2010 Blue Hen Poll
Random “Sound Off” Comments C
Experiences
Official Web Site: https://udel.edu/~dcwilson/bluehenpoll10.html

“As a graduating senior, I am going to look back fondly at the years I spent at UD.”

“Overall, I love UD, and I am excited about the changes that are being made. I like that the school’s reputation as a place of higher learning is going up and its reputation as a party school is going down.”

“I have questioned my decision to come to this school numerous times, specifically throughout my senior year. I have had a wonderful experience here, being in two serious relationships, joining a fraternity, and doing well academically. However, some of my biggest regrets are the lack of diversity, lack of semester abroad options, lack of school spirit (makes me very upset when I watch March Madness and see the passion some students have for their school’s teams), among other things. I hope the university changes.”

“I am a graduating senior in May and could not ask for a better college experience that I had at UD. I love it here and completely satisfied with my education and friends here. I transferred here after my freshman year and it was one of the best decisions.”

“I was wait-listed before getting accepted into UD’s nursing program. This was a really big event for me, both being wait-listed and then being accepted (because it is isn’t common to be accepted, especially into something like UD’s nursing program, after being wait-listed). Therefore, I am really angered by the conduct of some of my peers. Especially in the nursing class, I know of so many people who cheat on exams and do not put any effort into obtaining their degree fairly. I do not think it’s fair that I was wait-listed, but other students can take advantage of the program.”

“I just transferred to Delaware as a freshman for the spring semester and already love it here and feel more at home. Both the students, atmosphere, and professors have made my happiness here possible.”

“I feel that for your personal experience at the University of Delaware to be optimal, that you have to make good friends and have best friends. As an art major I really do love the art department and how close it is and how intensive it is. I just feel that while I have made a lot of friends, I haven’t really made any best friends, and I know that there are others like me who feel this way, so I know I’m not alone. I guess it just depends on where you’re from. Half the school is from Long Island and New Jersey and everyone knows each other. The other half is from Delaware and being from outer state I feel as if people from Delaware really aren’t as smart as people from outer state, most people are just slow I guess, and I’m not being rude or judgmental or anything but its true. Coming from Massachusetts I knew no one and no one really made any attempt to get to know others and they just auto formed their own groups on the first day. It sucks. I’ve honestly considered transferring and very well just may.”

“I like that our school isn’t focused on politics. We all have opinions and we all are educated about the current political issues but we choose not to spend all of our time discussing and arguing about them. I feel that we are all so tolerant of other beliefs that we don’t feel the need to strike up a political debate just for the heck of it.”

“I think it important to note that majority of the student body seems to be very apathetic... about everything.”

“Overall, I know UD was the right choice for me. After reviewing the section pertaining how inquisitive and interested in learning do I find myself, I know that because of my attendance here I have developed a stronger thirst for knowledge.”

“We’re just a bunch of good kids who want an affordable education, a great campus and some of the best memories of our lives.”
"I go to school to learn, not to be in a diverse community. University Sponsored Diversity training and advertisement does little to enhance my opinion of the school. In fact I find that the more time and resources the University spends on its' campaign for diversity the less and less interested I become about it. I am here to learn, not to make friends with different elasticities, if I wanted to do so I would take it on myself to do so without the pressure of the University."

“I hate when polls ask my race. We'll be at a better place in this university when we don't have to ask race.”

“I would just like to possibly have the President come out to different religious groups such as Hillel. Also, it would be nice for Hillel to get a little more respect from the University because if Jewish students want to come here then it will be good for the University. Maybe try doing something to make Jews feel wanted such as having a kosher dining option.”

“I would like to see a larger push towards diversity. I feel that the simplest way to do this is to accept and attract more minorities--African-Americans, Latinos, East and Western Asians, and Native Americans--to the campus. Ideally, we would have a racial composition that mimics the national percentages.”

“I feel the majority of organizations cater to a specified group and neither the students or administration has no intent to diversify the college community.”

“While I do appreciate the societal belief of "diversity" and that is big in terms of the politics of drawing students but I find it as a waste of my time to have to answer questions about them. MY GOAL in college is to meet people who will change my life and those who find similar interests, but it is not to meet some quota that universities use to compare themselves with.”

“I am tired of the majority of the school being Caucasian, preppy 'Jersey girls.'”

“I love this college but no one can hide the fact that the terms diverse or global barely if at all apply to UD. Having a small African American and Chinese population is a far cry from the diversity found at other Universities.”

“I believe that the efforts for diversity in the student population are sub-par. The amount of African-American students at this university has been pegged at 5% since my freshman year and the idea of diversity that I've seen is a bigger influx of African-American students once every four years. Until this University decides that diversity is going to take more effort and resources than the minority campus organizations currently have and that diversity is a truly valued commodity at this University, we will NOT see a change. Diversity has to mean more than just admitting a higher amount of Asian students. Given that the average African-American student may require more financial aid then the average student so, in the short-run, the economic investment may outweigh the immediate return but it will help diversify this campus and get rid of the stigma that this is a white school that can easily be intimidating to an African-American youth, deterring one to even make application to this school. I believe it will take more than just a broad commitment to Delawareans and a more targeted approach towards African-American students. Thank you for listening and I pray this has not fallen on deaf ears.”

“I appreciate that you included the questions on the pursuit of equality; everyone deserves an equal chance to succeed, but they must EARN that chance, not be given a chance because of their ethnicity.”

“I feel like I have become more of a racist and more of a person for no social equality. All I have found is that minorities that are at the university often don't belong here. I have not seen it in my major but I have seen it in several other majors. They act like they have in the past, and they fail to blend in. There are certain social and cultural standards that one needs to adhere to once they become a professional.”
“Create a button to push on the corner of Cleveland Avenue & North College Avenue so pedestrians can walk across the intersection quicker.”

“I think getting rid of free printing at the library was a mistake, because teachers require so much printing of documents. If they were going to do that, they should have increased the printing allocation from 100 pages to 200 free pages. I blew through 100 pages just in winter session, and now I’m spending at least two dollars a week on printing.”

“I also think that public safety needs to worry less about people drinking, and more about keeping people safe, they should not be setting out to find underage drinking that is not their job, the job is to keep people safe from anything, not just alcohol.”

“UD needs more alcohol-free fun events that aren’t ‘dorky.’”

“I sprained my ankle earlier this semester and I realized how difficult it is to have some sort of physical handicap at this school. Ramps and elevators into buildings are not easily found. Also, some dorms don’t even have elevators and I don’t know how I would have gotten to my room if there wasn’t an elevator in my dorm. Public safety rides are nice but not convenient since they can’t tell you when they will get there. Because of the unpredictability of rides, you have to allow yourself so much extra time. Not all the buses are handicap friendly either. I also encountered many students who could not have cared less that I was on crutches, especially when boarding the bus. Professors were very helpful though. ”

“I think you need more lights around campus because I usually feel safe at night but when I walk to Willard it’s kind of scary.”

“I was surprised that there were no questions regarding financial aid. As a senior, I have seen that this is the area that UD is most disorganized, and unwelcoming. The department is hard to navigate through, if not persistent, and it feels almost like a “don’t ask, don’t tell” situation.

“As a student who lived on campus for 3 years but now must commute in, I’ve realized how unfriendly & inconvenient the campus is to commuting students. I think providing less expensive/free parking for commuting students would help. Commuting is a hassle & discourages me from coming to campus.”

“I wish the entire school year was shifted a week earlier, so that we went back a week earlier and got out a week earlier.”

“I understand that the university has to increase tuition rates and other fees in order to maintain their facilities and pay their employees, but it is becoming harder for students to afford to attend here; I am in-state and if I wasn’t graduating this year then I would have had to have taken a year off in order to work and hopefully be able to continue attending. Please try to truly keep the best interest of your students in mind when you make decisions like that; we know that it is important for everyone to be paid fairly but some of the statistics that are given anger students, such as how much President Harker is making while our cost goes up and our quality goes down.”

“University Police focus too much on jay walking and underage drinking, not serious crime.”

“I would like the gym to be open (Harry gym) on the weekends and I think that the hours should be extended at both. I think the dining hall should have healthier options and the salad bar should be improved. There should be some form of protein at the salad bar at every meal.”