

OSU Intergenerational Day Care Teaching and Research Survey Report

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Background

The Intergenerational Day Care Center Governance Group (IDCCG) requested at the August 26, 2010 meeting that a brief survey be conducted of the OSU faculty to determine their interest in utilizing an intergenerational day care center for research and teaching purposes.

Methods

A ten question on-line survey was developed using Survey Monkey and the survey link was e-mailed to 75 faculty members who were identified by the report authors as having an interest in early childhood or gerontological education and research. The mailing list was generated from the “interested parties” list created from the campus-wide world café on developing an intergenerational day care program and from personal contacts made by the report authors to researchers and educators on campus who have expertise in working with young children and older adults. Faculty members represented many disciplines such as allied medicine, arts, city planning, education, human development and family studies, optometry, medicine, nursing, speech and hearing, and social work. Twenty-four individuals completed the survey from September 29 to October 11, 2010, resulting in a 32% response rate.

Findings

Faculty seemed to view an OSU Intergenerational Day Care Center as a mechanism for furthering their teaching and research agendas. Specifically, 78% indicated they would pursue research opportunities at such a site. In addition, respondents saw the center as an avenue to assist with recruitment and retention of faculty, and community education and outreach.

<i>QUESTION</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>SUMMARY OF COMMENTS</i>
Teach classes on-site	57%	Promoting physical activity; universal design; early childhood development; computing; experiences around community; geriatric social work; caregiving; applied gerontology; aural rehabilitation
Place students for internships	61%	Education, physical activity and educational sciences, city planning, speech pathology, nursing, medical students, social work, translational research capstone projects, audiology
Conduct service learning projects	48%	“...make a memory book...joint book reading...Students can be involved in finding appropriate reading materials, developing activities that complement the story, and implementing these, evaluating the interactions.”
Pursue research projects	78%	Motor skill development and physical activity;

		financial literacy; communication-based activities, human factors/ergonomics, how this population experiences the city around them, cognitive and dementia care, child development, intergenerational interactions, institutional permeability, civic engagement, interactions, age-related changes in speech
Aid in leveraging research dollars	57%	DHHS Office for Program Research and Evaluation; Federal Child Care Bureau; NICHD; NSF; AARP; NIH; NIDCD; Alzheimer's Association; Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; MetLife
Use as recruitment tool and retention tool	67%	New faculty; geriatric fellowship candidates; work-life balance benefit; senior faculty hires "It should be, but given the history of The Ohio State University's history of being almost impossible to launch successful inter-departmental cooperative efforts (my own experience has been in the area of Gerontology) we would have a real uphill battle unless things change dramatically." "Both as a research/teaching possibility and as a work-life benefit. Many people right now are concerned either with young children or with aging parents. Showing that OSU has possibilities for both would be a great recruiting tool. (Perhaps especially for the more senior ranks of faculty who might be more likely to have elderly parents).
Act as an expert resource for families and staff	71%	Physical activity; low vision; stress and families, economic stress; speech and hearing; studio art; dementia, caregiving; early childhood education; child development; community design; gerontology; social work; aging network and services; sibling relationships; addictions; intimate partner violence; geriatric audiology
Assist with curriculum design	54%	
Community organizations hold events at center	64%	Soroptomist; Alzheimer's Association; early childhood educator professional development; Human Factors and Ergonomics Society; memory screenings; Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging; Ohio Department of Aging; Ohio Academy of Audiology
Additional opportunities	n/a	Outreach and Engagement; pilot for other sites; interdisciplinary research