

University of Rhode Island

DigitalCommons@URI

---

The Committee to Eliminate Heterosexism and  
Homophobia

Gender and Sexuality Center

---

1985

## University of Massachusetts LGBT Survey

Felicia Yeskel

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/cmte-eliminate>

---

### Recommended Citation

Yeskel, Felicia, "University of Massachusetts LGBT Survey" (1985). *The Committee to Eliminate Heterosexism and Homophobia*. Paper 3.

<https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/cmte-eliminate/3>

This Survey is brought to you for free and open access by the Gender and Sexuality Center at DigitalCommons@URI. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Committee to Eliminate Heterosexism and Homophobia by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@URI. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons-group@uri.edu](mailto:digitalcommons-group@uri.edu).



UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS  
AT AMHERST

March 27, 1985

Dear Student,

We are asking lesbian, gay and bisexual students to tell us about your lives at UMass. We want to know as much as possible about your experiences and your needs. Please complete and return this questionnaire now, if at all possible. If you cannot take the time to do it immediately, please return it either here or 99 Berkshire, no later than April 5, 1985

We are collecting this information to be used as part of a report to the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs describing the current campus climate for lesbians, gays and bisexuals. This report will make a series of recommendations aimed at improving the campus services for this population.

Your questionnaire will only be seen by members of the research team and your responses will be kept confidential.

Thank you for your willingness to fill out this questionnaire. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about this survey. I can be reached at 99 Berkshire House, telephone number 545-0230.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Felice Yeskel".

Felice Yeskel  
Human Relations  
Planner & Advocate

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION: Write the number of your answer on the line to the left of the question.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Gender      1. Female      2. Male
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Age      1. 17-18      4. 23-24  
                  2. 19-20      5. 25-29  
                  3. 21-22      6. 30+
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Where do you live?  
1. residence hall on campus  
2. fraternity/sorority  
3. off-campus  
4. Family Housing
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. If you live on campus where?  
1. Northeast  
2. Sylvan  
3. Orchard Hill  
4. Central  
5. Southwest
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. If on-campus, do you live in a  
1. single room  
2. double room  
3. triple room
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Your ethnic/racial background:  
1. Caucasian  
2. Black (other than Hispanic surname)  
3. Hispanic  
4. Asian/Pacific Islander  
5. Native American  
6. Other \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Your religious/cultural background:  
1. Catholic  
2. Jewish  
3. Protestant  
4. Other \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. What is your student status?  
1. UMass undergraduate student  
2. UMass graduate student  
3. Five-College student  
4. Other \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. How many semesters have you attended UMass (include the current semester)? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. What is your major field of study? \_\_\_\_\_

SEXUAL ORIENTATION

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. How do you define your sexual orientation?

1. lesbian
2. gay
3. bisexual
4. heterosexual
5. uncertain
6. other \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. Which of the following most closely describes the extent to which others, in general, know of your sexual orientation?

1. I am "out" to no one.
2. I am "out" to only a select few.
3. I am "out" to about half the people I know.
4. I am "out" to a majority of people.
5. I am "out" to just about everyone.

Have you ever made use of any of the following supports in your process of "coming out" or dealing with your sexual orientation?

- Put 1. if yes  
2. if no

- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Lesbian, Bisexual, and Gay Counseling Collective
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. LBGA (formerly PGA)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. LBGA Dances
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Lesbian Union Office (LU)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. PGA or LU Rap Group
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Residence Hall Staff (R.A., D.A., Head of Residence or R.D.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Counselor at Mental Health
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Lesbian/Gay Awareness Trainer
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Staff or program at Everywoman's Center
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Friends at UMass
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. Friends elsewhere
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. Books
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. Professors
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. Classes
- \_\_\_\_\_ 17. Health Education
- \_\_\_\_\_ 18. Private Therapist
- \_\_\_\_\_ 19. Other \_\_\_\_\_

GENERAL HARASSMENT/DISCRIMINATION

Please put a [1 if yes] on the line to the left of the question.  
[2 if no ]

As a lesbian, gay man, or bisexual have you ever been, because of your sexual orientation?

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. verbally harassed or threatened over the phone
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 2. verbally harassed or threatened anywhere on campus
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 3. verbally harassed or threatened in the surrounding community
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 4. physically confronted or assaulted
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 5. sexually harassed or assaulted
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 6. threatened with "exposure" of your sexual orientation to people who didn't know
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 7. subjected to viewing anti-lesbian/gay graffiti
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 8. subjected to hearing anti-lesbian/gay jokes or slurs
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 9. asked to leave (or pressured into leaving) housing
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 10. penalized in a class (lowered grade, less attention)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 11. penalized in a work situation (fired, not hired, not re-hired, negative treatment from supervisor or co-workers).
12. If yes, where has this occurred?

Use this scale to respond to the following questions:

- 1. often hassled
- 2. sometimes hassled
- 3. not hassled
- 4. no basis for judgement

Because of your sexual orientation, have you ever been: treated unfairly, intimidated by someone, ignored, pressured into silence, etc., while using the following services at UMass?

Administrative

- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. Admissions
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. Financial Aid
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. Registrar
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. Bursar
- \_\_\_\_\_ 17. Dean of Students Office
- \_\_\_\_\_ 18. Other \_\_\_\_\_

Academic

- \_\_\_\_\_ 19. Library
- \_\_\_\_\_ 20. Advising
- \_\_\_\_\_ 21. Counseling and Career Development
- \_\_\_\_\_ 22. New Students Program
- \_\_\_\_\_ 23. Other \_\_\_\_\_

GENERAL HARASSMENT/DISCRIMINATION

Employment

- \_\_\_\_\_ 24. on campus
- \_\_\_\_\_ 25. off campus

Student Services

- \_\_\_\_\_ 26. Health Services
- \_\_\_\_\_ 27. Mental Health
- \_\_\_\_\_ 28. Campus Police
- \_\_\_\_\_ 29. University Store
- \_\_\_\_\_ 30. Gyms
- \_\_\_\_\_ 31. On-Campus Housing
- \_\_\_\_\_ 32. Off-Campus Housing
- \_\_\_\_\_ 33. Health Education
- \_\_\_\_\_ 34. BCP
- \_\_\_\_\_ 35. CCEBMS
- \_\_\_\_\_ 36. Everywoman's Center
- \_\_\_\_\_ 37. Office of Handicapped Student Affairs
- \_\_\_\_\_ 38. Student Government Association
- \_\_\_\_\_ 39. Collegian
- \_\_\_\_\_ 40. Other \_\_\_\_\_

If you were the victim of discrimination or harassment would you go to any of the following? Use the following scale to answer this question.

- 1. would go
- 2. have gone, would go again
- 3. have gone, would not go again
- 4. would not go

- \_\_\_\_\_ 41. Residence Hall Staff (R.A., D.A., H.R., R.D.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 42. Campus Police
- \_\_\_\_\_ 43. Amherst Police
- \_\_\_\_\_ 44. Dean of Students Office
- \_\_\_\_\_ 45. Lesbian/Gay Awareness Trainer
- \_\_\_\_\_ 46. PGA/LU/Counseling Collective
- \_\_\_\_\_ 47. Everywoman's Center
- \_\_\_\_\_ 48. Ombuds Office
- \_\_\_\_\_ 49. Faculty
- \_\_\_\_\_ 50. Friends
- \_\_\_\_\_ 51. Other \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 52. Were you aware that harassment and discrimination, on the basis of sexual orientation, are prohibited at UMass?

- 1. Yes      2. No

ACADEMICS

Using the following scale, please answer the following questions.

1. a great extent
2. some extent
3. not very much
4. not at all
5. no basis for judgment

To what extent are the following true?

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Lesbian, gay, or bisexual issues are covered in your courses.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. This coverage has been adequate.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. You have wanted to work on an academic project related to lesbian, gay, or bisexual issues.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. UMass provides adequate library resources about lesbian, gay or bisexual issues.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Faculty are supportive of an academic pursuit of gay, lesbian, and bisexual issues.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Your faculty have been knowledgeable about gay, lesbian and/or bisexual issues.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. You feel safe being "out" in your classes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. You fear being harassed or discriminated against on the basis of your sexual orientation by your professors.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. You fear being harassed or discriminated against by your classmates on the basis of your sexual orientation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Your professors treat lesbian, gay, and bisexual issues as legitimate topics for intellectual inquiry and discussions.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. You have felt the need to censor yourself in speech, writing, or actions in your academic life in addressing lesbian, gay, and bisexual issues.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. The academic advising process is responsive to your needs as a lesbian, gay or bisexual student.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. In your opinion, courses that focus on gay, lesbian, bisexual issues should:
  1. be offered routinely and I would take them.
  2. be offered routinely but I would not take them.
  3. not be offered.

STUDENT SERVICES

A variety of campus agencies, offices, organizations, and groups exist at UMass to meet the needs of students. Please use the following scale to evaluate how the services listed below have met your needs around issues of your sexual orientation.

1. very adequately
2. adequately
3. somewhat inadequately
4. very inadequately
5. no basis for judgment

- |       |   |
|-------|---|
| _____ | 1. Mental Health  |
| _____ | 2. Health Services  |
| _____ | 3. Campus Police  |
| _____ | 4. Academic Advising  |
| _____ | 5. Financial Aid  |
| _____ | 6. Dean of Students Office  |
| _____ | 7. Counseling and Career Development  |
| _____ | 8. Ombuds Office  |
| _____ | 9. Legal Services Office  |
| _____ | 10. Hillel  |
| _____ | 11. Newman Center   |
| _____ | 12. Lesbian/Gay Awareness Trainers  |
| _____ | 13. Everywoman's Center   |
| _____ | 14. Bilingual Collegiate Program (BCP)  |
| _____ | 15. Committee for the Collegiate Education of Black and Other<br>Minority Students (CCEBMS) |
| _____ | 16. Office of Handicapped Student Affairs   |
| _____ | 17. Placement Office  |
| _____ | 18. Peer Sex Education Program  |
| _____ | 19. Health Education  |
| _____ | 20. Student Government Association (SGA)  |
| _____ | 21. Graduate Student Senate   |
| _____ | 22. <u>Collegian</u>  |
| _____ | 23. New Students Program  |
| _____ | 24. Other _____   |

HOUSING

Please answer the following if you have ever lived on-campus at UMass. If you have not lived on-campus here, please skip to page ten.

- |       |   |
|-------|---|
| _____ | 1. In a UMass residence hall have you ever felt any of the following from your roommate due to your sexual orientation? |
|       | 1. harassed/ostracized  |
|       | 2. ignored/made to feel invisible   |
|       | 3. both of the above  |
|       | 4. neither of the above   |



HOUSING

- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. In a UMass residence hall have you ever felt any of the following from other residents due to your sexual orientation?
1. harassed/ostracized
  2. ignored/made to feel invisible
  3. both of the above
  4. neither of the above
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. In a UMass residence hall have you ever felt any of the following from the residence hall staff?
1. harassed/ostracized
  2. ignored/made to feel invisible
  3. both of the above
  4. none of the above
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. In the residence halls, have you been subjected to "queer jokes"?
1. yes
  2. no
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. In the residence halls, have you been subjected to anti-lesbian/gay slurs?
1. yes
  2. no
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. In the residence halls, have you been pressured into silence about your sexual orientation?
1. yes
  2. no
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. In the residence halls, have you been the target of vandalism against your room or personal property?
1. yes
  2. no
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. If you answered yes to any of the above questions, did you ever report this to anyone?
1. yes
  2. no
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. If yes, to what agency or person did you report it? Were you satisfied with the response?

HOUSING

Use the following scale to respond to the next questions.

- 1. always
- 2. sometimes
- 3. rarely
- 4. never

How included did you feel in the UMass residence hall activities as a lesbian/gay man/bisexual?

- 11. social activities
- 12. educational activities
- 13. cultural activities
- 14. athletic activities

To what extent did you participate in the following residence hall activities?

- 15. social activities
- 16. educational activities
- 17. cultural activities
- 18. athletic activities

19. Do you believe your residence hall staff is sensitive to gay/lesbian/bisexual concerns?

- 1. yes, have seen evidence of it
- 2. yes, but no actual incident(s) observed
- 3. do not think so
- 4. no, based on actual incident(s) observed



4. Can you relate any particularly good experience(s) you have had here at UMass in dealing with issues of sexual orientation?

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

We would like your input in order to improve campus climate with regards to lesbians, gays, and bisexuals.

1. If you were to design campus facilities, services, or programs to meet the personal, social, emotional, recreational, educational, and cultural needs of lesbians, gay men, and bisexuals at UMass, what would they be?
2. What improvements or changes would you recommend in existing facilities, services, or programs?

3. If a central office were to be established for lesbians, gay men, and bisexuals at UMass, what services or programs would you like to see it provide?