Teaching Diversity and Justice: Priorities of Social Work Educators

Special Topic on Diversity and Social & Economic Justice Report
2017 CSWE Annual Survey of Social Work Programs
OVERVIEW

The CSWE Annual Survey of Social Work Programs collects information for use by the social work education community in research, program planning, and advocacy work. The 2017 CSWE Annual Survey of Social Work Programs included a special topic section on diversity and justice education created in partnership with the CSWE Center for Diversity and Social & Economic Justice. The purpose of the special topic was to leverage the input of all social work programs on a national level in order to further shape and strengthen the future of the profession and of diversity and social, environmental, and economic justice education.

A total of 862 programs, 518 baccalaureate, 255 master’s, 12 practice doctoral, and 77 PhD, were invited to complete the annual survey. The surveys were completed online by program directors, deans or other designated individuals. Data were collected from November 2017 to March 2018, with an overall response rate ranging from 83% to 92% across programs. The special topic section consisted of 10 questions, 8 close-ended, with a response rate of 83% to 85%, and two open-ended, with response rates of 72% and 36% (see Appendix for the 10 special topic questions and respective response rate data). This report provides aggregate data from the four programs. Responses across the programs were generally consistent, with the exception of more of an emphasis on research and somewhat less on practice by PhD programs.
What are one or two activities or approaches in diversity and social justice education that your program is most proud of?
What are one or two activities or approaches in diversity and social justice education that your program is most proud of? (cont.)
What needs to happen next around diversity and justice?
What needs to happen next around diversity and justice? (cont.)
In what areas would your program most benefit from education resources for teaching diversity and justice (top three choices)?
In what areas would your program most benefit from resources for enhancing the learning environment around diversity and justice (top three choices)?

- Diversity and social justice infusion across the curriculum (55%)
- Faculty development (54%)
- Faculty and student diversity (47%)
- Recognizing microaggressions and creating inclusive classrooms (46%)
- Practice opportunities in field (32%)
- Other (3%)
Where do you currently go for resources or information on diversity and social justice (top three choices)?

- Social justice organizations: 63%
- Web search engines: 54%
- News sources: 50%
- Specialized web sites (e.g., Teaching Tolerance): 47%
- Social media: 19%
- Other: 8%
What resource delivery methods would most benefit your program (top three choices)?

- Online and multimedia resources: 70%
- Clearinghouse of syllabi/teaching modules: 70%
- Web-based trainings (e.g., online short courses, webinars): 60%
- Quarterly Newsletter from the Diversity Center (emailed to faculty): 30%
- Updates in Full Circle*: 5%
- Other: 1%

*CSWE e-newsletter, now Canvas
APPENDIX

Special Topic on Diversity and Social & Economic Justice
Administered to Undergraduate, Masters, and Doctoral Programs
Survey Questions and Data on Response Rates

This year’s special topic section was created in partnership with the CSWE Center for Diversity and Social & Economic Justice. The Center is working to leverage the input of all social work programs on a national level in order to further shape and strengthen the future of the profession and of diversity and social, environmental, and economic justice. The Center for Diversity and Social & Economic Justice would like to hear from you regarding resources needed to support teaching in these areas. We look forward to your input.

1. What are one or two activities or approaches in diversity and social justice education that your program is most proud of? Please give an example.
   
   Response rate: 83.4%, Completion rate: 75.5%

2. What curriculum resources for teaching social justice do you believe would serve your program best? [Please select at most 3 options.]

   o Information on current issues
   o Ways to become involved in disrupting injustice
   o Tools to promote awareness (e.g., how to write op-eds)
   o Ways to help social work clients affected by acts of injustice (i.e., information, resources) Content on specific areas of oppression
   o Other (Please specify)

   Response rate: 93.3%, Completion rate: 84.6%
3. What curriculum resources for teaching diversity do you believe would serve your program best? [Please select at most 3 options.]
   - Content on diverse cultures (world views, social identities, expression, “strategies for surviving and thriving”)
   - New research-informed interventions with diverse groups
   - Responsive practice with diverse communities
   - Innovative teaching methods (e.g., spoken word, narratives)
   - Practice with specific diverse groups
   - Other (Please specify)

Response rate: 93.3%, Completion rate: 84.6%

4. Is your program interested in resources to prepare students for any of the following practice roles in diversity and social justice? [Please select at most 3 options.]
   - Civic engagement/policy practice
   - Community organizing
   - Advocacy (cause and case)
   - Models of multicultural practice
   - Diversity and inclusion management in organizational settings
   - Other (Please specify)

Response rate: 93.3%, Completion rate: 82.7%

5. Is your program interested in resources to prepare students for any of the following areas of scholarship (i.e., research and knowledge building) in diversity and social justice? [Please select at most 3 options.]
   - Radical/critical perspectives
   - Strategies for social change
   - Multicultural practice
6. What teaching strategies do you believe would be most beneficial for enhancing students’ learning of diversity and social justice? [Please select at most 3 options.]
   o Discussing controversial issues
   o Developing critical thinking
   o Supporting critical self-reflection
   o Experiential learning
   o Incorporating the use of technology
   o Other (Please specify)

   Response rate: 92.1%, Completion rate: 83.4%

7. What areas do you believe would be most beneficial for your program’s learning environment in support of diversity and social justice education? [Please select at most 3 options.]
   o Faculty development
   o Faculty and student diversity
   o Recognizing microaggressions and creating inclusive classrooms
   o Practice opportunities in field
   o Diversity and social justice infusion across the curriculum
   o Other (Please specify)

   Response rate: 91.5%, Completion rate: 82.9%
8. What resource delivery methods would benefit your program most? [Please select at most 3 options.]
   - Quarterly Newsletter from the Diversity Center (emailed to faculty)
   - Updates in Full Circle
   - Clearinghouse of syllabi/teaching modules
   - Online and multimedia resources
   - Web-based trainings (e.g., online short courses, webinars)
   - Other (Please specify)
   
   Response rate: 90.9%, Completion rate: 82.4%

9. Where do you currently go for resources/information on diversity and social justice? [Please select at most 3 options.]
   - Social justice organizations
   - News sources
   - Web search engines
   - Social media
   - Specialized web sites (e.g., Teaching Tolerance)
   - Other (Please specify)
   
   Response rate: 91.5%, Completion rate: 82.9%

10. Please use this space as an opportunity to communicate what you believe needs to happen next regarding issues of diversity and social, economic, and environmental justice.

   Response rate: 39.7%, Completion rate: 36.0%

NOTE: The response rate is the # respondents who answered the question/# respondents who responded to the survey; the completion rate is the # respondents who answered the question/# respondents who were invited to complete the survey.