

# Student Voice Project

## Speaker's Notes

**Subject: Progress on Inclusion Efforts**

**Listening Session: 4/6/2021**

**Prompt 1:** *Are you aware of specific commitments NDSU has made this year in regards to improving inclusion?*

Overall, students are aware of many ongoing conversations, and are waiting to see the results. They hear the word "inclusion" used much more often, but can't point to many specific efforts or outcomes. Several groups referenced the President's updates and the campus notifications of bias-related incidents. These communication efforts are appreciated. The Crisis Task Force and the Student Voice Project were mentioned by name. Several organizations are aware that mandatory equity training in some form is being developed. One group was aware that Residence Life recently updated its mission statement. One group felt that veterans have been largely left out of the DEI conversations thus far. The general consensus is that students are aware of increased institutional focus on DEI issues, are aware of numerous committees/working groups, and are just waiting to see what tangible changes come of it all.

**Prompt 2:** *What signs have you seen that indicate the NDSU community is working to be more inclusive?*

Answers here included increased communication, protests, some cultural events, committee formations, more conversations, the Crisis Task Force, messaging on the TV monitors around campus, open mics, the BLMNDSU organization, and increased support for multicultural initiatives and issues.

**Prompt 3:** *Is there information you're still wanting or waiting for?*

Students want to learn more about progress of the committees and groups on campus – what's going to be different? There's a general sense of still waiting for action and descriptions of more specific changes and goals. One group would like to see a bigger push to include student veteran voices. Another wants to hear more from administration about repercussions for bias-related incidents and the precedents set.

**Prompt 4:** *Where do students in your organization feel most included on campus?*

All groups expressed feeling included within their own organizations. Some organizations also spoke about feeling included in their academic programs, classes, small groups, and campus housing. Specific areas of campus included the Office of Multicultural Programs, the VET classroom, and TRIO Student Support Services. Welcome Week was also identified as a time period when people felt included.