

Thinking Globally and/or Acting Locally? Community Service and Global Civic Engagement Orientations of Berkeley Undergraduates

Civic and Academic Engagement in the
Multiversity All UC Symposium
Center for Studies in Higher Education
University of California, Berkeley
June 10, 2005

Gregg Thomson, Director
Office of Student Research

The Research Question

- We're concerned that are students both have opportunities for community service and are prepared to be global citizens. What, then, is the relationship between between a Community Service Orientation (CSO) and a Global Civic Orientation (GCO)?
- How does examination of these two orientations advance our understanding of undergraduate civic engagement?

Berkeley UCUES Spring 2005: An Overview

- Spring 2005: only the Berkeley campus administered UCUES.
- Full census approach, completing data collection this month
- Projecting an overall response rate slightly greater than fifty percent
- Core question plus module design
 - all respondents complete a set of basic questions on the undergraduate experience and then one of five specialized modules (academic engagement, civic engagement, student services, student development, and “wild card”).

Berkeley UCUES Spring 2005

- First look at the Spring 2005 Berkeley results for the Civic Engagement module; already have a 50% response rate and over 2100 completed surveys.
- Example of how our UCUES data easily lends itself to addressing research questions
- Much more data to examine:
 - What do you think are the biggest problems or issues facing the country?
 - The term “social justice” means different things to different people. Please explain what the term “social justice” means to you.

Community Service Orientation

CSO Index

- Composite measure of past, present (including hours per week spent), and anticipated community service
- Importance of having opportunities for community service.
- These two measures have a 0.48 correlation.
- CSO Index scored 0-12

Global Civic Orientation

GCO Index

- Composite measure of frequency of use of Internet news sources, national television news and reading of a daily newspaper
- Importance of being well-informed about world issues
- Frequency of discussion of current events or news with friends
- Correlations among these three measures are 0.34, 0.36 and 0.42.
- GCO index scored 1-18

CSO and GCO Appear to be Separate and Largely Independent Forms of Civic Engagement

- Overall correlation +0.12.
- Consistent across and within a large number of student subgroups (year in school, various demographic categories, and political subgroups)
- Exception: family income
 - for low and especially middle-income students, the CSO-GCO correlation is stronger, while for high-income students the correlation is actually negative (-0.01).

Correlation of CSO & GCO by Income

- Under \$50,000 +0.14
- \$50,000-124,999 +0.19
- \$125,000 and up -0.01

Correlates of CSO & GCO

- Gender: ++ CSO
- Year in School: + GCO
- UC GPA: no simple correlation
- Income: - CSO + GCO
- Ethnicity: Both CSO & GCO (slide to follow)
- Field of Study: Both CSO & GCO (slide to follow)

Ethnicity and Mean CSO & GCO Scores

<u>CSO</u>	<u>GCO</u>
8.0 African American	12.3 White
7.5 Chicano/Latino	11.8 African American
7.0 Asian	11.7 Chicano/Latino
6.3 White	10.7 Asian

Selected Majors & Mean CSO Score

8.0 Political Science	6.8 Double Major
7.9 Psychology	6.5 Economics
7.9 Molecular & Cell Bio	6.1 Architecture
6.9 English	5.4 Mechanical Eng.
6.9 Undecided	5.2 EECS

Selected Major & Mean GCO Score

13.8 Political Science	10.8 Economics
12.2 English	10.8 EECS
12.2 Double Major	10.7 Mechanical Eng.
11.3 Psychology	10.7 Molecular & Cell Bio
11.2 Undecided	10.5 Architecture

An Exploratory Typology of the
Community Service and Global
Civic Orientations

The Exploratory Typology

	GCO:Low (<9)	GCO: High (>13)
CSO: High (>8)	n=165 8%	n=226 11%
CSO: Low (<5)	n=190 9%	n=145 7%

% Income \$125,000 and up

	GCO: Low	GCO: High
CSO: High	24	24
CSO: Low	19	41

% Female

	GCO: Low	GCO: High
CSO: High	75	69
CSO: Low	45	43

% White

	GCO: Low	GCO: High
CSO: High	20	38
CSO: Low	31	50

% Asian

	GCO: Low	GCO: High
CSO: High	58	29
CSO: Low	49	25

% Underrepresented Minority

	GCO: Low	GCO: High
CSO: High	15	18
CSO: Low	5	8

ACADEMIC ENGAGEMENT

Course Where Professor Knows My Name - % Somewhat Often +

	GCO: Low	GCO: High
CSO: High	22	50
CSO: Low	26	43

Faculty Advising on Academic Matters - % Satisfied

	GCO: Low	GCO: High
CSO: High	51	71
CSO: Low	50	71

SATISFACTION LEVEL

% Satisfied with Value of UC Education for Amount Paid

	GCO: Low	GCO: High
CSO: High	76	85
CSO: Low	72	76

Overall Satisfaction - % Academic, Social, Overall

	GCO: Low	GCO: High
CSO: High	<i>72, 77, 86</i>	<i>89, 84, 91</i>
CSO: Low	<i>78, 61, 79</i>	<i>85, 67, 82</i>

% Would Choose Berkeley Again

	GCO: Low	GCO: High
CSO: High	85	91
CSO: Low	79	82

CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT

% in Student Government

	GCO: Low	GCO: High
CSO: High	10	23
CSO: Low	6	16

% in Fraternity or Sorority

	GCO: Low	GCO: High
CSO: High	24	13
CSO: Low	8	5

% in Campus Club or Organization

	GCO: Low	GCO: High
CSO: High	76	77
CSO: Low	35	46

% Voted in Health Care Referendum

	GCO: Low	GCO: High
CSO: High	38	60
CSO: Low	41	42

% Well Informed about Campus Issues

	GCO: Low	GCO: High
CSO: High	30	68
CSO: Low	23	41

SELF-RATING OF SKILLS

Interpersonal Skills, Leadership Skills -- % “Very Good” or better

	GCO: Low	GCO: High
CSO: High	32, 46	60, 64
CSO: Low	23, 29	53, 53

POLITICAL BEHAVIOR

Is the Country Headed in the Right Direction? % Yes, No, Don't Know

	GCO: Low	GCO: High
CSO: High	6, 45, 50	8, 72, 20
CSO: Low	10, 42, 48	8, 81, 11

Political Views: % Liberal (+ Far Left), % Strong Views

	GCO: Low	GCO: High
CSO: High	41, 33	67, 75
CSO: Low	33, 22	66, 80

% Attending Meetings or Rallies at Least Occasionally

	GCO: Low	GCO: High
CSO: High	5	53
CSO: Low	3	22

% Voted in Last Presidential Election

	GCO: Low	GCO: High
CSO: High	69	95
CSO: Low	68	88

Implications for Policy and Further Research

- Fostering civic engagement: One strategy or two?
- Harnessing the power of UCUES, e.g., longitudinal analyses of the development of civic engagement orientation and its effects
- Coordinating or triangulating UCUES with other data sources and studies