The Center for the Study of Diversity (CSD) requests research proposals for access to the Diverse Learning Environments (DLE) data.

The DLE survey, created by the Higher Education Research Institute (HERI), was administered at University of Delaware in Spring 2016 through the Institutional Research (IR) office. It assessed undergraduate students’ perceptions of campus climate, inclusion, sexual misconduct, and their own academic outcomes related to diversity.

Due to the breadth of analytical data available, CSD invites faculty, full-time staff, and graduate students who are interested in diversity-related research to submit a short research proposal in order to gain access to a limited portion of available data.

The mission of the Center for the Study of Diversity is to promote academic research and scholarship that facilitate dialogues about and understanding of the social and academic impact of diversity. The Center brings a broadly interdisciplinary focus to its projects, programs, and publications. Some of CSD’s goals are to:

1) Generate and transmit scholarship about specific diversity-related issues both at UD and beyond;
2) Fund faculty and graduate student research and projects related to diversity;
3) Communicate the results of the Center’s research and scholarship;
4) Assist the Vice Provost for Diversity in identifying diversity objectives and information needs for the University of Delaware.

**Proposal Requirements:**

The request for proposals to use the DLE data align with these goals to communicate diversity-related scholarship that address UD-specific and broader higher education objectives.

Proposals should:

1) Address UD-specific diversity related issue that connects to diversity at-large
2) Present clear research question(s) and methodological plan for analysis
3) Explain contribution to diversity-related field and implications of findings for UD and beyond

Technical requirements for the research proposal are listed below.

The **research narrative** should contain the following sections:
1) Objective/purpose of research project
2) A brief literature review that connects to an overarching theoretical framework
3) List of specific DLE variables that will address research question(s)- maximum 1 page
4) Clear data analysis plan
5) Implications of potential findings
6) Narrative should be 3-pages maximum, single-spaced, 12-point font; the variables list will not be included in this page requirement
7) APA-style references; the references page will not be included in this page requirement

Additional requirements should include the following:

1) 1-page maximum statement of relevant research experience
2) 2-page maximum curriculum vitae highlighting relevant experience
3) Letter of project support from supervisor (if graduate student)

Timeline:
Proposal submissions will be received on a rolling basis starting January 8, 2018, with a monthly peer-review of the proposals. Researchers can email the proposals to CSD’s program coordinator, Lisa Schulz at lschulz@udel.edu.

Researchers will be notified of proposal acceptance/rejection via email. Researchers will have up to 30 days to submit and obtain IRB approval for their analysis and reporting protocol. Upon submission of the IRB approval letter, the researcher will receive a UD Dropbox link to the de-identified data with the research-specific variables. From the date of the receipt of the data, researchers will have 6 months to complete the project and provide a report to CSD.

Reporting Guidelines:
Applicants who receive funding must agree to report on their work from time to time for the Center for the Study of Diversity community. By accepting DLE data for analysis from CSD, awardees agree to:

1) Submit a two-page report on research planning, progress, and outcomes (if applicable) within three months of receiving DLE data.
2) Participate in the Diversity Brown Bag Series by giving one talk and attending at least one other Brown Bag session per semester for the duration of the data award.
3) Submit a final six-page report within six months of the initial data award date.

Additional Resources:
Interested researchers can access the full DLE variables list here. This variables list should be used to pick project specific variables for the proposal.

The DLE survey itself can be previewed at https://uclaed.us.qualtrics.com/jfe/preview/SV_9yptSP1sNF2r5Rj.
The DLE report can be found on the CSD website at [https://www.csd.udel.edu/publications-communication/campus-climate](https://www.csd.udel.edu/publications-communication/campus-climate).

**Principal Points of Contact:**

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