Student-Campus fit: What Students Need, and What They Get

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This study is examining the fit of college students with their university. It is guided by person-environment (P-E) fit theory, which is based on the assumption that one's psychosocial environment can affect well-being and performance. Good fits between people and their environments are thought to promote health and contribute to morale, satisfaction, motivation, working capacity, and feelings of mastery and self-confidence. We assessed the following student-campus fit factors: physical environment (e.g., campus layout, aesthetics, geographical location), student body, faculty, academic climate, and support systems. We also measured student proactivity as a potentially influential moderator variable. Outcomes (i.e., dependent variables) measured included institutional identification, satisfaction, academic success, and emotional well-being. Data was collected, using a questionnaire, from 224 students at IPFW and IUPUI. Our preliminary analysis of the data has focused on students' needs and the extent to which these needs are being met by their campus. This presentation will discuss fit factors considered most important by IPFW students, factors which IPFW rated most highly on, the values held most important by IPFW students, and the relationship between student proactivity and satisfaction.