



Realize. It **starts**
with you.

November 14, 2014

Community Research Unit

CES National Partnership

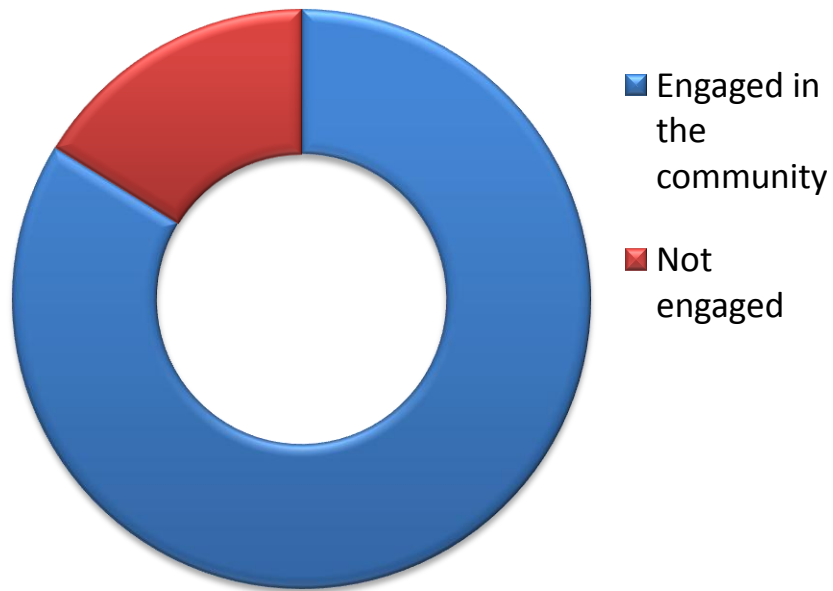
“As One Who Serves”

A Reality Check



We asked how the U of R is doing in...

1. Definition and vision
2. Faculty support
3. Student support
4. Community support
5. Institutional leadership
6. Community-engaged scholarship (CES)



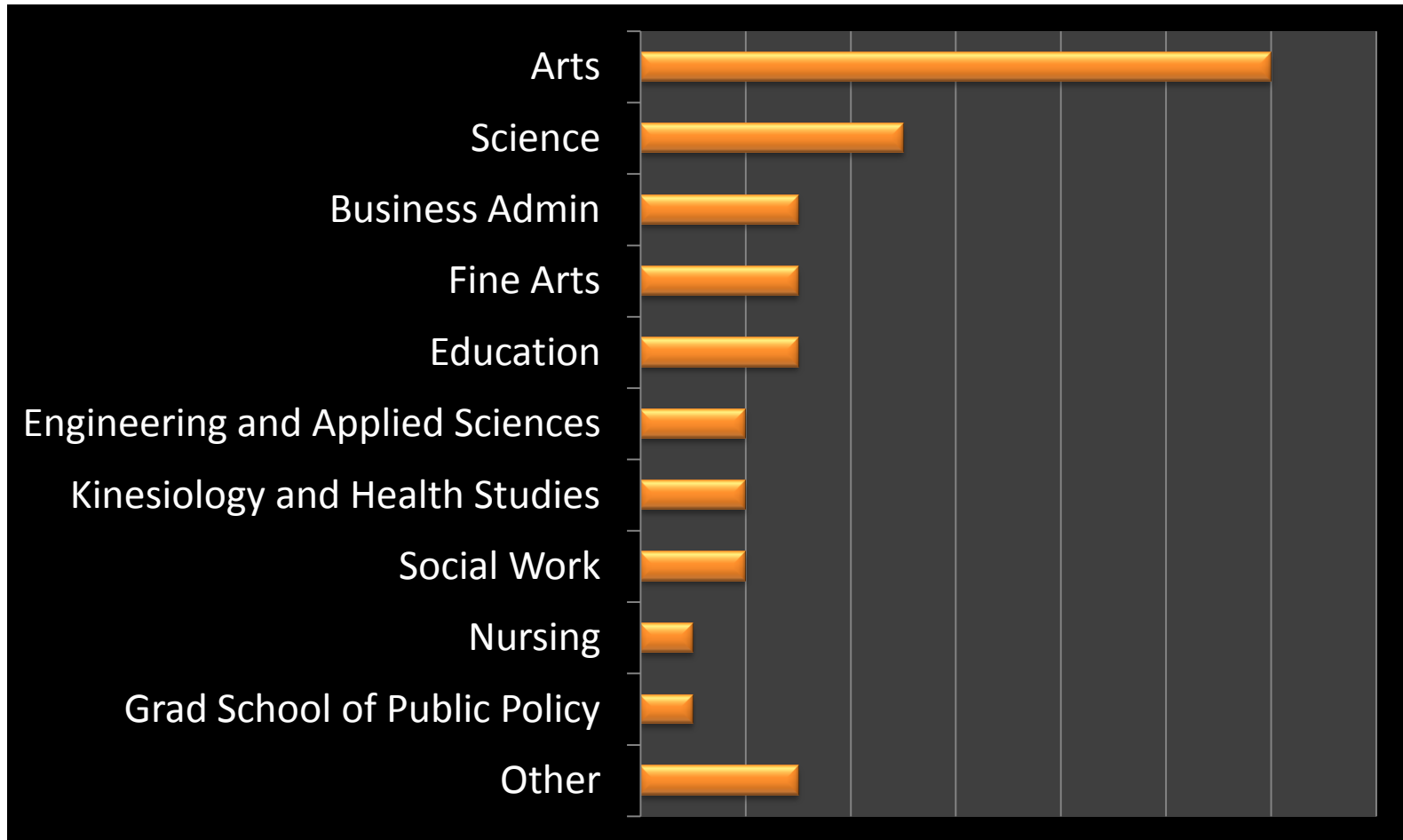
Who answered

11.8% of permanent faculty.

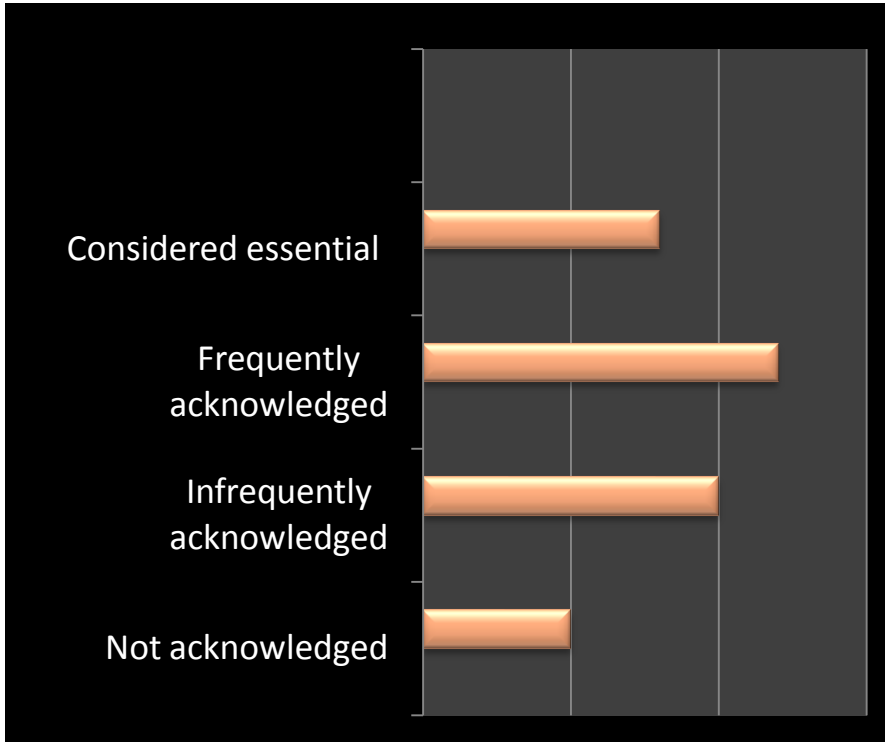
Mostly middle-aged and fairly senior in rank and years of service.

More men (54%) than women (46%).

The great majority (84%) self-identified as being community-engaged.



Importance to student education



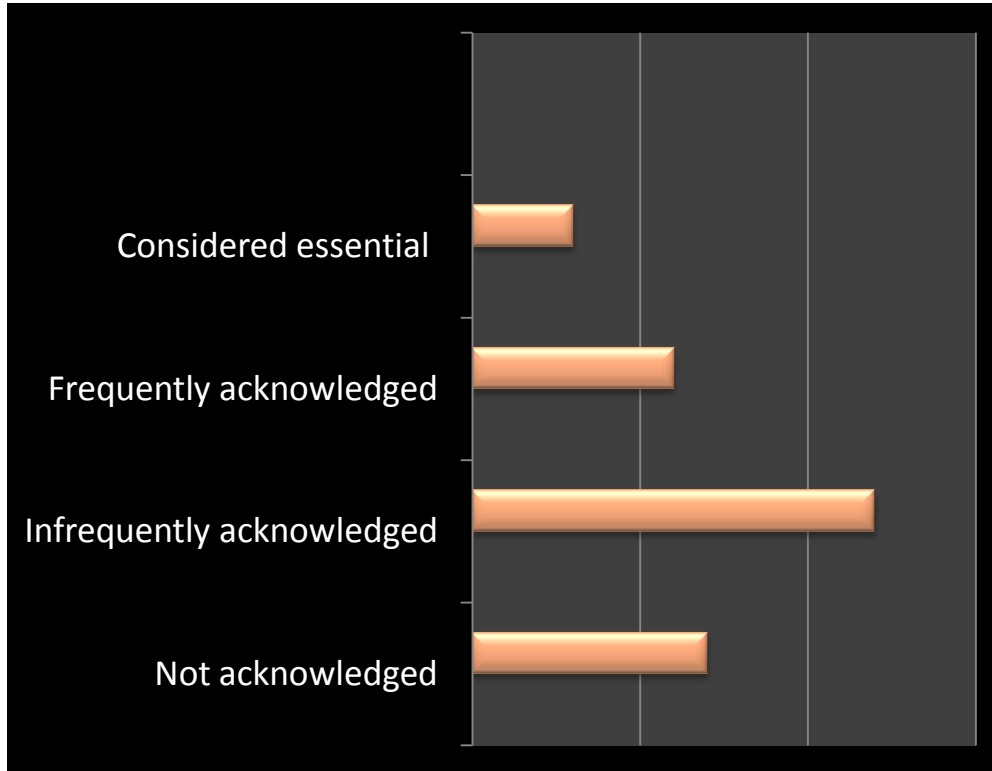
Our vision

Are we walking the talk?

Most said they felt:

- Engagement is valued – but not explicitly used or promoted by our leaders.
- Mixed feelings about how/if student engagement is acknowledged as important to the education of students.

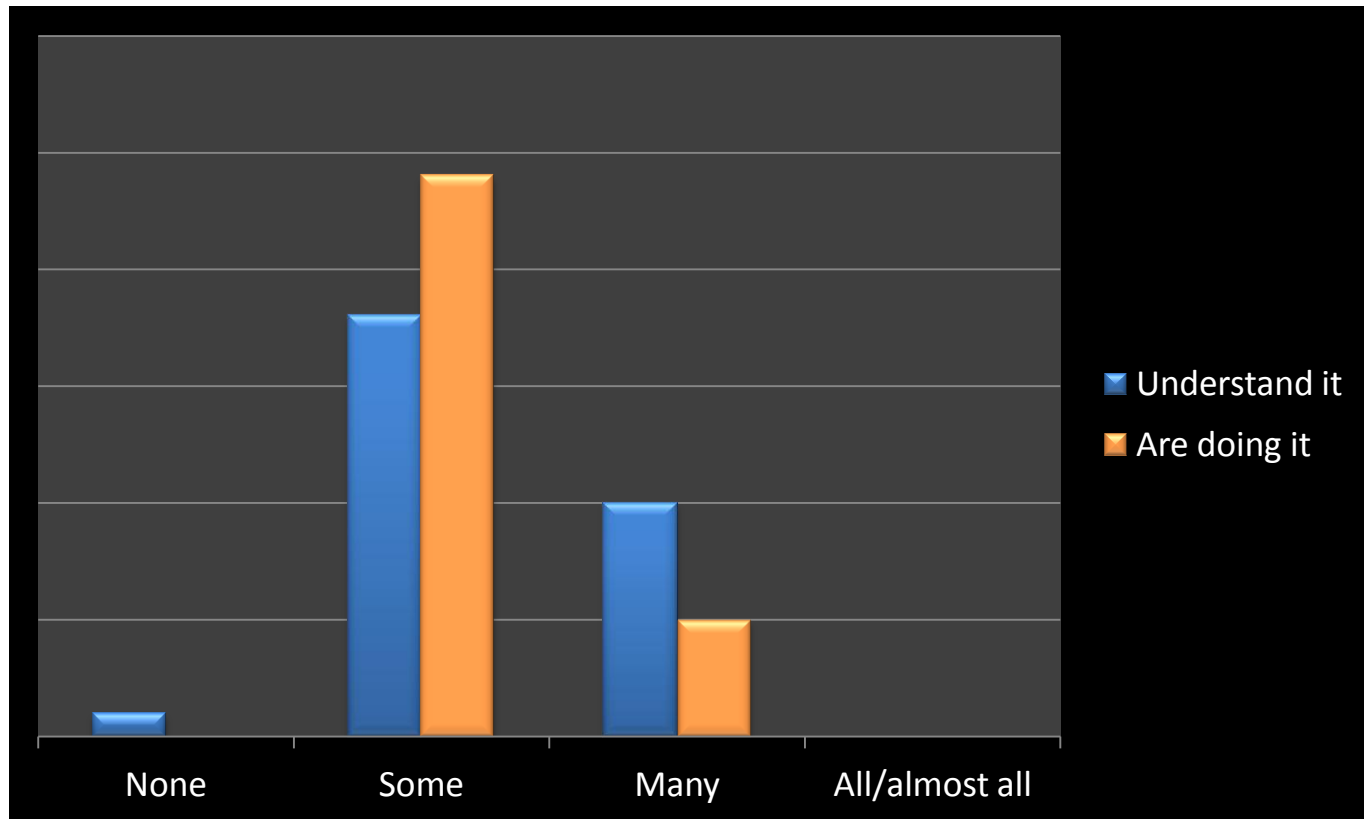
Importance to university research



Feelings about community-engaged research were stronger.

- Most felt it was infrequently or not acknowledged as an important part of the university's overall vision.

Faculty Support



Why would this be?

Respondents said...

- Faculty are not provided with support to become familiar with engagement practices.
- Institutional supports to promote engagement are non-existent or low.

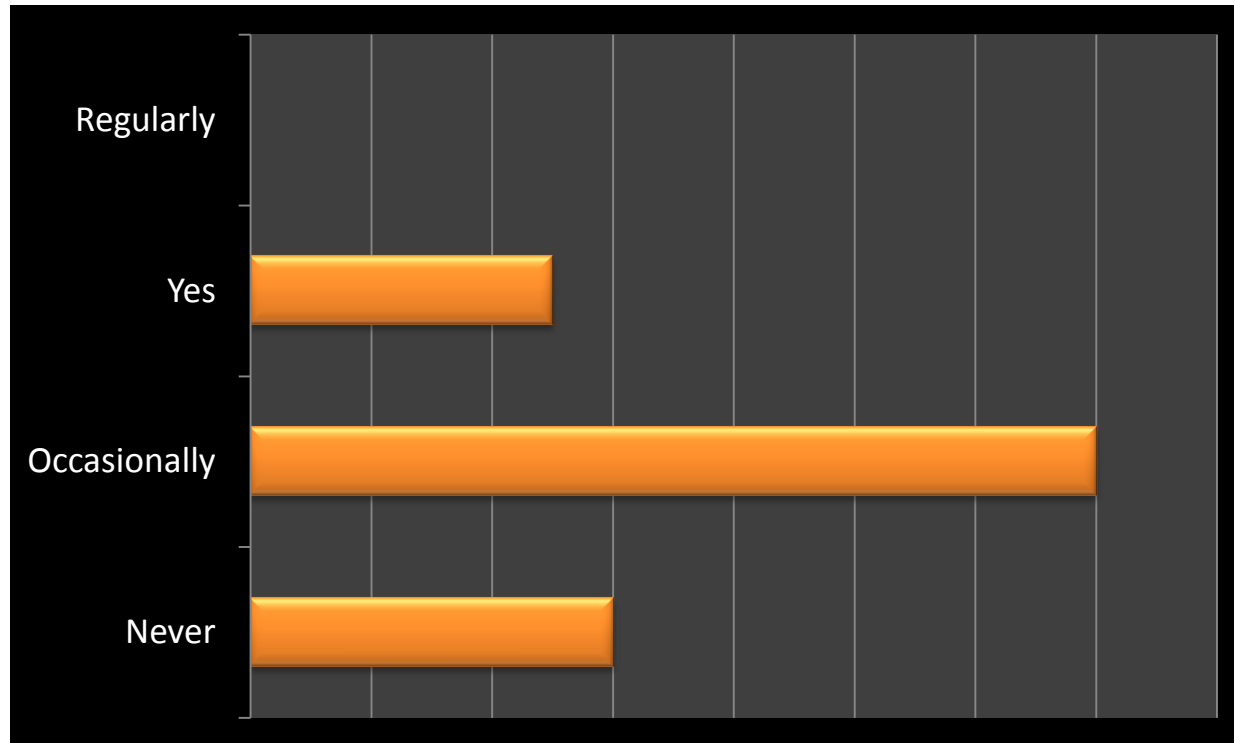
Student Support

Respondents said...

- Student awareness and involvement are on the low side.
- BUT there are some opportunities, incentives and rewards to promote student engagement.

Community Support

Do community members describe the university as an important and reliable partner?

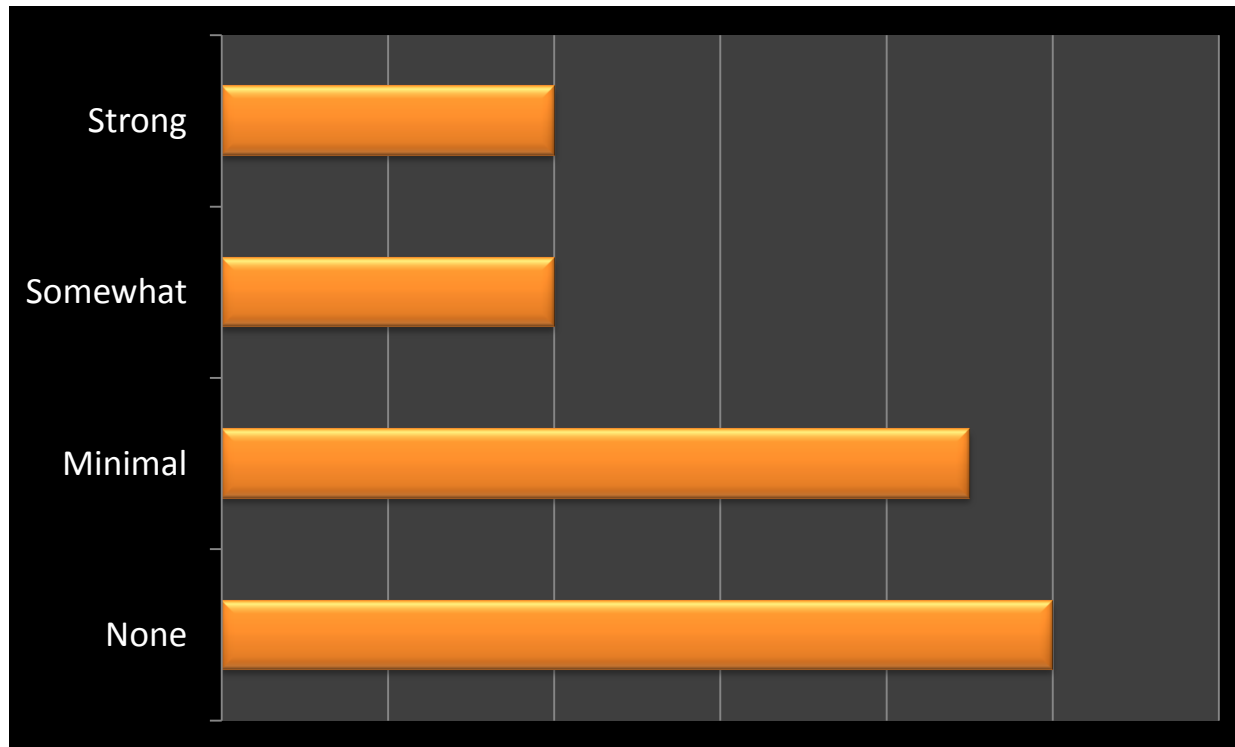


Why might this be?

Respondents said...

- There is limited understanding of community needs and goals.
- There is a high incidence of community projects lapsing between semesters.
- Community members are rarely invited to express their needs, and only occasionally access university resources.
- Community members rarely have a role in university governance and activities.
- Community members are rarely rewarded and recognized for their contributions to research and learning on campus.

University Leadership Support



Why might this be?

Respondents said...

- Policy boards and university committees do not generally recognize community engagement as essential.
- Community engagement is not a major factor in recruiting new faculty or administrators.
- There is little emphasis on encouraging dissemination of research outside the academy.
- There is no consistent definition or understanding of Community Engaged Scholarship (CES) as a professional practice.

Traditional Dissemination: eg. Single-authored academic journal articles and books.
Non-traditional Dissemination: eg. Leaflets, briefs, videos, workshops, popular press



Not / Seldom Considered

- Community impact.
- Community members' opinions of the research.

Question

**How can we promote improved
community engagement?**

As university faculty and staff.

As community members.

As students.

