KŌRERO MAI ‘26

STUDENT VOICE SURVEY

You spoke
We listened

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON
TE HERENGA WAKA

Thank you!

3,094 students took part in Kōrero Mai 2026 and shared their experiences of study, wellbeing, belonging, support services and campus life. Thank you to everyone who contributed. Your feedback is helping inform decisions across the University.

At a glance

You’re positive about the Educational and support fundamentals ...

While you feel positive about the University, you don’t always feel connected to its community...

82% SATISFIED WITH ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE	**78%** RATE TEACHING QUALITY HIGH	**77%** SATISFIED WITH STUDENT SUPPORT	**79%** SATISFIED WITH SPACES AND FACILITIES
79% WOULD RECOMMEND THIS UNIVERSITY	**75%** PROUD TO BE A STUDENT HERE	**40%** FEEL CONNECTED TO COMMUNITY	**16%** ATTEND CLUBS OR SOCIETIES FREQUENTLY

What you told us you value most

The four things you most valued were:

Engaging learning - interesting courses and opportunities to grow intellectually
Great teaching - knowledgeable and enthusiastic lecturers who bring subjects to life
Supportive staff - approachable staff who are willing to help when needed
Connection with peers - learning alongside others and building friendships

And what you want improved

Across the survey, four themes appeared again and again as areas for improvement:
Stronger connection and belonging – you want more social opportunities, more clubs and activities, more inclusive and accessible ways to meet other students, and stronger connections across campuses
Better wellbeing and support – you highlighted challenges with wellbeing, support accessibility, awareness of services and waiting times
Clearer communication – you want information that is easier to find, fewer confusing processes and more consistent communication
A more affordable student experience – you highlighted cost-of-living pressures, transport costs, food affordability, and financial support needs

The four big themes we heard

Taken together, your feedback points to four areas where the University should focus its efforts:

1. STRENGTHEN CONNECTION AND BELONGING	2. PROTECT THE EDUCATIONAL AND SUPPORT FUNDAMENTALS	3. REDUCE FINANCIAL AND PRACTICAL BARRIERS	4. MAKE THE UNIVERSITY EASIER TO NAVIGATE

In your own words

“All of my lecturers have been very passionate about their subjects, and it has stimulated my interest in them.”

“More social events and activities where students from different courses can meet and connect would be helpful.”

“A full list of all these services, what they do and how to use them.”

“Providing more consistent, timely, and easy-to-find information across all courses and university services would make a big difference to the student experience.”

“Making everything cheaper around university to encourage students to be at university more.”

"Making sure all students are okay. You'll see a lot of happy faces and smiles but never know what's behind every smile."

What happens next?

Kōrero Mai is one way students can help shape the future of the University. The findings are being shared with faculties, service teams and University leaders to inform planning and improvement work.

This is not the end of the conversation. We will work with students and staff to explore the findings, identify priorities for action and report back on what changes as a result.

You spoke. We listened. Now the work continues…

About the survey respondents

Students from across Te Herenga Waka took part.

- **66%** were undergraduates
- **20%** were international students
- **6%** were gender diverse
- **67%** were under 25 years old
- **34%** identified as Rainbow/LGBTQI+
- **64%** were in paid work (9% in full-time work, 55% in part-time work)
- **19%** had caregiving responsibilities at home
- **10%** identified as Māori
- **8%** identified as Pasifika
- **28%** were living with family