

# TAKING THE PULSE OF THE CAMPUS: HOW TO LAUNCH A 2-ITEM WEEKLY PULSE SURVEY, INSTITUTIONALIZE ITS INSIGHTS, & HARNESS AI TOOLS FOR DEEPER ANALYSIS

COMMISSION ON INFORMATION, MEASUREMENT & ANALYSIS

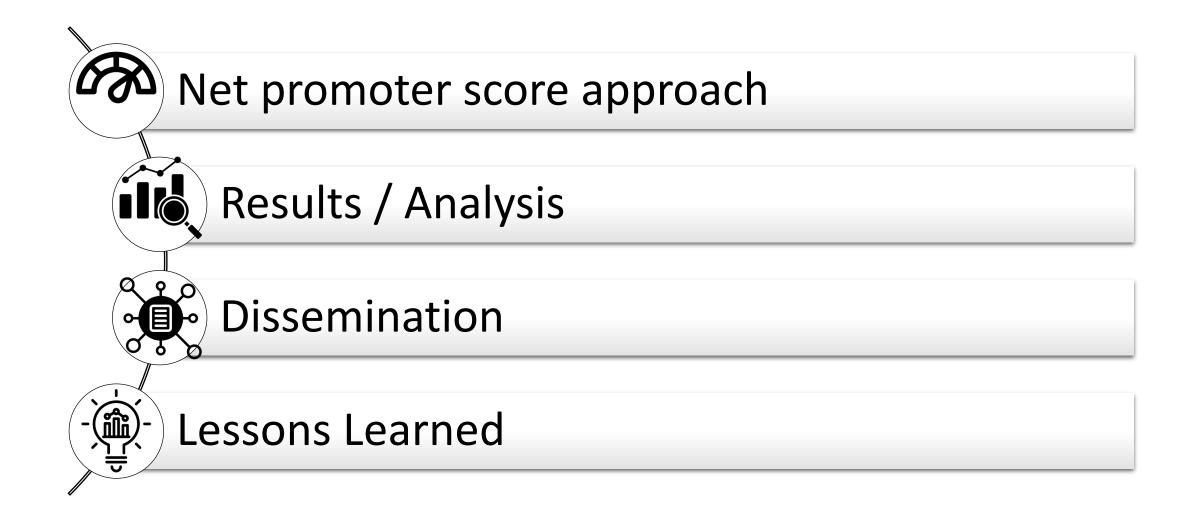
2024 Summer Meeting Program, The University of Illinois, Chicago

**Braden J. Hosch**, Vice President

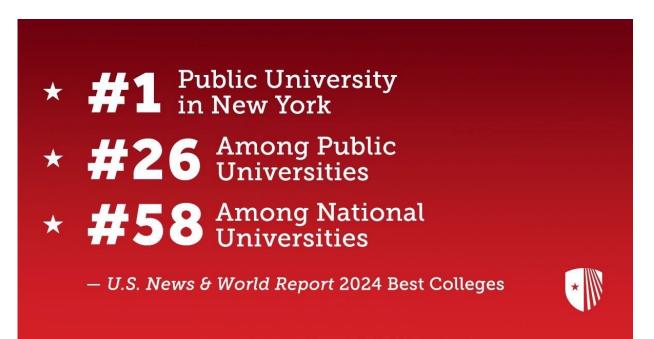
Division of Educational and Institutional Effectiveness

**Ahmed Belazi**, Executive Director of Strategic Analytics and Technologies Division of Student Affairs

## **Overview**



## **Stony Brook University**

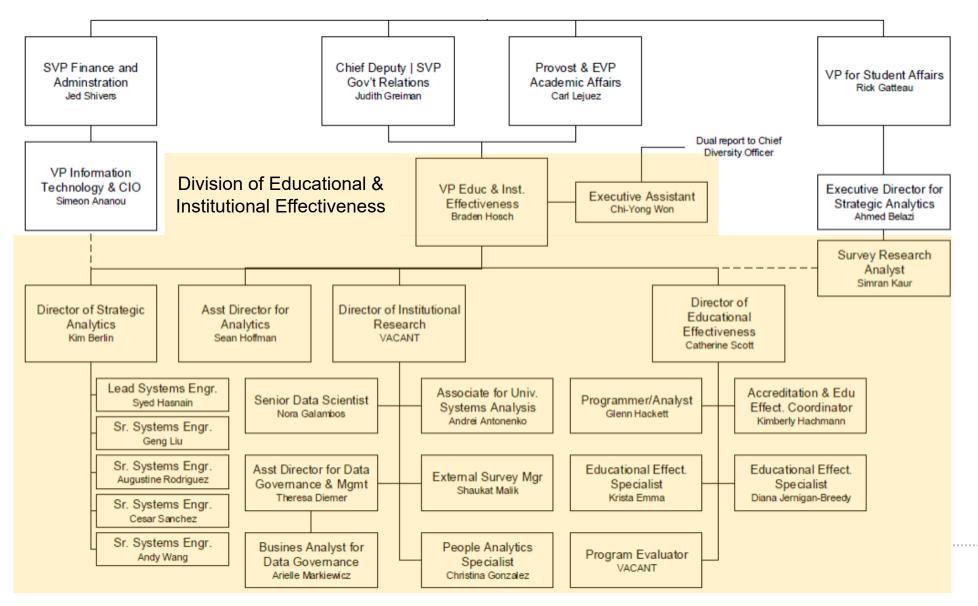


25,865 Fall 2023 Enrollment	<b>~ 9,500</b> Residents				
<b>68% 32%</b> Undergrad Graduate	<b>2001</b> Joined AAU				

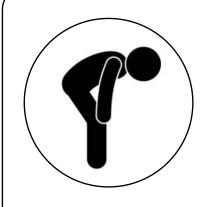




## **Organization Chart**



## Problems with Higher Ed Survey Research



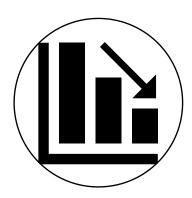
Crosssectional survey research is too slow



Cycle time is too long



Lengthy instruments



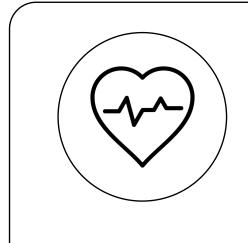
Declining response rates



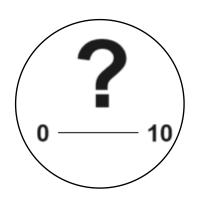
High burden for analysis



## Solution: Administer a Weekly Pulse Survey



Pulse survey



One question + follow up



Administered weekly



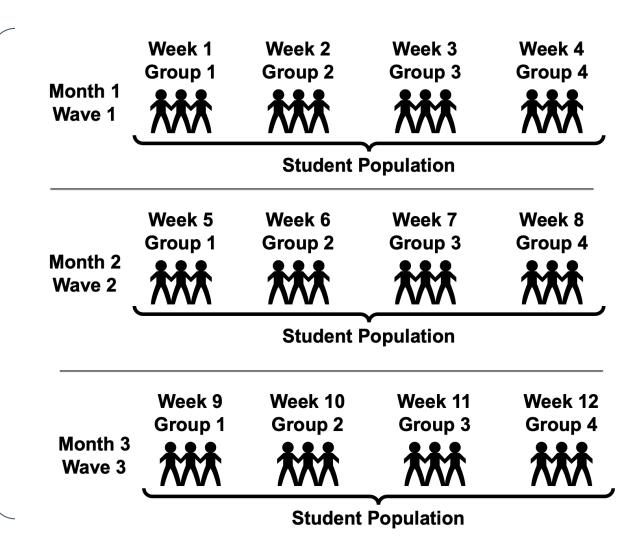
Results distributed via email and dashboard

## Administration Approach

Confidential but not anonymous.

Response data linked to PII in institutional data systems





About 6,000 subjects per group

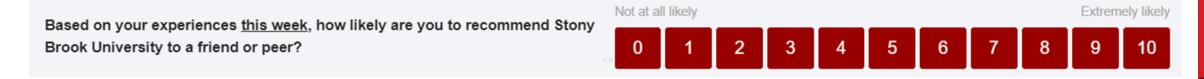


## **Email on Tuesday (+ reminder on Thursday)**

Dear Ahmed,

We want your feedback! Using the <u>Campus Pulse Survey</u>, our goal is to listen and understand more about your current experiences at Stony Brook University. Your feedback will help us improve our services and your experience. Your participation is voluntary and the survey is <u>only one question</u> (with an option to share additional feedback as a comment).

You can participate by responding to the question below:



Or to respond via your web browser, you can <u>click here</u> or copy and paste the following URL into your browser:

https://stonybrookuniversity.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\_2iy3WVHFwajp3im?Q\_DL=QKNIpR5uiezXFpw\_2iy3WVHFwajp3im CGC I0rwwd8SAedJiPE&Q CHL=email

We know you have a lot going on so as a **thank you for your participation**, any student who participates will be entered into a **monthly raffle for some awesome SBU swag** pictured below!



## **Net Promoter Score (NPS)**

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

© Not likely to Recommend

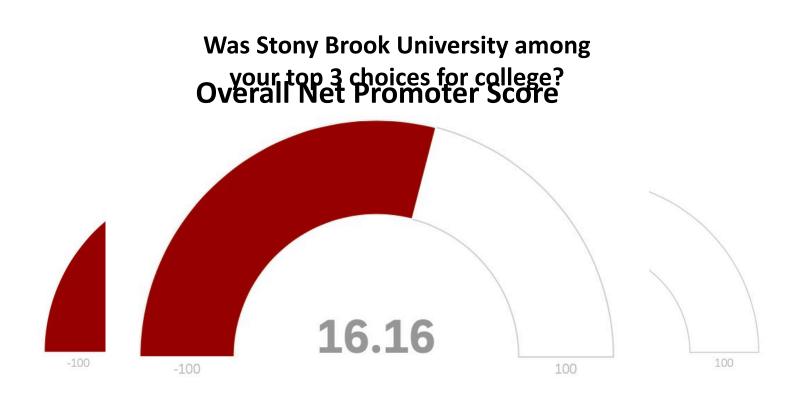
Extremely likely to Recommend

NPS = % - %

- 1. Detractors -- They are not particularly thrilled by you. They, with all likelihood, won't choose to engage with you again, and could potentially damage your reputation through negative word of mouth.
- 2. Passives -- They are somewhat satisfied but could easily switch to a competitor's offering if given the opportunity. They probably wouldn't spread any negative word-of-mouth, but are not enthusiastic enough to actually promote you.
- 3. **Promoters** -- They love you. They are your repeat customers. They are enthusiastically evangelical about you and recommend you to others.

## **Net Promoter Score (NPS)**

How likely are you to recommend Stony Brook University to a peer?



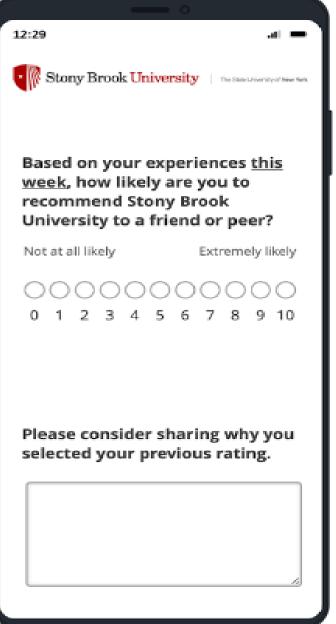
## **Instrument in Qualtrics**

Based on your experiences <u>this week</u>, how likely are you to recommend Stony Brook University to a friend or peer?



Please consider sharing why you selected your previous rating.





### **Incentives**

Participants who complete the survey...

...before 11:59 pm this Thursday 5/25 will receive 10 raffle entries

...before 11:59 pm this Saturday 5/27 will receive 5 raffle entries

...before 11:59 pm on Monday 5/29 will receive 2 raffle entries

...after 11:59 pm on Monday 5/29 will receive 1 raffle entry

Overall, your participation should take no longer than 2 minutes and you can choose to leave any question unanswered.

We truly appreciate your time and thank you in advance!

To verify the authenticity of this survey, you may visit:

www.stonybrook.edu/isthissurveyreal

Best,

Rick Gatteau, PhD

Vice President for Student Affairs

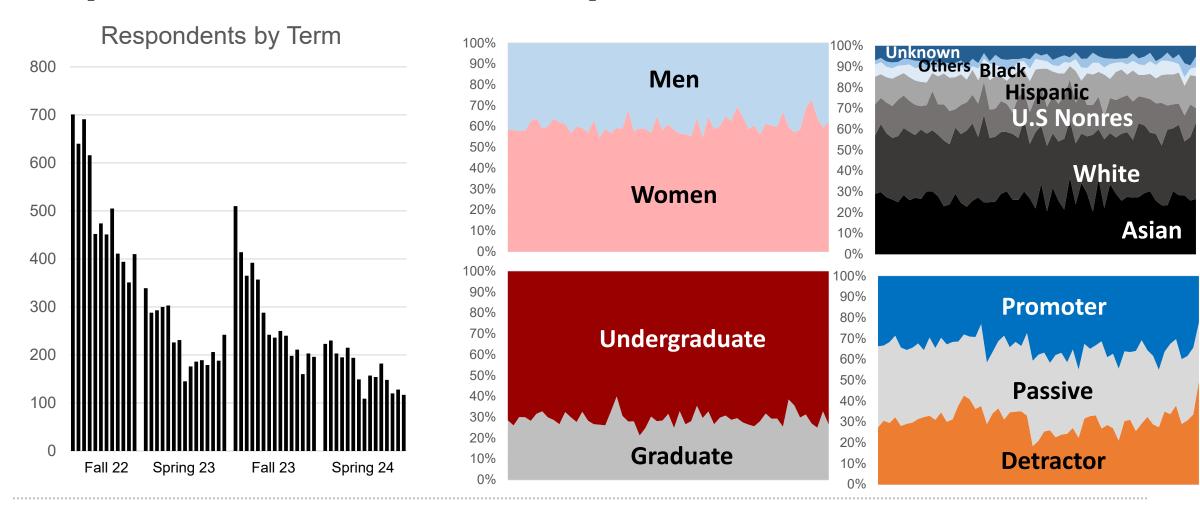




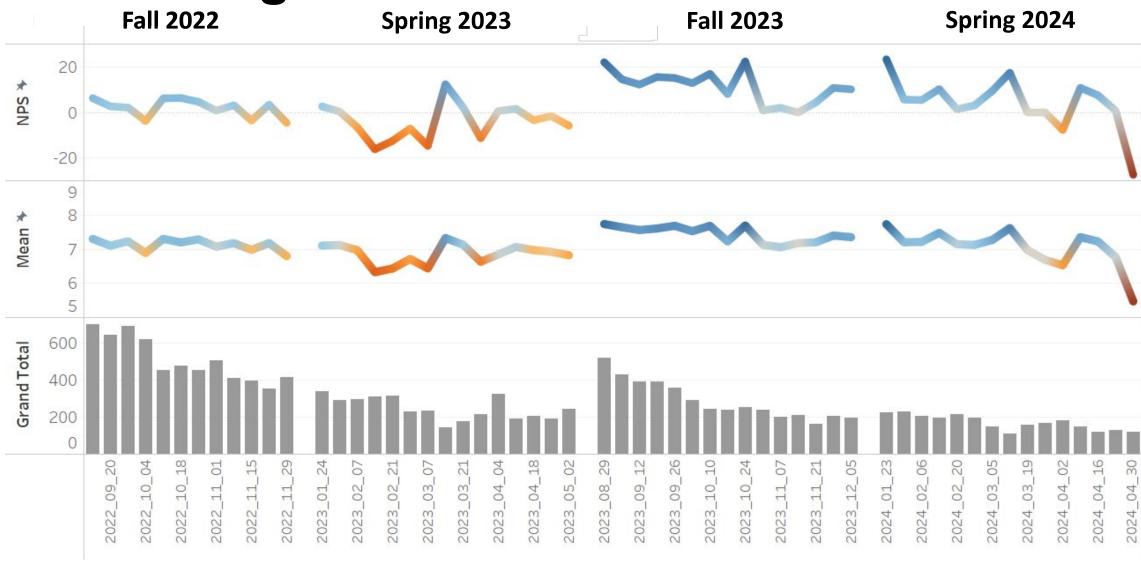
and more!



## Even though response rates declined, the respondents remained representative



## **Monitoring**



## Dashboard isolates comments of a group





#### **Survey Comments (**

By default, all responses To choose a selected gra

StudentID	Recorde Date
	04/30/24
	04/30/24
	04/30/24
	04/30/24
	04/30/24
	04/30/24
	04/30/24
	04/30/24

#### Tableau@stonybrook.edu

to Braden. Hosch 🕶

#### Wed, Apr 24, 9:15 AM (10 days ago)

r details and notes

(All)

only been doing a lot of

or anyone that w ants r..

ever, when it comes to

. The main complaint is

e had this week have



Campus Residence

#### **Pulse Survey Comment Monitoring Dashboard**

Responses Yesterday	Comments Yesterday	Net Promoter Score (Avg-this week)	Net Promoter Score (Avg-this term)	50 S 0	5.2 5.9	10.3 17	7.4 -1.3 10.28.1	Comments
73	30	-6.6	6.0	-50		1.4 2.0	-7.7 -6.6	<u></u>
1,100,00	10000		*********		Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	

#### Survey Comments, Prior Day - 4/23/2024

This list shows yesterday's comments provided on the weekly campus pulse survey. The survey is distributed on Tuesdays during the semester, with a reminder on Thursdays. It asks two questions:

- Q1 Based on your experiences this week, how likely are you to recommend Stony Brook University to a friend or peer?

  [0 Not at all likely -- 10 Extremely likely]
- Q2 Please consider sharing why you selected your previous rating. [Open Text]

Summary statistics are provided at the top of the page. Net Promoter Score (NPS) indicates the percentage of Promoters (rating of 9 or 10) less the percentage of Detractors (rating of 6 or lower). A NPS of 100 would indicate all responses were promoters, where a NPS of -100 would indicate all detractors.

#### Educational & Institutional Effectiveness and Student Affairs | Source: Qualtrics Pulse Survey & SBU Data Warehouse | Data updated: 4/24/2024 9:03:47 AM

Rating	College / School	NPS Group	Comments	
10	Arts & Sciences, College of	Promoter	Excellent experience so far	v n students are NEVER
10	Arts & Sciences, College of	Promoter	I like how inexpensive it is for the quality education, a beautiful campus, and engaging activities and events.	ent on campus. The bds nts" started forming. Ple



## Themes from coded comments (2022-23)

















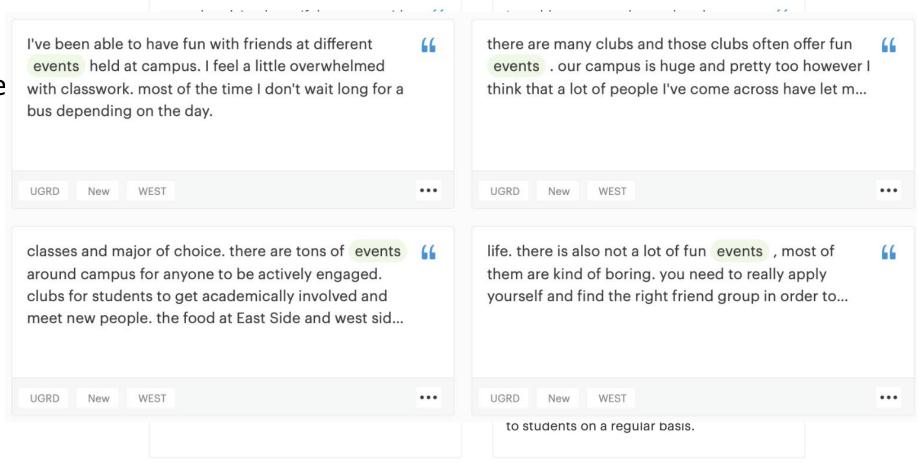


	Activities	Professors	Support	Academics	Total	Program	Dining	Cost UGRD	Cost GRAD	Parking
Promoters	36%	38%	38%	34%	17%	30%	14%	17%	15%	6%
Passives	45%	31%	29%	35%	28%	30%	40%	35%	20%	25%
Detractors	19%	31%	33%	31%	25%	41%	46%	48%	65%	70%
NPS	17	8	5	3	-8	-11	-31	-31	-51	-64

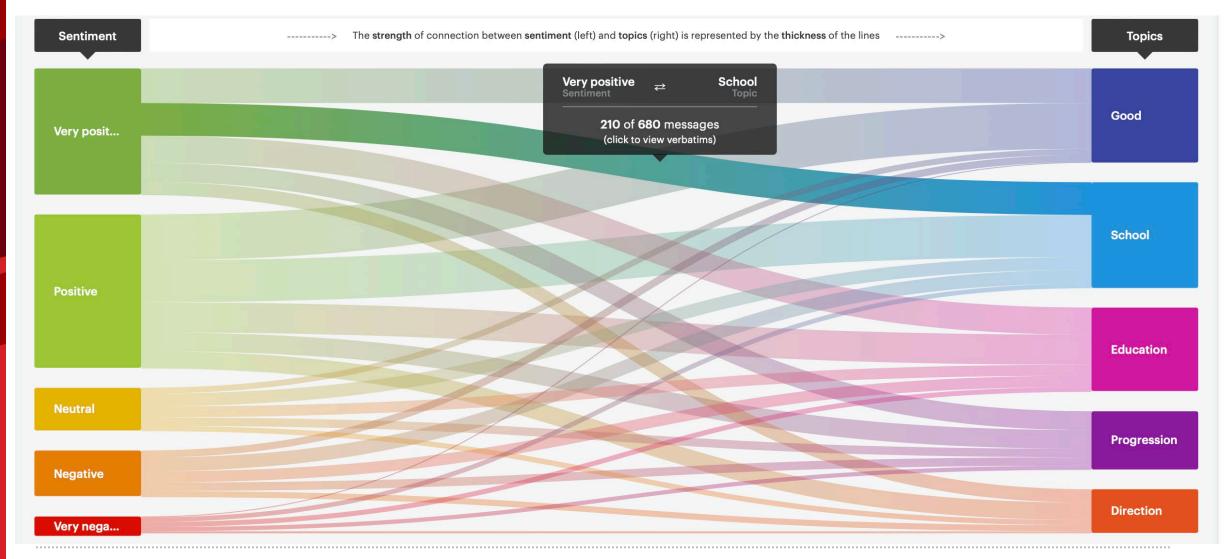


## Al Tools – Relative Classification

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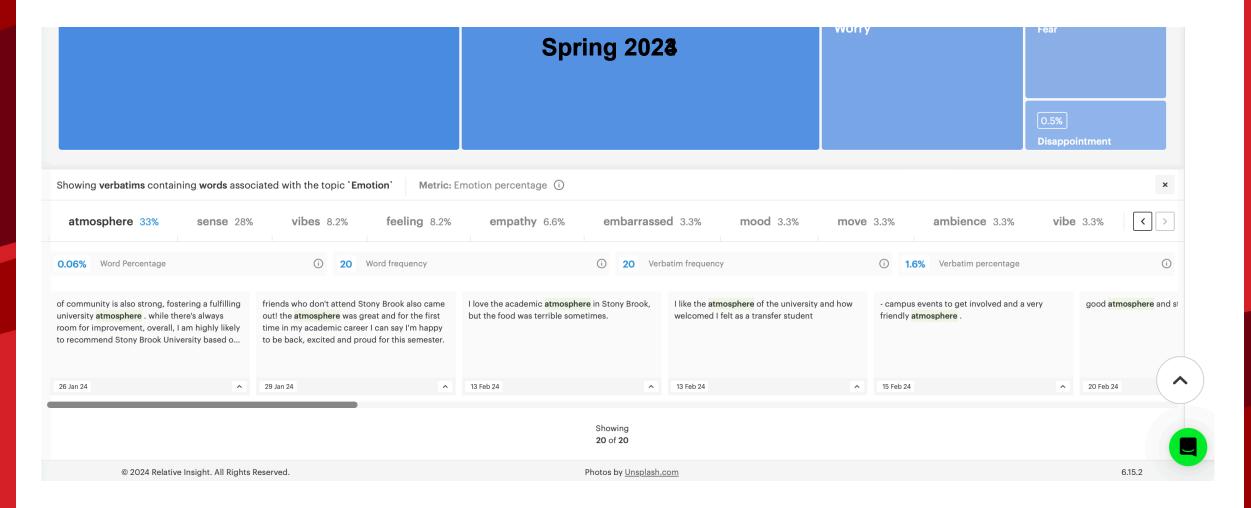


## **AI Tools – Sentiment Flow**

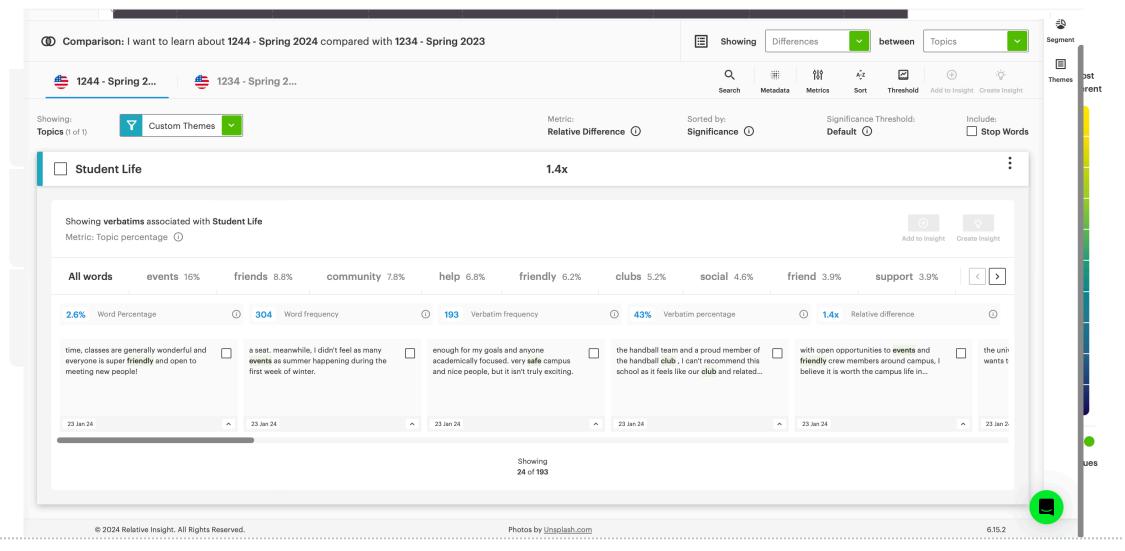




## **AI Tools – Sentiment Emotion**



## Al Tools – Thematic coding by time



## Al Tools – Abstractive Summarization

In conclusion, this dataset provides a nuanced view of the student experience at Stony Brook University. While the campus is generally viewed positively in terms of its resources, community, and academic offerings, the data highlights significant concerns around the administration's handling of student activism and a perceived lack of responsiveness to student needs and concerns.

### **Lessons Learned**

- 1. Responses were stable by wave (a week) but not within waves (daily and moving averages shorter than a week were not stable)
- 2. Late respondents were much more negative
- 3. Sentiment tends to decline over the course of a fall or spring semester
- 4. In year 2, we found most useful distribution was comment push to senior academic and student affairs leaders.
- 5. All might be a solution to coding responses but the jury is out

## **Final thoughts**

Iteration and patience have been important

Requires bandwidth in survey unit to pursue goals such as increasing response rates

We are not yet good enough with artificial intelligence tools to produce verifiable and replicable results

Conversations with senior leadership is important throughout about governance, privacy, communication