



## ***Spirituality and the Professoriate*** **Survey Highlights**

### **Faculty Spiritual Self-Identification**

- 81% consider themselves a spiritual person
- 70% have a goal of developing a meaningful philosophy of life
- 69% seek out opportunities to grow spiritually
- 68% engage in self reflection
- 47% have a goal of integrating spirituality in their life

### **Religious Engagement**

- 64% say that they consider themselves to be “a religious person”
- 61% report that they pray/meditate
- 37% say that they are “not at all” religious

### ***Spirituality in the Academy***

#### **Faculty Views**

- 57% disagree with the notion that “the spiritual dimension of faculty members’ lives has no place in the academy
- 30% of faculty agree that “colleges should be concerned with facilitating students’ spiritual development.” However more than half believe that each of the following should be among the “essential” or “very important” goals of an undergraduate education:
  - Enhancing students’ self-understanding (60%)
  - Developing moral character (59%)
  - Helping students develop personal values (53%)

### **Spiritual Self-Identification by Gender and Race**

#### *Gender*

- 87% of female faculty consider themselves a spiritual person
- 78% of male faculty characterize consider themselves a spiritual person

#### *Race*

Percent of faculty that characterize themselves as spiritual to a great extent:

- 66% of African American/Blacks
- 60% of American Indian/Alaska Natives
- 59% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islanders
- 57% of Puerto Ricans
- 53% of Mexican/Chicanos
- 48% of White/Caucasians
- 45% of “other” Latinos

### ***College Students Views***

A survey of 112,000 college students conducted by HERI last year found that they have high expectations for the role their universities will play in their spiritual and emotional development.

- 69% consider it “essential” or “very important” that their college experience enhances their self-understanding
- 67% rate highly the role they want their college to play in developing their personal values
- 48% also say it is “essential” or “very important” that colleges encourage their personal expression of spirituality