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- A new study by Professors Without Borders analyses how faculty diversity impacts student graduation rates.
- The study identifies significant positive relationships between faculty diversity, expressed by gender, and graduation rates of female students.
- The report underscores the need for future research in determining how to measure faculty diversity in higher education institutions.

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The Impact of Faculty Diversity on Graduation Rates by Samantha Fu is the latest study from Professors Without Borders.

This paper focuses on how faculty diversity impacts graduation rates. While there is extensive literature that explores the impact of campus diversity on students' university lives, particularly their cognitive development and their satisfaction with their university experience, there is little research into the relationship between faculty diversity and student academic outcomes. Using survey data from higher education institutions across the United States of America, researcher Samantha Fu examines how diverse faculty representation affects student academic outcomes. Fu measures faculty diversity by determining the number of full-time teaching faculty who identify as a particular ethnic/racial group. Moreover, Fu includes a secondary measure of diversity that demonstrates the number of full-time teaching faculty who identify as female.

Our research shows that there are significant positive relationships between faculty diversity, expressed by gender, and graduation rates of female students. While the paper does not establish a causal relationship between faculty diversity, expressed by ethnicity and/or race, and student graduation rates, it emphasizes the need for a broad measurement of diversity that extends beyond ethnicity, race, and/or gender.

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Samantha Fu is currently pursuing a Master's in Public Administration at the London School of Economics and Political Science. Prior to commencing graduate studies, she worked on the analytics team for the 2016 Clinton campaign, as an economic consultant at Cornerstone Research in New York, and earned a Bachelor's degree from McGill University in Montreal.

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