# Empowering Educators: Wellness and Development at the University of Saint Joseph



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### Background

- The University of Saint Joseph School of Pharmacy and Physician Assistant Studies' Faculty Welfare and Development Committee hosts several professional development and wellness opportunities
- In August 2022, the location of the pharmacy program was moved to the main university campus, which allowed faculty to attend additional professional development events
- Events held between August 2022 and April 2024:
  - School-wide event types:
    - 7 Faculty-Led Pearls
    - 8 Lunch and Learns
    - 17 Social Events
  - University-wide event types:
    - 22 Office of Institutional Effectiveness
    - 12 Agora Series
    - 9 Dean's Lecture and Women's Leadership Series

## Objective

To evaluate the engagement of pharmacy faculty in school and university-wide events designed to enhance teaching, scholarship, service, leadership and wellness.

#### Methods

- An anonymous, 25-item survey was developed to gather feedback from pharmacy faculty on professional development and wellness events held between August 2022 and April 2024.
- The survey was distributed via email to all faculty members and responses were collected.
- The survey evaluated two categories of events: school-wide and university-wide.
- Faculty members were asked to indicate their attendance at each event and to rate the contribution of each event type to their teaching, scholarship, service, leadership and/or wellness using a 5-point Likert scale ranging from strongly disagree to strongly agree.
- Responses were analyzed to identify trends in attendance and perceived value of the events.

#### Results

- A total of 14 out of 15 (93.3%) faculty completed the survey.
- All faculty attended at least one of each school-wide event type as well as one university-wide event in the time frame.

Figure 1: Average attendance among faculty at each event type

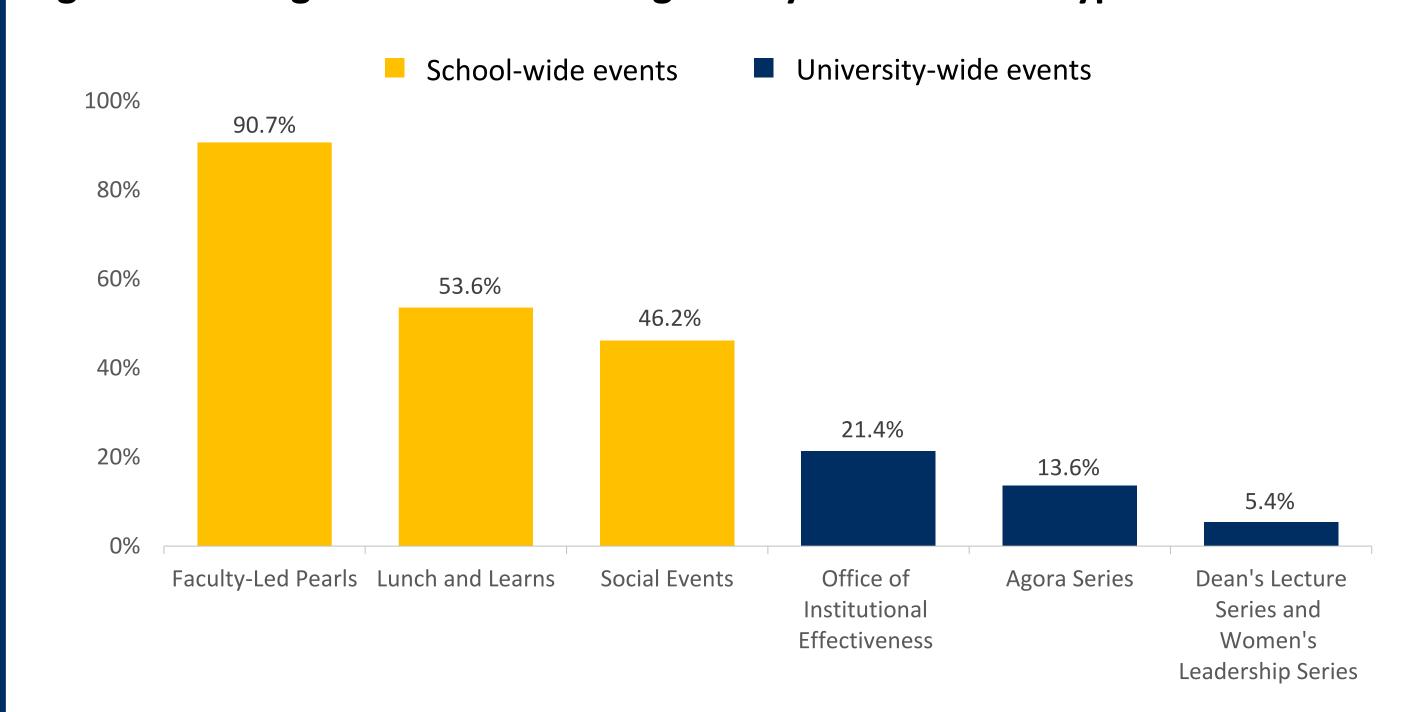
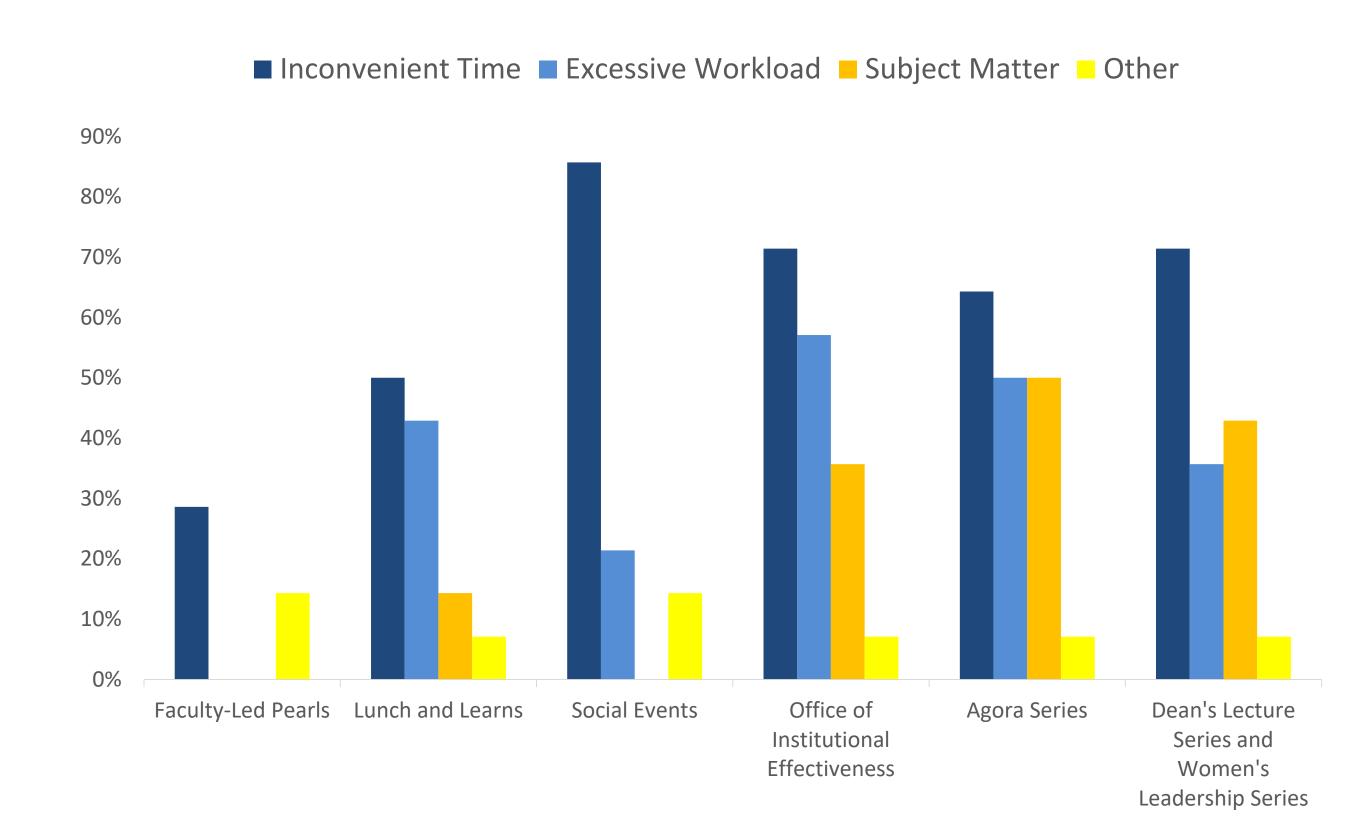


Figure 2: Faculty identified barriers to attendance of events



- Inconvenient time and excessive workload were the leading reasons for lack of attendance at all events.
- Attendance barriers identified as "other" included being sick or not yet employed by USJ at the time of the event.
- Teaching and learning was determined to be the highest interest in professional development among faculty, followed by scholarship.
- All faculty found that the school offers sufficient wellness and development opportunities.
- Because of lower attendance rates for university-wide event types, the faculty perceptions of these events are not described here.

#### **Results Continued**

Figure 3: Faculty perception on how much Faculty-Led Pearls positively impacted their teaching, scholarship, service and leadership

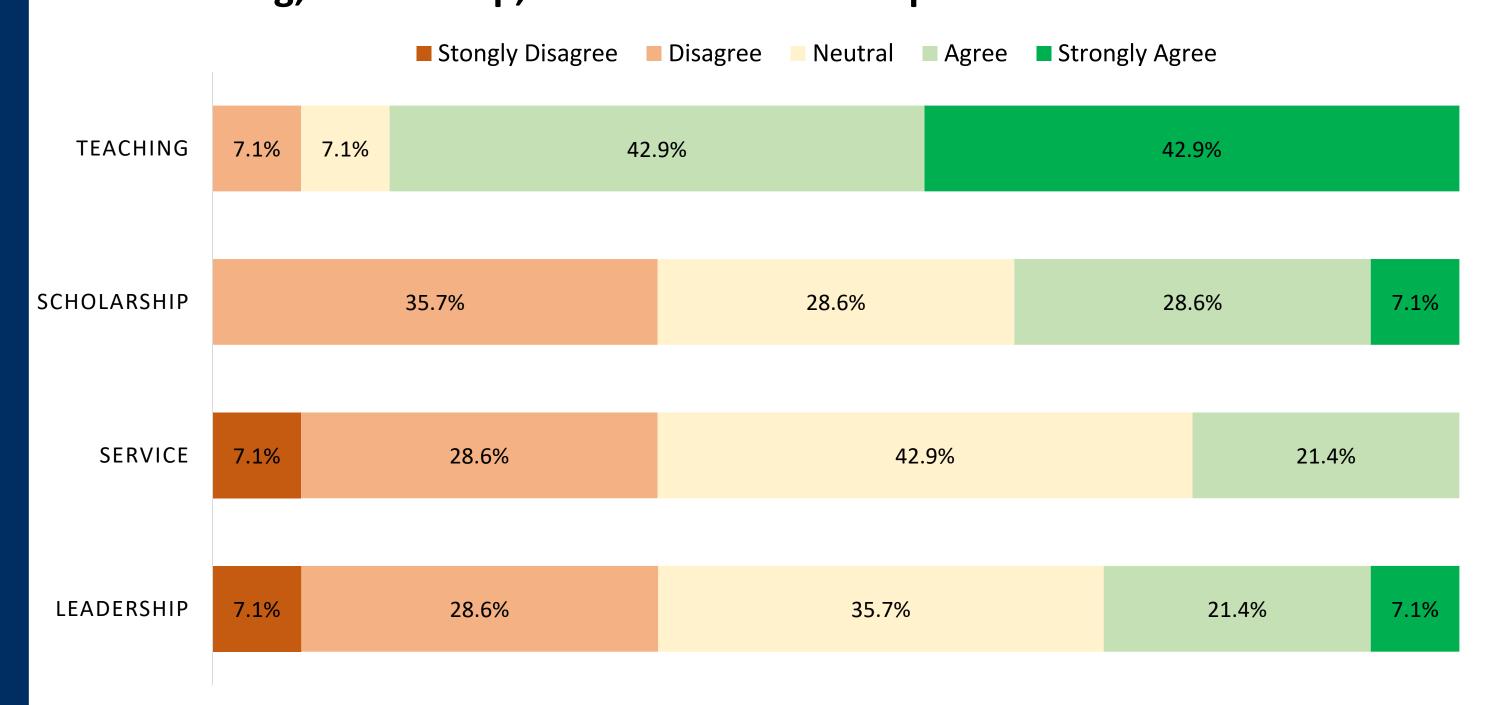


Figure 4: Faculty perception on how much Lunch-and-Learns positively impacted their teaching, scholarship, service and leadership

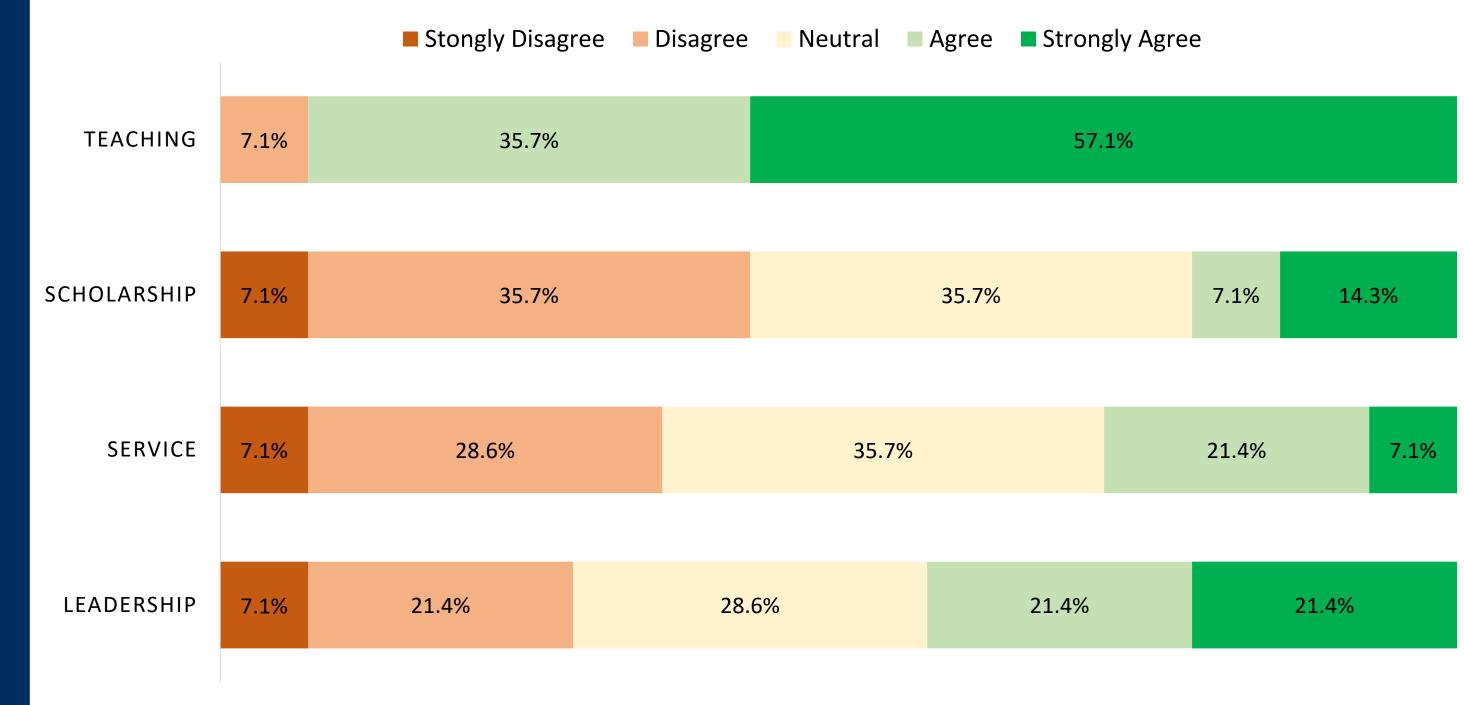
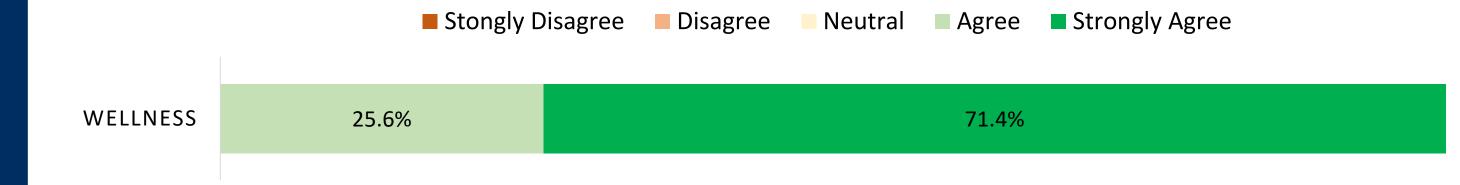


Figure 5: Faculty perception on how much Social Events positively impacted their wellness



#### Conclusion

- Attendance at school-wide events was likely higher because these events were scheduled around pharmacy faculty availability.
- The school-wide Faculty Welfare and Development Committee should consider planning future events to include a focus on scholarship, service and leadership.

"The contents of this poster are based on a quality improvement project, and the project wasn't considered human subjects research by the USJ IRB."