

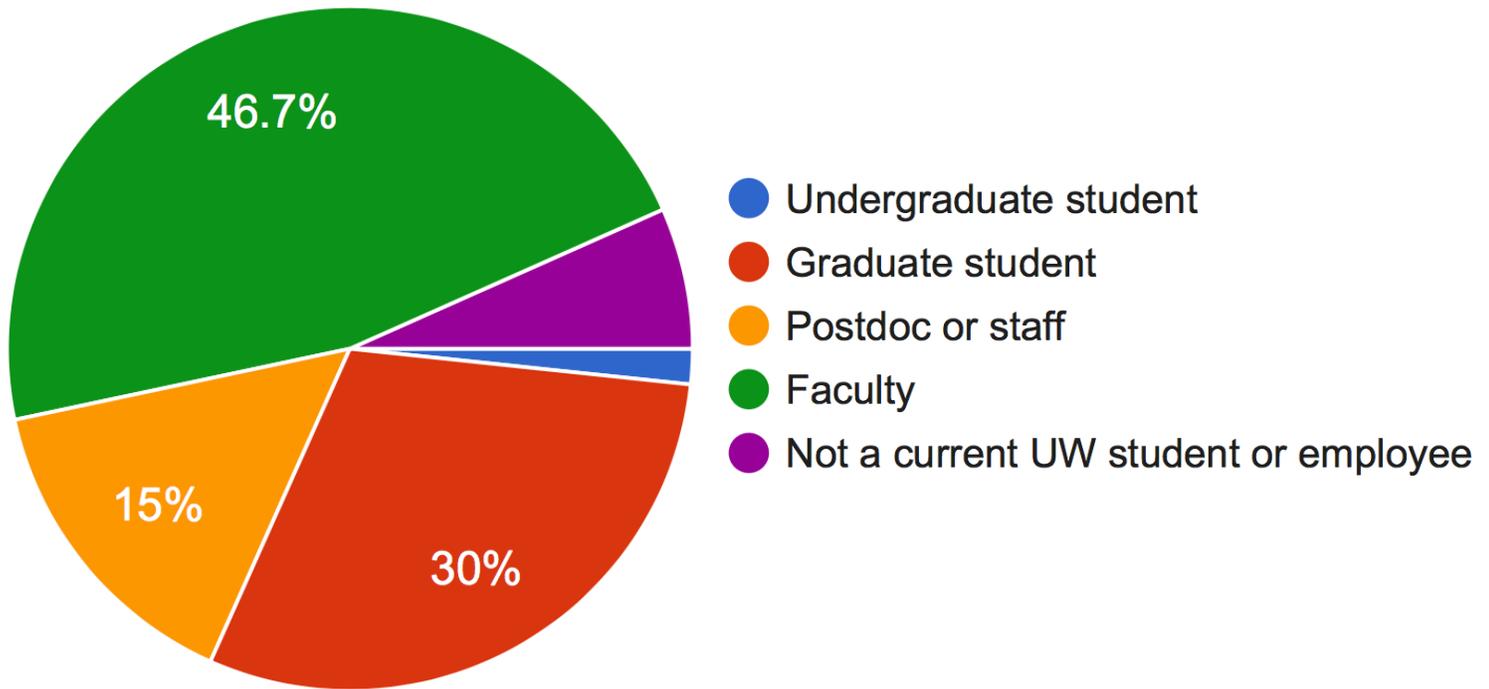
Crow Institute Post-Townhall Survey Results

Feb. 5, 2022

For context, refer to:

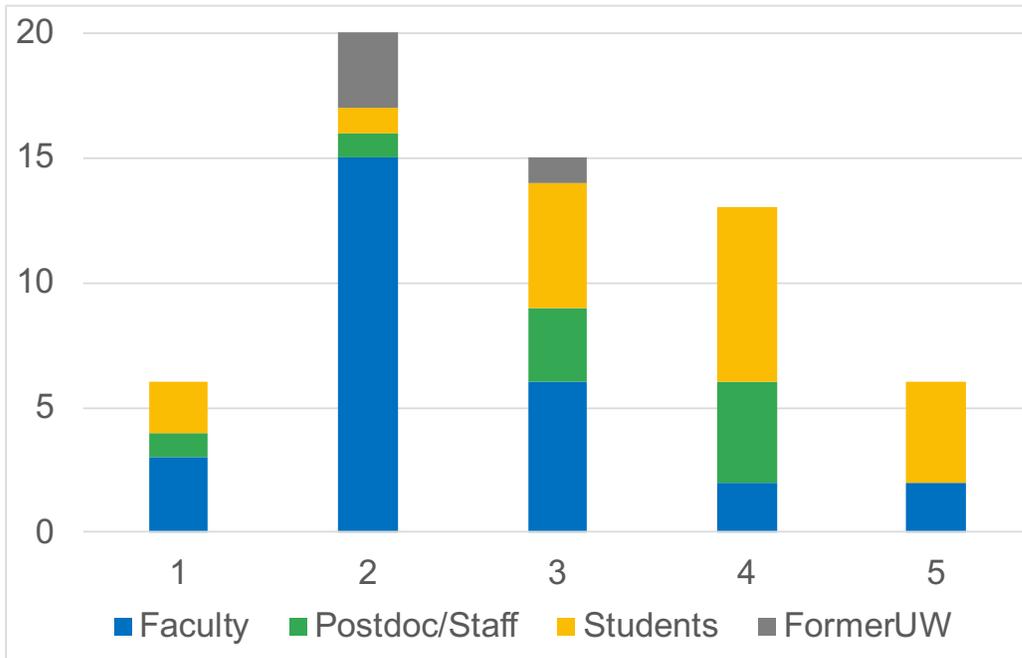
<http://www.evolution.wisc.edu/dialogue/>

Of 60 respondents, a plurality were faculty



70% were official Crow Institute members
(note that members must be UW
students or employees)

Reaction to Crow's quoted writings



1. I am not bothered by these writings.

2. I disagree with at least some of the writings but feel they represent relatively minor offenses.

3. I am moderately concerned by these writings - they are regrettable statements.

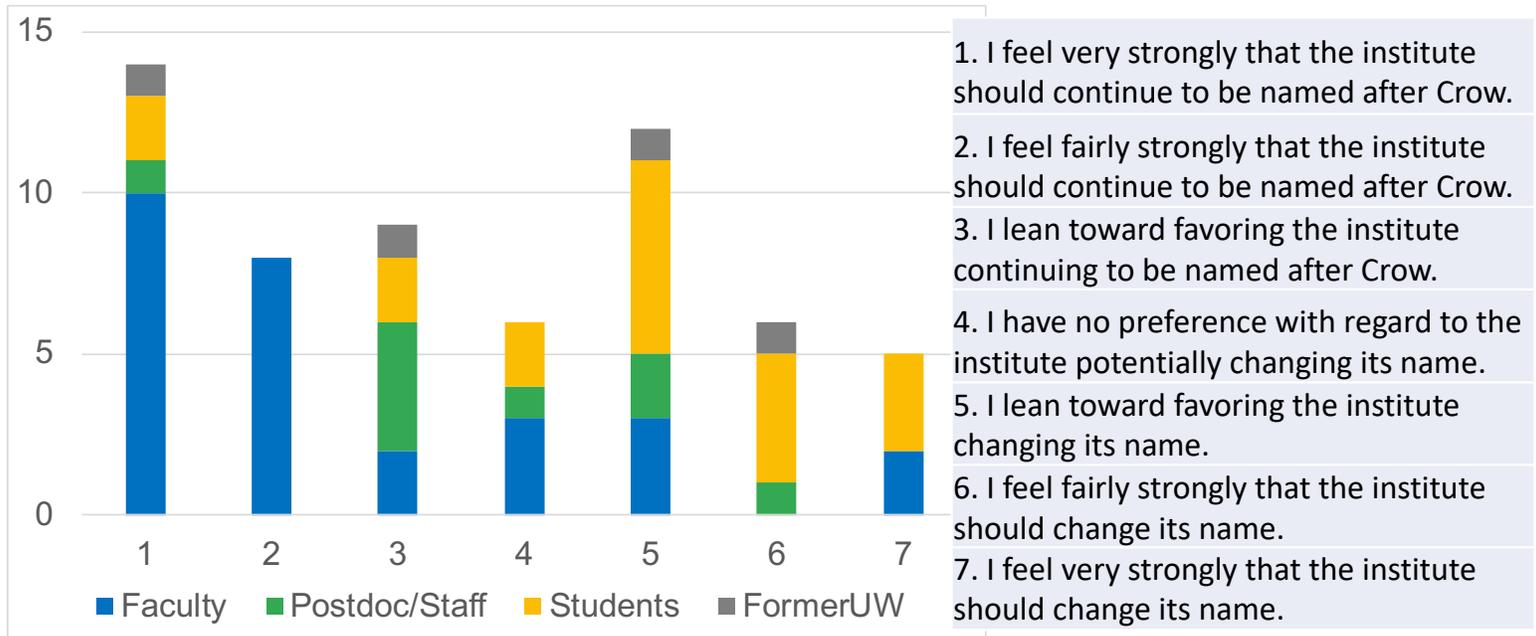
4. I strongly disagree with these writings and feel offended by them.

5. I am deeply troubled and/or greatly offended by these writings.

80% chose option 2, 3, or 4

Contrasting distributions between faculty and students

Views on removing Crow's name from the Institute



Again, strong contrast between faculty and students (postdocs/staff are intermediate).

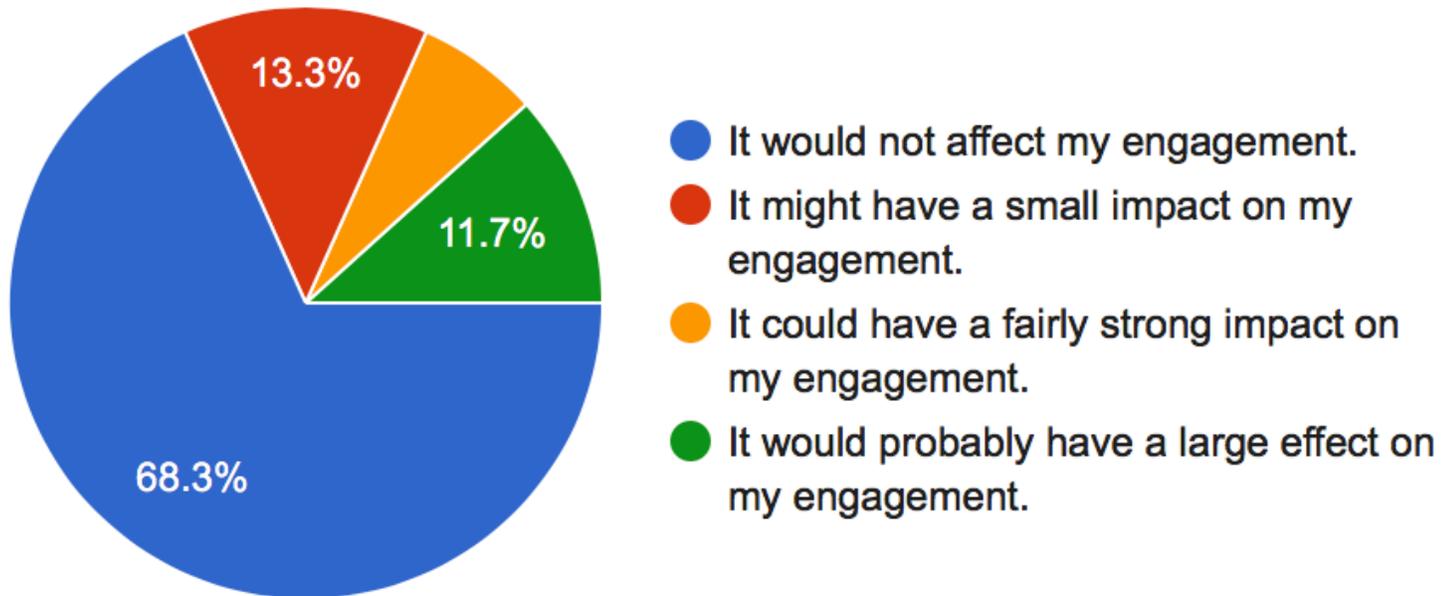
Somewhat stronger feelings among those wanting to keep the Crow name.

Official name change requires a 2/3 member vote.
Roughly 1/2 of members are faculty.

Overall: 51.7% keep name, 38.3% remove, 10% no pref.
Members: 57.1% keep, 31% remove, 11.9% no pref.

Consequences for involvement

If a decision regarding the name of the institute was not resolved as you would prefer, how likely would this be to impact your level of engagement with the institute and UW evolution community?



Strong majority wouldn't change their involvement regardless

“Large effect” responses are from 5 faculty who favor the Crow name, and 2 voters favoring renaming (1 faculty, 1 grad)

Final Survey Question:

“If no clear community consensus on renaming emerges from this initial dialogue, one "interim compromise" proposal is as follows. The institute could "de-emphasize" its full name ("The J. F. Crow Institute for the Study of Evolution") and primarily refer to itself by a shorter title such as "Wisconsin Evolution". This change could be implemented right away, since it does not require the lengthy administrative process of a formal name change. In the short term, this option navigates between the two outcomes that seem most unacceptable to one group or another (i.e. doing nothing, or officially removing the Crow name). Importantly, this proposal is not intended as a final resolution to this issue, but instead as a way to allow our community to continue this dialogue from a potentially more mutually-acceptable status quo. This action would represent the first step in a broader plan to continue examining and discussing both the specific issue of Crow's writings and the larger historical relationship between evolutionary science and disenfranchised groups, which would include organizing additional community events to advance our understanding of these issues and to progress toward a consensus on further action.”

“Interim compromise” support:

Better than 2:1 support, but many undecided:
46.7% support, 21.7% oppose, 31.7% no opinion

More popular among voters who are favorable
or neutral toward a name change:

Among voters who favor keeping Crow’s name:
8 support, 10 oppose, 13 no opinion

Among voters who are neutral on renaming:
3 support, 0 oppose, 3 no opinion

Among voters who favor renaming:
17 support, 3 oppose, 3 no opinion