

# Perceptions of Appropriate Behaviors Between Students and

## 1. Introduction

Thank you for taking the time to complete this short survey on perceptions of appropriate behavior between students and their advisors in astronomy. Your input will help us understand how "appropriate behavior" can vary according to age, gender and professional or personal roles.

You will first be asked for some basic biographical information. Then you will judge the appropriateness of behaviors in ten scenarios where gender, age, and professional and personal roles are varied. There are no correct answers in this survey. Please respond not according to what you think should be correct, but rather what your experience or instinct tells you is appropriate or not.

Results will be reported during the 2009 October 21-23 Women in Astronomy and Space Science meeting in College Park, MD (<http://wia2009.gsfc.nasa.gov>) and subsequently posted at <http://www.browndwarfs.org/wia2009>.

The survey should take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete.

# Perceptions of Appropriate Behaviors Between Students and

## 2. Biographical Information - Part 1

First, please provide some biographical information so that we may examine how perceptions of appropriateness vary.

### 1. What is your age?

< 18

18-25

26-35

36-50

51-65

> 65

I prefer not to answer

### 2. What is your gender identity?

Female

Male

Transgender/Intergender

I prefer not to answer

Other (please specify)

# Perceptions of Appropriate Behaviors Between Students and

3. What is your current professional position (choose all that apply)?

- Amateur astronomer
- Corporate scientist
- Division/Department/Institute chair or director
- Government employee
- Graduate student
- High school student
- Junior ( untenured) faculty
- Middle/High school teacher
- Non-astronomer
- Postdoctoral researcher
- Research/Teaching/Technical staff
- Senior (tenured) faculty
- Undergraduate student

Other (please specify)

# Perceptions of Appropriate Behaviors Between Students and

## 3. Biographical Information - Part 2

1. In what type of institution/facility are you currently employed? (choose all that apply)

- Museum, Library or other public institution
- Middle or High School
- Self-employed
- Government laboratory
- Research institute
- Private corporation
- Academic (university or college)
- I'm not currently employed as an astronomer

Other (please specify)

2. What type of work best characterizes your current position? (choose all that apply)

- Clerical/Secretarial
- Outreach/Public Service
- Management
- Teaching
- Student
- Research
- Technical/Engineering
- Journalism

Other (please specify)

## Perceptions of Appropriate Behaviors Between Students and

3. Are you current advising students, or are you a student that currently has an adviser? This can include both research and academic advising.

I am an advisor to one or more students

I am a student currently being advised

I am neither student nor advisor

# Perceptions of Appropriate Behaviors Between Students and

## 4. Biographical Information - Part 3

1. How many people in the following categories have you advised or mentored over the past 5 years?

	0	1-2	3-5	6-10	11+
High school students - Female	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
High school students - Male	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Undergraduate students - Female	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Undergraduate students - Male	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Graduate students - Female	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Graduate students - Male	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Postdoctoral researchers - Female	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Postdoctoral researchers - Male	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn

# Perceptions of Appropriate Behaviors Between Students and

## 5. Scenario 1: Parenting and late working hours (1 question)

1. An advisor tells a research student that s/he will have to stay at work late in order to complete a funding proposal that ultimately supports the student's tuition and salary. Consider the appropriateness of this request in the following circumstances:

	Appropriate	Slightly appropriate	Slightly inappropriate	Inappropriate	Not Sure
Advisor is a mother to young children, student is a father to young children:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Advisor has no children, student is a father to young children:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Advisor is a father to young children, student has no children:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Advisor has no children, student is a mother to young children:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Advisor is a mother to young children, student has no children:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Advisor is a father to young children, student is a mother to young children:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Neither student nor advisor have children:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn

# Perceptions of Appropriate Behaviors Between Students and

## 6. Scenario 2: Giving gifts (3 questions)

1. An advisor occasionally gives a student gifts on her/his birthday or holidays. Consider the appropriateness of this in the following circumstances:

	Appropriate	Slightly appropriate	Slightly inappropriate	Inappropriate	Not Sure
Advisor is an older male, student is a younger female:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Advisor is an older female, student is a younger male:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Advisor is an older male, student is a younger male:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Advisor is an older female, student is a younger female:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2. How would your responses change if it is the student that is giving the gifts?

	More appropriate	As appropriate	Less appropriate	Not Sure
The behavior is:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3. (Optional) What action on behalf of the student or advisor would make this behavior more appropriate?



# Perceptions of Appropriate Behaviors Between Students and

## 7. Scenario 3: Socializing at conferences (3 questions)

1. After a conference dinner, an advisor wants to hang out with a research student and her/his friends because "they seem like fun people". Consider the appropriateness of this in the following circumstances:

	Appropriate	Slightly appropriate	Slightly inappropriate	Inappropriate	Not Sure
Advisor is an older male, student is a younger male:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Advisor is an older female, student is a younger male:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Advisor is an older female, student is a younger female:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Advisor is an older male, student is a younger female:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn

2. How would your responses change if it is the student that wants to hang out with the advisor and her/his friends?

	More appropriate	As appropriate	Less appropriate	Not Sure
The behavior is:	jn	jn	jn	jn

3. (Optional) What action on behalf of the student or advisor would make this behavior more appropriate?

# Perceptions of Appropriate Behaviors Between Students and

## 8. Scenario 4: Late-night calls (3 questions)

1. An advisor, assuming that a student works at home in the evening, calls her/him on their personal phone after 10pm to discuss work-related or class-related issues. Consider the appropriateness of this in the following circumstances:

	Appropriate	Slightly appropriate	Slightly inappropriate	Inappropriate	Not Sure
Advisor is an older male, student is a younger male:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Advisor is an older female, student is a younger female:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Advisor is an older male, student is a younger female:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Advisor is an older female, student is a younger male:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn

2. How would your responses change if it is the student that calls the advisor late at night?

	More appropriate	As appropriate	Less appropriate	Not Sure
The behavior is:	jn	jn	jn	jn

3. (Optional) What action on behalf of the student or advisor would make this behavior more appropriate?

# Perceptions of Appropriate Behaviors Between Students and

## 9. Scenario 5: Commenting on physical appearance (3 questions)

1. An advisor observes that a student has noticeably lost or gained weight, and makes a comment to her/him about it. Consider the appropriateness of this in the following circumstances:

	Appropriate	Slightly appropriate	Slightly inappropriate	Inappropriate	Not Sure
Advisor is an older female, student is a younger male:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Advisor is an older female, student is a younger female:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Advisor is an older male, student is a younger male:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Advisor is an older male, student is a younger female:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2. How would your responses change if it is the student that comments on the body condition of the advisor?

	More appropriate	As appropriate	Less appropriate	Not Sure
The behavior is:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3. (Optional) What action on behalf of the student or advisor would make this behavior more appropriate?

# Perceptions of Appropriate Behaviors Between Students and

## 10. Scenario 6: Seating on a plane (4 questions)

1. An advisor insists on being seated next to a student during a long plane flight. Consider the appropriateness of this in the following circumstances:

	Appropriate	Slightly appropriate	Slightly inappropriate	Inappropriate	Not Sure
Advisor is an older male, student is a younger female:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Advisor is an older female, student is a younger male:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Advisor is an older male, student is a younger male:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Advisor is an older female, student is a younger female:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn

2. How would your responses change if it is the student that insists on sitting next to the advisor?

	More appropriate	As appropriate	Less appropriate	Not Sure
The behavior is:	jn	jn	jn	jn

3. How would your responses change if the student is a minor?

	More appropriate	As appropriate	Less appropriate	Not Sure
The behavior is:	jn	jn	jn	jn

4. (Optional) What action on behalf of the student or advisor would make this behavior more appropriate?

# Perceptions of Appropriate Behaviors Between Students and

## 11. Scenario 7: Questions about personal relationships (3 questions)

1. An advisor, trying to connect with a student on a personal level, asks about her/his current relationship or marital status. Consider the appropriateness of this in the following circumstances:

	Appropriate	Slightly appropriate	Slightly inappropriate	Inappropriate	Not Sure
Advisor is an older male, student is a younger male:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Advisor is an older female, student is a younger female:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Advisor is an older male, student is a younger female:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Advisor is an older female, student is a younger male:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn

2. How would your responses change if it is the student that asks about the advisor's relationship status?

	More appropriate	As appropriate	Less appropriate	Not Sure
The behavior is:	jn	jn	jn	jn

3. (Optional) What action on behalf of the student or advisor would make this behavior more appropriate?

# Perceptions of Appropriate Behaviors Between Students and

## 12. Scenario 8: Following on social networks (3 questions)

1. An advisor "friends" her/his student on a social networking site, and comments routinely on personal pictures, posts, etc. Consider the appropriateness of this in the following circumstances:

	Appropriate	Slightly appropriate	Slightly inappropriate	Inappropriate	Not Sure
Advisor is an older male, student is a younger female:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Advisor is an older female, student is a younger male:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Advisor is an older male, student is a younger male:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Advisor is an older female, student is a younger female:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2. How would your responses change if it is the student that is constantly commenting on the advisor's social network posts?

	More appropriate	As appropriate	Less appropriate	Not Sure
The behavior is:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3. (Optional) What action on behalf of the student or advisor would make this behavior more appropriate?

# Perceptions of Appropriate Behaviors Between Students and

## 13. Scenario 9: Meetings in private settings (3 questions)

1. An advisor asks a research student to come over the her/his home or hotel room to discuss a research project. Consider the appropriateness of this in the following circumstances:

	Appropriate	Slightly appropriate	Slightly inappropriate	Inappropriate	Not Sure
Advisor is an older female, student is a younger female:	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ
Advisor is an older female, student is a younger male:	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ
Advisor is an older male, student is a younger female:	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ
Advisor is an older male, student is a younger male:	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ

2. How would your responses change if it is the student that asks the advisor to come to the student's home?

	More appropriate	As appropriate	Less appropriate	Not Sure
The behavior is:	jñ	jñ	jñ	jñ

3. (Optional) What action on behalf of the student or advisor would make this behavior more appropriate?

# Perceptions of Appropriate Behaviors Between Students and

## 14. Scenario 10: Meeting for lunch or dinner (5 questions)

1. An advisor routinely asks a student to join her/him for an informal lunch (just the two of them), and pays for the meal. Consider the appropriateness of this in the following circumstances:

	Appropriate	Slightly appropriate	Slightly inappropriate	Inappropriate	Not Sure
Advisor is an older male, student is a younger female:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Advisor is an older female, student is a younger male:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Advisor is an older male, student is a younger male:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Advisor is an older female, student is a younger female:	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn

2. How would your responses change if it is the student that takes the advisor to lunch?

	More appropriate	As appropriate	Less appropriate	Not Sure
The behavior is:	jn	jn	jn	jn

3. How would your responses change if the advisor takes the student to dinner?

	More appropriate	As appropriate	Less appropriate	Not Sure
The behavior is:	jn	jn	jn	jn

4. How would your responses change if the lunch is always with a group as opposed to one-on-one?

	More appropriate	As appropriate	Less appropriate	Not Sure
The behavior is:	jn	jn	jn	jn

5. (Optional) What action on behalf of the student or advisor would make this behavior more appropriate?



# Perceptions of Appropriate Behaviors Between Students and

## 15. What is your experience with these scenarios? (1 question)

1. Have you ever experienced any of these scenarios? Click below if you have as a:

	You were recipient student	You were initiating advisor	You were initiating student	You were recipient advisor
Asked to work late as a parent	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Received gifts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Asked to "hang out" socially at night	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Received late-night work calls	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Had comments made on physical appearance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other had insisted you sit next to them on a plane flight	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Asked about personal relations/marital status	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Followed on a social network	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Asked to meet in private setting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Had lunch or dinner bought by other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

# Perceptions of Appropriate Behaviors Between Students and

## 16. Any additional comments

1. If you have any additional comments for or about this survey, or other borderline appropriate/inappropriate student/advisor scenarios you'd like to describe, please do so below.

## 17. Thank you!

Thank you for taking to time to respond to this survey!

Results will be posted at <http://www.browndwarfs.org/wia2009> in early November.