

## Sense of Place and Student Wellbeing: Preliminary Evidence for Impact of Liked but Not Disliked Spaces

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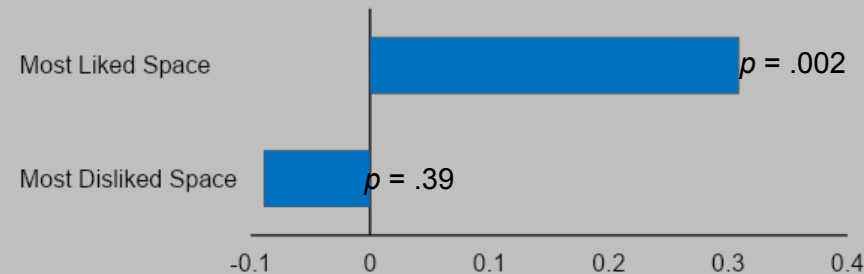
### INTRODUCTION

- Sense of place (SoP) develops through positive emotional connections with a space or place (Hashemnezhad et al., 2013) and bolsters well-being (Hausmann et al., 2016).
- We sought to examine students' SoP on campus and its association with wellbeing and academic engagement.
  - Unfortunately, the pandemic caused an interruption in data collection.
  - The second wave of data collection (Study 2) shifted the focus from campus spaces to home spaces.\*

\* As a result, these studies are underpowered and should be considered exploratory.

### Study 1

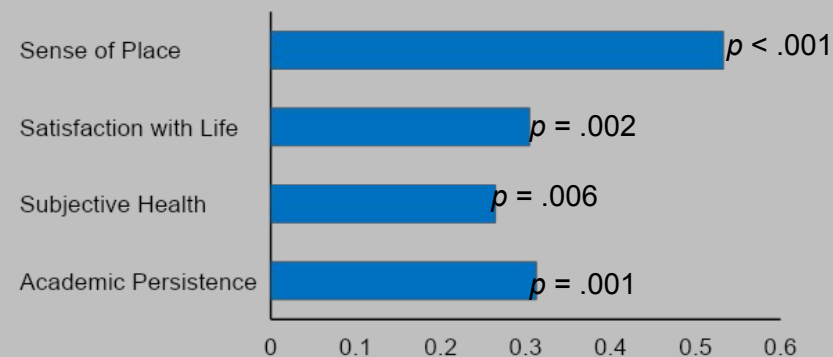
Students' degree of liking for their most liked **campus spaces** correlated positively with their sense of place; their degree of disliking for their most disliked campus spaces did not.



In addition, there was evidence that sense of place mediated the liking–life satisfaction effect (indirect effect  $p = .045$ ).

### Study 2

Students' degree of liking for their most commonly used **home spaces** correlated positively with their sense of place, satisfaction with life, subjective health, and academic persistence.



### METHODS

- Qualtrics survey: Participants named and rated physical spaces, completed measures of SoP and wellbeing.
- Study 1, N = 116
  - Liked, disliked, commonly frequented **campus spaces**
- Study 2, N = 105
  - Liked, commonly frequented **home spaces**

### DISCUSSION

- Although only tentative, these studies support the idea that physical spaces have psychological (SoP, life satisfaction), physical (subjective health), and behavioral (academic engagement) implications.

### REFERENCES

- Hashemnezhad, H., Heidari, A. A., & Mohammad Hoseini, P. (2013). Sense of place" and "place attachment. *International Journal of Architecture and Urban Development*, 3(1), 5-12.
- Hausmann, A., Slotow, R. O. B., Burns, J. K., & Di Minin, E. (2016). The ecosystem service of sense of place: benefits for human well-being and biodiversity conservation. *Environmental conservation*, 43(2), 117-127.