

Confronting the Challenges of Studentification in Residential Orono Neighborhoods
Executive Summary
April 29, 2015

- Large pool of respondents (447- good representation from University and Town). Statistically significant findings presented.
 - Graduate students largely invisible and under-represented
- Residents are overall very satisfied with their neighborhoods. Density of student homes within neighborhoods does not make a significant difference in satisfaction. There does not appear to be a “tipping point” in terms of the amount of student rental properties in a neighborhood either.
- Absence of affordable, quality rental housing or relatively low cost homes for graduate students, recent graduates, young faculty and professionals. We have student rentals and we have fairly expensive homes but not much in between. (Based on qualitative data findings)
- Few residents have negative interactions with students. They largely are dissatisfied with the quality of upkeep of their homes.
- Student rental properties are not as well maintained as other houses in neighborhoods, this then translates into negative perceptions of the students/student rental properties. Behavior in this case is likely centered around students simply being poor neighbors due to a lack of education.
- Residents are uncertain who to contact, aside from the police department, if there is an issue.
 - This puts more strain on the Orono Police Department, as they are often the first call.
- Resident Assistants don't educate first-year students on future requirements of them prior to their moves off-campus. The University also is not as engaged in educational programs for these students as it should be.
- More opportunities for student/resident engagement and interaction are required. More education for first-time renters and better standards of living for them in student rental properties would make a tremendous impact on student-resident relations.