Understanding the Relationship Between Perceived Organizational Support and Psychological Well-Being: Perspectives of Turkish Faculty Members

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**Abstract**

**Objective:** The purpose of our quantitative correlational study is to investigate the relationship between the perceived organizational support of faculty members and their psychological well-being.

**Methods:** Our study included 450 faculty members from state universities in Istanbul who were selected using a simple random sampling method. We used descriptive statistics, t-test, ANOVA, and linear multiple regression analyses.

**Results:** We found that faculty perceptions of organizational support and psychological well-being vary according to academic title and tenure and are not different by gender. Perceived organizational support significantly predicted psychological well-being while controlling for gender, academic title, and tenure.

**Conclusions:** Ensuring organizational support for faculty can positively impact their psychological well-being.

**Implication for Practice:** Higher education institutions should diversify resources of support for faculty and make this approach a priority for the administration. The institution should make organizational changes that consider the needs and expectations of faculty members.

**Keywords:** Organizational support perception, psychological well-being, university, faculty member

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Introduction

Faculty members contribute to the fundamental functions of higher education institutions, such as teaching, research, and community service activities (Komarraju et al., 2010; McGinn, 2012; Rinas et al., 2020; Watt & Richardson, 2020; Zepke & Leach, 2010). Fulfilling these functions can lead to negative consequences, such as work-life imbalance (Fontinha et al., 2019; Mudrak et al., 2018), burnout (Sabagh et al., 2018; Watts & Robertson, 2011), and stress (Gillespie et al., 2001). These consequences can have negative implications for higher education institutions and their students. Therefore, it is important to understand the factors that contribute to the well-being of faculty members (Diener et al., 2010; Sabagh et al., 2018; Salimzadeh et al., 2017).

Previous researchers have identified various institutional factors that influence the satisfaction of faculty members, such as the climate and culture of the institution; relationships with colleagues, students, and administrators; and effective leadership (e.g., Eagan et al., 2015; Hagedorn, 2000; Moors et al., 2014). Furthermore, it is assumed that the well-being of faculty members is rooted in cognitive, behavioral, and coping processes as well as in their perceptions of various work experiences and stress factors (Larson et al., 2019; Payne et al., 2007; Vera et al., 2010). While these studies indicate a potential relationship between perceived organizational support (POS) and psychological well-being (PWB) among faculty members, they also highlight the need for empirical research in this area. Particularly, considering the different cultural and socioeconomic conditions under which faculty members work in different countries, it is necessary to conduct more comprehensive studies on the relationship between organizational support and PWB.

The lack of existing studies examining the relationship between organizational support and PWB among faculty members in Turkey is an important factor that motivated our research. Despite the existing knowledge regarding the importance of PWB among faculty and, particularly, the positive role POS plays in Eastern compared with Western cultures (Eisenberger et al., 2020), there is still much to be learned regarding these constructs in different cultural and educational contexts. The results of our study will contribute to the understanding of the relationship between POS and PWB among faculty as well as how demographic variables (i.e., gender, academic title, and tenure) influence POS and PWB. Understanding these relationships can be an important reference point for policymakers in higher education institutions. On the other hand, since job satisfaction, commitment, and faculty performance directly impact the quality of teaching (Culver et al., 2020; Kezar, 2013), increasing PWB should be an important goal. Higher education institution leaders should strive to better understand the needs of faculty and develop supportive strategies that impact well-being. Thus, the aim of our study was to determine the relationship between faculty’s POS and their levels of PWB in Turkey.

Literature Review

Perceived Organizational Support

POS is a multidimensional construct that encompasses employee beliefs about being valued, the sufficiency of resources and support, and PWB (Bai et al., 2023; Eisenberger & Stinglhamber, 2011; Giorgi, 2016). Studies have shown that employees who perceive high levels of support from their organizations report higher levels of performance, job satisfaction, and organizational commitment (Hakanen et al., 2008; Nguyen et al., 2021; Zhang et al., 2017). However, according to social exchange theory, which suggests that employees feel obliged to reciprocate the physical, social, and/or emotional resources they receive from their organizations through effort and loyalty (Rhoades & Eisenberger, 2002), employees generally compare the value they contribute to the organization with the rewards they receive (Bogler & Nir, 2012; Sluss & Ashforth, 2008; Turnley et al., 2003). This approach can occasionally diminish commitment to the organization, lower performance, and even lead to outcomes of alienation and turnover (Eder & Eisenberger, 2008; Edwards & Peccei, 2010).
Research on POS suggests that it is an important predictor of organizational commitment that reflects the institutional structure, administrative policies, and actions of leaders (Culver et al., 2020; Johnson, 2020; Kasalak & Aksu, 2014). However, the POS among faculty members in higher education institutions is influenced by various factors. These include opportunities for education and development, behaviors of managers and colleagues, support from supervisors, workplace justice, institutional policies and procedures, and work-life balance (Fleming, 2023; Halbesleben & Buckley, 2004; Kabanova et al., 2016; Kurtessis et al., 2017; Yu et al., 2021). For example, Levin and Shaker (2011) suggested that the development of policies and procedures to reduce faculty workload can enhance performance and job satisfaction. Altbach (2000) argued that the decline in organizational power and institutional community has led today's faculty to feel less connected to the institution compared with previous generations. Therefore, higher education institutions have the potential to enhance both faculty satisfaction and the quality of education by increasing their faculty's PWB (Caesens et al., 2016; Culver et al., 2020; Stuckey et al., 2019). Taken together, these findings demonstrate the importance of creating a supportive working environment for faculty members in achieving institutional success.

**Psychological Well-Being**

PWB refers to positive emotions, life satisfaction, a sense of meaning and purpose, and the ability to effectively manage one's daily life (Diener et al., 2010). It is the subjective evaluation of happiness and satisfaction that arises from the alignment between an individual’s personal needs and expectations (Engels et al., 2004; Yukhymenko-Lesacrota & Sharma, 2019). PWB encompasses various dimensions, such as positive emotions, life satisfaction, self-acceptance, autonomy, and personal growth (Price & McCallum, 2015; Ryff & Singer, 2008). The state of well-being in the workplace is a result of the interaction between the organizational environment and personal characteristics (Abid et al., 2020; Mascarenhas et al., 2022; Salimzadeh et al., 2020). Research indicates that employees with high levels of PWB are more productive, engaged, and committed to their organizations (Bakker et al., 2014; Saks, 2006). Furthermore, employees' well-being is a determinant of organizational outcomes, such as absenteeism, turnover, and performance (Hakanen et al., 2008; Judge & Bono, 2001; Wright et al., 2007).

Research indicates that faculty with higher levels of PWB are more engaged in their work, have higher levels of job satisfaction, and participate more in innovative and creative activities (Van Horn et al., 2004; Maslach et al., 1996). Numerous studies have shown that PWB is closely related to job satisfaction, self-efficacy, organizational support, and work-life balance (Butts et al., 2013; Chung et al., 2010; Demerouti et al., 2001; Grawitch et al., 2007; Ilies et al., 2007; Salanova et al., 2000). Job satisfaction has been found to positively influence PWB and reduce the intention to leave one's job (Damiri et al., 2015). Similarly, PWB has positive effects on teaching performance, student satisfaction, and overall university quality (Fontinha et al., 2018; Maslach et al., 2001).

In addition to these factors, research on PWB has focused on a range of factors that hinder faculty well-being. In this regard, various studies demonstrate that job demands, such as heavy teaching loads, publication expectations, and excessive administrative duties, are associated with high levels of stress and burnout among faculty (Berg & Seeber, 2016; Bothwell, 2018; Seldin, 1987; Skaalvik & Skaalvik, 2018). Research conducted by Kinman (2014) and Kinman and Wray (2019) on public sector employees in the United Kingdom and Australia, respectively, indicate that academics reported higher levels of psychological distress compared with other public sector workers. Recent studies have shown that the COVID-19 pandemic increased stress and created new challenges for faculty members, such as sudden changes in teaching formats, increased workloads, and social isolation (Besser et al., 2022). Despite experiencing significant difficulties in the workplace, many academics remain hesitant to speak about experiences related to self-stigmatization or the shame associated with reduced productivity due to stress, anxiety, and seeking support (Livingston, 2013, 2020; Smith et al., 2022).
**Linking Perceived Organizational Support and Psychological Well-Being**

Due to the critical importance of PWB on employee performance, organizations adopt various strategies to support and sustain employee well-being (Culver et al., 2020; Guan et al., 2014). Organizational support is an important factor in promoting employees’ PWB (Harrill et al., 2015; Jiang & Probst, 2016; Kurtessis et al., 2017). This topic has received increasing attention in recent years, and studies examining the relationship between POS and PWB in various contexts, such as in nongovernmental organizations (Amundsen & Martinsen, 2015), tourism (Bai et al., 2023), K–12-level education (Malik & Noreen, 2015; Suleman et al., 2018), and other organizational types (Bakker et al., 2004; Saks, 2006), have demonstrated a positive relationship between the two. Furthermore, research indicates that the relationship between organizational support and PWB is mediated by various factors, including perceived social support from coworkers and supervisors (Halbesleben & Buckley, 2004) and job satisfaction (Grant et al., 2007).

Experiences at work that give meaning to individuals' lives can contribute to their well-being by meeting various needs (Diego-Medrano & Salazar, 2021; Haviland et al., 2023; Ni & Wang, 2015; Reybold, 2005). Similarly, work-related expectations and challenges among employees can result in high levels of stress, burnout, and decreased job satisfaction. This can impact employee PWB in various ways (Kinzie, 2005; Tijdink et al., 2014). However, little is known about how POS can affect the PWB of faculty (Black & Gregerson, 1999; Liu & Ipe, 2010). Overall, findings from multiple studies suggest that organizational support may play a significant role in promoting the PWB of faculty (Afif, 2018; Crucke et al., 2022; Panaccio & Vandenberghe, 2009; Ryff & Singer, 1998).

Demographic variables have frequently been examined as factors influencing POS and PWB of individuals working in different sectors. In some studies, no significant differences have been found regarding the impact of gender on organizational support perception (Büyükgöze & Kavak, 2017; Collins, 2017; Fuller et al., 2006; Yirci, 2014; Yu & Frenkel, 2013) and PWB (Arslan & Tura, 2022; Aydoğan, 2019; Koç, 2017; Madhuchandra & Srimathi, 2016). However, tenure (Rhoades & Eisenberger, 2002; Serinkan & Tülü, 2020; Yılmaz et al., 2023; Yirci, 2014) and academic title (Aydin & Belli, 2023; Benlioğlu, 2014; Kalağan, 2009; Yirci, 2014) have been found in the literature to be significant factors associated with POS and PWB.

**Purpose of the Study and Research Questions**

The main purpose of our study was to investigate the relationship between POS and PWB among faculty. Questions were addressed that involved understanding (a) the relationship between POS and PWB and (b) differences in POS and PWB scores by gender, academic title, and tenure. The following hypotheses were tested to address the research questions.

H1. POS and PWB do not differ by gender.

H2. POS and PWB differ by academic title.

H3. POS and PWB differ by tenure.

H4. There is a positive relationship between POS and PWB when controlling for covariates of gender, academic title, and tenure.

**Methods**

**Research Design**

We used a quantitative correlational study using multiple linear regression to examine the relationship between faculty POS and faculty PWB.
Research Context and Participants

Istanbul, the most populous and cosmopolitan city in Turkey, provided a suitable context to answer the research questions in our study. The city of Istanbul is representative of Turkey in terms of sociocultural and economic structure. Furthermore, the presence of nine state universities specializing in different disciplines, including social, health, and technical sciences, provided adequate diversity. During the 2022–2023 academic year, 40,140 faculty members were working in Istanbul. A roster of approximately 1,500 faculty member email addresses was assembled by sourcing data from the Council of Higher Education (https://akademik.yok.gov.tr). Email addresses were systematically collected from web page links containing faculty contact information. We used the web tool, Octoparse (www.octoparse.com). Subsequently, a digital questionnaire was dispatched via email to these addresses.

Instrumentation

Demographic Information Form
This information form included questions to determine the gender, academic title (assistant, associate, or full professor), and tenure (<5 years; 5–10 years; and ≥10 years) of the participants. We used this demographic information to examine the impact of faculty on POS and PWB variables.

Perceived Organizational Support
We used the 8-item short form of the POS scale (Eisenberger et al., 1986) to assess participants’ perceived levels of support from their organization. Eisenberger et al. (1999) reduced the item count of the original scale to eight items and treated them as a single dimension. A 7-point Likert-type scale (1 = strongly disagree to 7 = strongly agree) was used. The reported internal consistency coefficient was .90. The scale was translated into Turkish (Yokuş, 2006). Factor analysis revealed that the items in the reduced scale were like those in the study by Eisenberger et al. (1999) and were grouped under a single factor. In our study, Cronbach’s alpha was .89. Example items included (a) The organization values my contribution to its well-being; (b) The organization would ignore any complaint from me; and (c) The organization shows very little concern for me.

Psychological Well-Being Scale
The PWB scale (Ryff, 1989) was adapted into Turkish by Telef (2013) and yielded a Cronbach’s alpha coefficient of .87. The item-total correlations of the PWB scale ranged from .41 to .63. There are eight items in the scale, and the items are assessed using a 7-point Likert-type scale (1 = strongly disagree to 7 = strongly agree). All items are expressed positively. Scores range from 8 (strongly disagree with all items) to 56 (strongly agree with all items). A high score indicates that the person has many psychological resources and strengths. As a result of the validity study conducted by Telef (2013), it was determined that the scale consisted of a single factor and the total explained variance was 53%. Examples include: (a) I lead a purposeful and meaningful life; (b) My social relationships are supportive and rewarding; and (c) I am a good person and live a good life. Cronbach’s alpha in our study was .92.

Procedures

Istanbul Medeniyet University Social and Human Science Ethics Committee gave us permission to conduct our study. In November 2022, an online form was distributed to faculty. This form was accompanied by essential information regarding the questionnaire, including an approximate completion time of 10 minutes and a statement regarding voluntary participation. A digital form was sent to the 1,500 addresses via email as described previously. Assuming that participation in online forms was low, the forms were randomly sent to the first 1,500 email addresses. Answers were obtained from 450 participants (30% response rate) within a 2-week period. No further emails were sent at this stage, in line with the related literature (e.g., Cohen et al., 2011); it was assumed that the sample of 450 faculty members would represent all faculty members in Istanbul based on 95% confidence and a 5% error rate. All data were complete; we minimized possible data
loss by requiring answers to all questions. To prevent potential online fraud, the Completely Automated Public Turing Test to Tell Computers and Humans Apart (CAPTCHA) verification method was used.

**Data Analysis**

The participant responses obtained through the online form were transferred to SPSS V25 software. Data were checked for outliers and consistency. The variables were examined for normality, linearity, and homoscedasticity to ensure the appropriateness of assumptions required for correlational analysis. Next, descriptive statistics were calculated to present the mean, standard deviation, and other relevant measures of POS and PWB. Pearson correlation was conducted to determine the strength and direction of the relationship between POS and PWB. We analyzed differences by gender, academic title, and tenure using the *t*-test and ANOVA. We then employed multiple linear regression analysis to explore whether POS predicts PWB while controlling for potential confounding factors. The significance level of 0.05 was used to determine statistical significance.

**Results**

Table 1 provides descriptive information for key study variables. Approximately 50% of the sample is male, most are at the assistant professor level, and tenure is fairly broadly distributed.

### Table 1. Demographic Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic title</td>
<td>Assistant professor</td>
<td>313</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Associate professor</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Full professor</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenure</td>
<td>&lt;5 years</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6–10 years</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>≥11 years</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2 provides information on means for POS (*M* = 4.28, *SD* = .95) and PWB (*M* = 5.29, *SD* = 1.18). Skewness and kurtosis values indicated variables that are normally distributed.

### Table 2. Descriptive Information for Perceived Organizational Support and Psychological Well-Being

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>Skewness</th>
<th>Kurtosis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POS</td>
<td>4.28</td>
<td>.95</td>
<td>-3.52</td>
<td>-5.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PWB</td>
<td>5.29</td>
<td>1.18</td>
<td>-7.93</td>
<td>-4.73</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Hypothesis Testing**

**Hypothesis 1:**

**POS and PWB do not differ by gender.** There were no significant differences by gender for POS (*t* = -.415, *p* = .68) or PWB (*t* = -.668, *p* = .50).
Hypothesis 2:
**POS and PWB differ by academic title.** The overall F-test for POS was not statistically significant, $F(2, 447) = .909, p = .404$. However, there were significant differences for PWB, $F(2, 447) = 10.251, p < .001$. The Games-Howell test showed that faculty members with the title of full professor ($M = 5.69; SD = .67$) and associate professor ($M = 5.65; SD = .91$) had significantly higher levels of PWB compared with faculty members with the title of assistant professor ($M = 5.12; SD = 1.26$).

Hypothesis 3:
**POS and PWB differ by tenure.** One-way ANOVA was conducted to determine differences by tenure. There was a significant difference in POS, $F(2, 447) = 11.826, p < .01$ and PWB, $F(2, 447) = 34.824, p < .01$. The Games-Howell test showed that faculty members with a tenure of 5 years or fewer ($M = 5.45; SD = .80$) have significantly higher POS compared with faculty members with a tenure of 11 years or more ($M = 4.05; SD = .96$). Faculty with a tenure of 5 years or fewer ($M = 5.83; SD = .67$) reported significantly higher PWB compared with faculty members with a tenure of 5–10 years ($M = 5.29; SD = 1.12$) and 11 years or greater ($M = 4.83; SD = 1.35$). Additionally, faculty with a tenure of 6–10 years ($M = 5.29; SD = 1.12$) have significantly higher perceptions of PWB compared with faculty members with a tenure of 11 years or greater ($M = 4.83; SD = 1.35$).

Hypothesis 4:
**There is a positive correlation between POS and PWB.** A statistically significant positive correlation was found between these two variables ($r = .645, p < .01$). In a test of multiple regression (results reported in Table 3), PWB significantly predicts POS scores ($B = 0.52, p < .001$) when controlling for academic title and tenure; the covariates do not.

### Table 3. Multiple Regression Analysis to Examine Influence of Demographic Factors and PWB on POS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Unstandardized Coefficient</th>
<th>$t$</th>
<th>$p$</th>
<th>95% Confidence Interval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Standard Error</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intercept</td>
<td>1.034</td>
<td>5.003</td>
<td>&lt;.001</td>
<td>1.032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PWB</td>
<td>0.303</td>
<td>15.997</td>
<td>&lt;.001</td>
<td>0.454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant professor</td>
<td>-0.310</td>
<td>-0.516</td>
<td>0.606</td>
<td>-0.748</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate professor</td>
<td>-0.332</td>
<td>-0.482</td>
<td>0.63</td>
<td>-0.814</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full professor</td>
<td>0.341</td>
<td>-1.121</td>
<td>0.263</td>
<td>-1.053</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≤5 years</td>
<td>0.438</td>
<td>-1.126</td>
<td>0.261</td>
<td>-1.355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥11 years</td>
<td>0.355</td>
<td>1.078</td>
<td>0.281</td>
<td>-0.315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[Assistant professor] * [Less than 5 years]</td>
<td>0.355</td>
<td>1.078</td>
<td>0.281</td>
<td>-0.315</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*This parameter is set to zero because it is redundant.*

**Discussion**

The findings of our study indicate that faculty members have a moderate level of POS and high levels of PWB, consistent with findings by Panaccio and Vandenbergh (2009). Mascarenhas et al. (2022) suggested that the POS may vary depending on the sincerity and intensity of approval, praise, material, and social rewards. Therefore, it can be inferred that faculty members may not perceive a high level of organizational support due to insufficient tangible and intangible rewards. Another reason for the moderate level of POS could be the inadequacy of resources and incentives provided to faculty members (Culver et al., 2020; Rhoades & Eisenberger, 2002). Additionally, the lack of sufficient support from administrators, such as deans and
department chairs, regarding their profession can be considered as a reason for the perceived low level of organizational support (Kasalak & Aksu, 2014). Furthermore, as faculty prioritize research duties over administrative tasks, their levels of burnout decrease while their commitment to the organization and intrinsic satisfaction significantly increase (Vera et al., 2010). Therefore, limiting teaching and nonresearch-related responsibilities could be beneficial in improving faculty POS. It is well known that teaching and research are the most important duties of faculty members. Faculty teaching and research motivation is positively influenced when they feel a strong sense of organizational support (Nguyen et al., 2021). The high levels of PWB among faculty suggest that they are able to maintain work-life balance and establish positive social relationships with their colleagues. Faculty who can integrate life activities, experience less conflict, and have a strong commitment to their work are expected to have higher life satisfaction and subjective happiness (Yukhymenko-Lescroart & Sharma, 2019).

Although gender-based discrimination is considered a crime in many countries and higher education institutions, there are still hidden or explicit institutional barriers, especially for women and underrepresented minorities. Unconscious bias and exclusion can create obstacles in the workplace, particularly for women (Stuckey et al., 2019). Salimzadeh et al. (2020) argued that female faculty members may face significant additional challenges compared with their male counterparts, which may lead to lower levels of well-being. However, our study shows no significant difference based on gender in both the POS and PWB among faculty members. Although men may have higher expectations regarding organizational support (Mascarenhas et al., 2022), both male and female faculty members demonstrate similar perceptions of the work environment and their own well-being.

In our study, no differences were found by academic title in terms of POS, similar to findings by Yu et al. (2021). However, PWB varied according to academic title. One possible reason for this difference is that academics with different titles may have different workloads. Assistant professors may have more teaching responsibilities or may have less job security compared with their higher-title colleagues (Haviland et al., 2023). Additionally, as different academic titles often coincide with early career stages, during which serious responsibilities, such as parenting young children and establishing work-life balance are undertaken, it can be inferred that doctoral faculty members exhibit lower levels of well-being (Diego-Medrano & Salazar, 2021; Fleming, 2023; Reybold, 2005).

We found significant differences in the POS and PWB levels of faculty members based on their tenure. However, Rhoades and Eisenberger (2002) found that demographic factors, such as age and tenure, showed very little relationship with POS. Data from our study suggest that POS tends to decrease as tenure increases. This is contrary to findings in prior studies (Johnson, 2020; Solmaz & Akdoğan, 2023; Yirci, 2014) and may be attributed to the fluctuating nature of POS. Considering that roughly half of the overall variance in POS stems from individual experiences and perceptions on a regular basis (Caesens et al., 2016), this could potentially be a causal factor for the trend observed in our study. Our results show that the PWB of faculty decreases significantly as their tenure increases, which is inconsistent with findings by Fontinha et al. (2018). According to Culver (2020), extended tenure at an institution may lead to faculty members forming stronger relationships with colleagues and administrators over time, consequently contributing to a higher level of PWB.

**Limitations**

There are some limitations that need to be considered. All participants included in our research were faculty members working only in Istanbul. However, of a total of 205 universities in Turkey, 57 (~28%) are located in Istanbul. Therefore, Istanbul represents an important part of the overall academic population. Furthermore, quantitative research often emphasizes generalizability and causality, but it may not fully explore the underlying mechanisms or processes that drive the observed relationships between variables. Thus, our current study does not capture contextual factors or the potential richness of participants’ perspectives.
Measures used also may not fully capture the complexity and diversity of factors influencing faculty members’ experiences in the academic context.

**Implications for Research and Practice**

Future studies should adopt diverse methodological approaches when investigating POS and PWB. Combining quantitative surveys with qualitative interviews or focus groups can provide a more comprehensive understanding of the complex factors influencing faculty experiences in higher education institutions. Additionally, longitudinal studies can offer insights into the dynamic nature of faculty well-being over time. By employing mixed-methods research, researchers can delve into the nuances of faculty members’ perceptions, motivations, and challenges, uncovering valuable insights that inform the development of supportive work environments and policies, ultimately contributing to enhanced job satisfaction and PWB in universities.

To enhance faculty satisfaction, commitment, motivation, and PWB, different strategies can be employed, such as providing support, balancing workload, offering leadership training, and providing training in conflict management. These strategies will not only enhance the satisfaction and motivation of faculty members but also contribute to the success of both students and the institution (Harrill et al. 2015; Kinzie, 2005). Universities and other educational institutions should provide organizational support to enhance the PWB of faculty and, thus, create a sustainable work environment. To achieve this, we suggest implementing strategies such as flexible scheduling and employee recognition programs. These initiatives communicate organizational care, reduce employee stress, and enhance job-related positivity, ultimately contributing to a more positive work attitude (Guan et al., 2014). In this context, it is important for higher education institutions to change and consider the needs and expectations of the faculty. Strategies such as psychological support programs for faculty members, activities that provide social support, diversification of teaching methods, and policies addressing work-life balance can be useful (Kabanova et al., 2016; Kurtessis et al., 2017). Emphasizing the researcher roles of faculty members and reducing the intensity of their teaching and administrative duties to allow more time for teaching and research activities will contribute to higher POS levels. In this context, it is necessary to increase active participation by faculty in research and provide them with a productive working environment. Policymakers hold the key to shaping the future of teaching and research in higher education institutions.

**Conclusion**

Providing organizational support to faculty members can positively influence PWB. When faculty members are supported by their organizations, they may experience lower levels of stress and job dissatisfaction, leading to better PWB. Additionally, when faculty members feel valued and supported, they may experience stronger job security, organizational commitment, and an increase in their levels of PWB. Fostering a positive and supportive working environment that acknowledges and evaluates the invaluable contributions of faculty members is paramount for higher education institutions. By creating such an atmosphere, institutions have the potential to elevate the job satisfaction, commitment, and PWB of their teaching staff. By prioritizing the well-being and professional development of their educators, institutions lay the foundation for a thriving academic community.
References


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