Black Resource Center

University of California, San Diego

Quarterly Report: Spring 2014

ACADEMIC SUCCESS AND CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

Real World Career Series #doitforthejob: April-May 2014

This workshop series helped prepare students for today’s competitive job market. Topics covered included face-to-face conversation, electronic communication, making professional connections, appropriate workplace attire, and etiquette. This was part of a collaborative effort which included Career Services, the Cross Cultural Center, Ethnic Studies, and the Center for Student Involvement.

Recurring Event – Week 2 through Week 10

The Black Resource Center hosted two OASIS workshops (Language & Writing and Math & Science). The presence of these workshops emphasized the scholarship pillar of the Black Resource Center mission. This collaboration with OASIS represents a larger initiative to offer academic support services within the Black Resource Center.

Introduction

The Black Resource Center (BRC) is a Campus Community Center which serves the entire population of UC San Diego while emphasizing the Black experience. Creating campus collaborations and establishing partnerships (on and off campus) are major initiatives for this inaugural year. As a unit which emphasizes the recruitment, yield, retention and graduation of historically underrepresented students, programming in the BRC strives to promote scholarship, foster leadership and cultivate community.

PSYCHOSOCIAL WELL-BEING

Campus Black Forum: May 2014

The Campus Black Forum (CBF) series is a collaboration with Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS). The discussion series, led by Dr. Doriane Besson (Black Resource Center’s CAPS liaison), highlights relevant topics for college-aged students through the lens of the Black experience. Participants discuss and explore a variety of topics such as: effective stress relief strategies, interpersonal communication, and relationship dynamics. The CBF provides a safe space for students to air concerns and access professional advice relative to their psychosocial well-being.

OUTREACH, YIELD, AND RETENTION

BSU Overnight Program: April 2014

The 5th Annual BSU Overnight Program was held in collaboration with the SPACES and JSOE Overnight Programs. Thirty-eight admitted students who self-identified as Black participated in the program. Current students served as hosts for the 3 day/2 night event. Participants were exposed to both academic life and extracurricular life at UC San Diego during their stay. By choice, approximately half of the students attended a lab tour and faculty panel led by Biological Sciences, the remaining attended a mock lecture and faculty/graduate student panel led by Social Sciences faculty members. The event ended the morning of Triton Day.

INCLUSION, COMMUNITY, AND BELONGING

Black Graduate Student Spring Reception: April 2014

This event was held during the Graduate & Professional Student Recognition Week in collaboration with the Black Graduate Student Association. Graduate students across disciplines attended and enjoyed an opportunity to meet and network with one another. Faculty and staff members also attended in addition to undergraduate students. Campus food vendors were solicited prior to the event to donate gift certificates which were then raffled off during the event. Each graduate student was given a certificate of recognition for their persistence within their prospective programs. The event was well-received and appreciated by all attendees, especially the graduate students.

Black Life; The Year in Review: June 2014

This event brought together units from across campus to highlight accomplishments for the 2013-2014 academic year. It also provided an opportunity to look forward to 2014-2015 for upcoming events/activities. This collaborative forum was designed to recognize the interdisciplinary activities which lead to the enrichment of the Black experience within the campus community.