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.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS AND CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

Presentation for Contemporary Issues Course & Interaction with Summer Bridge Participants
Black Resource Center professional staff members joined staff from the Raza Resource Centro, African American Studies Minor and the Chicano/a-Latino/a Arts & Humanities (CLAH) Program to provide an overview of our center and issues related to Black student retention and matriculation. This was followed up by a subsequent reception for Summer Bridge students to visit the Black Resource Center to help them become more familiar with our space and resources. Additionally, BRC Professional staff members attended lunch with Summer Bridge participants to further develop relationships with the students and build collaborations with OASIS.

Recurring Event – Daily August 1 – 29, 2014
The Black Resource Center hosted one course for the Summer Bridge Program, which is held by the Office of Academic Support & Instructional Services (OASIS). The presence of these workshops emphasized the scholarship pillar of the Black Resource Center’s mission. The exposure of incoming students to the various campus resources at UCSD is integral to their overall success. This collaboration with OASIS represents a larger initiative to offer academic support services within the Black Resource Center.

Student Success Institute (SSI)
The SSI is a transition event for new students and their families. For 2014-15, it was held on move-in day prior to Welcome Week. For this inaugural event, there were 21 incoming students (including one graduate student and one exchange student from Morehouse College) and 13 parents/family members in attendance. (Family members included parents, grandparents, older siblings and other relatives). This event covered topics such as UC San Diego Black History, Becoming a UC San Diego Graduate (led by an Alumnus), Financial Aid and opportunities for incoming students to hear from continuing students while parents interacted exclusively with staff members. This event lasted approximately 4 hours and included refreshments, campus resource guides, a booklet of study/academic tips for students, as well as informational literature from the Office of Parent and Family Programs for family members.

INCLUSION, COMMUNITY, AND BELONGING

UC-HBCU Summer Research Program Student Reception
The Summer Training Academy for Research in the Sciences (STARS) program is an eight week summer research academy for undergraduate students, recent graduates, and master’s students offered through the Graduate Division. As a component of this program, two smaller programs, (UC-HBCU summer research programs) the Pathways program with Howard University (headed by Gentry Patrick) and a Physics Bridge program with Morehouse (headed by Adam Burgasser) brought approximately 16 students from various HBCUs to UC San Diego to conduct research. The Black Resource Center worked collaboratively with the UC-HBCU to plan an extracurricular activity for the students in addition to greeting the entire STARS program group during a morning session. The extracurricular event involved current UCSD students as well as other program participants.

BYOB – Bring Your Own Banana (Stress Reliever - Ice Cream Social)
At the completion of the summer session, we hosted a stress reliever in the form of an ice cream social for current and visiting students. This setting allowed students to relax between studying while enjoying a refreshing snack.