STRATEGIC PLANNING

The Raza Resource Centro assessed the needs of UC San Diego Latina/o Chicana/o students and collaborated with Chicana/o stakeholders within UC San Diego and the community to write a living strategic plan. The Raza RC’s strategic plan supports EDI’s and the Chancellor’s goals. The Raza RC strategic plan outlines our mission statement, short and long term actions, projects and programs, and clearly defined metrics.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS AND CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

University Link Medical Science Program (ULMSP)

ULMSP is a federally funded program that aims to assist community college transfer students from economically and educationally disadvantaged backgrounds through the academic pipeline to successfully enter and graduate from a health or allied health professions program. The four week residential program ran from June 23- July 16. ULMSP is designed to support San Diego and Imperial Valley community college students during their transition to a four year university by providing them the knowledge and tools to be successful in their undergraduate studies and future health careers. These students will be starting their first semester at UC San Diego this coming fall 2014. The Raza Resource Centro collaborated with ULMSP to develop a lecture series to increase the students’ knowledge about the different key centers and programs at UC San Diego that invest in their success at UC San Diego. Following the program the ULMSP transfer students were more familiar with the range of resources at UC San Diego for students from underserved communities.

UCSD's Health & Medical Professions Preparation Program (HMP3)

HMP3 seeks to reach out to under-represented students and to provide opportunities for disadvantaged students. Project Success is one of the major programs organized by HMP3 HOPE. The program offers free tutoring available to all students for a variety of courses ranging from basic science courses to more advanced upper division level courses. Many of the tutors that this program attracts have been Teaching Assistants for the course subjects they tutor. The Raza Resource Centro met with representatives of HMP3 during the summer to collaborate, plan, and calendar pre-med tutorial services at the Centro. In collaboration with HMP3, the Raza Resource Centro developed protocols and a program to provide resources to underserved students in pre-med courses such as organic chemistry.

The Summer Training Academy for Research in the Sciences (STARS) program

STARS is an eight week summer research academy for undergraduate students, recent graduates, and master’s students supported by the Graduate Division. The students are paired with mentors from the School of Medicine. The Raza Resource Centro collaborated with Dr. Mark Lawson who brought a group of approximately 12 STARS students to the Centro for a presentation on what the educational pipeline in medicine entails and resources to available to help students succeed. The Raza Resource Centro staff held one-on-one meetings with some of the STARS students to inform them on how to impact in their local communities through partnerships, with community stakeholders, that would develop programs that serve underserved communities while simultaneously creating pathways to college.
INCLUSION, COMMUNITY, AND BELONGING

La Clase Mágica

La Clase Mágica serves children and adults in five under-served neighborhoods throughout San Diego. They bring educational resources such as technology, engaging curriculum, and college students to help children bridge many of the learning barriers underserved populations face in the 21st century. The Raza Resource Centro collaborated with Dr. Olga Vasquez and Director Sandra Telles to offer the practicum of La Clase Mágica at the Centro. Due to our summer planning, Dr. Olga Vasquez will be the first professor to teach at the Raza Resource Centro. Her course is designed to provide students with an intense experience in combining theory and practice in the study of child development. In addition to participating in class, where they are introduced to various social-based theories on learning and development, students will be placed at a field research site in which they will learn to use ethnographic, participant observation techniques as the foundation for evaluating theories of learning, communication, and development.

Raza RC Brasil 2014 World Cup Tournament

The program consisted of screening all the teams of the Americas and providing snacks along with discussions on the history and cultural contributions of Latin American countries to the global industry of fútbol. Raza RC was a place where students gathered to watch their favorite country play in the tournament and be in community with each other. Learning outcomes included: learning the history of fútbol in the Americas, contributions of Latin American countries to the sport, cross cultural communication, how to be in community across nationalities and identities. We had over 199 students, faculty, and staff attend this program during the summer.

TEACHING, TRAINING, AND CONSULTING

The Raza Resource Centro, LGBT, Woman’s Center, and the Cross Cultural Center trained the 2014 TRIO summer staff on cultural competency. We covered themes of power, intersectionality, interlocking forms of oppression, and triggers. In addition, the Raza Resource Centro, Woman’s Center, and the Cross Cultural Center trained Dr. Doug Easterly’s John Muir advising staff on cultural competency and triggers. Lastly, the Raza Resource Centro hired and trained the 2014-2015 UC San Diego student intern cohort and one SDSU graduate student on campus community center protocol, Raza RC guidelines, latest research trends in Latina/o’s in higher education, and program development.

The Raza Resource Centro worked with Ethnic Studies graduate student Yessica Garcia over the summer to provide consultation concerning one of her articles for publication. As a result, Ms. Garcia’s article was accepted for publication in the spring 2015 issue of *Aztlán: A Journal of Chicano Studies*. The journal comes out of UCLA and it is a premier academic journal in the field of Chicano studies. The Raza Resource Centro collaborated with UC San Diego admissions and the director of MESA, Rafael Alvarez, at San Diego City College to identify miscommunication and accelerate the transfer process of engineering student, Justino Guerrero. After working with the Raza Resource Centro and admissions, Justino was able to complete his missing paperwork and enroll at UC San Diego. The Raza Resource Centro advised and supported Jennifer Rojas (now UC San Diego Alumni) through her job search and helped her secure a position with Advancing Justice-Asian Law Caucus in conjunction with the Public Allies program.
OUTREACH, YIELD, AND RETENTION

Raza RC Transition Program: Avanzando Juntos

The Raza Resource Centro collaborated with Dr. Francis Contreras, Dr. Patrick Velasquez, Admissions, CAPS, Student Affairs, and Financial Aid to develop our first transition program. The aim of the transition program is to make UC San Diego resources transparent for Latina/o students and their parents in one comprehensive day. The transition program outlined strategies on how to socially, culturally, and academically succeed at UC San Diego and how to access financial aid through workshops in English and Spanish. All participants in the first year transition program received a Raza RC, “How to Thrive at UC San Diego” folder. Over a dozen faculty and staff participated in Avanzando Juntos to help welcome students and their families to campus. Avanzando Juntos enrolled over 55 students and over 300 family members and all of them participated in our transition day program.

Raza Resource Centro Presentations and Collaborations

The Raza Resource Centro, Black Resource Center, African American Studies Minor and the Chicano/a-Latino/a Arts & Humanities (CLAH) Program worked together on a panel to speak about our centers and programs as they relate to the retention and graduation of underserved students. During the summer, the Summer Bridge students visited Raza RC for a more intimate conversation about the resources at the Centro and UC San Diego. Lastly, the professional staff at Raza RC scheduled a lunch with the Summer Bridge students to develop a bond and relationship with the students and OASIS staff.

Summer Bridge Class at Raza RC

During the month of August, OASIS taught a workshop series at Raza RC that emphasized academic writing. The students were able to interact with the professional staff of Raza RC and familiarize themselves with the space and resources. Learning outcomes of the OASIS writing workshop such as critical thinking and academic writing run parallel to mission of Raza RC, which is to collaborate with key stakeholders to develop the academic skill set of the next generation of leaders.