ACADEMIC SUCCESS AND CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

The Hunger Games: Catching Fire with Dr. Jillian Hernandez and Dr. Sara Kaplan
Each quarter the Women’s Center hosts a film screening focused on gender, feminism, and social justice. This quarter, in an effort to outreach to students unfamiliar with the Women’s Center, we screened our film at Price Center Theater. Integrating academic and co-curricular experiences, the event featured a question and answer session and a critical conversation on the themes raised by the film facilitated by Dr. Sara Kaplan, Ethnic Studies and Dr. Jillian Hernandez, Critical Gender Studies. Participants at the film screening were able to learn more about the work of the Women’s Center while developing skills to critically engage with popular media.

TEACHING, TRAINING, AND CONSULTING

UCmom
Women’s Center staff provided consultation on the development of UCmom. UCmom is a lactation room reservation system for mothers at UCSD. This project has been led by Susan Marx from Computer Science and Engineering and Women in Computing, a student group that Dr. Marx advises. Women’s Center staff provided input into the development of the program and will assist with implementation once ongoing technical support for the program is identified.

INCLUSION, COMMUNITY, AND BELONGING

Women’s Center Intern Gender Action Projects
Internships and capstone projects have been identified as high-impact practices which promote student retention and engagement. Each spring, Women’s Center interns complete a Gender Action Project that incorporates their learnings from the year-long integrated academic intern program. Students begin conceptualizing their projects in the fall, continue to develop them in the winter, and implement them in the spring. This year’s projects focused on a wide range of topics including the experiences of Latina migrants, gender and social justice in popular culture, power and privilege within relationships, and the experience of introverts in an extroverted world. While interns gain a wide-range of skills from developing their projects, those who attend the programs gain an opportunity to explore issues of diversity and social justice, build community, and gain an increased sense of belonging.

OUTREACH, YIELD, AND RETENTION

Breastfeeding Workshop
Each quarter the Women’s Center hosts breastfeeding workshops led by Lactation Consultant, Corey Anaka, RNC, LCCE, IBCLC, from UCSD Medical Center. Providing an opportunity for breastfeeding mothers to gain support facilitates the campus retention efforts of students, staff, and faculty. Corey has been a NICU nurse for over 25 years, assisting mothers and babies with feeding. She is currently the Nurse Coordinator of UC San Diego Medical Center Perinatology Programs and also sits on the Board of Directors for the San Diego County Breastfeeding Coalition.

PSYCHO-SOCIAL WELL BEING

Real World Career Series: The Wonder Woman Myth
This panel discussion, facilitated by Dr. Cat Thompson of Counseling and Psychological Services, featured a diverse panel of women in different points of their careers discussing their experiences with making work, life, and family decisions. The panel explored the pressures many women face when deciding when or if to have kids, get married, continue school, and choose a career. The panel was an opportunity for panelists to share experiences and strategies for choosing the kind of future they want.