Women’s Center
University of California, San Diego

Quarterly Report: Fall 2013 and Winter 2014

ACADEMIC SUCCESS AND CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

Women’s Center Internship Program: Academic Internship Program and Winter Social Justice Practicum (Fall/Winter)

The Women’s Center fully integrates our internships into the academic experience at UC San Diego through a number of opportunities and courses. The close collaboration between the Campus Community Centers, Critical Gender Studies (CGS), and the Academic Internship Program (AIP) makes this integration possible. Women’s Center staff facilitated interns AIP experience in the Fall and assisted with the facilitation of the Social Justice Practicum in Winter.

Real World Series – Academic Enrichment Programs and Budgeting for the College Student (Winter)
The Real World Series is a new series of offerings that came together through a collaboration between the Campus Community Centers and Career Services Center. The series seeks to provide students with the opportunity to discuss real world issues, learning valuable skills that will benefit them at UCSD and beyond. The Women’s Center facilitated two workshops for the series. The first workshop featured a conversation with staff from Academic Enrichment Programs and provided students with the opportunity to learn about the many diverse research opportunities available through AEP. The second workshop focused on budgeting for the college student with particular emphasis on issues connected to gender and finances.

Inclusion, Community, and Belonging

Black Women’s Collective (Fall/Winter)

Black Women’s Collective provides a space for Black women to discuss their experiences as Black women and to connect with other Black women on campus. Women’s Center staff facilitate the program in collaboration with Counseling and Psychological Services. In Winter quarter, Women’s Center staff assisted with the hiring of a student intern charged with helping to expand the program.

TEACHING, TRAINING, AND CONSULTING

Equity Minded Education – Resident Assistant Training (Fall)

Women’s Center staff led a part of the 2-day Equity Minded Education Training for approximately 200 Resident Assistants. The training focused on increasing understandings of power, privilege and oppression. The training included exploration of the Cycle of Socialization and Cycle of Liberation with an emphasis on connecting these concepts to participants’ work as student leaders.

Diversity Education Training (Fall)
The Women’s Center Director taught the Diversity Education course offered through Staff Education. This course is grounded in the Principles of Community and introduces participants to the cultural competence model of diversity. The course serves an introduction to exploring diversity in the workplace.

SDSU Student Affairs Capstone Course “Creating Inclusive Campus Communities” (Winter)
The Women’s Center Director served as guest lecturer for Critical Leadership Issues in Student Affairs, the capstone course for the SDSU Student Affairs Master’s Program. The class session gave students the opportunity to take a personal critical incident and analyze it through a social justice framework. In addition, the class created an opportunity for students to envision concrete strategies for building inclusive campus communities as student affairs professionals.
OUTREACH, YIELD, AND RETENTION

Financial Aid Workshop at the Women's Center (Winter)

The Women’s Center hosted a Financial Aid Workshop led by staff of the Financial Aid Office. This is the first time that this event was held at the Center, allowing students to receive information and informal financial counseling in the comfortable setting of the Women’s Center. Ensuring students are able to easily access important services such as those of the Financial Aid Office is vital to student retention and success. The Women’s Center serves as a critical link to connect students with these important resources and we look forward to making this a regularly occurring event.

PSYCHO-SOCIAL WELL BEING

Women’s Center Winter Wellness Series (Winter)

The Women’s Center developed a Winter Wellness Series through the support of a grant from Counseling and Psychological Services. The program provided a series of opportunities for students to engage in wellness practices from yoga and meditation to artistic exploration and learning de-stressing techniques. A highlight of the series was bringing in alum Margitte Kristjansson, Director of the film The Fat Body (In)visible, who led a discussion on fat activism, body image, and ways to be healthy at every size.

CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

San Diego County Women’s Hall of Fame (Winter)

The Women's Hall of Fame is an annual induction ceremony that each year recognizes five women from San Diego County whose actions and accomplishments have made a significant contribution for women in the community. The annual induction ceremony draws community members from across many women’s organizations representing San Diego's diverse population. This year’s induction ceremony took place on Friday, March 29. The Women’s Center is one of the four co-hosts for this event and takes an active role in planning and implementing the program each year.