

**Name of Assessment Project:** Passport to Culture Series

**Name(s) of Person(s) Responsible for Assessment Project:** Out of State and International Student Outreach Coordinator (Shawn Fore)

**Email Address:** sfore@ucsd.edu  
**Phone Number:** (858) 822-6978

**Other Contacts:**  
**Providing Department:** Sixth College

**Other Units/Departments Involved in Assessment Project:**  
**Program, Service, or Event Related to Assessment Project:**

**Department Overview:**

As the number of out-of-state and international students increases, UC San Diego has adopted new initiatives to meet the unique needs of these student populations and increase student satisfaction. The Outreach Coordinator Department works in the colleges to assist non-resident students with transition to UC San Diego and helps these students get acclimated to campus life and California culture. The focus is on international and out-of-state students, but Coordinators also outreach to California students as well to create campus community and give students the opportunity to meet others from diverse cultures and backgrounds.

The Outreach Coordinators conduct student needs assessments and provide support through outreach, marketing and introducing campus resources to students. They also implement campus wide and college programming and events to connect non-resident students with each other, increase interactions between domestic non-resident students, and introduce non-resident students to the local San Diego and greater California regions. Housed in the colleges, Shawn Fore is responsible for Sixth, Revelle, and Warren Colleges and Malina Doherty is responsible for Marshall, Muir, and Roosevelt Colleges.

**Program, Service, or Event Related to Assessment Project:**

Most international and out-of-state students come to UC San Diego to obtain a distinguished degree and also to expand their knowledge through diverse experiences. With such a large non-resident student population, it is important to respect cultural differences and to learn from the diversity that exists among UC San Diego's campus. The Outreach Coordinator department assists non-resident students in acclimating to California culture, but also provides opportunities for students to meet other student from various backgrounds and cultures.

The Passport to Culture series highlighted a different country or state each week. Non-resident students from the selected region served as panelists while student participants had the chance to ask questions about a particular region. The program provides students with the opportunity to practice conversational English as well as share their experiences from their home region (or from their travels). Food from the highlighted region was also served to give students an opportunity to experience a culture in addition to hearing about it. This program is designed to help students learn about other cultures and give them an opportunity to enhance their global understanding.

**Assessment Project Description:** The objective of this assessment was to compile a comprehensive satisfaction review and value of students attending the weekly Passport to Culture series. Students were given the opportunity to anonymously express their satisfaction with each individual Passport to Culture event. The evaluation requested demographic information of student, satisfaction rating, and free response from students on what they liked/did not like from event. The Outreach Coordinators distributed hardcopies of the assessment instrument at the end of each Passport to Culture series. Data from all paper assessment were uploaded manually to Excel. The results of this assessment were used to determine the value of the Passport to Culture series and to make improvements to the program for the upcoming quarters.

The main purpose of the assessment project was to assess:

- Number of participants attending the event
- Benefit of participation in event (increase in awareness and/or sense of belonging to UCSD)
- If students would attend other similar culture-related events in the future
- If program/event allowed students to connect with other students from their home state, country, or region
- Students satisfaction with Passport to Culture series

**Unit/Program Specific Goals and Learning Outcomes:** As a result of participating in the Residency Workshop, students will be able to:

- Report an increase in their sense of belonging to UC San Diego
- Report an increase in awareness of other cultures
- Connect with other students from their home state, country, or region

**Relationship to** Advance a Plan for Personal, Academic, and Professional Success, Promote Social Justice and Community Responsibility

**Student Affairs**

**Learning Outcomes:**

**Assessment Project** 4/1/2014

**Start:**

**Assessment Project** 6/3/2014

**End:**

**Population/Sample:** 96 students attended the weekly Passport to Culture series over the Spring 2014 quarter. 90 attendees completed the assessment providing a 94% response rate. Participants consisted of a range of residency statuses – out-of-state students, international students, and California resident students. All 6 UC San Diego colleges and all levels of the student body were represented.

**Total Students Served: 96**

# of International Students Served: 43

# of Out-Of-State Students Served: 10

# of California Students Served: 34

**Type of Assessment:** Satisfaction study

**Other Assessment**

**Type(s):**

**Assessment Methods:** Surveys

**Other Assessment**

**Method(s):**

**Data Collection Tools:** Hard-copies of the survey were distributed at the end of each weekly Passport to Culture series by the Outreach Coordinators. Students were given the opportunity to anonymously express their satisfaction with each Passport to Culture event. The evaluation requested demographic information of student, satisfaction rating, and free response from students on what they liked/did not like from event.

**Data Analysis Methods:** Data from all paper assessment were compiled and uploaded manually to Excel by Outreach Coordinators.

**Presentation of**

**Findings:** The results of this assessment were used by the Outreach Coordinators to analyze the benefit of holding such cultural programs for students and to improve the Passport to Culture series for the following quarter based on student feedback. Assessment results were also shared with the Non-Resident Student Engagement (NRSE) committee.

**Progress:** 100%

**Link Assessment  
Project in Campus  
Labs Baseline :**

**Name**

**Source**

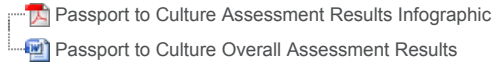
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**Summary of Findings:** The main purpose of the Passport to Culture series assessment project was to assess the following. The data provided the following results:

- Participant demographic information
  - 96 student participants
    - 48% of attendees were International students
    - 11% of attendees were Out-Of-State students
    - 41% of attendees were California resident students
  - Students attended from all 6 UC San Diego colleges
  - Students from every grade level represented
- Benefit of participation in event (increase in awareness and/or sense of belonging to UCSD)
  - 87% of participants agreed or strongly agreed they gained an increase in awareness of other cultures
  - 70% of participants reported an increase in their sense of belonging to UCSD
- If students would attend other similar workshop-related events in the future
  - 84% of participants were satisfied (or higher) with series
  - 94% of participants stated they would recommend a similar cultural-related event to a friend
- If program/event allowed students to connect with other students from their home state, country, or region
  - 72% of participants met at least 1 new person at each series event
    - 78% of participants were able to connect with international students
    - 40% of participants were able to connect with out-of-state students
    - 58% of participants were able to connect with California-resident students

In addition to findings directly correlated with learning outcomes, the assessment also illustrated the following results:

- 57% of students heard about the Passport to Culture series via email



**Impact of Assessment:** The assessment results were viewed by the Outreach Coordinators for analysis. Assessment results were also shared with the Non-Resident Student Engagement (NRSE) committee. The findings were used to:

- Improve the cultural-related programs for the following quarter based on student feedback
- Increase awareness and advertising of Passport to Culture series among international and out-of-state students to increase participation and knowledge of requirements

**Lessons Learned:** The assessment results identified key findings of student satisfaction, benefit of participation in event, and student interest in attending similar events in the future. Attendance for the Passport to Culture series was fairly consistent and the Outreach Coordinators were strict on having participants complete the assessment at the end of each event. The assessment had a high response rate and provided valuable insight into student's perception of the cultural programs and learning about other parts of the world. Since satisfaction levels, increase in sense of belonging, and percentages of students meeting others were all high, the Outreach Coordinators plan to continue the Passport to Culture series in the following quarters. Surveys will be implemented for future Passport to Culture events and compared with these existing findings.

**Supplemental Information:**

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