

**Name of Assessment Project:** Global Forum 2014-2015

**Name(s) of Person(s) Responsible for Assessment Project:** Program Coordinator (Maria Lourdes Amparo)

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**Providing Department:** International House

**Other Units/Departments Involved in Assessment Project:**

**Program, Service, or Event Related to Assessment Project:** The Global Forum, formerly known as International Affairs Group (IAG), is a program developed and implemented by International House with support from the Non-Resident Student Engagement (NRSE) work group. The Global Forum at International House is dedicated to promoting global awareness, understanding and citizenship throughout UCSD and the communities it serves through public lectures, discussions and events. Global Forum organizes one to two events every week in the Great Hall that focus on various international or global topics and issues from all regions of the world. Its primary audience is undergraduate students at UC San Diego, though a large number of graduate students and community members attend Global Forum events.

Global Forum speakers and panelists include faculty and lecturers from local universities (UC San Diego, San Diego State University, University of San Diego) and academic institutions around the world, former heads of state, foreign service officers, journalists, economists, NGO directors, and other academics and professionals in various fields. Global Forum's partners include the Center on Emerging and Pacific Economies (EmPac) and 21<sup>st</sup> Century China at IR/PS, San Diego World Affairs Council, United Nations Association of San Diego, Museum of Photographic Arts, International Rescue Committee, Human Rights Watch, and others. Global Forum has also received significant participation and collaboration from UC San Diego student organizations like Prospect Journal, IRC at UCSD, Model United Nations, and more.

The I-House Program Coordinator oversees program development and implementation, advises and mentors the Global Forum Graduate Fellow, manages program budget and expenses, identifies the program goals and measures learning outcomes.

**Assessment Project Description:** The primary purpose of this assessment project was to identify participant learning and evaluate program learning outcomes.

**Unit/Program Specific Goals and Learning Outcomes:** The program's learning outcomes are as follows:

- As a result of attending Global Forum events, participants will:
- Think critically about how global issues impact our world
  - Increase awareness of international issues and world events
  - Encourage participants to pursue further research on the topic
  - Promote international awareness at UCSD
  - Contribute to a richer educational experience at UCSD

**Relationship to Student Affairs Learning Outcomes:** Advance a Plan for Personal, Academic, and Professional Success, Lead in a Diverse Global Society

**Assessment Project Start:** 10/6/2014

**Assessment Project End:** 6/30/2015

**Population/Sample:** During the 2014-2015 academic year, Global Forum hosted 20 events with a total of 980 attendees and an average weekly attendance of 49. Out of 20 events, as a sample we collected surveys from two events. Program participants include undergraduate students from all six colleges, graduate students, staff, faculty, visiting scholars, and community members with no university affiliation.

**Type of Assessment:** Student learning outcomes and/or behavioral outcomes

**Other Assessment Type(s):**

**Assessment Methods:**  
**Other Assessment Method(s):**

**Data Collection Tools:** The paper surveys used to evaluate participants' learning were administered in Winter 2015, and Spring 2015.

**Data Analysis Methods:** Data from the surveys were categorized and analyzed to draw out predominate themes.

**How Your Results Will Be Presented:** Assessment findings have been presented to the International House Director, Eleanor Roosevelt College Provost, and Non-Resident Student Engagement workgroup to demonstrate the program's impact. Findings have also been incorporated into the International House yearly program report. The Global Forum Graduate Fellow also shared some of the findings with Global Forum partners, speakers, and faculty as well as the next Global Forum Graduate Fellow.

**Progress:** 100%

No items to display.

**Summary of Findings:** The paper survey administered in Winter 2015 collected 31 responses.

Statement	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
As a result of attending this Global Forum event, I feel better prepared to live and work in a global community.	3	3	4	15	6
As a result of attending this Global Forum event, I have a better appreciation for other cultures.	5	1	6	10	9
As a result of attending this Global Forum event, I have a greater appreciation for the thoughts and ideas of other cultures.	2	2	3	14	9
As a result of attending this Global Forum event, I have an increased awareness of global issues and world events.	4	1	2	11	13
As a result of attending this Global Forum event, I have an increased understanding of global issues and world events.	4	3	2	11	11
As a result of attending this Global Forum event, I feel part of an engaging and inclusive international community.	3	2	11	8	7
I feel that this Global Forum event has contributed to a richer educational experience for me at UCSD.	4	1	2	7	17

- 68% of respondents Agreed or Strongly Agreed that they felt better prepared to live and work in a global community as a result of attending the Global Forum event.
- 61% of respondents Agreed or Strongly Agreed that they have a better appreciation for other cultures as a result of attending the Global Forum event.
- 74% of respondents Agreed or Strongly Agreed that they have a greater appreciation for the thoughts and ideas of other cultures as a result of attending the Global Forum event.
- 77% of respondents Agreed or Strongly Agreed that they have an increased awareness of global issues and world events as a result of attending the Global Forum event.
- 71% of respondents Agreed or Strongly Agreed that they have an increased understanding of global issues and world events as a result of attending the Global Forum event.
- 48% of respondents Agreed or Strongly Agreed that they feel part of an engaging and inclusive international community as a result of attending the Global Forum event.
- 77% of respondents Agreed or Strongly Agreed that they feel that this Global Forum event has contributed to a richer educational experience for me at UCSD as a result of attending the Global Forum event.

The paper survey administered in Spring 2015 collected 16 responses.

Statement	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
This Global Forum event has encouraged me to think critically about how global issues impact out world.	2	1	1	5	7
I have gained an awareness of different ideas and perspectives on this particular topic by attending this Global Forum event.	3	1	1	4	7
Attending this GF event has encouraged me to pursue further academic research on this topic.	2	2	6	2	4
My awareness of this particular global issue has grown by attending this event.	2	2	1	3	7
I feel that this event has contributed to promoted international awareness at UCSD and in the community.	2	1	1	3	8
I feel that the Global Forum at I-House has contributed to a richer educational experience for me at UCSD.	2	1	1	3	5

- 75% of respondents Agreed or Strongly Agreed that they felt encouraged me to think critically about how global issues impact out world as a result of attending the Global Forum event.
- 69% of respondents Agreed or Strongly Agreed that they gained an awareness of different ideas and perspectives on this particular topic by attending this GF as a result of attending the Global Forum event.
- 38% of respondents Agreed or Strongly Agreed that they felt encouraged me to pursue further academic research on this topic as a result of attending the Global Forum event.
- 63% of respondents Agreed or Strongly Agreed that their awareness of this particular global issue had grown by attending this event as a result of attending the Global Forum event.
- 69% of respondents Agreed or Strongly Agreed that this event has contributed to promoted international awareness at UCSD and in the community.
- 67% of respondents Agreed or Strongly Agreed that the Global Forum at I-House has contributed to a richer educational experience for me at UCSD.

The surveys reflected a range of responses. Survey results indicate that the Global Forum is not successfully achieving most of its stated learning outcomes.

**Impact of Assessment:** The survey results showed that the events we collected data from are not meeting all of the program learning outcomes. The Program Coordinator discussed these findings with the Director and Global Forum Graduate Fellow as part of the program's evaluation and improvement.

**Lessons Learned:** Although the data from the two surveys seem to imply that the Global Forum program is not successfully meeting its learning outcomes, the Global Forum Fellow collected data from only two randomly selected events out of 20 possible events. The variety of speakers, topics, and formats throughout the year make each event different. A larger sampling from several different events might collect different information. Personal observations made by I-House program staff and feedback from program participants during the event indicated that many events that were not surveyed did in fact meet the program learning objectives. An additional data collection tool in addition to the paper surveys should have been created to record staff observations and in-person communication.

Some speakers have different expectations for their presentation than we have for the overall program. Our staff should spend more time communicating the program learning outcomes with the speakers so that we can ensure that each individual event/presentation will meet the program learning outcomes.

Some learning outcomes are difficult to accomplish in a one hour presentation. The learning outcome to increase awareness of a particular global issue is one way to measure participants' learning, but it is not easy to self-report or measure. There are different factors that contribute to awareness, such as the content of the presentation and a participant's existing awareness and knowledge. The way the survey is designed does not collect information about existing awareness or knowledge, or about the content of the presentation. Participants who did not agree that their awareness increased by attending the event might have already been highly aware or the presentation or might have not agreed with the information provided by the speaker. The reason is not possible to determine based on the information we collected.

The learning outcome to encourage participants to pursue further academic research does not align with all of our program activities. The main purpose of our events is to inform and spark dialog, not to conduct research. Program participants might have an interest in the topic but no desire to pursue research on the topic. This learning outcome does not provide us with information about participant learning.

We should also revisit the data collection process, tool and survey questions. The learning objectives reflect the goal of the

entire year-long program, but not all participants attended all the events and the surveys captured the participants' responses to just one event. Additionally, some of the survey questions do not capture the information we need to improve the program. Respondents that did not agree that they gained an awareness of different ideas or increase their awareness of a global issue did not provide further information as to why their awareness was not increased or if they simply didn't agree with the speaker's position, or what we can improve because the questions did not ask for that information. Survey questions will be rewritten and one or two open-ended questions will be added to collect more information. One of the questions that will be rewritten is the question about gaining an increased awareness of the topic.

The surveys were completed by undergraduate, graduate, faculty, staff, and community members. The knowledge, learning, and expectations of these groups vary widely. In the future, data from each group will be separate out to better capture student learning.

### **Supplemental Information:**

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