



STUDENT AFFAIRS
SUPPORTING
STUDENT LEARNING

SUPPORTING THE STUDENT LEARNING PROCESS

The mission of Student Affairs is centered on student learning. Through community service, study abroad, and other programs, Student Affairs enhances student learning outside the classroom. Through services focused on student health and wellness, as well as tutorial and other academic support services, Student Affairs enables students to perform at their highest levels inside the classroom. To make sure its programs and services are effective, Student Affairs assesses their impact and uses this information to make improvements and better serve students.

This preliminary report is a preview of the first annual Student Affairs assessment report expected this fall. The report profiles key findings and suggests areas for enhancement.

One clear theme emerges from this report: **students who are engaged in learning experiences outside the classroom have higher GPAs, better retention rates, and shorter times to graduation.** These results are consistent with the national research on student learning. They support expansion of engagement experiences that reinforce in-class learning and foster students' academic, professional, and personal success.

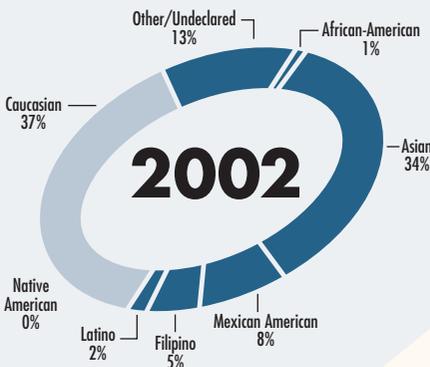
Trends in the Demographic Composition of UC San Diego Undergraduates

UC San Diego is made up of both ethnically and socio-economically diverse undergraduate students.

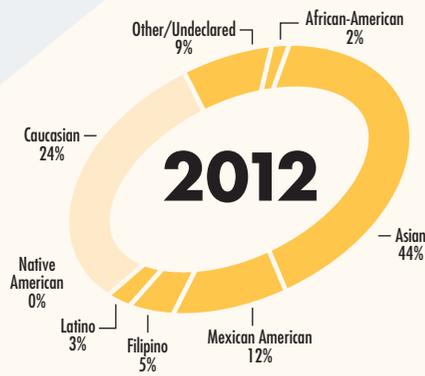


UCSD ranked #1 in Washington Monthly College Guide Rankings in the categories of Social Mobility (recruiting and graduating low-income students), Research, and Service.

In 2012, approximately 66% of undergraduates were students of color compared to 50% in 2002.



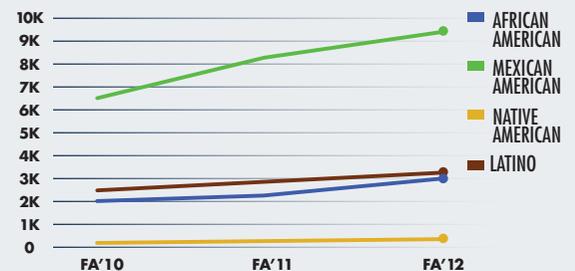
50%
Students of Color



66%
Students of Color



In 2011, 45% of UCSD students were awarded Pell Grants based on financial need, providing access to low-income students.



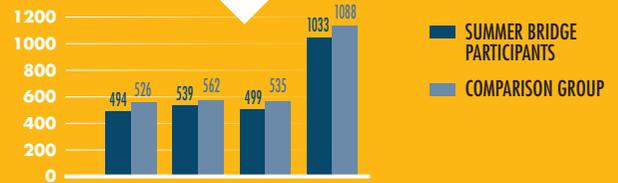
The number of Historically Underrepresented Minority applicants has increased the last three years.

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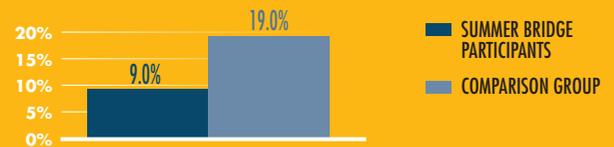
STUDENTS' ACADEMIC SUCCESS AND RELATIONSHIPS WITH FACULTY

Student Affairs offers programs and services to facilitate academic success and encourage student-faculty interaction outside of the classroom.

Summer Bridge is one example of a Student Affairs program stimulating academic achievement. A year-long program for entering freshmen, **Summer Bridge** introduces students to the requirements necessary for academic success. The program includes instruction, tutoring, and mentoring – all geared to helping students adjust to university life. Assessments of the program document its effectiveness. On average, the participants outperform their counterparts academically in their first year.



2011 Summer Bridge participants entered with lower high school GPAs and SAT scores compared to their counterparts.



A smaller percentage of Summer Bridge participants had Fall 2011 quarter GPAs below 2.0 compared to their counterparts.

The **Dine-With-A-Prof** program was created to increase students' comfort interacting with faculty. The program provides students the funding and forum to ask a faculty member out to lunch.

Based on student feedback, **Dine-With-A-Prof** is achieving its purpose. This year, **124 participants** completed a survey about their experience. Of the participants:

91%

Strongly Agreed or Agreed, "I feel more confident interacting with faculty"

80%

indicated they continued their interactions with the professor

Given these results, Student Affairs suggests expanding **Dine-With-A-Prof** to increase the number of students and faculty participating in the program.

75%

of UCSD freshmen indicate a close relationship with a faculty member was **"essential or very important"** to them

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STUDENT LEARNING THROUGH WELL-BEING SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

UC San Diego is a challenging academic environment. These challenges may trigger stress, anxiety, and other conditions that impede student learning. To help students stay healthy, Student Affairs uses an integrative approach to student wellness. The departments of **Student Health Services, Counseling and Psychological Services,** and Recreation are linked organizationally to provide an interconnected web of services.

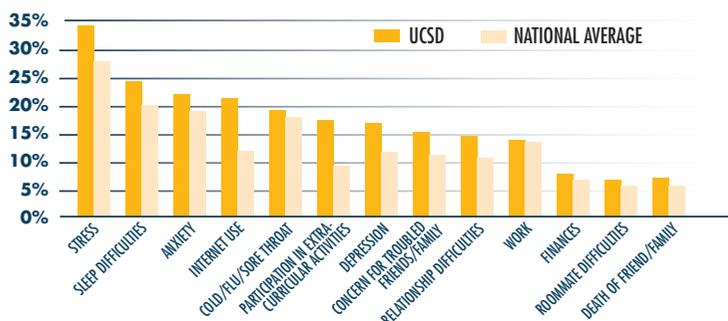
In 2011-2012

14,821

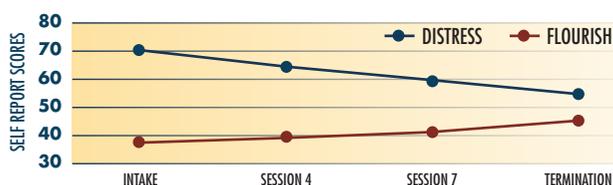


students utilized clinical services through Counseling and Psychological Services.

Percentage of students stating the following factors impeded their academic progress.



Students who receive counseling at Counseling and Psychological Services show decreased distress and improved emotional health over time (CAPS Intake Assessment).



The Zone represents how this integrative approach to student well-being works in practice. Located in the Price Center, **The Zone** exposes students to the broad variety of well-being resources on campus. Every week, **The Zone** offers workshops on topics ranging from yoga and fitness to nutrition and healthy cooking.

During 2011-12, **3,578 students** attended **336 programs** held in **The Zone**. A total of **462 students** completed program evaluations including the following results:

75% of attendees agreed or strongly agreed they learned a new health/wellness skill as a result of the program

57% of attendees agreed or strongly agreed they intend to change a behavior as a result of attending the program

The Zone organizes special events attended by **4,000 students** annually.

The Good Life Festival is a special event promoting campus wellness resources and healthy living.

75% agreed or strongly agreed, "As a result of attending this event, I learned at least one new thing related to health/well-being."

69% agreed or strongly agreed, "Attending this event has made me think of new ways to have a healthy lifestyle."

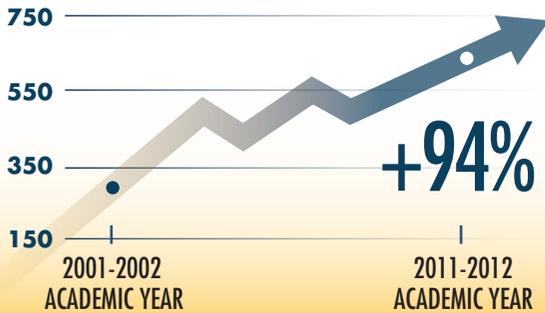


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LEARNING THROUGH ENGAGEMENT AND SERVICE

Participation in **student organizations** and **community service** develops communication, critical thinking, and leadership skills – skills that contribute to success within and beyond the classroom. UCSD student organizations include academic, pre-professional, and service organizations. This form of involvement is positively associated with academic performance and persistence to degree.

The number of registered student organizations increased 94% from 2000 to 2012.



Percentage of students participating in student organizations or clubs in 2009/2010:

← 65%

On average, students who participate or are members of governing bodies (e.g., student government) and services groups have higher GPAs than those who do not.

NON-PARTICIPANT PARTICIPANT/MEMBER

GPA - GOVERNING BODIES

3.16

3.24

GPA - SERVICE GROUPS

3.17

3.24

Last year, **2,300 students** participated in community service programs sponsored by the **Center for Student Involvement**. Students who participate in civic learning opportunities are more likely to complete their degrees and develop social responsibility.



Advised by the Center for Student Involvement and run by students, the **Alternative Breaks** program engages students in national or international service projects during the spring, summer and winter breaks. In 2012-13, **177 students** participated in **15 Alternative Breaks projects**. In a post-trip survey, **96%** of the participants agreed their experience prompted a desire to take personal action in their community.

BEFORE ALTERNATIVE BREAKS

47% of students rated themselves as Active or Conscientious Citizens on the Active Citizen Continuum.

AFTER ALTERNATIVE BREAKS

THIS INCREASED TO 100%



For the third year, UCSD was named to the national President's Community Service Honor Roll with distinction for its efforts to solve community problems and place students on a lifelong path of civic engagement.

UCSD's commitment to service was recognized by the *Washington Monthly* as the nation's top college in rankings measuring "what colleges are doing for the country."

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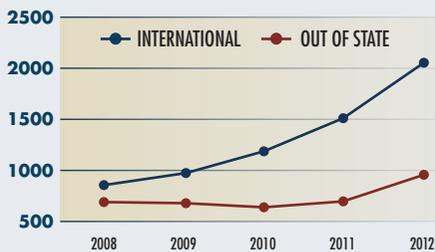
LEARNING THROUGH COMMUNITY BUILDING

The continued growth of the international and domestic non-California resident student population enriches the student experience. It provides students from California exposure to other cultures and networking and travel opportunities. Programs and services are necessary to maximize the learning potential of expanding the student population.

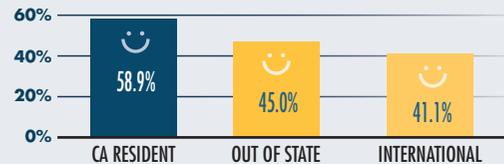
Without well-considered programs and services, international students may experience difficulties adjusting at an academic, cultural and social level. Contact with host students, particularly meaningful contact found in friendships, is a significant predictor of international student satisfaction. However, at many campuses, a third or more of international students have no host-national friends.

Student Affairs is committed to offering programs and services tailored to assist international and non-resident students in their transition and integration into the academic and social life of the campus.

Number of international and domestic non-California resident students enrolled at UCSD.



Less than half of international and domestic non-California resident students report being either "somewhat satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the value of education for cost.



As a result of identifying the unique needs of international and domestic non-California resident students, Student Affairs recently instituted programs and services tailored to support their retention and satisfaction.



UCSD surveys of non-resident and international students revealed the following needs:

- Increased opportunities for non-resident students to engage with one another
- Workshops for improving presentation, English communication, public speaking, and academic writing skills
- Expanded opportunities for career development and planning

To address these needs, Student Affairs and the Colleges created **30 new programs** focused on:

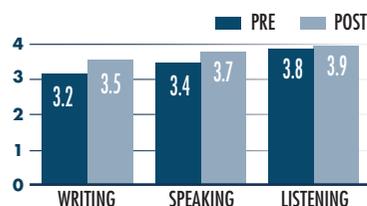
- Career Development & Planning
- Health and Well-Being
- English Language and Academic Support
- Cross-Cultural Adjustment and Integration

Number of Students Served: **993**

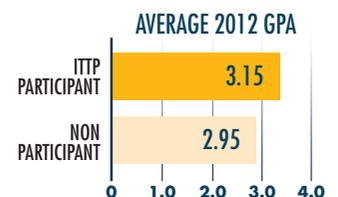
Student Affairs initiated the **International Triton Transition Program (ITTP)** to assist international non-resident students with their transition to UCSD.

80 International students from 10 countries participated in ITTP in Summer 2012

97% ITTP participants were retained into Spring 2013



ITTP participants indicated they were more confident in their writing, speaking, and listening after participating in ITTP.



ITTP participants had higher Fall 2012 GPAs compared to their counterparts who did not participate.

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LEARNING THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Student Affairs supports student learning by delivering **experiential learning programs** including internships, undergraduate research, and study abroad. The Association of American Colleges and Universities classifies experiential learning as a high-impact educational practice fostering deep learning that students retain and later apply to other situations.

Students participating in at least one experiential learning program (e.g., internship, research, study abroad) have:

HIGHER GPAs THAN THOSE WHO DO NOT:

DID NOT PARTICIPATE

3.11

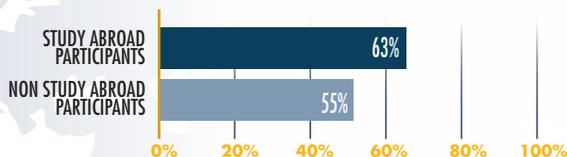
PARTICIPATED

3.23

1,258

students went abroad Academic Year 2011/2012. Students who studied abroad in 2011/2012 reported improved personal skills.

4-YEAR GRADUATION RATES



Study abroad experiences do not appear to create barriers to timely graduation.

61% DEVELOPED NEW PERSPECTIVES ON THEIR MAJOR

90% DEVELOPED ADAPTABILITY AND FLEXIBILITY IN NEW SITUATIONS

86% DEVELOPED EMPATHY/TOLERANCE FOR DIFFERENT CULTURES, VALUES AND BELIEFS

These findings suggest more students would benefit from an expansion of internships, study abroad, and undergraduate research opportunities.



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STUDENTS IN THEIR SEARCH FOR CAREERS AND GRADUATE SCHOOL

The **Career Services Center** offers a full range of programs and services tailored to the different phases of the career planning process. **Career Services** assists students with career decision-making, including matching students' strengths and interests to possible careers. **Career Services** supports students with their job search or graduate school admission through workshops, advising sessions, and employment and graduate school fairs. The Center also works closely with the International Center in providing international internships, and with OASIS in offering externships to help students facing retention challenges.

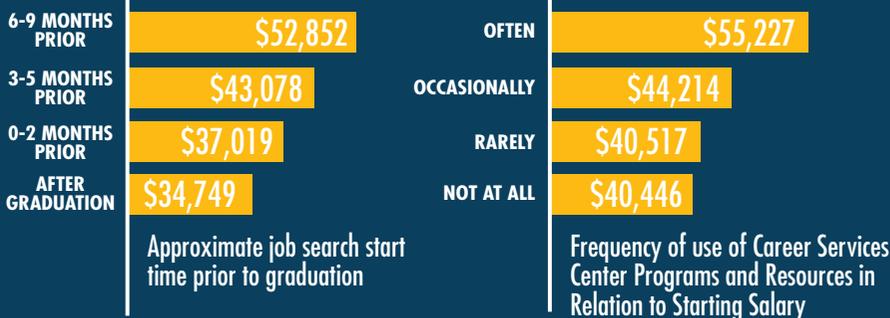
In its outreach to students, **Career Services** emphasizes the financial benefits of accessing its programs and services early and often, as indicated below.

CAREER SERVICES



SURVEY OF RECENT GRADUATES 2012

1866 respondents
52% Employed
20% Enrolled
16% Seeking
12% Other



ABOUT US

Student Affairs shares a vision that seeks to ensure all UC San Diego students have access to the best combination of academic and co-curricular programs and services of any university in the United States, enabling them to achieve their highest academic, career, and personal development aspirations.

To fulfill this vision, we maintain twenty departments and programs, organized into four clusters (Admissions and Enrollment Services; Experiential Learning; Health, Recreation, and Well-Being; Student Life), as well as Intercollegiate Athletics, in addition to the services and leadership provided by the VCSA office and the Student Affairs operations in the colleges.

For more information about us, go to <http://vcsa.ucsd.edu>.