Holistic Guidance and Advising for Students

THE STUDENT CENTERS

The MSS staff, with the support from many campus units, continued to design and provide consistent, formal and informal interventions, as well as one-on-one and group support for students. This high-touch level of service is particularly helpful for students who are “high need” and 1st generation. Many were supported as they faced academic, financial, personal, and other difficulties and challenges. At the Centers, students continued to receive culturally relevant services. Selected students were closely tracked on their academic progress and supported in the development and implementation of individualized educational plans through the Smart Start and CLASIP Programs.

“The TMP helped me in many ways, from introducing me to a student mentor in my discipline that could show me the ropes, encourage me and be a friend. Being able to be a part of TMP gave me the group support I needed from other fellow students and staff. TMP helped me get a research position, build relationships with professors and, most importantly, introduced me to professionals who I now look up to at my current job.”

Corinna Cisneros, Class of 2013
B.S. Mechanical Engineering, 876 Structural & Payloads Design Engineer at Boeing Commercial Airplanes

“…In the very beginning of my first year, my mentor Christina Sessoms reached out to me and told me about activities and clubs such as RSU and BWC here at WSU. She helped me a lot with my academics… she is definitely someone I look up to because of her interest in my success.”

Maya Manus, AY 13-14 Mentee African American Student Center

“…Our grades improved immensely in statistics 212 because of our tutor Joanne Chung. She taught us how to read word problems correctly, to look for the key words and how to break down problems so we could understand them… she went out of her way to help us understand a concept.”

Tiffany Ntiamoah and Lowti Ahmed, Tutees at the MSS Academic Enrichment Center

“Not only have I been fortunate to make a countless number of friends through my involvement in the different organizations within MSS, but that very involvement has also provided me with the skills and resources necessary for my envisioned success at Washington State University and beyond.”

Gabriel ‘G’ Dumbrique, AY 13-14 MSS Mentor, Co-Chair - SHAPING Conference, Team Leader - VIBES Conference

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- The Boeing Company – The Boeing Cyber Grant for the Team Mentoring Program
- Nordstrom
- Donald and Helen Jewett Fund
- Robert and Kelly Thompson
- Alumni and other MSS friends

Thank You!

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2013-2014 ACADEMIC YEAR SUMMARY REPORT

Washington State University through the Office of Multicultural Student Services (MSS) sets itself apart from other institutions with its commitment to making sure the academic and non-academic needs of multicultural, first generation and other underrepresented students are met and no one is overlooked. MSS welcomes and serves an increasing diverse student population (from 16% in 2009 to 28% in 2013) with solid retention initiatives including the mentoring programs, tutoring services and educational workshops in the Academic Enrichment Center, the newly established Smart Start Program for First Generation and high academic need students, and a community of support at each of the student centers.

Highlights

STUDENT TRANSITION & ADJUSTMENT

- Around 675 students attended CONEXION at the start of the year. At this welcoming event, new students made personal connections with Mentors, Student Leaders, Faculty and MSS Staff.
- 54 Student Mentors in the Multicultural Student Mentor Program (MSMP) made near 49,000 mentoring contacts (personal and social media) reaching out to a total of 1,563 freshman and transfer Mentees (57% were active in the Program). Of the freshman cohort, the high need (58% Pell eligible) and 1st Generation (61%) Mentees were more inclined to be active in the program vs. those not active (45% and 50% respectively). Active freshman mentees had a higher fall to fall retention (77%) vs. those not active in the Program (73%).
- Tours of the Multicultural Center: 6,665 prospective students and community members visited MSS facilities in the 4th floor of the CUB – A MUST SEE location for those visiting Washington State University.
- Community building: 9,704 students, university, and community members participated in 113 social and cultural events designed to create and maintain a vibrant sense of community for the students.
- Fall retention (77%) vs. those not active in the Program (73%).
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2013-2014 ACADEMIC YEAR SUMMARY REPORT

Fall 2013

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<thead>
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<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Total (1)</th>
<th>Pell Eligible</th>
<th>1st Gen (2)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>295</td>
<td>346</td>
<td>641</td>
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(1) Data reflects numbers of undergraduate students in the Pullman campus only. Not official WSU Data

The MSS Mission

“…facilitate the best undergraduate experience for multicultural students through the provision of culturally relevant services that foster their successful transition, adjustment, persistence, achievement, and graduation.”

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The MSS Mission

“…facilitate the best undergraduate experience for multicultural students through the provision of culturally relevant services that foster their successful transition, adjustment, persistence, achievement, and graduation.”
Impact of the Programs available throughout MSS: During this academic year, 1,951 students were frequent users of the MSS facilities, programs, and services available to them at the Multicultural Center. Of these students, 54% were 1st Generation and 50% were Pell eligible.

Impact of the Multicultural Student Mentor Program (MSMP): The multicultural freshman fall-to-fall retention for this academic year was, for a second year, lower than historically at a 76% compared to 80% for the overall 2013 freshman cohort. When looking at students with lower QValue historically at a 76% compared to 80% for the overall 2013 (MSMP):

- Students who were actively engaged in the program enrolled at WSU for the second year at a significantly higher rate in the STEM disciplines compared to those who were not active (75% vs. 72%). TMP is becoming professional in training.
- 128 students served as Graduate Assistants, Mentors, Tutors, Office Assistants and Student Volunteers.
- Students with an active role in MSS are required to participate in the training modules designed to help them acquire knowledge on intercultural and global competencies and inform their praxis as they interact with fellow students while serving in the role of Mentors, Tutors, Interns, or Office Assistants.

Student Graduation and Preparation for Graduate or Professional School or the Workforce

The WSU’s overall six-year graduation rates have experienced a decline during the last five years (latest available data) from almost 70% for the 2003 cohort to 65.5% for the 2007 cohort. This is also true for multicultural student graduation rates, declining from 65% for the 2003 cohort to 61% for the 2007 cohort.

- To honor graduating students and families and to inspire younger cohorts of students, MSS organizes the fall and spring graduation celebrations. Around 160 students participated in the celebrations joined by over 800 family members.
- To help accomplish the MSS mission we continue to receive the support and partnership of many campus and off-campus friends who share their expertise and commitment for the success of the students. We thank the faculty and staff who generously contributed their time and expertise to present, help train, mentor, and guide the students. Our special thanks to faculty mentors, departmental liaisons, those who facilitated workshops and presentations at the Multicultural Center, and those who invested their time to assist our office in securing funding to maintain a vibrant MSS operation.

We appreciate your partnership!