Cross Cultural Center

ACADEMIC SUCCESS AND CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

How Race is Made in America: Immigration, Citizenship, & the Historical Power of Racial Scripts book talk with Natalia Molina

The Cross-Cultural Center invited Dr. Molina (History) for a book presentation on her newest book on immigration, Ethnic Studies, and U.S. History. Her presentation examined Mexican American history, the legal, political, social, and cultural sources related to immigration, and expands the theory on how race is socially constructed in relational ways. This lunch time event allowed students, staff, and faculty to engage in critical dialogue around racialized bodies and immigration policies, as well as to purchase the book for Dr. Molina to sign.

Women of Color in the Academy

The Cross-Cultural Center, in collaboration with the Women’s Center, organized the 4th annual Women of Color in the Academy featuring faculty across diverse academic disciplines in STEM fields and the Social Sciences: Dr. Ebonee Williams of Engineering, Dr. Jillian Hernandez of Ethnic Studies, and Dr. Luz Chung of Education Studies at UC San Diego. The Social Justice Peer Educators of both Centers participated in constructing and facilitating an open discussion following the narratives of faculty guests at the Women’s Center in a filled room of students and staff. The program provided audience members the opportunity to engage with faculty on their journeys of personal and professional empowerment, challenges, and insights.
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INCLUSION, COMMUNITY, & BELONGING

#blacklivesmatter Movement with Alicia Garza (Class of 2002)

Partnering with the Alumni Office, Black History Month planning committee, the Black Resource Center, Ethnic Studies, Critical Gender Studies, Black Studies Project, and the African American Studies Minor Program, the Cross-Cultural Center invited alumni Alicia Garza (c/o 2002), co-founder of #blacklivesmatter, for two separate events – a lunch with student leaders from the Student Affirmative Action Committee (SAAC) and community presentation that attracted 90 students, 17 staff, 11 faculty, and 9 community members.

GUIDE

Greeks United for Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity, known as GUIDE, is UC San Diego’s newly developed organization of Greek life student leaders comprised of members from Panhellenic Sorority Council (PHC), Inter-Fraternity Council (IFC), and Multicultural Greek Council, (MGC). Following several advisor and consultation meetings regarding the educational objectives of GUIDE in fall quarter, GUIDE meetings averaging 30 members were held with the administrative, consultation, and logistical support of the Cross-Cultural Center. Going forward, the Cross-Cultural Center continues to consult with and advise Greek life leaders and advisors in the areas of social justice and diversity training and program support throughout the year.

OUTREACH, YIELD, & RETENTION

High School Conference

The Cross-Cultural Center assisted in logistics planning, volunteer training, and hosted various workshops for the high school conferences coordinated by Kaibigang Pilipin@ (KP) and Movimiento Estudiantil Chican@ de Aztlan (MEChA). Each conference attracted over 200 high school students from San Diego, Orange, Los Angeles, and Riverside Counties. For both conferences, the Social Justice Educators hosted a workshop that attracted about thirty students in each session. These workshops were customized for each community around social justice, identity, and higher education. Partnership with the Student Promoted Access Center for Education & Service (SPACES) has allowed the Cross-Cultural Center to be present in various access and outreach programs done by various student organizations that are affiliated with the center.
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TEACHING, TRAINING & CONSULTING

Social Justice Educators (SJE) Workshops and Presentations

The Social Justice Educator Team organized and facilitated a total of 9 workshops in winter quarter with over 233 participants. Participants included student leaders of colleges, high school youth, members of sororities and fraternities, as well as the diverse student representatives of the Cross-Cultural Center’s affiliated groups. One particular highlight was the Social Justice Educators’ program, Crossing Lines: Hip-Hop, Culture, and Blackness, featuring Dr. Jillian Hernandez, and PhD Candidate, Martin Boston. This event, held at the Cross-Cultural Center, was a co-sponsorship with Critical Gender Studies, Ethnic Studies, Literature, and other Campus Community Centers.

Teaching Diversity Conference

This January the Cross-Cultural Center, along with numerous campus partners, hosted the 2nd Teaching Diversity Conference. Over 363 faculty, staff, student and SD community attendees attended 32 presentations. Topics from the conference included teaching practices, classrooms beyond walls, innovative pedagogical practices and student voices. Presenters were from a wide range of campus and community groups including: departments of Physics, Ethnic Studies, History, Lincoln High School, Early Childhood Education, Mana de San Diego, The Preuss School, Education Studies to name a few. Our keynote presenter, Dr. Shari Saunders from University of Michigan, shared best practices for creating inclusive classrooms during our lunch address and led a discussion roundtable for graduate students on improving teaching and classroom environments. Based on conference evaluations we heard specific participant growth and exposure in three key areas; increased insights into classroom practice (4.7 of 5), Inspiration to change course content or pedagogy (4.6 of 5), and insights into student voice and classroom experience (4.5 of 5).

Human Development Department Course Collaboration

The CCC was excited to partner with the Human Development Program to develop and offer a new HDP course for Winter 2015. Cultural Competence in Diverse Communities. This pilot, pre-requisite, course was developed to equip students with knowledge, skills, and background to more successfully complete their field studies research practicum for the Human Development Major. Working with text examining implicit bias, cultural competency theory, and exposure to a wide range of social justice topics; students learned how their own point of view and backgrounds impact and insect while working in different community and research context. The course has been submitted and it is pending to satisfy a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion requirement campus wide. This academic