House-Hunting Workshop

Name of Assessment Project: House-Hunting Workshop

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

Department: Sixth College
Providing Other Department: Student Legal Services

Units/Departments Involved in Assessment Project: Sixth College

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:
International and out-of-state come to UC San Diego to obtain an esteemed degree, but it can be overwhelming to come to a new environment and culture. It can be difficult for students to get acclimated to the community without knowing where to travel or having a means of transportation. The Outreach Coordinators partnered with Global China Connection (student org) and Student Legal Services to implement a House-Hunting Workshop to explain how to rent a house/apartment in California and provide an overview of local San Diego neighborhoods where UCSD students tend to live.

The House-Hunting Workshop consisted of a representative from Student Legal Services explaining the process of renting in California and tips for students to follow to avoid legal issues. The presentation continued with representatives from Global China Connection speaking about various neighborhoods and apartment complexes around UCSD. Speakers explained the benefits, drawbacks, and amenities for each area and how students could rent at each location. Students were able to ask questions about renting in San Diego and what to look for in an apartment at the conclusion of the presentation.

The objective of this assessment was to compile a comprehensive satisfaction review and value of students attending the House-Hunting Workshop. Students were given the opportunity to anonymously express their satisfaction with the House-Hunting Workshop 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 the House-Hunting Workshop. Data from all paper assessment were uploaded manually to Excel. The results of this assessment were used to determine the value of the House-Hunting Workshop 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
- If finding on-campus and off-campus housing is a challenge for UCSD students
- Benefit of participation in event (increase in knowledge and/or sense of belonging to UCSD)
- If students would attend other similar workshop-related events in the future

Relationship to Student Affairs:
As a result of participating in the House-Hunting Workshop, students will be able to:
- Become aware of campus resources that are here to support their house-hunting needs
- Report an increase in their sense of belonging to UC San Diego
- Identify the type of housing they will be looking for in the future
- Be satisfied with the House-Hunting Workshop event

Unit/Program Specific Goals and Learning Outcomes:
- Not related to any SALOs
Learning Outcomes:  
Assessment Project  
Start: 4/16/2014  
Assessment Project  
End: 4/16/2014  
Population/Sample: 56 students attended the House-Hunting Workshop. 52 attendees completed the assessment providing a 93% response rate. Participants consisted of a range of residency statuses – out-of-state students, international students, and California resident students. All six UC San Diego colleges and all levels of the student body were represented.

Total Students Served: 56

# of International Students Served: 32
# of Out-Of-State Students Served: 5
# of California Students Served: 19

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 the House-Hunting Workshop by the Outreach Coordinators. Students were given the opportunity to anonymously express their satisfaction with the House-Hunting Workshop 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 informational workshops for students and to improve housing programs 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 : No items to display.

Summary of Findings: The main purpose of the House-Hunting Workshop assessment project was to assess the following. The data provided the following results:

- Participant demographic information
  - 56 student participants
    - 46% of attendees were International students
    - 8% of attendees were Out-Of-State students
    - 46% of attendees were California resident students
  - Students attended from all 6 UCSD colleges
  - Students from every grade level represented

- Benefit of participation in event (increase in knowledge and/or sense of belonging to UCSD)
  - 96% of participants agree or strongly agree they gained an increase in awareness of housing information and campus resources
  - 82% of participants agree or strongly agree they have a stronger understanding of what type of housing they will look for in the future
  - 45% of participants reported an increase in their sense of belonging to UCSD

- If students would attend other similar workshop-related events in the future
  - 96% of participants were satisfied (or higher) with event
  - 96% of participants stated they would recommend a friend to attend a similar workshop-related event

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

- 68% of participants feel that finding on-campus and off-campus housing is a challenge
- 42% of participants heard about the House-Hunting Workshop through Facebook
- 63% of participants agreed that the best part of the House-Hunting Workshop was the presentation from Student Legal Services on how to rent in California
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 informational workshop-related programs for the following quarter based on student feedback
- Increase awareness and advertising of House-Hunting Workshops among international and out-of-state students to increase participation and knowledge of resources

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 House-Hunting Workshop was fairly high and provided a high response rate which gave valuable insight into student’s perception of the workshop and house-hunting challenges for UCSD students. The Outreach Coordinators and College Intern were strict in distributing and collecting assessments to ensure a high response rate was achieved. Students reported that finding housing is a challenge so implementing a workshop that identified ways to rent in California and places available was helpful for students. At future House-Hunting Workshops, the Outreach Coordinators plan to incorporate a component of the event to allow students the opportunity to mingle with each other and find other students that may need roommates. Surveys will be implemented for future House-Hunting Workshop events and compared with these existing findings.

Supplemental Information: