All Campus Thanksgiving Feast

The initiative for this program came from the fact that this year UC San Diego welcomed a freshmen class with an increased number of out-of-state and international students. In order to meet the needs of these students populations, Laura and Katy have been creating programs and events specifically designed for their needs. The first-ever All Campus Thanksgiving Feast was held Thursday, November 22, 2012 and is an example of such an event.

To address the lack of adequate dining options on campus over Thanksgiving Break, Laura and Katy were charged with the task of developing an all campus Thanksgiving Dinner. Under the guidance and funding of the Non-Resident Student Engagement (NRSE) committee, a Thanksgiving Feast committee was created. The committee consisted of:
Laura Sabin and Katy Brecht – Outreach Coordinators for Out of State and International Students
Rey Guerrero – Resident Dean of Eleanor Roosevelt College
Leo Acosta – Food Services Coordinator
Malou Amparo – Program Coordinator, International House
Adam McKinney – Events Coordinator, International House

Through the planning, efforts, and collaboration of these individuals, the first ever all campus Thanksgiving Feast was born. The Feast featured pie making, crafting, football watching, turkey bowling, and of course a full, traditional American Thanksgiving Dinner.

The following assessment was completed at the Thanksgiving Feast. The purpose of this
The all campus Thanksgiving Feast event was developed in line with the following learning outcomes for out of state and international students:

- As a result of participating in the Thanksgiving Feast, students will attend at least one college sponsored event that connected them to the campus community and/or other students
- Attend at least one event sponsored by I-Center and/or I-House
- Name at least one American student that you have made a connection with

The population for this assessment was the group of nearly 200 students who attended the event. This included undergraduate students from all 6 colleges and graduate students. A total of 119 surveys were received from the event. This creates a response rate of 60%.

The data was collected from a paper survey that was given to each attendee at the event. Once the surveys were collected all of the information was input into a spreadsheet, where the responses were grouped and categorized. Both quantitative and qualitative data was collected from the paper survey responses.

The findings were presented in two ways. A report was created summarizing the disaggregated data and highlighting students' actual responses. The data was also presented as an infographic to increase the visual impact of the data. The data was then passed on to the appropriate supervisors and the entire NRSE committee.
Based on the data collected, it was found that the Thanksgiving Feast was a huge success. Students from all colleges across the campus attended the event and enjoyed the wide variety of activities.

As a result of participating in the Thanksgiving Feast, students will attend at least one college sponsored event that connected them to the campus community and/or other students

- 197 students attended the event from all of the colleges

Attend at least one event sponsored by I-Center and/or I-House

- The event was held at the Great Hall and is a collaboration with I-House, again 197 students achieved this outcome

Name at least one American student that you have made a connection with

- Overall, 84% of respondents were able to identify the name of at least one person that they met at the event. 7% of the 84% listed the names of multiple people that they met at the event.

The report was shared amongst the committee members and their direct supervisors. More strikingly, the info graphic was presented to the entire NRSE committee, which oversees the student engagement and satisfaction of out of state and international students studying at UC San Diego.

The high turn out and positive review of the event emphasize the need and satisfaction of the event. Given these results, the Thanksgiving Feast will most likely become an annual UCSD event. Many students showed up on the day of the event. In the future there will be a small deposit or fee associated with this event to hold the students accountable.

The most common student responses centered around these concepts:

- More food
- More activities
- Change the ticketing procedure/process

Since it was the first year of the all campus Thanksgiving Feast there was a lot to learn, but overall the event was a huge success.