



Residence Life, University Housing Services
Black Trivia Night
Assessment Report

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Choose One: Learning Outcome Assessment

Date of Assessment Implementation: June 2017

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Purpose of Assessment

The purpose of assessing the Black Trivia Night is to gauge student's sense of belonging and sense of community from this program. The assessment also evaluated if students felt further connected to University Housing Services after having attended this program.

Black Trivia Night was a collaboration between University Housing Services (Montecito Hall and Encinitas Hall) and the African American Student Center. At Cal Poly Pomona, African American students make up about 5% of the student population. With such a small percentage, Black students can often slip through the cracks. When it comes to on campus living the percentage is even smaller. Most African American students find community specifically at the African American Center on campus. I wanted to come up with a program that allowed Black students to come to a residence hall and find community there (if even for just one program). I teamed up with a few RA's to help craft a program that engaged Black students as well as students from differing ethnic racial backgrounds. Over the month of January we put together a trivia night. This trivia night aimed to education students on the unique history of African American individuals in the United States. We wanted students to be able to learn and explore historical content in a fun and competitive way.

There were about 50 students in attendance at the Black Trivia Night. The main portion of the night was the Jeopardy game. Students got in to teams and picked from various categories. The six categories were, First in History, Dates, Art and Literature, Music & Film, and general Trivia. Throughout the night students worked together to come up with the correct answers to each question. Periodically throughout the trivia, we would go in to deeper discussions about historical events and questions. At the end of the jeopardy game first place and second place prizes were given out to the winners. All participants in the program also received Montecito T-shirts.

Division Learning Outcome Diversity & Global Consciousness

Targeted Learning Outcome

For the Black Trivia night, the learning outcomes were to harbor a sense of community for Black students on campus in a residence hall atmosphere (Montecito Hall). Another outcome was to bring awareness as well as to celebrate the longstanding history of African Americans in the Unites States. Lastly, an overarching goal was to educate participants both in the Black community and students from different ethnic background on Black History.

Assessment Methodology

In assessing the Black History Night, I used qualitative research method of holding a small focus group after the trivia night.

Results and Conclusion

Post event I held a focus group with about four students who attended the trivia night. I asked students a few questions to gauge their experience. I first asked students if they felt a sense of community after they attended the trivia night. All students said that they felt a strong sense of community in regards to Black students meeting other Black students. They felt that they all felt a sense of comradery as they were able to learn about their common Black history and culture. I then

asked the students if they felt like this program celebrated their culture and brought awareness to students who were from different communities. One student said that the jeopardy game “provided a good platform for outside culture to learn about a culture that is often overlooked.” They went on to say that, they wished that more students of different ethnic groups were present so they could gain this information. I also asked if this program helped students feel more connected to residential life. All students said that it was nice to get outside of their usual bubble, that is the African American Center, and to experience the residential community. They were able to interact with Resident Advisors and the Residence Life Coordinator. They also liked that they were told the services University Housing provides and were given the Montecito shirt. Overall, the students said they would have loved to have a collaborative event held in the residence hall once every few months. This would allow students to meet new people and stay connected to University Housing.

Conclusion

The Black History Trivia night was an event that had never been done before and the program was receptive by students. Students of all cultures were able to learn more about a topic and community that might not be as visible on campus. The environment in which the program was held ensured that students felt comfortable and open to connect with one another. I highly recommend this event continue to be provided by University Housing in the future.

Implications for Practice

- Continue to host Black Trivia Nights or something of its variation in the residence halls.
- Make sure to engage not just Black students but students from outside cultures and identities.
- Provide students with a take away information pamphlet or flier to ensure students have retained the information.