OUTCOME

Students will experience a transformational environment for learning and development.

OUTCOME SUPPORTS

- University: Goal 1
- Division: Goal 2
- Department:
- Other:

OUTCOME TYPE

- Performance Outcome
- Student Learning Outcome

ASSESSMENT APPROACH

- Direct assessment
- Indirect assessment

DATA COLLECTION METHODS

Survey

METHODS AND MEASURES

The Center for Scholars believes that a student’s environment greatly impacts their experience and development. The center strives to provide a transformational space to meet student needs and foster growth and development. Understanding students’ needs is essential to providing a transformational environment, whether it is through a quick front desk interaction or participation in programs. The center plans to understand students’ experiences, identify student needs, and use that data to provide such an environment.

For the 2016-2017 academic year, the center utilized a survey to capture students’ experiences with the services offered by the Center for Scholars. Through the survey, students will be able to indicate what they envision for a transformational environment that meets their needs. Three separate surveys were created and administered through Baseline. The students at the center receive different benefits based on what program they participate in. Therefore, three separate surveys were sent to each population, Abrego Future Scholars, Guardian Scholars, and Presidents Scholars through Baseline in an email, that outlined the different benefits the students receive. The results of the survey will serve to show what components of the program and the services received through the Center for Scholars will contribute to the success of the students.

CRITERIA OF SUCCESS

- 80% of students will agree that the support resources provided by the Center for Scholars were helpful in their academic and personal success.
- 80% of students will identify one experience in their respective scholarship program that contributed to their engagement as a student at CSUF.

DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

The transformative environment assessment was distributed through email. Students had one week to complete the survey. Each student population received a survey with services specific to their program. A total of 167 students were asked to participate in the survey. The results indicate that 42% of students (70 of 167) responded to the survey of which 39% of students (27 of 70) are from the Abrego Future Scholars program, 19% of students (13 of 70) are from the Guardian Scholars program, and 43% of students (30 of 70) are from the Presidents Scholars program.

On average, 87% students (62 of 70) agree that the support resources provided by the Center for Scholars are very helpful or helpful in their academic and personal success. We assessed specific
services that all students receive from the Center for Scholars regardless of their program. The results show that students found the computer lab, printing services, and Center for Scholars staff as resources that are helpful in their academic and personal success. Looking at the populations separately, Abrego Future scholars and Guardian Scholars found the computer lab, printing services, and the Center for Scholars staff as resources most helpful in their academic and personal success. The President Scholars found the student lounge (couches), computer lab, and Center for Scholars staff as resources most helpful in their academic and personal success.

Through the assessment, the Center for Scholars want students to identify one experience in their respective scholarship program that contributed to their engagement as a student at CSUF. Overall, 96% of students (67 of 70) identified at least one experience through the program that contributed to their engagement at CSUF. In the Abrego Future Scholars Program, 96% of students (26 of 27) identified at least one experience through the program that contributed to their engagement at CSUF. The top three experiences that students mentioned are faculty staff mentoring, community, and monthly meetings. In the Guardian Scholars Program, 85% of students (11 of 13) identified at least one experience through the program that contributed to their engagement at CSUF. The top three experiences that students mentioned are community service, field trips, and the Guardian Scholars Retreat. In the Presidents Scholars Program, 100% of students identified at least one experience through the program that contributed to their engagement as a student at CSUF. The top three experiences that students mentioned are social events, community service, and the Presidents Scholars Student Association.

- 87% of students agree that the support resources provided by Center for Scholars were helpful in their academic and personal success.
- 96% of students identified one experience in their respective scholarship program that contributed to their engagement as a student at CSUF.

**IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS**
The Center for Scholars met the criteria of success for the transformative environment assessment. The Center for Scholars can improve the following year by increasing the number of students who complete the survey so that all populations are represented in the survey. Out of the 167 students who receive 42% of students responded to the survey. One of the reasons why the response rate was low is due to the timing of the assessment. The survey was administered after the end of the Spring semester for one week. Students received emails and phone calls throughout the week to remind them to complete the survey. To improve the response rate, the Center for Scholars can offer incentives for students to increase participation in the survey, such as opportunity drawings or ice cream socials. Additionally, the staff can distribute the survey before the end of the semester. Many students do not check their CSUF email as regularly during the summer. Administering the survey before the end of the semester will make it easier for the staff to remind the students through means other than email such as in person and through flyers posted around the center.