Student Affairs Annual Report
Appendix E
Student Engagement Annual Report 2015-2015
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1. **Introduction**

Student Engagement in the 2014 - 2015 academic was focused on building student engagement with clubs and organizations; providing resources and skill development in program planning for student leaders and developing communication plans to reach out to students in all schools regarding the activities and events happening on campus that promote retention through building community, making connecting and learning essential skills for success at Trinity and beyond.

1. **Dashboard Data Summary**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | 2011-2012 | 2012-2013 | 2013-2014 | 2014-2015 |
| Recognized Student Organizations | 12 | 16 | 13 | 15 |
| Student Organization members | 120 | 150 | 141 | 209 |
| Student Government election voters | n/a | n/a | 235 | 235 |
| Student Leader Cumulative GPA | n/a | n/a | n/a | 3.26 |

As part of the Student Affairs Retention management plan, Student Engagement encourages student participation in Trinity’s recognized student organizations. This participation has a positive impact on a student’s level of connectedness to campus. Sixteen student organization certification packets were submitted for approval this year. 15 organizations gained official recognized during the 2014-2015 academic year. This was consistent with the number of organizations in the past year, but there were some shifts in the specific organizations. Three organizations were recognized for the first time this year:

1. Dreamers Club. Club purpose: To come together as a united group to help each other through the college experience; advocate on behalf of Dreamers and the undocumented community; and to foster an atmosphere of communication and understanding at all times. This club, under the advisement of Iris Escarraman, Senior Associate Director of Admissions, has hosted educational trips, panel discussions and other events for the community, and has developed a foundation for students to come together, network and mentor incoming Dreamer scholars at Trinity.
2. Entrepreneurship and Marketing Club. Club purpose: To assist and provide education to students who have an interest in pursuing careers in entrepreneurial, business or marketing sectors. This club is organized by graduate students in the Business and Graduate School, under the advisement of Associate Dean and Director of Media Studies Dr. Peggy Lewis. This club has hosted networking events and panels focused on a business topics, career exploration and professional
3. OUT. Club purpose: To provide advocacy, education and support to the LGBTQA community at Trinity Washington University. This club, under the advisement of Dr. Jamey Piland hosted events to open the dialogue amongst students regarding differences and tolerance. They participated in many events including Domestic Violence Awareness, Service projects and Take Back the Night.

Although the number of student organizations remained the same as the previous year, the number of student organization members increased by 33% in 2014 – 2015. This increase is a positive attribute that is helping students to be connected and engaged in their Trinity experience.

2014-2015 Recognized Student Organizations

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name of Organization**  | **Members** |
| African Student Union  | 10  |
| Business and Economics | 14 |
| College Democrats | 11 |
| Communication  | 10  |
| Criminal Justice | 14 |
| Dreamers (new club in 2014-2015) | 10 |
| Entrepreneurship and Marketing club (new club in 2014-2015) | 26  |
| Ladies F.I.R.S.T.  | 18  |
| Latin-American/Caribbean- American Student Association (LACASA) | 12 |
| OUT (new club in 2014-2015) | 10 |
| Model United Nations | 13 |
| Muslim Student Association  | 10 |
| Psychology club  | 11 |
| Women on a Mission  | 23 |
| Women’s Student Action Coalition  | 17 |
| **Total**  | 209 |

Registered student organizations are a vital part of the campus life and afford students the opportunity to interact with others while fostering learning outside the classroom. Student Organization overview meetings were held with organization leaders and their advisors in the fall and spring. The intentions of the meetings were to discuss resources for planning and implementing organizational programming, clarify vision and goals for the academic year as well as policies and procedures. Registered student organizations and Student Government Council had access to Main Hall, room 225 as a resource center for holding small meetings, and for planning and executing programming. Students used the space by checking- in, they used the room a total of 160 times during the year.

**Student Governance**
The College of Arts and Sciences Student Government Council (CAS-SGC) met regularly throughout the year, and worked to support the individual club programs and Trinity traditions like Sophomore Pin, Junior Ring, Cap and Gown Weekend and maypole. The CAS-SGC student leaders participated in a 1-day leadership program at George Mason University which focused on leadership skill development through large and small workshop formats. During the academic year the CAS-SGC focused more on programming. They held events including ‘Kickback’ in collaboration with Sodexho where they incorporated a live twitter feed into the event; Winterfest, a whimsical week of activities that marked the end of the fall semester and promoted building community. Over 240 students participated in the week’s activities. CAS-SGC elections were in April for the 2015-2016 officers.

The School of Professional Studies Student Council did not elect officers for 2014-2015, and moving forward, the structure needs to be reviewed given that the current structure includes graduate students, which are now enrolled with Business and Graduate Programs. Discussions with Deans have included the idea to create an overarching Graduate Student Council that would serve as a student government for all graduate students enrolled at Trinity.

The School of Education Student Advisory Council assisted the Deans with reaching out to students to promote registration each term as well as attendance at department sponsored events including the Student Research Colloquium.

**Programming**

Fall 2014 Student Involvement and Service Fair was a successful event. Although, the same cannot be said for the Spring 2015 Involvement and Service Fair. We need to rethink the timing due to the nature of students and their commitments outside of campus. It is not, as necessary, to host a fair in the spring due to the drop in numbers of new enrollment during the spring semester.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Fall 2014 | Spring 2015 |
| Number of Students in attendance | 95 | 20 |
| Number of tables (student organizations, offices and service partners) | 26 | 27 |
| Commuters | 44 | 10 |
| Residents | 48 | 8 |

2014 Fall Student Involvement and Service Fair Survey of Student Attendees – 88 responses collected:

* In response to the question “How did you learn about the Fair”:
	+ 18 friend
	+ 51 email
	+ 4 club
	+ 5 walk-in
	+ 5 class
	+ 4 flyer
	+ 1 staff
* 84 students from the College of Arts and Sciences, 4 students from the School of Professional Students and 1 student from the School of Nursing and Health Professions participate in the fair.
1. **Progress to Meet Goals**

Student Engagement contributed to fulfilling Student Affairs Strategic Priority: 1. Enhance Student Engagement & Retention and 2. Build Campus Community by the following initiatives:

The Student Engagement Source and electronic newsletter for the campus community which included approved student organization events, and student leaders spotlights was created in Fall 2014.

Over the course of the academic year, 94 events were held by Student Organizations or Student Engagement which included club meetings, informational tables and programs such as but not limited to Walkfest against Modern slavery, Domestic Violence Awareness discussion, Billy Holiday and Friends, screenings of A Day in the Life of an Islam Student, Girls Just Wanna have Funds, Dear White People movie and discussion with Dr. Voltz, and traditional events such as the Junior Ring Ceremony.

Overall this annual report demonstrates our commitment to achieving Trinity’s strategic goals. With substantial attention specifically on Goal #8: Service to Students and Community. Student Engagement promoted and fostered student learning and success through programs, services and initiatives. We developed and implemented partnerships with key stakeholders such, as but not limited to, the College of Arts and Science advising team, and Enrollment Services. Ultimately, our dedication to student leaders and engagement campus wide creates an arena for students to achieve. The idea of being affiliated or associated with the programs provided will help stem initiative and create incentive for students to achieve. Our goal is to build on community by adding the desire to work diligently with students through continued hard work, creativity and team work.

1. **Key Assessments**

Student Leader GPAs

As illustrated in the graph below, student leaders maintained higher GPA's when compared to the College of Arts and Sciences GPA average. This was upheld during the transitioning phase into the spring semester; while disparity grew between the campus average and the student leaders. Student Engagement will continue to monitor the academic performance of student leaders and make continued participation contingent upon academic success.

Another fact also shown by the graph is that student leaders who commuted and resided on campus also, maintained very comparable GPA's within the fall semester. GPA(s) rose slightly, while commuter student performance grew at a higher rate than students who resided on campus.

**V. Goals for 2015-2016 academic year**

Develop a program/curriculum for leadership development to assist students in gaining leadership experience by providing opportunities to learn and apply leadership techniques, theories, and models.

Revise and update the Student Organization/Club Manual for the new school year.