Diversity & Multicultural Student Services

ANNUAL REPORT
2017-2018

Presented by Ernesto Martinez
OUR MISSION
Provide an accessible, inclusive environment that enriches the university experience and engages students, their families, and the community. We serve and empower student populations whose access, retention, academic success, and graduation are most challenged by socio-historical factors and contemporary inequities.

OUR VALUES
Community  Diversity  Equity

CONTACT
Smith Memorial Student Union
Room 425
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(503) 725-4457
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STAFF
Cynthia Gómez - Executive Director
Stacie Taniguchi - Assistant Director and Multicultural Student Center Program Coordinator
Pedro S. Torres - La Casa Latina Student Center Senior Program Coordinator
Makerusa Porotesano - Pacific Islander, Asian, and Asian American Student Center Program Coordinator
Shanice Clarke - Pan-African Commons Program Coordinator
Yolanda Salguiero - Native American Student & Community Center Program Coordinator
Andrew Morales - Office Manager

MISSION
The Cultural Resource Centers create a student-centered inclusive environment that enriches the university experience. We honor diversity, explore social justice issue, celebrate cultural traditions, and foster student identities, success and leadership.
All students are welcome.
La Casa Latina
Student Center
SMSU 229  (503) 725-6710  8,345 Visits

Mission
The mission of La Casa Latina Student Center is to attract Latinx students to Portland State University, and provide cultural, social and academic services and programs that enhance the quality of Latinx student life. We also seek to raise awareness on our campus of the rich diversity of Latinx across campus.

Facts & History:
La Casa Latina officially opened on June 13th, 2011 in SMSU 229. The artwork and murals in La Casa were made by PSU students.

Multicultural
Student Center
SMSU 228  (503) 725-5342  60,885 Visits

Mission
The MCC explores our intersectional identities and seeks to develop cultural competency through student engagement, programming, and meaningful dialogue.

Facts & History:
The MCC first opened in 1993 after PSU students demanded a space on campus for students color. In 2018, we celebrated our 25th anniversary with a celebration planned by members of CRC Leadership Team.
Native American Student & Community Center

710 SW Jackson St. (503) 725-9695 23,078 Visits
Manager: Robert Franklin

Mission
The NASCC is a gathering space to celebrate and empower student success through culturally relevant programming, academic support, and inter-generational community engagement to preserve Inter-tribal connection for Native American/Alaskan Native/Pacific Islander students and our allies through ceremony, and storytelling.

History:
The NASCC first opened on October 24th, 2003 after much planning, fundraising, and collaboration between Portland community members, Portland State University, and PSU Students.

Facts:
• INST Professor Sara Siestreem and interns completed a year long art curation project that involved creating art intake/care procedures and an NASCC art catalog book that the NASCC will sell to the general public.
• The NASCC has amended minor price increases and created a new pricing tier for the DMSS department.
• Honor Day 2018 was a success and included 24 graduates and featured Pacific Islanders Club dancers, Bull & Bears drumming, and a keynote speech from Winona LaDuke. Graduates also received honor necklaces made by the Siletz Tribe/NASCC staff, and honor blankets from 8th Generation Blankets.
• The rooftop garden is in preparation to receive a $10,000.00 CWSP Grant from the City of Portland which will support student gardeners and an updated vision for the plants.
• The Indigenous Nations Studies department held many of their class at the NASCC.
Pan-African Commons
SMSU 236  (503) 725-9371  5,278 Visits

Mission
The Pan-African Commons cultivates cultural, personal, academic, and professional development and opportunities through programming and resources that foster empowerment, enrichment, and principled solidarity that advocates liberation among peoples of the African diaspora.

Facts & History:
In November 2015, Black Student Union proposed a list of demands, which included a resource center for Black and African students. Proceeding the Student of Color Speak Out, President Wim Wiewel announced the opening of two new cultural resource centers.

Pacific Islander, Asian & Asian American Student Center
SMSU 235  (503) 725-9390  16,888 Visits

Mission
The Pacific Islander, Asian and Asian American (PIAAA) Student Center at Portland State University offers an engaging and accepting space to address the diverse and changing needs of our Asian and Pacific Islander student communities. PIAAA strengthens the identity of API students through accessible programming, inter-cultural community building, and social justice education.

Facts & History:
On November 2nd 2016, almost a year after President Wiewel announcement, the Pacific Islander, Asian and Asian American Student Center opened its doors.
STAFF
Michele Bromley - Adaptive Technology Specialist & Alternative Formats Coordinator
Jen Dugger - Director
Jewls Harris - Access Counselor & Consultant
Karen Morehouse - Access Counselor & Consultant
Darcy Kramer - Access Counselor & Consultant
Chennettée Jelleberg - Access Counselor & Consultant
Sarah Livengood - Office Manager
Matthew Blancas - Office Assistant

MISSION
Our mission is to make university life accessible to students with disabilities. We identify, evaluate, and reduce or eliminate barriers to student access throughout the PSU community. We focus on building partnerships and infrastructure that incorporates the principles of universal design sustainability, and social justice. We find creative solutions by proactively collaborating with students, faculty, and staff to develop an accessible and inclusive environment. Accommodations can be put in place for classroom, testing, study, housing, education abroad, internships/field placements, and more!
Accomplishments

• We experienced a 15% increase in students from 2016-17 to 2017-18.

• We produced a video to increase awareness about the availability of accommodations for students who have hidden disabilities. The video shows a student struggling and needing testing accommodations and then going through the process of registering with the DRC and receiving needed support. The video also features an international student, debunking the myth that international students aren't eligible for accommodations.

• We vastly improved our process in working with students who have a need for notetaking assistance. We now provide these students with notetaking workshops and technology in addition to note takers as needed.

• ASPSU and the DRC worked collaboratively to get the DRC more space this year! Ultimately, ASPSU gifted the DRC with 346 sq. ft. of their own space in order to create disability community and quiet study space.

• We hosted an event called “It’s Your Center”. The event provided students with a tangible disability community space at PSU for the first time. A giant art installation was created by students at the event and will be placed in the new DRC space.
STAFF
Perla Pinedo - Director
Marlon Marion - African American Student Services Coordinator
Trevino Brings-Plenty - Native American & Alaskan Native Student Services Coordinator
Emmanuel Magana – Latino/a/x Student Services Coordinator
Michelle Lee - Asian & Pacific Islander Student Services Coordinator

MISSION
MRS provides academic support, advising, referrals, and advocacy to students who are first generation, low income and/or from diverse and multicultural backgrounds. We strive to ensure the academic success, retention and graduation of students through structured programs. Our services are designed to build a strong sense of community that is essential to successfully navigate PSU
MRS offers four different first year retention programs to incoming PSU students. Each program is uniquely designed to enrich the experience of students looking to connect with the PSU diverse community. The programs assist new students in their transition to PSU, while building a multicultural campus community that is essential to student success. The programming, mentoring, and support that is provided by these programs, assists students in building a foundation that will result in continued success beyond the first year and ultimately lead to graduation.

- **1,440** -> students checked in to meet with a MRS Retention Program Coordinator by the end of the 2017-2018 academic year.
- **>83%** -> of students enrolled in an MRS First year program have persisted through the first academic year and enrolled for the fall 2018 quarter.

**Diversity Scholarship Program**
Promotes diversity and student participation in campus life through volunteerism and academic excellence.

- **13** -> New freshmen students.
  - **100%** -> 1st to 2nd year retention rate.
- **27** -> New continuing and transfer students.
- **113** -> DSP renewed freshmen, continuing & transfer students.
**Latino Student Services (GANAS)**
Provides academic support services, advocacy and connections to campus and Latino community services and resources to new incoming freshman, transfer and continuing students.

Coordinator 19-19 Caseload:
- **39** -> Students in this first year program.
- **103** -> Guide, Persist, Succeed Program Students.

**Native American Student Services (NATIONS)**
Provides to Native American (N.A) and Alaskan Native (A.N) students services to support their academic success, including academic advising, guidance and referrals to appropriate student services.

Coordinator 19-19 Caseload:
- **6** -> Students in this first year program.
- **9** -> Guide, Persist, Succeed Program Students

**Asian & Pacific Islander Student Services (EMPOWER)**
API Student Services seeks to bridge students to more equitable and accessible educational experiences for all API identified students.

Coordinator 19-19 Caseload:
- **20** -> Students in this first year program.
- **25** -> Guide, Persist, Succeed Program Students

**African American Student Services (ACCESS)**
Provides academic support services, advocacy and campus navigation. We provide connection to African American community services and resources for incoming freshman, transfer and continuing students.

Coordinator 18-19 Caseload:
- **24** -> Students in this first year program.
- **141** -> Guide, Persist, Succeed Program Students
STAFF

Linda Liu - Program Director
Rosalyn Taylor - Coordinator of Instruction
Charissa Ringo - Office Manager
Andrea Griggs - Coordinator of Counseling Services

MISSION

The mission of TRIO - SSS is to expand educational opportunity to persons often underrepresented in higher education; increase the retention and graduation rates of eligible students who are low income, first generation, and/or have a documented disability through comprehensive services and advocacy.

Students Receive

• Strengthen academic skills necessary for college level coursework through classes and workshops.
• Connect with cultural and social enrichment activities to find a sense of community.
• Improve and maintain the grade point average necessary to achieve academic goals.
• Graduate with a Bachelor’s degree.
Services

• Academic and career advising.
• Priority class registration for the following term.
• Graduate and professional school counseling.
• Financial Literacy such as loan forgiveness, financial aid application and managing personal budgets.
• Access to our student lounge and quiet study areas.
• FREE printing in our computer lab.
• Laptop and calculator loaner programs.
• Individual writing support.
• For credit classes to students at no charge such as a college writing class and from transition programs of Summer Bridge (incoming freshmen) and Transfer Bridge (incoming transfer students).
• Scholarship resources and assistance.
• Make appropriate referrals to campus and community resources.

• 99.28% -> Students who are in good academic standing.
• 273 -> Students served.
• 82.50% -> Students who graduate from college in 6 years.
• 95.35%-> Retention rate.
STAFF

Phillip Dirks - Director  
Catherine Hale - Program Administrator  
Brooke Friederichs - College Coordinator  
Darryl Kelley - College Coordinator  
Ashley Echang - College Coordinator  
Efrain Rivas - College Coordinator  
Moryah Schindler - College Coordinator

UPWARD BOUND

Upward Bound, a college preparation program for high school students, has been at PSU since 1980. Upward Bound is designed to improve student’s academic skills, develop their career and educational plans, and help them succeed in higher education.

EDUCATIONAL TALENT SEARCH

Educational Talent Search is an educational access and information program sponsored by PSU since 1967. The program mission is to identify, motivate, and assist students in their educational transitions into college.
Upward Bound

Students Receive

- Academic Guidance and counseling on a year-round basis.
- Daily tutoring in high school courses.
- A 6-week summer academic program.
- Assistance with career and college planning and financial aid.
- Opportunity for summer work-study positions (up to $900 for the summer).
- Opportunities to visit colleges and explore careers.
- Assistance in writing scholarships essays.

- $3.3M -> Scholarship amount earned by the class of 2017.
- 52.9% -> College graduation rate.
- 96.4% -> Students Completed their FAFSA.
- $462,216 -> Upward Bound is funded.
- 89% -> Students completed rigorous curriculum.
- 92% -> Enrolled in college.
- $10,000 -> Internships earnings by Upward Bound students each year.
- 108-> Funded to serve.
- 136 -> Students served.

Upward Bound serves 108 low income, first generation high school students from the following schools:
- Madison
- Roosevelt
- Jefferson
Educational Talent Search

Services & Opportunities

• Advise about academic, career, vocational opportunities.
• Exposure to career opportunities, college campuses & academic summer programs.
• Weekend High School credit courses and workshops.
• Assistance with ACT/SAT preparation and registration.
• Guidance with college admissions and financial aid applications.
• Referrals to other educational support services and community resources for participants and their parents.

• 685-> Funded to serve.
• 150-> High School seniors enrolled in college.
• 89%-> Students graduation with rigorous coursework.
• 99%-> High School graduation rate.
• 337,020-> Educational Talent Search is funded.
• 82% -> Post secondary enrollment rate.
STUDENT LEGAL SERVICES

SMSU M343
(503) 725-4556

STAFF

Richard Slottiee - Director & Attorney
April Kusters - Assistant Director & Attorney
Shalini Vivek - Staff Attorney
David Sorek - Staff Attorney
Laura Boughton - Paralegal
Sara Lavender - Office Manager

Founded in 1975
New legal cases 705
Contacts 6,773

After meeting with SLS legal staff students:
66% experience little to no stress
83% are better educated

MISSION

The mission of Student Legal Services is to encourage student’s full participation in their academic endeavors by helping navigate legal obstacles to fulfilling educational and career goals. Student Legal Services pursues its mission through legal advice and representation, mentorship, community partnerships and education to empower students.

VISION

To be recognized by our students and constituents as providing outstanding legal services that enhances student success.
Typical Legal Issues
Landlord tenant, family (divorce, custody, child support, parenting time), restraining and protective orders, name and gender change, insurance disputes, employment discrimination, wage claims, consumer, debtor creditor, Small Claims Court, bankruptcy, automobile accidents, personal injury, immigration, traffic violations, criminal.

Explore the Law
A year long free program for PSU students to gain insight into law school and the various considerations. The course includes mentorship by a lawyer, tours of the state and federal court, resume writing, financing law school, LSAT preparation, a mock first year law school class, and more.

Presentations to PSU Community
• High Expectations
• DACA- Know Your Rights
• Background Checks
• Name and Gender Changes
• So you think you want to be a lawyer
• Renters Rights
• Life of a Student Loan

Services Free for Eligible PSU Students
VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER

STAFF
Felita Singleton - Director
Kevin Pelatt - Office Manager
Alexandra Birmingham - Veterans Success Counselor

Facts & History:
At the conclusion of WWII in 1945, Portland, Oregon experienced a wake of returning veterans. This resulted in a demand for a more efficiently trained workforce through greater opportunities in higher education the Vanport Extension Center. Portland State University (PSU) grew from the convergence of the WWII GI Bill and continues to grow with the Post 9/11, WWII GI Bill.

MISSION
The mission of the Veterans Resource Center (VRC) is to connect student veterans, service members and their families with a variety of services specific to their individual needs, support the transition “from rucksack to backpack,” and to help them to connect with one another. The VRC also provides service to VRC faculty and administrators who seek to better understand the unique cultural differences found in the student veteran community and how we can all work together cohesively and respectfully for the success of the PSU community.

Visits: 5,985