2017 Black Student Survey

Presented by Chryss Yost
On behalf of the UCSB Black Resource Committee
The Black Resource Committee

Founded in January 2015 by Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Michael D. Young, the Black Resource Committee (BRC) is a campus-wide taskforce that complements the Black Student Union (BSU) by organizing faculty, senior administrators, staff, and undergraduate and graduate student committee members to identify opportunities and institutional deficits regarding enrollment, retention, and graduation for Black students and improving campus culture. Housed in Student Affairs Academic Initiatives.
Survey Purpose

To increase our understanding of the Black student experience and of where UCSB, as a campus, is doing best and can better serve the Black student community in the areas of retention, engagement, inclusion, well-being, and success.
Research Questions

1. What is the Black student experience at UC Santa Barbara from Admissions to transition and to matriculation?
2. Where is UC Santa Barbara successful and falling short in supporting the academic, cultural, community and retention needs of Black students?
3. What is the impact of Black students’ co-curricular involvement on their academic experience?
Surveys

989 Surveys Sent

453 Started

364 Completed (80% Completion Rate)

37% Participation Rate
SURVEY CATEGORIES

About Your College Choice (10)
About Your Enrollment (5)
About Your Major (5)
About You (4)
About Your Family & Home (11)
SURVEY CATEGORIES

Local Housing (11)
Your Sources of Financial Support (16)
Your Academic Experience (38)
Personal Support at UCSB (16)
Beyond Campus Experiences (6)
Community Experiences (17)
SURVEY CATEGORIES

...and anything you wish we knew but didn’t ask?

140 questions
Q: WHAT IS YOUR ETHNIC OR RACIAL IDENTITY (OR IDENTITIES)?
What would improve your relationship with faculty? (N=249)

- by taking the initiative and visiting with professors, attending office hours, or engaging with faculty outside of the classroom setting (37% of respondents)
- hostile, racist, or unwelcoming environments, created by professors, was an issue and obstacle in improving student-faculty relationships (9% of respondents)
- large class sizes hindered the opportunities to connect with teachers during lectures or discussions (4% of respondents)

- No idea (5%)
How important has the Black community been in shaping your experience at UCSB?

- Extremely important: 22.80%
- Very important: 17.58%
- Moderately important: 21.98%
- Slightly important: 15.38%
- Not at all important: 22.25%
What would you ask the UCSB *Administration, faculty, staff* to focus on in order to improve the Black student experience?
Focus on: REPRESENTATION
Focus on lack of diversity on campus instead of ignoring it, everyone is white—we aren’t blind.
Make UCSB a BSI just like it’s a HSI.
Admit more black bodies.
Focus on:
UNDERSTANDING
RECOGNITION
EMPATHY
LISTENING
Learn basic dos and don’ts about race.
Focus on:
ADDRESSING RACISM
Prevent white-supremacist, divisive speakers.
Acknowledge Black people in more than just a cultural way.
Assume we are competent.
Unmet Needs

food
sometimes
money
pay
n/a

bill
community
home
support
lack

work
financial
unmet

end
eat
rent
car
lot

thing
meal
aid
school
feel
really

afford
book
family

meet
always
grocery

able
sleep
health
spend
only

service
time
year

run

because
How do you think having a Black Professor affected your experience? (N=147)

- Yes-affected my experience: 47%
- Students engage/more attention
- Established connection/cultural connection
- No affect on experience: 12%
- Professor aware of generation, slang/culture
- Felt empowered
- Can identify with them/They are role models
- Use examples relevant to Black experience/credible
- Too few of professors/courses
Finally, is there anything you would like us to know that we haven’t asked?
ADMIT MORE BLACK PEOPLE!
You can't ask why we don't feel comfortable, if we don't see anyone who even looks like us or shares our experiences.
I haven't been that involved with black student groups as of yet but I would really like to. I'm just not totally sure where to go or who to ask about them.
I think everyone needs to know what a microaggression is. Let's make that happen! Add it to the alcohol and drug program thing that freshmen have to do or something. Let’s wake these kids up.
Nope.
Consistently taking into account the intersectionality of different Black experiences and acknowledging that the shared struggles of our communities may not be readily visible, but the negative impact those struggles have on our academics, etc., might be.
Q12.2 - How has (have) your identity (identities) changed during your time at UCSB?

“I feel like my Black identity has felt more salient since I came to UCSB. Not that I did not identify strongly as Black before, but there is something about feeling like I stand out all the time and everywhere I go, and not having as big of a Black community here that has made that part of my identity feel much more salient in my daily life in a way that it did not before. At the same time, those same things have made me feel like I have fewer opportunities to engage in the cultural parts of my Black identity.”
Q12.10 - What would you ask the UCSB faculty to focus on

“Understand that not everyone is as tolerant as they think. So many unconscious biases exist and should be spoken about. Many don't realize when and how they're offending people of color.”

Q155. Anything Else

“I think everyone needs to know what a microaggression is. Let's make that happen! Add it to the alcohol and drug program thing that freshmen have to do or something. Let’s wake these kids up.”
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BLACK STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

UCSB has more than 500 student organizations including academic, cultural, faith-based, Greek, political, service-based, social and more. For a complete list of campus organizations at UCSB, please visit http://osl.sa.ucsb.edu.