Early Academics and Advising

One barrier to enrollment at the University of California is that many students are not aware of the University's A-G requirement, which must be completed prior to enrollment. In the 2017 survey, 364 respondents knew they wanted to attend college, but fewer than 18% knew about the A-G requirement before starting high school. About 51% knew about the University of California A-G requirement since they were already in college.

Choosing UCSB

Academically identified as extremely (0.54%) or very (0.19%) important in choosing to attend UCSB for over 90% of respondents. Financial support was also an important factor for some students’ choice to attend UCSB, with 84% of respondents rating the financial support package as extremely (0.53%) or very (0.37%) important to over 90% of respondents.

When I received my acceptance letter, a book, “The UCSB Book” came with the package as well. I was excited to see that there was a Caribbean community on campus, which played an important part in my decision to attend UCSB. I was extremely disappointed when I got to UCSB and realized that a Caribbean community of campus was nonexistent. I felt misled. Aside from that, I have grown in my three years at the university, although I wish I had more colored people on campus.”

Choosing UCSB because of its reputation and because I began my undergraduate career at another university in the UC system. The ability to have Black Studies was a deciding factor in choosing to attend UCSB.

Supporters: The 2017 survey of the UCSB Black student community was supported by the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, Student Affairs Academic Programs, the Department of Financial Aid & Scholarships, the Black Student Leadership Council, and the Black Student Engagement Program.

Academics.aca.ucsb.edu/brc

Work cited

A-G requirement once they were already in elementary school, fewer than 18% knew about this requirement before starting high school. About 51% knew about the University of California A-G requirement since they were already in college.

Q: What was your gender identity (or identity)?
Q: How would you describe your interactions with faculty?
Q: What would make classes especially enjoyable or engaging?
Q: What makes classes especially enjoyable or engaging?
Q: What would you describe your interactions with faculty?
Q: How do you rate the transition to UCSB?
Q: WHAT WOULD YOU ASK THE UCSB ADMINISTRATION TO FOCUS ON IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THE BLACK STUDENT EXPERIENCE?

Three themes emerged as dominant for these three questions:

1. More representation. More black faculty, students, and staff.

2. More understanding/recognition/empathy/understanding. Calling for increased sensitivity to the struggles and unique experiences of being Black at UCSB. Most responses called for more listening and training.

3. Address racism. Calling for supporting a safer campus climate and welcoming environment in terms of events, inflammatory speakers, queer life, clubs, faculty, departments, policies, and media. Many called for changes in language and the elimination of micro-aggressions in classrooms, with staff, online, and in the newspapers.

Focus on lack of diversity on campus instead of ignoring it, everyone is white—we aren’t blind”

“Make UCSB a BSG just like it’s a POC”

“Admit more black bodies”

“Learn basic: don’t and don’t abuse race”

“Listening, acting, and not antagonizing”

“Prevent white-supermansion, divisive speakers”

“Felling more welcome, not admitting more POC to fill a quota”

“Acknowledge Black people in more than just a cultural way”

“Assume we are competent”

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4.75% report being homeless while attending UCSB from 2 weeks to 6 months.

Q: DO YOU HAVE A JOB? (Include unpaid campus internships)

Q: DO YOU PROVIDE ANY FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR YOUR FAMILY?

Q: DO YOU RECEIVE MONEY DIRECTLY FROM YOUR FAMILY?

Q: HOW OFTEN IS LACK OF MONEY A PROBLEM FOR YOU IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS?

Q: WHAT ETHNIC OR RACIAL IDENTITY (OR IDENTITIES) DO YOU IDENTIFY WITH?

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2017 BLACK STUDENT SURVEY

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