Multicultural Student Leaders Building a Thriving Community

A-State Multicultural Center
Your Presenters
Dr. Evette L. Allen

Director, Multicultural Center & Non-Traditional Student Services
Ms. Niani Williams
Multicultural Ambassador
2017-2018
Ms. Diana Smith
Multicultural Ambassador
2017-2018
Presentation Purpose

This interactive program will guide participants through the strategic program planning process for the multicultural ambassador team at Arkansas State University. The process is used to intentionally engage students, effectively market programs, and assess events for student feedback. Using this process, our center has seen increased engagement with our programs.
Presentation Goals

● For the audience to learn a program planning process that assists with cultivating thriving communities.
● For the audience to understand a process that can assist with developing student leaders.
Presentation Overview

- Program Overview
- Planning Document Overview
- Example Programs
- Group Activity & Discussion
- Questions
Overview of MC Ambassador Program
Purpose of MC Ambassador Program

The Arkansas State Multicultural Center Ambassador Program provides opportunities for students to take an active role in educational, cultural, social, and leadership opportunities for students on campus as it pertains to multiculturalism, equity and social justice. The overall goal of the program is to promote the genuine celebration of differences and promote multicultural awareness that assists with engaging across cultures and in everyday settings. Multicultural Ambassadors are responsible for facilitating and implementing various aspects of cultural programs, educational workshops, and leadership development opportunities throughout the school year.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>This person will serve as the overall lead for all student initiatives and programs from the multicultural ambassadors. This person will assist with the vision and oversight of three concentration areas: multicultural programs, multicultural education, and multicultural leadership &amp; success.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leadership &amp; Success Coordinator</td>
<td>This person will lead initiatives that help strengthen multicultural student organization on campus, initiatives that assist with leadership development for diverse students, and initiatives that promote academic success of underrepresented populations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Coordinator</td>
<td>This person will lead initiatives for heritage month celebrations on campus, welcome activities, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education Coordinator</td>
<td>This person will lead initiatives for MC cultural conversations, and diversity workshops and trainings that enhance understandings of multiculturalism, equity, and social justice.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Media &amp; Publicity</td>
<td>This person will lead marketing initiatives and campaigns for the multicultural center events.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Trad Student Programs</td>
<td>This person will serve as the liaison to non-traditional students and assist with programs that enhance the experiences of non-traditional students.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women &amp; Gender Programs</td>
<td>This person will lead initiatives for the LGBT community and initiatives that celebrate the accomplishments of women.</td>
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Expectations, Selection Process & Benefits

Expectations

- Commitment of 1 academic year
- Good academic and conduct standing
- 2.50 GPA and 12 credit hours
- Four (4) office hours each week
- Attend all large-scale programs and ⅔ of all MC sponsored programs and events.
- Attend all planning retreats and weekly team meetings.

Selection Process

- Application
- Interview
- Required Training

Benefits

- Polos Provided
- $1,000 Educational Stipend
- Meal provided during large events
- Leadership skills
MC Programs

**CULTURAL PROGRAMS**

**Cultural Heritage Celebrations**
In line with our dedication to celebrating cultures and promoting awareness, the Multicultural Center hosts several events to celebrate various cultural heritages. Events include, but are not limited to Black History Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, Native American Heritage Month.

**Gender Identity & LGBT+ Lecture Series**
Each year, the Multicultural Center sponsors a lecture to discuss topics and promote awareness for issues surrounding the gender, sexuality, and the LGBT+ community.

**Multicultural Networking Events**
The Multicultural Center hosts a number of networking events to welcome multicultural students to campus and help them network with individuals who share similar identities.

**Women's History Month Luncheon**
This event celebrates the accomplishments of women around the globe.

**MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION**

**Workshops & Training**
The Multicultural Center offers a number of workshops & training for faculty, staff, and students at ASU. To schedule a specialized workshop or training for your department or organization, email us at AstateMC@astate.edu or call 870.680.4052.

**Multicultural Mondays**
This event is a trivia style competition held once a month to help students learn about various cultures, while networking with their peers. Students even have the opportunity to win prizes. See the MC calendar for specific dates.

**Peer Educators Program**
The Peer Educators program is a program for students who have a passion for diversity and inclusion, want to gain a deeper understanding of diverse issues, and help educate their peers through programs and workshops.
LEADERSHIP & SUCCESS

Multicultural Ambassadors
Multicultural Ambassadors are students who take an active role in educational, cultural, social, and leadership opportunities for students on campus as it pertains to multiculturalism, equity, and social justice. The overall goal of the program is to promote the genuine celebration of differences and promote multicultural awareness that assists with engaging across cultures and in everyday settings. Multicultural Ambassadors are responsible for facilitating and implementing various aspects of cultural programs and educational workshops throughout the academic year. For more information on the program, click here: Multicultural Ambassadors.

Multicultural Leadership Council
The Multicultural Leadership Council (MLC) exists to promote leadership and collaboration among multicultural organizations at Arkansas State University. Various multicultural organizations come together once a month to discuss leadership development, the needs of multicultural organizations and students, and cultural programming.
Program Planning Document
Multicultural Center Activity Planning Sheet

A. Event
   a. Time
   b. Date
   c. Location
   d. Lead/Person in Charge
   e. Budget
   f. Target Population
   g. Description/Purpose

B. Goals/Value
   a. What are the goals of this event
   b. What values will this event foster
   c. How will this event be assessed?
Multicultural Center Activity Planning Sheet

A. General Event Checklist
   a. Weekly report/assignment
   b. Due Dates
   c. Details

B. Media Options
   a. Social Media
   b. On-Campus Advertising
   c. Community Advertising

C. Items/Supplies
   a. Descriptions
   b. Quantity/Cost

D. Post-Activity Sheet
   a. Where Goals met?
   b. How was event assessed?
   c. Improvements needed?
Sample Program

Non-Traditional Student Fall Fest
Non-Traditional Student Fall Fest

This is an established event with our programming partner, Residence Life.

- Our first step was to form a partnership committee with MC Staff, Residence Life Staff, our Non-Traditional MC Ambassador, and a Graduate Hall Director.

- Then a budget was discussed and established.

- Next, we discussed attractions that were popular at previous events, and discussed which attractions each department would sponsor.

- Once we had decided on attractions, quotes were acquired, and a follow up meeting was held to finalize our plans.

- A flyer was created in the MC, and was distributed to Residence Life to be hung in the residence halls. MC staff also placed the flyers around campus and on social media.

- Due to this being an established event, held yearly, we did not assess via our paper forms, but through word of mouth. All in attendance agreed the event was successful, but had a few helpful critiques, which we used to plan our Spring Fest again in the following semester.

- We completed our Planning guide, and stayed under budget for this event.
Left: Inflatables sponsored by Residence Life

Right: Balloon Artist, sponsored by Residence Life

Left: Lunch provided by the Multicultural Center

Right: Photobooth, provided by the Multicultural Center
Sample Program

Mental Health Awareness Forum
Fall Mental Health Care Forum

● For this event we partnered with the Counseling Center.

● Before deciding on this program, we met as a team to discuss and decide on the time, location, target audience, etc.

● Secure students who are willing to discuss mental health among their peers.

● Fill in planning sheet weekly to stay up to date.

● Post to different media outlets

● Complete post activity sheet.
Group Discussion
Group Discussion Directions

1. Use numbers assigned by facilitators to get into groups.
2. Read your individual position description and use it as a lens when you are planning your program.
3. As a group, use the given scenarios and the event planning sheet to start the brainstorming process for your program.
Group Discussion Scenarios

1. You work at a private institution in the south. Your team is planning a program for Pride Month and you want to ensure the LGBT+ population at your institution feels valued and supported for this event.

2. You work at a PWI and your team has been charged with planning a program for African-American students on campus. Specifically, there is a record number of graduates and you want to celebrate their accomplishments.

3. You work at a rural community college. Your team is charged with planning a program to start a conversation about issues concerning students who identify as indigenous.

4. You work at an Ivy League College in the Non-Traditional Student Services Office. Your team has been charged with planning programs to engage Non-Traditional Students for Homecoming week.
Discussion Questions

1. How did the template assist with thinking about the needs of your target population?
2. How did your assigned position affect how you thought about planning the program?
3. In what ways could you use the highlighted template to assist with programs in your department?
Questions?
Contact Us

Phone: 870-680-4052

Email: astateMC@astate.edu

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