Dean of Students Office
ANNUAL REPORT
Student Affairs Division
Texas State University
2018-2019

Executive Summary: 2018-2019 Dean of Students Annual Report

The Dean of Students (DOS) Administrative Support Staff assisted a total of 9,890 customers throughout the year and provided 68 students with notary services; coordinated notification for 23 Texas State students who passed away during the academic year. The staff attended to the needs of the deceased by notification to current faculty, and initiated refund process and sympathy letters to family of the deceased.

Alcohol and Drug Compliance Services (ADCS) provided 483 individuals with service opportunities to complete sanctioned/assigned community service requirements. These individuals completed a total of 6,400 verifiable hours which amounts to the “in-kind” equivalency of $46,400 in minimum wage labor. The majority of student clients who met with attorneys were Freshmen was 32% up from 29%. Seniors were at 24%, up 2% from last year. 22% of the student clients were Sophomores, while Juniors comprised 18%.

ADCS collaborated with numerous internal and external entities and programs to assist with community service opportunities including; Travis Elementary, Lehman High School, San Marcos High School, Hays High School, Downtown San Marcos Beautification Project, City of San Marcos, Cock House, Miss Beautification Pageant, Adults with Disabilities Dance, STEM Fair, San Marcos River Cleanup, Downtown Trick or Treat, Mermaid Promenade, DOS Leadership Conference, Bobcat Pause, Veteran’s Day, Student Government Inauguration, Office of Student Diversity and Inclusion- Equality University Conference, Martin Luther King Celebration, Veterans-LBGQTIA- Multicultural Graduations, Student Affairs Symposium, Hispanic Policy Network Symposium, Naturalization Ceremony, LBJ Student Center, Hogwarts Halloween, Meadows Center and the Agriculture Department.

ADCS provided six Alcohol Education Program for Minors (AEPM, also known as MIP classes) in 2018-2019 which hosted 121 participants registering for the course and 103 participants completing the course. Participants this year exhibited an overall “Knowledge Increase” of 61% (pre-test and post-test scores). By comparison, in 2017-2018 there were 12
classes with 141 participants completing the course that exhibited an overall “Knowledge Increase” of 68% (pre-test and post-test scores).

Marijuana 101 program was completed by 142 participants as a result of marijuana-related violations. This represents a 17% decrease in Marijuana 101 services from the previous year (172 participants in 2017-2018). Participants this year exhibited an overall “Knowledge Increase” of 62% (pre-test and post-test scores).

The Attorney for Students Office conducted over 958 appointments resulting in students earning or saving over $309,266.00 in legal services fees; student apartment lease reviews increased 23% from 229 to 270 in FY19; provided 87 notarizations; helped more than 65 students, 21 more than last year, start and run their own businesses; numerous students had outstanding medical and other debt resulting in inordinate contact from bill collectors but AFS helped students settle the debts which allowed them to focus on and remain enrolled in school rather than using tuition money to settle the debts and avoid bankruptcy.

Important statistical data includes:

- The majority of the cases were expunctions and criminal matters, at 44.8% a 38.8% increase from last year.
- Lease reviews comprised the second highest number of cases and was 21% of the case load, a slight increase from last year.
- Immigration issues comprised 8.0% of the case load and students from 12 different countries were served.
- Expunctions and orders of non-disclosure decreased from 11.5% to 7.5% this year.
- Civil matters were at 6.6%, down from 7.3%.
- Business matters went to 5.8%, up from 3.5%.
- Family matters were at 4.9%, down from 9%.
- Insurance (auto and medical) cases were at 3.8%, down from last year at 5.2%.
- Financial credit or debt issues at 3.1%, up from 2.3%.
- Victim services cases were at 2.8% (down from 3.5%).
- Name and Gender Marker Changes was at 1.3%, a small increase from last year.

Staff spoke to over 2,700 students in multiple venues, such as US 1100 (roughly 155 classes) and other classes, faculty and staff, student organizations, and similar programs. Out of the 2450 presentation questionnaires for US1100 classes that were returned, the majority of respondents continued to report a high degree of satisfaction with the presentations.

Fraternity and Sorority Life (FSL) conducted numerous educational and training programs through the 4 Governing Councils and the Programming Board.

* The State of Texas mandated Risk Management Training where nationally known keynote speaker Tracy Maxwell addressed risk management processes for safe events, trends regarding risk management including hazing and contributed to the “Ladder of Risk” and “Train the Trainer” discussion.
* Staff led the Fall Council Officer Kick-Off Leadership Training for student leaders which focused on values and time management, review calendar of events for the year, participation in interactive programming, and discussions on how to be a successful leader.
* Spring 2019 Council Kick Off focused on educating officers about the DOS Fraternity and Sorority Life Office, the responsibilities and expectations of their roles, collaboration, and personality/work habit identification. The respective Boards engaged in goal setting and planning for the year.
* The Fifth Annual Chapter President’s retreat was hosted on January 26-27, 2019 at Camp Young Judea in Wimberley, Texas. Chapter presidents from each fraternity and sorority joined the FSL Governing Council Presidents for a weekend of leadership development training, goal setting, and dialogue on community challenges and trends.
* Staff accompanied 13 student leaders to the largest gathering of fraternity and sorority leaders in the nation, the Association of Fraternal Leadership and Values (AFLV) meeting, February 6-10, 2019. The Panhellenic Council (PHC) was recognized by the AFLV for their efforts in outstanding administrative achievement and community accountability.
* The FSL Staff and leadership of the Programming Board took 70 fraternity and sorority emerging leaders on a retreat at T Bar M Ranch in New Braunfels. The weekend consisted of leadership development and community building that inspired a new generation of leaders to begin their journey toward improving the experience of fraternity and sorority life at Texas State University.
* The FSL Programming Board of Directors had a fifth successful programming year focusing on the major areas of leadership development, community service, school spirit, positive public relations and community and campus involvement and sponsored:
  - Annual Greek Week
  - Collaboration with Athletics to increase attendance at athletic events
  - Clothing and Canned Food Drives
  - Keep San Marcos Beautiful
  - San Marcos School Fuel Program
  - FSL Philanthropy Week

  The Interfraternity Council (IFC) - 196 men accepted bids during Fall 2018 and Spring 2019. The IFC hosted various recruitment trainings this year with facilitators from Phired Up Productions; voted to welcome Phi Kappa Sigma to Texas State; hosted former USA Olympian, Johnny Quinn for a recruitment titled, “How to Find the Olympian In You”; developed an academic plan emphasizing accountability in new member education; and was fully funded a member to go to the Undergraduate Interfraternity Institute.

  The National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) - Has grown tremendously over the years, has a full executive board and welcomed the return of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. NPHC won improved GPA and Leadership Development awards at the Association of Fraternal Leadership and Values (AFLV) Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana. For the Fall of 2018 NPHC hosted a successful NPHC Week which had various events such as Study with NPHC and Service with NPHC.

  The Multicultural Greek Council (MGC) held recruitment/intake both semesters and welcomed 47 members across 5 organizations during the fall and 32 members across four
organizations during the spring semester. The MGC Board hosted three Potential New Member Orientations, a Town Hall meeting aimed at providing members a chance to voice any concerns or hopes they have for the upcoming semester, the First Annual Neo Mixer designed to better incorporate newly initiated members to the community, and held their Annual “Picnic” in LBJSC to celebrate the end of the year.

The Panhellenic Council (PHC)- Seven of the eight chapters were able to bid-match to quota resulting from 524 women registering for Fall Formal Recruitment and 439 received bids (invitations to join) giving the council an 83.8% retention rate. Although the total number of women registered decrease slightly from the year prior, the retention rate increased by 9%. During the Fall semester PHC hosted a new member mixer sisterhood event to encourage cross chapter relationships started at the beginning inception in their respective organizations. Three chapters were eligible for Continuous Open Recruitment (COR – formerly Continuous Open Bidding COB) during the Spring. The council used values-based recruitment to facilitate improved conversations and connections between recruiters and potential new members (PNMs).

The Leadership Institute successfully hosted the ninth annual Leadership Institute Annual Conference attended by more than 425 participants including 327 student attendees, 30 speakers, 13 participating institutions (including international student attendees), over 50 volunteers and more than 20 faculty/staff/guests. $4,000 in scholarships, including the Leadership Institute Scholarships and the Veronica Gonzales Leadership Institute Endowed Scholarship were awarded to student leaders attending the Conference. The Institute also awarded the Medal of Hope to 32 graduating students, and conducted 83 audits to gauge participants’ progress in earning the medal.

The Leadership Institute and VPSA office sponsored 21 student leaders and four staff members at the commemoration of the 53rd anniversary of the signing of the Higher Education Act by President Johnson at the LBJ Presidential Library and Museum in Austin; the 9th year of collaboration with the LBJ Library and Museum. Other programs sponsored through the Leadership Institute included:

* Goodnight Middle School Leadership Conference with the Texas State Student Leadership Board, welcoming more than 70 students, with 15 student volunteers/facilitators.
* Updated the Texas State Leadership Capstone Program: Step Forward, Give Back curriculum to include more critical thinking and reflecting on participants experiences as student leaders, and increased opportunities to apply their knowledge/skills/lessons to current issues on campus and nationwide.
* Collaborated with Texas Monthly and the Texas Optimism Project to host speaker Mario Figueroa Jr. (aka Gonzo247) on October 17th, 2018 in the Performing Arts Center. The event pulled over 100 attendees, and numerous viewers around the state via Facebook Live.
* Hosted the seventh campus-based session of the LeaderShape® Institute, a dynamic, six-day experience where participants learn to lead with integrity and develop a vision statement grounded in their deepest values.

There was a 29% increase (N=138) in the number Ombuds Services cases from FY18 and a 100% increase from FY17. Through a collaborative effort with the Provost’s Office, a consistent
university wide Grade Appeals process was finally approved after 8 years of initiation.

**Student Emergency Services** (SES) staff members presented two sessions at the fall semester 2018 *Advocating for Emergency Aid Programs in Higher Education Statewide Convening* hosted by the Texas Higher Education Coordinator Board Emergency Aid Network. 2,251 absence notifications (10,284 absence notifications were emailed to instructors) were issued for students who could not attend classes because of emergency situations a 21.74% increase from FY18 (N=1,849). 1,657 students who had emergency-related problems were assisted in person or by phone with consultations regarding absence notifications, emergency funding requests, academic concerns, and withdrawing from classes or the university, representing a 132.72% (N=712) increase over FY18.

SES staff responded to 50 P.A.W.S. Alerts related to issues such as family/personal crisis, family/friend death and classroom disruption, the number of students referred represents a 56.25% (N=34) increase from the previous year. Additionally, the SES Coordinator responded to 10,384 emails received in the Dean of Students Office inbox, a 30.93% (N=7,931) increase in comparison to the previous year. $88,229 in grants and loans were provided to 160 students who experienced emergencies, a 5.26% (N=152) increase in the number of students assisted and a 16.36% (N=$75,823) increase in the monetary funds provided to students from previous year. During this same period in 2016-2017, Student Emergency Services assisted 65 students with $25,825. In two years, this represents a 241.64% increase in the number of funds given and a 146.15% increase in the number of students served. The cause for this increase is the area’s response to the Hurricane Harvey disaster in the Houston area during the fall 2017 semester and the response to the Iconic Village Apartment fires in late July 2018, which spanned the fall 2018 semester.

SES received a total of $115, 251 in donations for emergency grants between summer 2018 and fall 2018. During the fall 2018 *Step Up for State* fundraising campaign, Student Emergency Fund – Student Affairs (Student Emergency Services) 44 individuals donated $2,682. During the summer/fall 2018 *Student Emergency Fund – Apartment Fire Relief* crowdfunding campaign, 1,069 individuals from across the United States and Canada donated $112,569, this amount represents the most successful Texas State crowdfunding campaign to-date. Lastly, the first *Bobbye Watts Student Emergency Services Scholarship* of $500 was awarded to a student during the spring 2019 semester.

The Assistant Dean of Students-Student Emergency Services chaired the Behavior Assessment Team (BAT) and coordinated meetings and discussions regarding 32 students. It was determined that 56.25% (N=18) of inquirers/reporters did not want a consultation, the referrals were made to merely document behavior. An evaluation and revisions to the Behavior Assessment Team website will be conducted during the coming year.

From May 15, 2018 through May 15, 2019, **Student Justice** investigated and adjudicated 259 incidents involving 528 students. There was a decrease in the number of cases as well as in the number of students involved (a decrease of 250 students from the previous year). During this evaluation period, ten (10) students were suspended and twenty-one (21) were expelled.
the previous two years where all expulsions were drug related, this year 4 of the 21 expulsions were for violations other than drugs.

After a number of years pursuing a specialized conduct case management software program, Maxient, the most widely used higher education conduct case management software program in North America was approved and purchased. The program is already in use by other institutions in the TSUS and two major benefits are that the software is accessible from anywhere via the web (cloud-based) and will require minimal university technological support.

Student Justice staff performed 1292 disciplinary background checks (recommendations, character references, enrollment verifications, etc., requested by other campus departments, investigating agencies, other higher education institutions, licensing bodies and employers) on behalf of students. Student Justice collaborated with University Marketing to transition to a digital-focused publication during summer 2018. This initiative makes the handbook more accessible, reduced hard copies from 12,000 to 2,000, costs were reduced 80% (from $35,000 to $7,000), and printed pages were reduced from 1,944,000 to 120,000 (a 94% reduction).

**Student Foundation** celebrated “The 40th Year of Student Foundation” with a 40th Birthday themed banquet. Throughout the year members served both Texas State and the San Marcos communities through numerous volunteer opportunities throughout the year, including:

* 32nd Annual Bobcat Pause Memorial Service, remembering 40 honorees
* Assisted with a reception hosted by President Trauth at the Texas Capitol
* Grand Opening of Ingram Hall
* Campus memorial honoring President George H.W. Bush
* City of San Marcos Sights and Sounds
* Great River Clean Up
* Board of Regents May 2019 Meeting
* Honored 10 faculty and staff recipients with The Foundations of Excellence Award
* Veterans Day Commemoration
* One member was the recipient of a Leadership Institute Scholarship given away at the Conference

Student Foundation members contributed to the university’s mission and goals by serving on departmental and institutional committees, teams and task forces, including: the Quality Enhancement Plan Task Force, the Council on Inclusive Excellence, the Alumni Council, Equality University Directors’ Committee and the Leadership Institute Annual Conference Planning Committee.

**Student Government (SG)**-The Annual Student Body election for FY20 resulted in 2,066 students voting, which is roughly 5% of the student population, a 71% decrease of voters from the previous year. Voter participation as a percentage of student population by comparison:

- 18% (N=7,142) 2017-2018
- 11% (N=4,328) 2016-2017
- 3% (N=1,323) 2015-2016
However, Student Government Advisors and Cabinet members, including the President, Vice President, Chief of Staff and Director of Finance, participated in 30.5 hours of scheduled Task Force meetings with faculty and staff to review organization operations to make recommendations for improving a diverse student recruitment to and engagement with the organization. They also:

* Processed 119 applications for the Student Government Scholarship awarding continuing students a total of $225,000 for tuition. Applications processed by comparison:
  - 292 2017-2018
  - 215 2016-2017
  - 205 2015-2016

* Passed 50 pieces of legislation during the Student Senate during the Fifth Session in 2018-2019. Legislation passed is in comparison:
  - 46 2017-2018
  - 48 2016-2017
  - 20 2015-2016

* Awarded $35,323 in Scholarly Travel and Activities Research (S.T.A.R.) Grant funds to assist Texas State students to present their research at conferences (yearly comparisons).
  - 2017-2018 $29,655
  - 2016-2017 $34,850
  - 2015-2016 $33,546

* Hosted two “Roundtable with the President” where students were welcome to sit and talk with Texas State administrators and the University President.

* Hosted “Freshman Forum” where administrators who work directly with freshmen had the opportunity to speak directly with freshmen students.

* Hosted “Leadership Development and training, including:
  a. A half-day officer training to on-board the incoming Student Body President, Student Body Vice President, Chief of Staff and Directors.
  b. An overnight all member retreat including a two-hour session for the Advisors.

* Hosted “Third Annual Alumni Reunion-Homecoming Lunch” for previous Student Body Presidents, executive officers and their invited guests.