



## UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION EFFORTS

*PRECEPTOR UPDATE: APRIL 2011*

### **FRESH@USD**

- Series of workshops offered throughout the fall semester on transition issues entering freshmen are likely to encounter (e.g., faculty expectations, time management, study skills, spirituality, diversity, health and wellness, choosing a major, writing a resume, etc.)
- Roughly 30 sessions offered during fall semester (around two per week)
- Preceptors receive complete fall schedule early September to distribute to preceptorial students
- Preceptors choose how to integrate program into preceptorial experience (e.g., required attendance w/assignment (reflection paper, critique, etc.), recommended attendance, specific referrals for individual students, etc.)

*Additional information:* Daniella Knelman, x5995, [dknelman@sandiego.edu](mailto:dknelman@sandiego.edu),  
<http://www.sandiego.edu/usdcss/workshops/>

### **MAP-Works**

- Transition survey administered online to all new freshmen during 3<sup>rd</sup> week of fall semester
- Responses to survey establish risk warning indicator for each student (red, yellow, green)
- Comprehensive response plan includes outreach within two weeks to all red and non-responder students
- Program facilitates communication between professionals and student leaders connected to each student (e.g., preceptor, community director, honors program director, student support services (SSS) program staff, commuter student advisor, athletics advisor, international programs advisor, resident assistant, preceptorial assistant)
- Additional data trigger follow ups as appropriate (e.g., mid-term deficiency grades, not registering for following semester, scholastic probation, spring check-up survey results, etc.)

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### **Out-of-State Student Program**

The Out-of-State Student Program is designed to enhance the experience of incoming out-of-state freshmen as they transition to USD and improve their persistence rate at the university. Student leaders organized by regions of the country (seven separate regions) help out-of-state freshmen connect with first-year and continuing students from their home region, and will provide mentoring and support for students throughout their first-year. Other activities:

- Phone calls over summer to all entering out-of-state students
- Social event on the last night of Torero Days orientation by region
- Annual Out-of-State Student Dinner (regions in separate locations)
- Regional social events during fall and spring semesters
- Recruitment support for prospective out-of-state students

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## **UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION EFFORTS (cont.)**

### **April 2011**

#### **Living-Learning Communities (LLC's)**

- Expanded from pilot program fall 2010 to now include 21 preceptorial classes in fall 2011
- Three LLC's offered fall 2011: Sustainability (Esteban Del Rio: faculty director), Social Justice (Jonathan Bowman: faculty director), and Honors (Del Dickson: faculty director)
- Group of students who take similar classes together, live near one another, and participate in activities and experiences connected to LLC theme
- The entire Missions B housing area will be dedicated to the three LLC's in fall 2011

*Additional information:* Contact a faculty director, or visit website  
<http://www.sandiego.edu/residentiallife/community/llc.php>

#### **First Connection**

- Designed to ensure every entering freshman is connected to an area of interest before arriving on campus
- Goal is for students to be connected with other incoming students who share a similar interest and with opportunities to continue to engage in that interest area while at USD
- Program will scale down and eventually be replaced when all entering freshmen are enrolled in a Living-Learning Community (LLC)
- Students already enrolled in one of the programs that achieve similar outcomes (LLC – Sustainability, Social Justice, or Honors, Student Support Services (SSS), or Student-athletes) are not assigned to a separate “First Connection” theme
- All students not already enrolled in one of the programs above complete a questionnaire over summer and are assigned to a “First Connection” theme of interest
- First Connection themes offered fall 2011 include International, Outdoors/Nature, Diverse cultures/identities, Spirituality, Health professions, and Change makers (attempting to also include Visual and Performing Arts)

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#### **SYE Abroad**

- Feature component of USD's “Second Year Experience”
- Study abroad experience during intersession of second-year
- Students sign-up for program fall of freshman year and begin engaging in experiences leading up to program in spring of freshman year
- January 2012 program (for fall 2010 freshman) includes two locations – Barcelona, Spain and Florence, Italy
- Students take a 3-unit Core Curriculum course while abroad and engage in structured co-curricular experiences throughout the 3-week program
- Program components (e.g., locations and classes) for January 2013 are still being determined

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<http://gointernational.sandiego.edu>