|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Robert E. Gilleece Student Center, Room 5495  phone 212.817.7888  email dsc@cunydsc.org  web www.cunydsc.org |

**Outreach Survey**

**Executive Summary Report of Findings**

**Nicole N. Hanson, Officer for Outreach**

**April 2012**

*The 2011-2012 Outreach Survey was conducted in November 2012 via Opinio. The survey was written by the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 Outreach Committees, and received 316 responses. The survey items are listed in Appendix I at the end of this report. Tables are recorded in Appendix II. The dataset is available as an SPSS data file.*

**Analysis notes:**

The variable of "program" was recoded into "program clusters" of "sciences," social sciences," and humanities," as per program cluster listings on the Graduate Center website in February of 2012. The variable of "main location of research" was recoded into "offsite" and "onsite" research locations, with the latter being the Graduate Center and the former any other CUNY college. The variable of "main location of teaching" was recoded into "2 year colleges" and "4 year colleges" to indicate community colleges and senior colleges of CUNY. While 316 students responded to the survey, only 286 completed, with all drop-offs occurring at the final matrix item, "How important do you think each of the following DSC Services are?"

**Major findings by Program Cluster:**

* Generally, students in the Humanities are most aware of and have used DSC-supported services, with Social Sciences slightly less so. Students in the Sciences, however, were less likely to either be aware of or use DSC services. This pattern was especially true for GC-based services such as DSC room reservations and locker space, and governance-related issues such as information, referrals, and advice on GC administration, governance, and policy; chartering of student organizations, support for Program Student Associations, and even the existence of Doctoral Students' Council Representatives, and open Doctoral Students' Council meetings. (N = Social Science, 139; Humanities, 110; Sciences, 67)
* Those in the Sciences were most likely to think the listed DSC services were important than those in the Social Sciences and Humanities, however. (N = Social Sciences, 129; Humanities, 98; Sciences, 59)
* Students were most aware of DSC's discount movie tickets, locker space at the GC, Doctoral Students' Council Representatives and open Doctoral Students' Council meetings, Doctoral Students' Council Parties, and the Wellness Center. Students were least aware of Outreach Events at campuses other than the main GC building, the Health Issues Blog, and the Chartered Organization Fair.
* Students were most likely to use the Wellness Center, free movie tickets, room reservations at the GC, DSC parties, Doctoral Students' Council Representatives and open Doctoral Students' Council meetings, DSC grants for students, and program allocations.
* For those in the Social Sciences, Support for Program Student Associations, Chartered Organization Allocations, the Wellness Center, Program Allocations, and Doctoral Students' Council Grants for Students were considered most important, and the Health Issues Blog, Discount Movie Tickets in DSC Main Office, Outreach Events at campuses other than the main GC building, and Doctoral Students' Council Parties were considered the least important.
* For those in Humanities, Chartered Organization Allocations, Program Allocations, and Doctoral Students' Council Grants for Students were considered most important, and the Chartered Organization Fair, Health Issues Blog, and Outreach Events at campuses other than the main GC building were considered least important.
* For those in the Sciences, Program Allocations, Free Legal Consultations, the Wellness Center, and Doctoral Students' Council Grants for Students were considered most important, and the Chartered Organization Fair and Outreach Events at campuses other than the main GC building were considered least important.

*List of DSC Services in Survey:*

Discount Movie Tickets in DSC Main Office

Free Legal Consultations

Room Reservations at GC

Local Student Discounts

Free Lockers at the GC

Information, referrals, and advice on GC administration, governance, and policy

Chartering of Organizations

Support for Program Student Associations

Doctoral Students' Council Representatives, and open Doctoral Students' Council meetings

Doctoral Students' Council Parties

Wellness Festivals

Chartered Organization Fair

Outreach Events at campuses other than the main GC building

Wellness Center

Fitness Center

Yoga & Pilates Classes

Health Issues Blog

Doctoral Students' Council Grants for Students

Program Allocations

Chartered Organization Allocations

**Major findings by Year:**

* Knowledge of DSC Services increases steadily as year of matriculation increases; on average, one-third of those in their first year are aware of DSC Services, compared with 62% of those in their 7th year and 59% of those in their 8th year.
* Usage of DSC Services peaks in Year 7 with an average of 27% of respondents in that year.
* Students in years 1 through 5 report DSC Grants for Students as the most important service DSC offers; students in years 6, 7 and 8 are split with 88% of students in Year 6 saying both DSC Grants for Students and Program Allocations are the most important services, 80% of students in Year 7 saying both DSC Grants for Students and the Wellness Center are the most important services, and 74% students in Year 8 saying DSC Grants for Students are the second most important service, while 78% say the Fitness Center is the most important service.

**Major findings by Main Research Site:**

* Students who are based at the Graduate Center are, on average, much more likely to report being aware of DSC services (53% versus 37%) and using DSC services (17% versus 10%). On-site students are most aware of and most often use the Wellness Center and Yoga & Pilates classes, and off-site students are most aware of the Wellness Center and Yoga & Pilates Classes but most often use the Wellness Center and attend DSC parties (N = 222 at GC; 94 Off Site). Twelve of the 20 listed DSC services had reported rates of usage of less than 10% by off-site students: the Chartered Organization Fair, Health Issues Blog, Free Legal Consultations, Fitness Center, Outreach Events at campuses other than the main GC building, Chartered Organization Allocations, Wellness Festivals, Free Lockers at the GC, Local Student Discounts, Yoga & Pilates Classes, Information referrals and advice on GC administration, governance, and policy, and Chartering of Organizations. For on-site students, the only three services with less than 10% usage were the Chartered Organization Fair, Health Issues Blog, and Outreach Events at campuses other than GC.
* The most important service for both on-site and off-site students was DSC Grants for Students (N = 196 at GC; 90 Off Site).

**Major findings by 2yr Versus 4yr Main Teaching Location:**

* On average, respondents teaching at 4-year colleges were more likely to know about DSC services than those at two-year colleges, but those teaching at 2-year colleges were slightly more likely to actually use DSC services (N = 285, 4-yr; 31, 2-yr). The most important service for those teaching at 4-year colleges was DSC Grants for Students, while for those teaching at 2-year colleges, it was the Wellness Center (N = 259, 4-yr; 28, 2-yr).

Appendix I - Survey Items

1. What is your Program? (Drop-down list of all programs)

2. Please select your year of matriculation. (Drop-down list of years 1-8)

3. On which CUNY Campus is your research primarily based? (Drop-down list of all CUNY campuses plus None of Above)

4. On which CUNY campus do you primarily teach? (Drop-down list of all CUNY campuses plus None of Above)

5. Have you signed and submitted your union card? (Yes/No/Not sure)

6. Which of the following Doctoral Students' Council-supported services and activities are you aware of? (Please check all that apply.)

*General Services*

Discount Movie Tickets in DSC Main Office

Free Legal Consultations

Room Reservations at GC

Local Student Discounts

Free Lockers at the GC

*Government & Policy*

Information, referrals, and advice on GC administration, governance, and policy

Chartering of Organizations

Support for Program Student Associations

Doctoral Students' Council Representatives, and open Doctoral Students' Council meetings

*Events*

Doctoral Students' Council Parties

Wellness Festivals

Chartered Organization Fair

Outreach Events at campuses other than the main GC building

*Health*

Wellness Center

Fitness Center

Yoga & Pilates Classes

Health Issues Blog

*Funding*

Doctoral Students' Council Grants for Students

Program Allocations

Chartered Organization Allocations

7. Which of the following Doctoral Students' Council services and activities have you used or attended? (Please check all that apply.)

*Same list as above*

8. How important do you think it is that the Doctoral Students' Council offers each one of them? (Very Important/Somewhat Important/No Opinion/Somewhat Unimportant/Very Unimportant)

*Matrix, same list as above*

9. Are there any services, activities, or support not currently offered by the Doctoral Students' Council that you think should be offered? Please specify.

Appendix II - Charts









