
Student Involvement & Leadership

2014-2015 Report

Mission

In alliance with the mission and strategic plan of the University of New Orleans and the Division of Student Affairs, the mission of the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership (SIL) is to foster student success and lifelong learning by providing all students with meaningful opportunities for involvement in campus and community life. This will be achieved through initiatives such as: cultural activities, leadership and citizenship development, community involvement programs and partnerships in service-learning. The Office of Student Involvement and Leadership's programs and services are committed to the development of the whole person in conjunction with the mission of the University of New Orleans.

The areas that fall within the purview of the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership include:

- Leadership development and programmatic advisement of registered student organizations,
- Leadership Programs (Leadership Cabinet programming, Emerging Leaders Program, Privateer Camp, and the Transfer Retreat for Leadership),
- Community Service Initiatives,
- Greek Life,
- Commuter Services,
- Student Activities Council,
- Student Government.

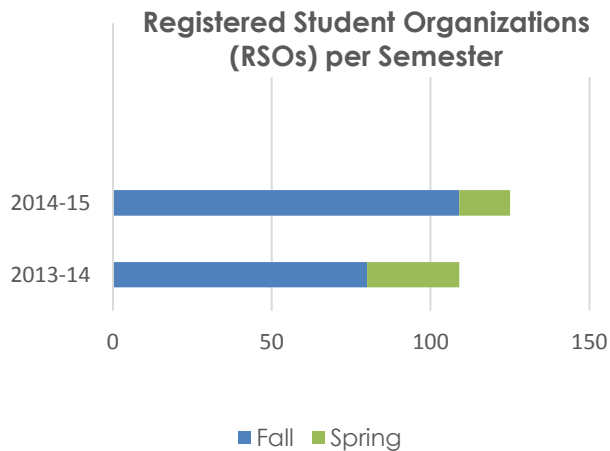
Annual Report Index

In order to establish a baseline and continue assess the offices progress in accordance with its mission, the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership compiled this 2014-2015 report. This report is divided into the following sections:

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Section 1: Student Organizations

SIL believes that participation in a student organization is one of the most rewarding ways in which a student can be involved. Registered Student Organizations (RSO's) are a vital part of campus life and afford students the opportunity to interact with others at the University while fostering learning outside the classroom. SIL provides developmental training for organizational leaders and their advisors, offers resources for planning and implementing organizational programming, and verifies that organizations are following university procedures.

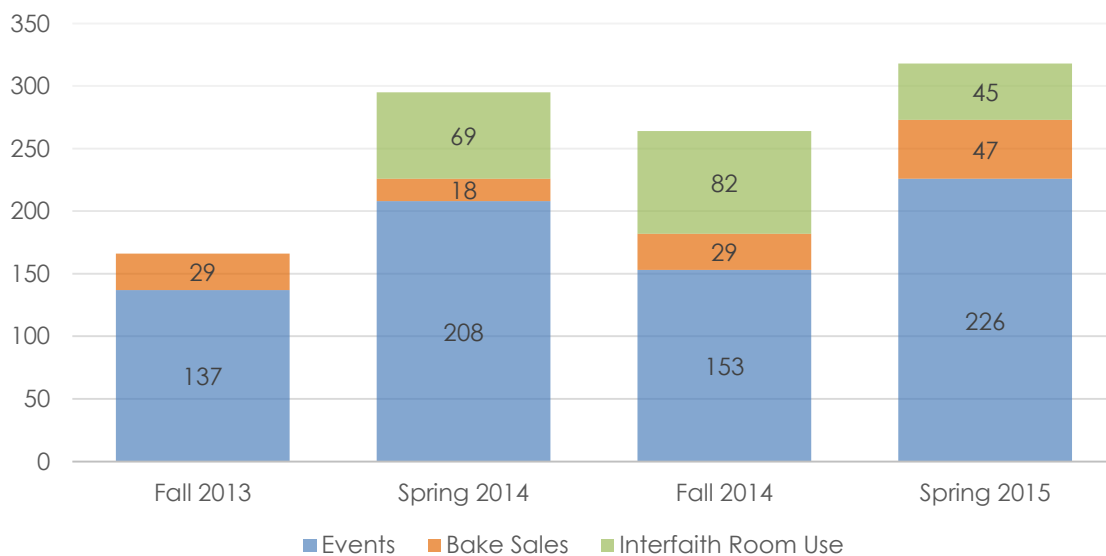


During Fall 2013, 80 student organizations completed all the registration requirements. Another 29 completed the process in Spring 2014, for a total of 109 RSOs in 2013-2014. (*More organizations began the process but did not complete it.)

By comparison, 109 organizations completed the requirements for full registration in Fall 2014 alone. Of those, only four (4) organizations began the process without completing it, and 16 were new to the University. This translates to a 36.25% increase in student organization registrations from Fall 2013 to Fall 2014. In Spring 2015, 19 RSOs registered, bringing the number of RSO's to 125 total. This equates to be a 14.68% increase in registered student organizations from Fall 2013 to Spring 2015.

SIL provides resources to assist organizations in implementing events, provides event equipment (sound systems, microphones, board games, etc), verifies that organizations are following university policy, and conducts the event approval process for the University's RSO's. Examples of events include: trivia nights, Asian Cultural Night, spoken word performances, and academic lectures. The charts below compare the number of events sponsored by student organizations from last academic year to this year.

STUDENT ORGANIZATION ACTIVITY



Student organizations may request funds through Student Government; however, most organizations also conduct their own fundraising efforts. One of the most popular forms of fundraising is bake sales. From the 2013-14 to 2014-15, there has been a 61.70% increase in total bake sales from one year to the next.

Overall, campus events are up from the 2013-14 to the 2014-15 by 26.24%.

Description	Fall 2013	Spring 2014	Fall 2014	Spring 2015
Student Organization Events	137	208	153	226
Bake Sales	29	18	29	47
Interfaith Room Reservations	NA	69	82	46
Total	166	295	264	318

As part of a registered student organization at the University of New Orleans, students have access to the a number of resources: sound systems, microphones, extension cords, a prize wheel, banner supplies, etc. The table below shows the utilization of available equipment by student organizations; there was a 12.28% in equipment usage from the 2013-14 to 2014-15. This list does not include requests through SIL for tables, chairs, generators, etc.

Description	Fall 2013	Spring 2014	Fall 2014	Spring 2015
Equipment Check-out Requests	25	32	23	34

Section 2: Leadership Programs

The Office of Student Involvement and Leadership (SIL) executes an array of leadership programs throughout the year, including retreats, workshops, networking events, and the leadership awards ceremony.

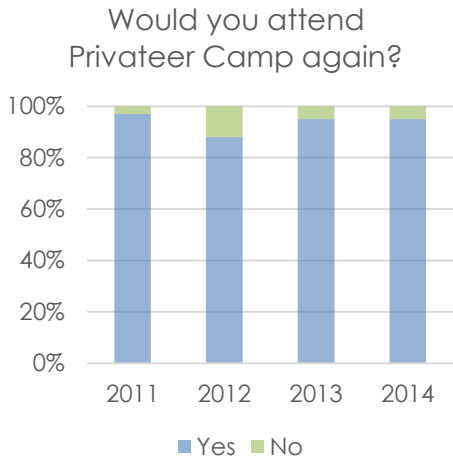
Many of these leadership programs have seen a growth in participation. The 2014 Leadership Summit has experienced a 15% increase in participation since 2011; the 2014 Leadership Retreat has seen a **40% increase in attendance** since 2012; Transfer Leadership Retreat's attendance has **increased by nearly 92%, since 2011**. In the spring semester, the 2014 Leadership Recognition Ceremony experienced a **45% increase in award nominations** from students and faculty since the 2012 ceremony.

First Year Transition Programs

Student Involvement and Leadership co-sponsors transition programming for new students with the Office of Enrollment Services.

- Privateer Camp is a retreat for first-year students to improve upon their leadership skills, learn about UNO resources, and prepare for their first year at the University of New Orleans.
- The Transfer Retreat for Leadership is a two-day retreat for incoming transfer students to learn about UNO resources, meet other transfer students, and participate in leadership development activities.

Based upon budget and lodging constraints, Privateer Camp attendance has averaged around 52 new students since it began in 2010. **95% of attendees said they would attend Privateer Camp again** if given the opportunity. Since 2011's Privateer Camp, attendees have consistently said they would attend



Privateer Camp again if they could. In 2014 (and consistently since 2011), **100% of attendees said they would recommend Privateer Camp to other incoming students.**

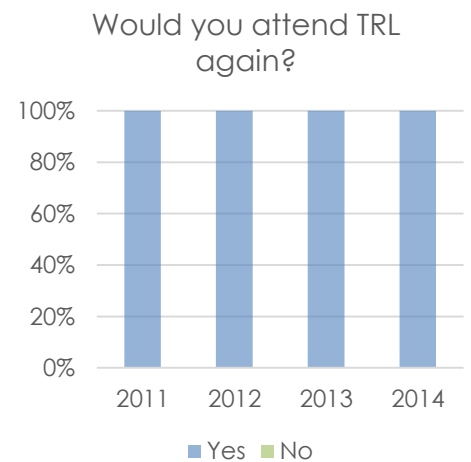
The following are some comments made by attendees after Privateer Camp on the 2014 post-program evaluation:

- I love this camp. Keep it and let it grow.
- Thanks to all the Krewe Leaders and Staff for a great time.
- I love P-CAMP !
- I had a great time and am so excited to start school.
- 10/10 would do again
- You were all amazing. Thank You.
- Thanks for all the hard work & effort that y'all put forth to make this happen!

Transfer Retreat for Leadership (TRL) attendance has increased drastically since it began, doubling in size from 7 students in 2011 to 18 transfer students in 2014—the largest TRL to date. Every year, 100% of attendees report that they would attend TRL again if they could. In 2014, 100% of attendees also reported that they would recommend TRL to other transfer students.

The following are some comments made by attendees after the 2014 Transfer Retreat for Leadership:

- "It was so fun and the mentors were amazing and the whole event was well put together and a great time."
- "IT WAS AWESOME!!!"
- "Everything was so helpful!"
- "I feel like y'all made my transition 10x smoother! You're doing a great job!"



Leadership Cabinet

The UNO Leadership Cabinet has served the University of New Orleans for over 30 years and has provided leadership opportunities for all students on campus regardless of their leadership experience. The Leadership Cabinet consists of 26 student members: two (2) co-presidents, five (5) committee chairs, and 19 general members.

In 2014-15, the Leadership Cabinet hosted a number of annual events for the University community: the Leadership Summit for all student organization presidents (100 participants), Leadership Retreat to teach students leadership skills (83 participants), the Leadership Exchange with students from Washburn University (15 participants), and the Leadership Recognition Ceremony (105 participants).

Notable areas of improvement include: Leadership Retreat participation, which has grown 213% since its inception in 2009; Leadership Recognition award nominees, which has shown a 45% increase since 2013.



At the end of the semester, the members of the Leadership Cabinet were asked to complete an evaluation of their experience and the support they received from SIL. Overall, the Leadership Cabinet achieved or felt confident in 90% of the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership's learning outcomes and expectations for the Leadership Cabinet.

Comments made by Leadership Cabinet members regarding their experience:

- "I really enjoy telling people I am an LC because it's such a hard process to get selected as one. It's a very well-reputed organization."
- "I love that we are all so involved because it allows us to work better as a team. We're the place all these separate groups can come together."
- "I like the confidence it gives me and others in developing ourselves and working with others as well as helping others grow and develop."
- "[At Leadership Retreat,] we as LCs have the opportunity to make such a big difference in the lives of so many students on a personal level in such a small amount of time."

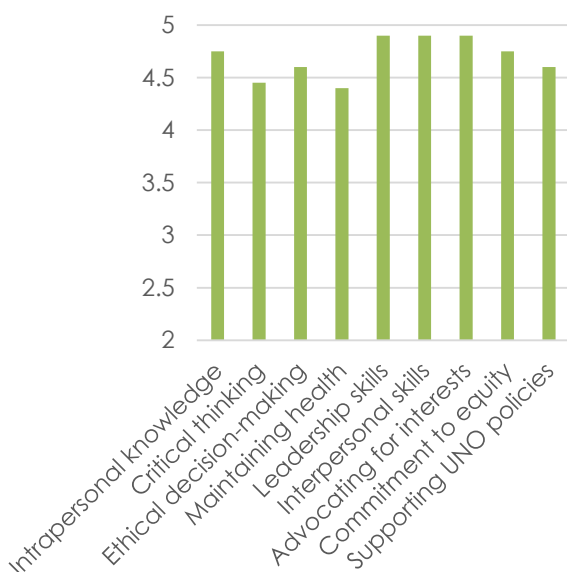
Comments made by student participants in Leadership Cabinet programs:

- "Had I not attended the Leadership Summit, it is very rare that I would have gotten the opportunity to meet the individuals with [whom] I spoke."
- "I'm a lot more optimistic about my UNO journey now." (Leadership Retreat)

Emerging Leaders

The mission of the Emerging Leaders program is to strengthen first- and second-year students' leadership skills by fostering opportunities to nurture interdisciplinary thought, critical thinking, and leadership development activities that both challenge and support students. This year, the program served **20** Emerging Leaders and **one (1)** Emerging Leader Mentors.

Learning Outcomes



At the end of the semester, the Emerging Leaders completed a survey evaluating the program. With regards to achieving SIL's learning outcomes for the program, the Emerging Leaders were asked to measure their confidence in the skills from 1 to 5: 1 being that the program did not provide opportunities to capitalize on the skill, and 5 being that the program helped enhance the skill. The graph to the left illustrates the average of their responses.

Comments made by the Emerging Leaders about the program:

- "My favorite part of Emerging Leaders was learning new skills and not being afraid to become more involved."
- "My proudest achievement [through participatin in the Emerging Leaders program] was communicating and connecting with other leaders."
- "Being around other leaders showed me the positivity and energy in others!"

Section 3: Community Service Initiatives

The Service Coalition at the University of New Orleans is a student run community service resource of the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership (SIL). We serve as the connection between volunteers, student groups, non-profits, and service providers. We work together to address New Orleans' social, environmental, and educational needs by volunteering with various non-profits within the community.

Students who participate in Service Coalition and its programs gain valuable skills and insight, particularly in the organization's target learning outcomes (listed to the right).

Service Coalition met these five learning outcomes through educational experience, meetings, and reflections. During weekly meetings, students learned about service in the local area and were pushed to seek opportunities to serve others.

During each service day, students reflected on what they were doing and discussed what they learned through service and how those lessons could be transferred to daily life.



Fall 2014 Highlights

Service:

- **274 hours** completed in the Fall of 2014
- Student ran Recycling program
- 54 students volunteers during Service Days and AFB
- 15 non-profits participated in Service Fair
- Over 60 students attended service fair
- 60 students attended meetings
- 14 weekly meetings (executive and general)
- Recognized 7 new members
- Conducted outreach 6 times throughout the semester

Misc:

- Participated in Privateer Plunge for 3 years (2012-2014)
- 128 Freshmen and 4 Transfer students attended Park(ing) Day during Privateer Plunge in 2014
- 21 Freshmen and 4 Transfer students attended general meetings during Privateer Plunge in 2014

Local Nonprofits at Meetings:

- Evacuteer
- Project Homecoming

Spring 2015 Highlights

Service Highlights:

- **237 hours** completed in the Spring of 2015
- Completed 3rd full year of student run recycling program
 - 6 recycling areas, 2 large recycling bins
- Alternative Spring Break with Boys and Girls Hope of NOLA and the Magnolia Community Center
- Recognized 8 new members
- Presented to the Boys and Girls Club

Additional Highlights:

- Bead drive collecting about **450 lbs. of beads and throws** for ARC of NOLA
- 12 weekly meetings (executive and general)

Local Nonprofits at Meetings:

- Boys and Girls Club of NOLA
- UNO Service Learning
- Innsbruck Program

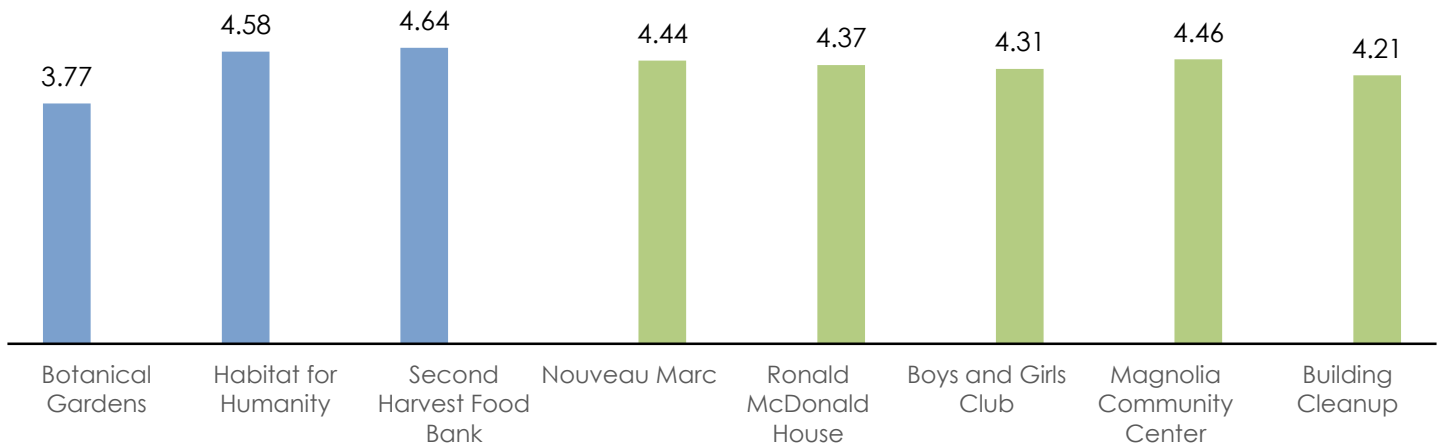
Overview

Overall, student were satisfied with their service opportunities. On a scale from 1 (completely dissatisfied) to 5 (extremely satisfied), all service days received an average rating of satisfied or higher.

Satisfaction Ratings for Service Days

From 1 (low) - 5 (high)

■ Fall 2014 ■ Spring 2015



Students also reported positive growth from their participation in Service Coalition and service opportunities. Below are examples of student feedback:

“This year in service coalition has been amazing! I was able to meet new people and grow as an individual through the great service events that they planned. One of my favorite events was the Ronald McDonald house because we were able to make the lives of other families better. Seeing the smiles on the children's faces while playing with them made our hard work with it!”

“I had a great time working with everybody at UNO service coalition. Meeting new people was a great experience for me to get out of my comfort zone and I enjoy getting involved with the community. I'm proud to be a member of the UNO Service Coalition.”

“I feel Service Coalition has given me room to grow over the past few years I have been involved. Doing volunteer work by yourself is always amazing but when you work with a group of students that become friends it's a difference experience.”

Section 4: Greek Life

The Greek community at the University of New Orleans (UNO) is comprised of diverse groups of fraternities and sororities. Fraternities and sororities offer lifetime opportunities for friendship, service to the community, leadership, and scholarship.

Membership

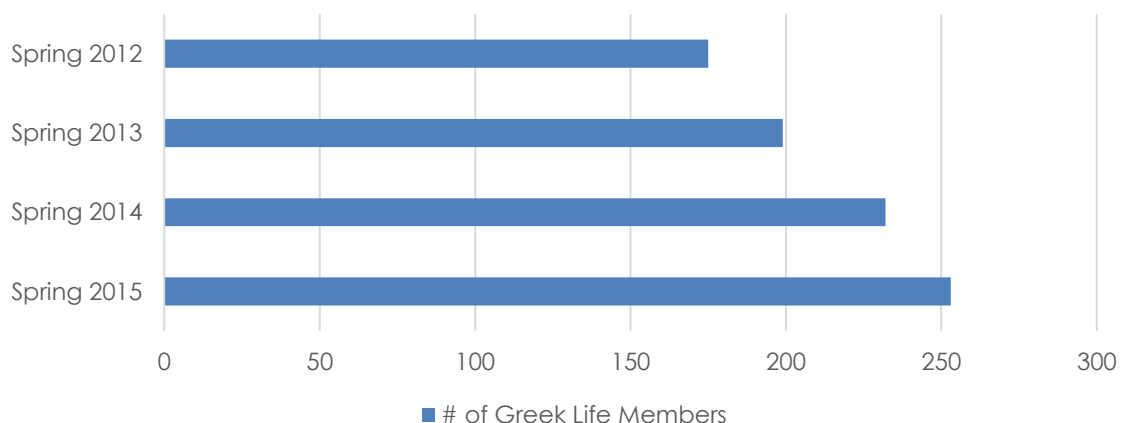
The University of New Orleans recognizes 14 Greek organizations, each of which is a campus chapter of a national group. UNO is the home to six sororities: Alpha Xi Delta, Delta Zeta, Delta Sigma Theta, Sigma Kappa, Zeta Tau Alpha, and Zeta Phi Beta. **Since Spring 2012, sorority life has grown by 46%.** In addition to five sororities, UNO also has eight fraternities: Alpha Phi Alpha, Kappa Sigma, Lambda Chi Alpha, Kappa Alpha Psi, Omega Psi Phi, Phi Beta Sigma, Phi Kappa Sigma, and Theta Xi. **Since Spring 2012, fraternity life has grown by 45%.**

Fraternity and Sorority Growth



While the number of Greek members has increased overall, the National PanHellenic Council (NPHC), comprised of UNO's historically African American Greek organizations, has seen a stable number in membership since spring 2014. It is the goal of the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership (SIL) to assist these organizations in programming and visibility with the hopes of increasing their membership. **However, since Spring 2012, Greek Life overall has grown by 45%.**

of Greek Life Members



Since 2011, a goal of SIL has been to increase membership in Greek organizations. Greek Life is slowly but steadily increasing at UNO, but more work still needs to be done. Thus, SIL has worked and will continue to work with student leaders to increase programming and visibility. In addition, SIL will continue to provide resources, such as various leadership development workshops, in the hopes to build a stronger Greek community.

Community Service

Greek organizations take great pride in performing community service, as most of our organizations are founded on the premise of service to mankind. Greek Life at UNO has completed **1,059 community service hours**, a testament to their commitment of better serving the community.

One of the major collaborations among all Greek organizations is the Greek Week festivities. This is the week that all Greeks come together for fellowship and camaraderie through a variety of events held during the week. Each event is hosted by a group of Greek chapters, and teams are established at the beginning of the week by mixing the organizations with one another. Through the activities held during the week the teams earn points, of which the total is calculated at the end of the week and a winner is declared. This year, Greek Life raised funds for the family of 2 UNO students in efforts to make necessary accommodations to their home to support their wheelchair-bound daughter. **In 1 week, Greek Life raised \$800.** Students can come and interact with Greek members at these events, and Greek Week is a fun time for all parties involved.

Fundraising

Our Greek organizations on campus also raise money for various foundations. Most of the money raised through various events held on and off campus go towards foundations that benefit the city of New Orleans, such as the Save the Lake Foundation for Lake Pontchartrain. This past academic year, **Greek organizations have raised \$29,102.35** going towards foundations, including from Greek Week.

Campus Involvement

Members of Greek Life here at UNO are not only involved with their own organizations, but are very active on campus in various other organizations. Fraternity and sorority members at UNO are also participants in 62 other student organizations on campus, including: Orientation Leaders, Student Government, Leadership Cabinet, Service Coalition, Krewe Leaders, and others.

In the 2014-2015 academic school year Greek organizations hosted **146 events**, including philanthropic, social, and other programs (brotherhood/sisterhood retreats, bonding, PanHellenic workshops, etc). In addition to their own events, fraternities and sororities host campus wide events.

Section 5: Commuter Services

SIL's focus on Commuter Services is a new initiative, created in the Fall of 2014. Commuter Services seeks to assist the University of New Orleans' sizable commuter population in ways that will enhance the on-campus experience of these students. Commuter students can oftentimes feel disconnected, unsupported, and uninformed regarding university expectations and events. Commuter Services seeks to reach out to these students with initiatives designed to reach students who do not spend a large amount of time on campus outside of class.

Online Resources

Understanding that commuter students may need different forms of assistance than those who live on-campus, SIL created online resources that students can access from anywhere to meet some of their expressed needs.

- **UNO Yard Sale** - We have created UNO Yard Sale, a Craigslist-style Facebook group for UNO students to buy and sell items with each other in a safe, moderated way. UNO Yard Sale has become a very popular resource for students with 417 current group members. Examples of items sold on UNO Yard Sale include text books, furniture, electronics, and other miscellanea.
- **UNO Roommate Finder**- UNO Roommate Finder is a Facebook group designed around helping UNO students find roommates for off-campus housing. It can be difficult for students, especially commuters, to create the unique relationships required to share a house, and UNO Roommate Finder seeks to assist students in this endeavor.
- **UNO Ride Sharing**- Like UNO Roommate Finder, UNO Ride Sharing is a Facebook group designed around assisting students in the search for a carpool to and/or from campus. Sharing a ride is a great way for students to cut costs while not relying on New Orleans' sometimes inefficient public transportation system. UNO Ride Sharing seeks to make the process of setting up a carpool easier for students.

Commuters United

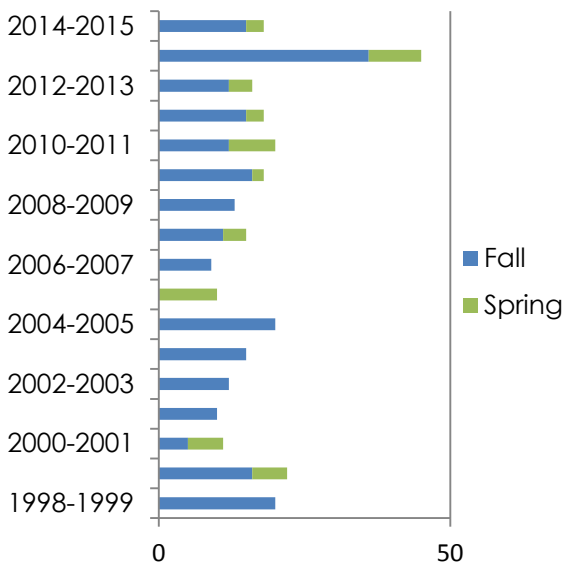
Commuters United is a new, student run organization on campus with the mission of assisting commuter students on UNO's campus and making these students' unique wants and concerns known to the university. As a student-run organization, Commuters United provides a student perspective for Commuter Services. Since its creation, Commuters United has put on several events for commuters on campus, including Commuter Appreciation Week.

Commuter Appreciation week is a series of events during the week prior to exam week. Commuters United has set up Commuter Appreciation Week twice so far, once each semester. Events during Commuter Appreciation Week have included passing out free coffee in the morning, passing out free scantrons, and other events. One of these events was "Beer Goggle Mario Kart," where students played the video game Mario Kart while wearing homemade beer goggles to simulate the effects of driving while intoxicated, educating students on the dangers of drunk driving. Another event put on was Brain Break, where music and games were set up on the Library Quad for students to enjoy. All the events of Commuter Appreciation Week were successful in raising awareness of both the club and the needs of Commuter Students around campus.

Section 6: Student Activities Council (SAC)

The Student Activities Council (SAC) is the primary programming board of the University of New Orleans. SAC is comprised of eight (8) student executive board members and a number of members and volunteers. These students are dedicated to hosting events on UNO's campus to build campus community and provide educational experiences outside of the classroom. Events vary in size and scope; major SAC events include campus traditions such as Homecoming, Welcome Back Luau, Holi Festival of Colors, and SUCbAUF Annual Crawfish Boil.

SAC Inductees by Academic Year



In Spring 2015, SAC inducted three (3) new members. In Fall 2013, SAC inducted 15 new members. In Fall 2014, SAC averaged 10 volunteers at each event while Spring 2015 events averaged 6 volunteers per event.

Comments from SAC members:

“SAC has made UNO feel like home. I know that there is a group of people who accept me for who I am.”

“SAC has been an organization I have been a part of since I came to UNO. I have a passion for event planning, especially for fun, exciting programming that SAC offers the UNO student body.”

“Since I joined SAC Fall 2013 SAC has had a positive impact on my college life. SAC is the organization that introduced me to college involvement in a fun and comfortable way. Volunteering with other students and the executive board made breaking barriers easy. I've seen the impact SAC has had on many students (mostly new) in helping them become a part of the UNO community, and I am glad to continue to help students have a positive start and enjoy their college experience through the variety of events SAC provide to the student body.”

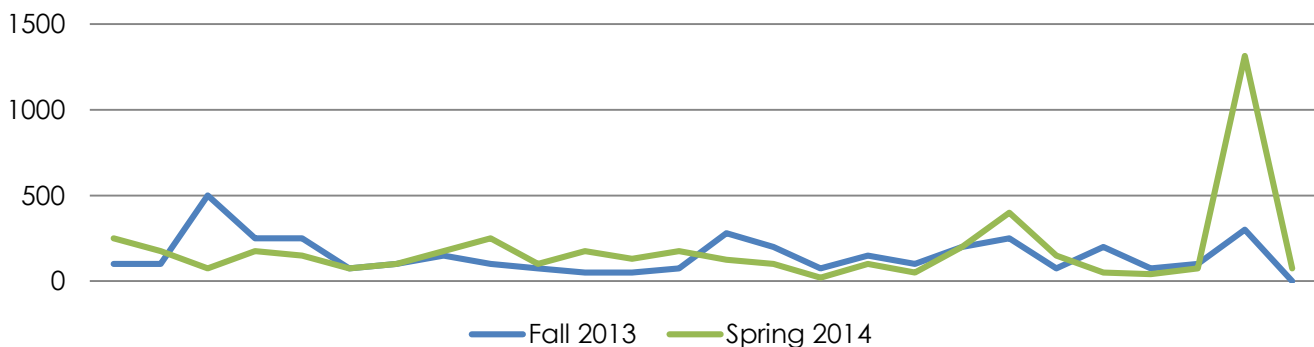
“The Student Activities Council has always been one of my favorite organizations on campus and at my time here at UNO, I would always look forward to events hosted on campus that allow students to interact with one another and get to know each other and build friendships based on mutual interest in the events.”

Events

SAC events are organized by type: entertainment (music & performance-based events), cultural arts (educational & diversity events), special events (campus traditions), and lagniappe (miscellaneous events such as the annual Welcome Week organization fair, Fresh Fest).

In 2014-15, SAC executed **42** events (17 in the fall semester, 25 in the spring semester). Average event attendance for the fall semester was **152** students (**2,580** attendees over 17 events); for spring semester was **164** students (**4,095** attendees over 25 events). The year's most popular events include: SUCbAUF 28th Annual Crawfish Boil (**1,501**), Welcome Back Luau (**500**), Holi Festival of Colors (**400**), Movie in the Amphitheater (**250**), and Drive-In Movie (**280**). Additionally, a number of SAC events were recognized in the local media, including Holi Festival of Colors and Homecoming.

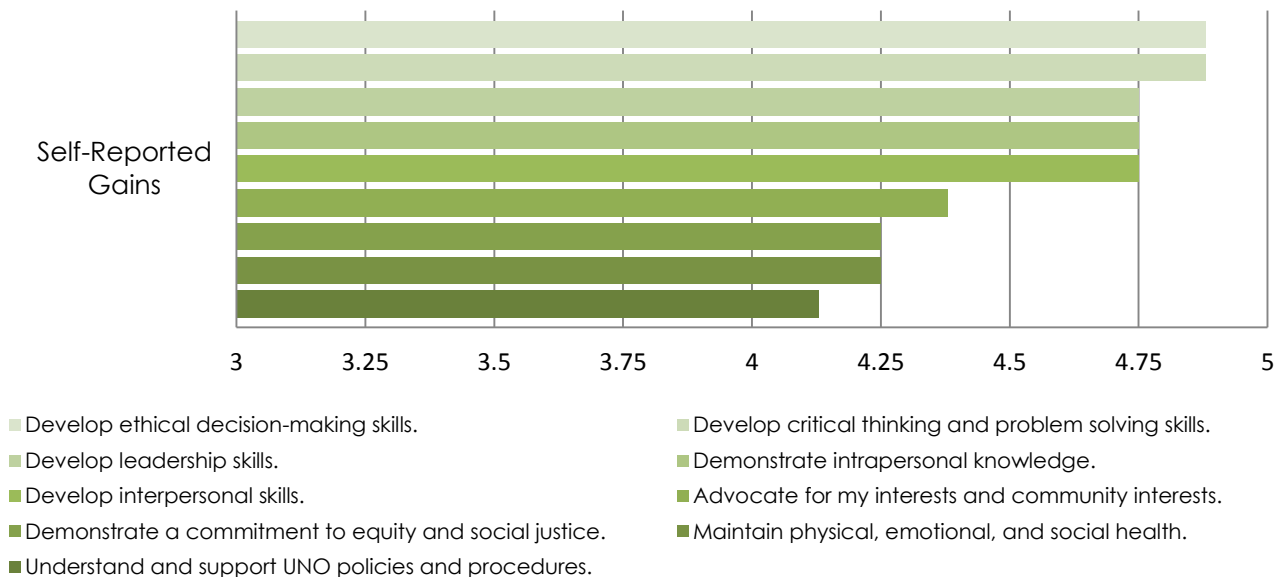
SAC Event Attendance



SAC Student Development

Students involved in SAC reported above-average growth in each of SIL's nine (9) learning outcomes. In particular, students reported the highest degrees of development in regards to their leadership skills, advocacy for personal and community interests, and developing ethical decision-making skills. Overall, students reported that coordinating SAC events afforded them the opportunity to realize the impact of their decisions and to practice their personal leadership styles.

Student Reported Development



- “SAC events helped me assimilate into the university's culture, develop a sense of belonging, and develop a sense of self-awareness and self-confidence.”
- “These programs helped me because they allowed me to develop time management skills. Most of the events that I mentioned require tons of planning and tons of logistical work. Things have to be planned and to a “T” to make sure that the events will go off without a hitch. These events have also helped me better myself as a person. With the event planning and time management skills that I've learned it has allowed me to utilize these skills in my school work and social life.”
- “These programs helped me mold and understand what kind of a leader I was and helped form my leadership skills.”
- “These programs have taught me to be more aware of the many kinds of people around me and how important my words and actions are to be treated. I've always been self-aware, but I've learned that that's not enough unless I'm aware of those around me, also.”

Section 7: Student Government (SG)

The Student Government (SG) is comprised of three branches (e.g., executive, legislative, and judicial) with student members representing each of their colleges for the betterment of the University. SG offers their support to students by providing funding for their efforts, free services for their college success, and advocacy for their grievances.

During the Fall 2014 semester, Student Government passed **21** bills benefiting **10** various social, scholastic, and cultural organizations. The total amount of funding granted by Student Government in Fall 2014 was **\$18,355.05**. This money translated into over **400** service hours to be performed to better the UNO as well as New Orleans community at large. During the Spring 2015 semester, Student Government passed **18** bills, providing over **\$35,000** in funding toward **10** offices, colleges, and student organizations resulting in **500+** service hours provided to UNO as well as New Orleans community at large.

One compound resolution was passed and forwarded to campus administration in 2014-15. The "It's On Us" compound resolution, resolving that the UNO Student Government and student body recognizes sexual violence as a college-aged issue and to intervene and create an environment in which sexual assault is unacceptable and survivors are supported.

Two major referendums were passed to be put to a student body vote.

- A student self-assessed fee proposal to provide a \$384 fee for campus services including academic departments, athletics, digital infrastructure, maintenance and beautification, and more. The proposal was forwarded to President Fos and is anticipated to be placed on the agenda at the fall 2015 University of Louisiana System meeting. Student body voting will take place after the proposal receives UL System approval.
- A new constitution was proposed to amend issues with the previous constitution and to reinstate the student governing body as the Student Government Association (SGA). Most notably, the Student Activities Council became the programming department of the new student governing body. A new branch, the Privateer Council, was created to allow for student organization governance and representation. The constitution passed the student body vote with 79% voting "Yes."

In Spring 2015, the Student Government (SG) Budget Committee approved **over \$60,000** for departmental/organizational budgeted projects, including funding for Jazz at the Sandbar, International Night, the Tocqueville Project, and Privateer Camp. Annually, Student Government provides **\$15,000.00** in scholarship funds for students interested in studying abroad and **\$30,000.00** in student academic travel funds for students interested in traveling to conferences and conventions. Other operating services funded by SG in 2015 include: the DVD library in the Earl K. Long Library, the leisure library in the Earl K. Long Library, hand sanitizer dispensers, free legal services, and the on-campus recycling program.

Major projects funded by SG in 2014-2015 include:

- Children & Young Adult Library/Resource Center for the Department of Curriculum and Instruction
- Jazz at the Sandbar for the Department of Music
- Musical Excursions for the Department of Music
- Privateer Camp (in part) for SIL and the Office of Enrollment Services
- Legal Services
- Study Abroad Scholarships

Throughout the year, SG hosted a number of open forums to allow students to question administration regarding various policies and changes in the University. The executive team also organized the "It's On Us" campaign on campus, a nationwide initiative to end sexual violence on college campuses, and received recognition from the White House for their efforts. In total, SG contributed more than **\$240,000** to projects, programs, and supplies to benefit the University of New Orleans.

Effective May 8, 2015, the student body approved a new constitution,