

Learning within Residential Community Development Activities

To what extent are students learning about the benefits of living with others after participating in residential community development activities?

Learning Outcome

- Students who engage in Residential Community Development will identify the benefits and responsibilities of living with others.

Methodology

- All residents on the Lincoln Park campus (2,443 students) were invited to complete the Student Experience Survey through email, facebook and word of mouth.
- The Student Experience Survey included one multiple-answer learning survey question with three correct choices about the benefits of living on-campus.
- Additional attendance frequency data was collected from OrgSync regarding four specific residential community development activities: Residential Education Learning Initiatives (RELI), Blue Demon Community Meeting, floor meetings and Welcome Week.
- Data analysis involved 1) determining how many students correctly identified at least two benefits of living on-campus, and 2) analyzing the correlation between students' learning survey responses and their attendance frequency.

Demographics

- Of the 2,443 students invited to participate, 1,320 (54%) completed the learning survey.
- All students who participated were current residential students living on the Lincoln Park campus during the fall 2016 term.

Key Findings

- 104 students (7.9%) accurately identified two or more benefits to living on campus.
- There was a weak, negative correlation between students' attendance frequency and their level of knowledge that was not statistically significant.

Plan of Action

- Revisit the intentionality of how initiatives are planned and implemented in the residence halls.
- Send professional staff to attend ACPA's Residential Curriculum Institute.
- Consider permanently keeping the student learning question as a part of the Residential Student Experience Survey.
- Reconsider assessment project data to determine if the department will adapt a formalized Residential Curriculum model.