State of Student Life at Bakersfield College

Significant Outcomes: Student Organization Development

Student Organizations serve a valuable and educational function offering students the opportunity to join in academic or professional, honor, political, service, social, cultural and/or spiritual groups, and societies. The students involved undertake various leadership roles that provide insight to furthering the mission of the organization and contribute to their own personal development. Everyone within the Student Organizations continue to enjoy their niche group within the context of the broader teaching, research, and service missions of Bakersfield College. These opportunities offer students a chance to become more involved with their campus community by adding an experiential component to their academic pathway.

The Office of Student Life (OSL) provides intentional programming and direct services to enhance the development of student organizations and its membership. OSL set a goal to progressively increase its offerings of services and programming over the past several years. This new focus resulted in a decrease in the numbers of recognized student organizations and events as resources were redirected to the new goal. The data reveal reduced program growth afterward 2016-17.

Budget Impact: Evolving in the Year Ahead (Student Conduct)

With the decline of Student Organization events, funds allocated to those activities peaked in 2018-19. Meanwhile, an increase in personnel and resources to address student complaints, sexual harassment, discrimination, academic integrity, and students with reported behaviors saw the need for correlated budget growth in that area. The data below reflect budget growth to accommodate an increase of six staff members over five years and an increase of unique conduct cases during the same period.
OSL reviews, investigates and works with each student case carefully while integrating several student development theories that model restorative justice practices. The fundamental premise of restorative justice practices is to lead to a helpful outlook and more cooperative and productive interactions, facilitating the student's ability to make positive changes. The current budget is adequate to address these needs in the year ahead.

**Operational Cost: Increase in the Cost per Student**

OSL helps students to be academically successful by assisting them in meeting their basic needs of food, hygiene products, clothing and other personal items. Costs per student of these provisions are shown in the graph below. These costs are kept low thanks to various community collaborations and partnerships. Additionally, the Student Assistance Program provides life-strengthening workshops in financial management, connections to resources, and practical tips and advice for life and academic success.