

Center for Chicano-Boricua Studies

College/University

Wayne State University [Detroit, MI] <http://www.clas.wayne.edu/cbs/>

Description

In 1971, two Detroit social services agencies, Latin Americans for Social and Economic Development, Inc. (LASED) and New Detroit, Inc. jointly founded the Latino en Marcha (LEM) Leadership Training Program. A year later, the Wayne State University's (WSU) Board of Governors formally approved its incorporation into Monteith College as the renamed Center for Chicano-Boricua Studies (CBS), making the Center the second oldest Latina/o undergraduate studies program in the Midwest. CBS was created to empower underrepresented groups and first generation students from working class backgrounds. Over 2,000 students have participated in the CBS Scholars Program since 1972.

Goals

The mission of the Center for Chicano-Boricua Studies (CBS) is to transform the University, and ultimately society, by providing equitable access to a quality university education to students interested in U.S. Latina/o and Latin American cultural studies while enhancing diversity on campus. Now celebrating its 40th Anniversary, CBS accomplishes its mission through an integrated four-part program including: 1) Comprehensive Student Services and Academic Success Programs, 2) Research on U.S. Latina/o and Latin American Culture, 3) Internal University Advocacy on Latina/o Issues, and 4) Outreach and Service to Broader Communities.

Outcomes

CBS participants largely outperform their WSU First Time in Any College (FTIAC) peers in all areas of measured student success. CBS SEP participants passed English 1010 at a rate of 94% during their first fall semester, passed Math 0993 at a rate of 80% during the same semester, were retained at a rate of 86% and persisted into the following semester at a rate of 91%. This is compared to WSU success rates of 71% in English 1010, 44% in Math 0993, an 89% retention rate and a 75% fall-to-fall persistence rate for 2008 FTIACs. Despite enrolling students with lower average high school grade point averages and ACT scores, CBS Scholars generally outperform their WSU FTIAC peers.

Key Personnel

Ethriam Brammer, Associate Director
Wayne State University
656 W. Kirby
3325 Faculty/Administration Building
Detroit, Michigan 48221
ethriam@wayne.edu
313-577-4378