Inclusive Excellence Awards

2014
“It was founded with the idea that it would be inclusive and be the Center that broke some of the existing barriers and silos of very diverse backgrounds, disciplines and ideas...It created partnerships with very influential academic scholars from around the world, especially across our neighboring border of Mexico.”

Maria Aguayo Telles
Executive Assistant
Faculty Recipient
Confluencenter for Creative Inquiry

Javier Duran
Office of the Senior Vice President for Research

“I have been repeatedly impressed with the programming, the outreach and the true collaborative nature of the work of the center. This stellar work has been a showcase for diversity on the University of Arizona campus. The Confluencenter Board has done an impressive job of bringing diverse cultures, ideas, and disciplines together.”

Wanda Howell
Distinguished Professor, Nutritional Sciences
Chair of the Faculty
In my work in Community Relations I have had the opportunity to see the impact that the Confluencenter has in our community by bringing together disparate communities and fostering conversations that lead to unity and inclusion...The mission and impact of the Confluencenter serves as an example to all of us at the University of Arizona who seek to work in an interdisciplinary and collaborative way with our colleagues, friends, and neighbors.”

Tannya Gaxiola
Assistant Vice President for Community Relations
Their hard work has resulted in the University hitting several large recruitment and retention milestones this year: New student diversity broke above 40% for the first time ever with minorities comprising 41.7% of the Fall 2013 entering class. The Freshman-to-sophomore retention rates also reached an all-time high of 81.5%...Comparisons from 2010 to 2012 show retention rate increases in all ethnic groups.

Melissa Vito
Senior Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management and Vice Provost for Academic Initiatives and Student Success
Outreach in every way possible

“UA’s undergraduate recruitment team achieves this high-touch goal by conducting outreach to every single public and private high school in Arizona. Undergraduate Admissions provides special all-day tours for underrepresented populations, open house events once a month called Arizona Experience, Road Trip events open to ALL high schools in Arizona once a month, and diversity programming in the forms of African American College Night and College Day, Native American College Night and Day, and Peter and Pat Likins Day.”
Ensuring culturally diverse students start their college career strong

“The Arizona Assurance Scholars program provides first year transition programming, mentoring, leadership and career development to low income Arizona residents...The Student Support Services program assists students who are first-generation or low income or have a disability to successfully attain their bachelor’s degree.”
“ACT’s mission is to ‘educate students on issues of equity and equality, to have pride in the University of Arizona’s diversity, and to take action to make UA a more inclusive place.’ ACT does this in multiple ways....ACT puts on annual large-scale programs such as our Hunger Banquet, which raises awareness and donations to combat food insecurity...Individual ACT members must put on smaller programs for their residence halls to bring the knowledge they learn in ACT back to their home communities.”

Hannah Lozon
Coordinator of Social Justice Education, Residential Education
“It has been our experience that ACT has not only changed our lives, but the lives of our ACTees. ACT provides a place for students to further educate themselves in the field of social justice, as well as foster relationships across campus with those who share their passion...An organization such as ACT is one in a million and invaluable to this University through its contributions to better facilitate interactions between students of different identities.”

Aaron Wilson, Alicia Archaga, & Morgan Hill
2013-2014 ACT Co-Directors
“ACT requires that its members attend at least diversity trainings or various cultural events. I am so grateful for this requirement as it forced me outside my comfort zone. It also gave me connection to the campus cultural centers. Furthermore, it educated me on interesting subjects that might not be covered in my coursework...ACT allowed me to find other safe spaces on campus for growth.”

Mallory Corrus
Student ACT alum