Umoja Program Scholars

Tasha Smith, Ph.D. - Umoja Coordinator

UMOJA STAFF

- Umoja Coordinator Dr. Tasha Smith
- Office Assistant Wanda Minor
- Two Counselors (Available Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday)
 - Dr. Kelley Candungug
 - Dr. Brenda Tucker
- Tutors (Tutoring is available in the village Monday through Friday)
 - Allen Fleming, MA Math 104, 330, 030, 031, 012, 112
 - Gema Leon Reading/Writing Lab Technician
 - Dr. Lloyd Bond Math & Statistics
 - We also have Peer Tutors available in subjects such as Public Speaking and Computer Information Science

Our Staff

- Two Umoja Student Ambassadors
 - Sharaya King
 - Robert Scott

UMOJA HOURS OF OPERATION

- We expanded our hours of operation this semester and are now open Monday through Friday, 9:30 am – 5:30 pm
- The village is open and Scholars may utilize the computer lab during these hours
- Tutoring is available to Scholars Monday through Friday



UMOJA VILLAGE

Updated Technology

- We replaced old computers and keyboards with 8 new computers and keyboards
- We added a printer to the village
- Installed a SARS system to track student activity in the village
- Installed hand sanitizing station for health and safety of our students and staff



UMOJA SCHOLARS

- We currently have 185 Umoja Scholars enrolled in our program
 - 70 males and 115 females
- We are actively accepting applications for the 2017-2018 academic year
- We actively serve and promote academic success for all, with a special emphasis on African American students
 - We have a diverse group of scholars, including Latino, Asian, Native American and international students, but the vast majority are African American students



UMOJA STUDENT AMBASSADORS

- Represented the Umoja Program and recruited program participants during the SCC Welcome Back Week activities
- Participated in the SCC High school Counselor Conference
- Received and accepted invitation to speak with high school students at Visions in Education, a Charter school in Vallejo
- Making arrangements to speak at John Finney High School in Vallejo and the Family Readiness Center and the Education Center on Travis Airforce Base
- Actively recruit potential Umoja Scholars on SCC campus
- I am currently collaborating with Lisa Brasely with the SCC Student Ambassador program to coordinate recruiting efforts



UMOJA CLASSES

- There were two classes designated as Umoja classes this semester
 - Counseling 023 Psychology for Modern Life (Dr. Kelley Candungug)
 - Sociology 023 Sociology of African Americans (Sandra Moore)
 - We also provide students with a list of classes taught by "Umojafied" Instructors
 - Umojafied Instructors are SCC Instructors that have participated in the statewide Umoja Summer Learning Institute
 - We currently have 10 Umojafied Instructors teaching the following subjects:
 - Child Development and Family Studies, Counseling, Communication Studies, English, Geology, Political Science, Math, Geology, Sociology and Social Sciences



UMOJA PROGRAM GOALS

- Our primary program goal is to Promote Academic Scholarship and Create a Pipeline to Success
- We have worked to achieve this goal by:
 - Providing Academic Enrichment Activities
 - Implementing Programmatic Elements that Promote Academic Scholarship
 - Maintaining High Expectations and Standards



UMOJA PROGRAM GOALS Academic Enrichment Activities

1) Workshops

- Time Management
- How to Study "SMART"
- The Trump Administration
- Campus Safety
- African Dance Class
- A2MEND Presentation

2) Conferences

- Annual Umoja Conference Los Angeles (Fall 2016)
- A2MEND Conference Los Angeles (Spring 2017)
- 3) Sacramento State Black Family Day
- 4) UC Davis Umoja VIP Day
- 5) Umoja Village Meeting
- 6) Other opportunities in collaboration with Puente and MESA
 - Visits to college campuses like UC Berkeley
 - Opportunities to meet with academic recruiters from area colleges
 - Opportunities to listen to guest speakers
 - Opportunities to attend theatrical performances



UMOJA PROGRAM GOALS Programmatic Elements that Promote Academic Scholarship

1) Counseling - Students are required to meet with Umoja counselors to develop their Student Education Plans, select classes and discuss their academic progress

2) Priority Registration - allows Scholars to enroll in classes and solidify their class schedule earlier than general population

3) Tutoring - Scholars may receive tutoring in Math and English/Writing in the Umoja Village

 Scholars are referred to Tutoring Center if they require tutoring in other academic subjects

4) Textbook Loan Program - we provide textbooks to students who are unable to afford required texts for their classes.

5) Emergency Transportation Assistance - we offer bus passes for Fairfield, Vallejo and Vacaville to assist students in travelling to and from their classes. We have fulfilled all bus pass requests



UMOJA PROGRAM GOALS High Expectations & Standards

- 1) Scholars are required to maintain at least a 2.5 GPA
- 2) Scholars must submit progress reports for each class twice per semester (Week 6 and Week 12)
- 3) If a Scholar's grades drop below a "C" we speak with them to assess situation, make recommendations, and connect them with a tutor and other resources, if necessary



Preparing for the 2017-2018 Academic Year

- Our counselors are currently working with our scholars to select classes for the Summer and Fall semesters
- We are in the planning stages for our Umoja Summer Bridge
- We are working on programming for next year (e.g., workshops and activities)
- We are working on creating opportunities for mentorship
- We will continue to incorporate more activities that celebrate our cultural heritage and allow students to develop and foster positive relationships with faculty and staff



