

FY 2016-17

**HESSR Funding Proposal**

<b>Unit Name:</b>	<b>AFRICAN STUDENT PROGRAMS</b>
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<b>Date:</b>	<b>MAY 2016</b>

## A. DEPARTMENT NARRATIVE “PROGRAM PLAN”

### 1. Mission Statement:

#### MISSION STATEMENT

Born from the historic struggles against oppression in all forms, African Student Programs was created in 1972 to sustain a socially just and inclusive campus community. At a time when students of African descent experienced a lack of support due to low numbers in population, African Student Programs served as a safe haven for students to congregate, discuss, plan and share as a community. As people of the African Diaspora, we honor our multiple identities and cultures and advocate for their inclusion in defining the values of the university.

Recognizing the connection between individual academic success, social responsibility and community success, we promote multiple opportunities for students and the University of California, Riverside to engage in continuing growth as a learning community.

Our purpose is to promote academic excellence by providing opportunities for students in their development as role models, leaders, scholars and professionals.

In the context of the campus and student populations we were created to serve, we carry out our mission by providing the following:

- Academic enrichment and development
- Student leadership development
- Non-academic advising, counseling, and crisis intervention
- Educational and cultural programming
- The African Student Programs Mentorship Program
- Assessment and enrichment of campus climate
- Community outreach and involvement
- Collaborative programming with student clubs and organizations, academic departments, faculty and alumni

### 2. Program Description: a. *Please list each of your programs and/or your major activities/services for your department and give detailed information that describes your department.*

#### **Overview / Major Activates**

##### ASP Services

ASP fulfills its mission by providing the following services to both undergraduate and graduate students, individuals, groups, clubs and organizations, alumni and community: a computer lounge where students can access the internet, write papers, complete projects, reports, etc. Also available to students is a resource library that students can access for academic work as well as individual development. A main common lounge is available to students who wish to study, eat their lunch, form study groups, hold meetings and convene. The conference room is available for use to students, staff and faculty. Student organizations, ASP staff and other campus entities hold meetings, study sessions and other small gatherings in the conference room. ASP serves as a liaison between students, alumni and the greater Riverside community by connecting students to opportunities offered by alumni and community organizations including but not limited to internships, scholarships and mentor programs. ASP offers other resources such a monthly calendar of events including events hosted by student organizations and campus partners, an academic mentorship program, student development opportunities, graduate school advising and preparation, leadership training and internship opportunities. Additionally, ASP hosts a community outreach program to middle school and high school students.

Programs and major activities:

African Black Coalition Conference  
 African History Month Programming  
 AMP Mentor Training  
 AMP Mentorship Program  
 Annual Academic Awards Ceremony  
 Annual Black Faculty/Staff Meet and Greet  
 Annual Fall Welcome/Networking BBQ  
 Annual Inland Empire Black Health Expo  
 ASP Open House  
 ASPTV  
 Black Graduation  
 Donor Appreciation Luncheons and Dinners  
 Martin Luther King, Jr.  
 Mental Health and Wellness workshops  
 National Black MBA Association  
 National Society of Black Engineers National Conference  
 Network of Brothers  
 Nigerian Student Coalition Conference  
 PATH workshops  
 Pipeline to GEICO workshops  
 Pipeline to Pepsi Workshops  
 Professional Speaker Series  
 Student Leader/Volunteer Appreciation  
 Student Organization Leadership Retreat  
 The Real Deal Orientation  
 UCR Black Alumni mixers

### **Programs/Services**

#### **1. Program/Service: Student Organization Leadership Retreat**

This retreat is held during the fall quarter each academic year. All student organizations that work directly with African Student Programs are expected to attend this retreat. Their participation guarantees them a table at the Welcome/Networking BBQ. The retreat is an all day event in which student organizations come together to discuss, collaborate and plan for the upcoming academic year. Expectations for working with African Student Programs is provided by ASP staff. The student leaders also hear a keynote address by a prominent community leader who expresses to them the importance of being a leader and how to do that while also maintaining academic success. A workshop/presentation by an UCR alumni is also part of the retreat. Ice breakers and team building activities are also part of the agenda. These activities help the leaders establish trust amongst each other. As a group, the leaders discuss ways in which they can better support each other. They also bring their calendars and share with the other organizations what they are planning for the quarter.

#### **2. Program/Service: AMP Mentor Training**

This training is for the mentors and takes place during zero week of fall quarter. At this training, the mentors participate in team building activities and ice breakers to bond them as mentors. They also sign volunteer paperwork necessary for participation in the program. They learn of the expectations, procedures and guidelines they must follow as mentors. They do role plays in which they are faced with scenarios they may encounter as mentors. They also participate in group activities in which they define the role and characteristic traits of mentors.

3. Program/Service: Academic Mentorship Program

The Academic Mentorship Program is designed to facilitate mentoring relationships between UCR upper classmen and first year students. The mentors are assigned to mentees with similar majors. Mentors serve as a resource to their mentee, referring them to academic resources as necessary. Mentors are available to answer questions, provide support and create a positive atmosphere in which students can do their homework, study, etc. Mentors meet with their mentees once a week to help them set goals and assess their progress toward those goals. They also support and encourage their development and growth by sharing the importance of involvement and participation in organizations and volunteer work. In addition, the mentors guide, advice and support their mentees by informing them of academic requirements, guidelines and expectations for their specific major. This event served both graduate and undergraduate students

4. Program/Service: Annual Fall Welcome and Networking BBQ

This BBQ is our main welcome event. Held during the first or second week in October, the Welcome BBQ is a social gathering that many students look forward to participating in and attending. A student MC introduced the ASP staff and all performances. Student organizations tabled, distributing information about their respective organizations. A dance performance by the Nigerian Student Association dancers and a student performance was mixed in with music, food, networking and announcements of upcoming events. Tickets for a free meal were distributed in African Student Programs on the day of the event. This allowed people to get to know ASP a little better. This event served both graduate and undergraduate students

5. Program/Service: ASP Open House

The ASP Open House typically takes place a couple of days before the BBQ, ASP opened their doors to UCR students, staff, faculty and alumni. Music was playing and refreshments were served. Attendees are welcomed to take self-guided or guided tours and meet the ASP staff. This was a great way to create a welcoming atmosphere and allow people to learn more about ASP and the resources offered. This event served both graduate and undergraduate students.

6. Program/Service: Annual Black Faculty & Staff Meet and Greet

This meet and greet was established to give students an opportunity to meet and network with Black faculty and staff at UCR. Rhiannon Little works closely with Dr. Yolanda Moses to plan this event, whose department also co-sponsors. The event begins

with mingling and refreshments for the first 30 minutes. Afterward, we usually ask all attendees to introduce themselves and their department, field of study/research and their major/class level if they are a student. This event is a great way for students to meet faculty and staff who are willing to advise, mentor and support the students. This event served both graduate and undergraduate students.

7. Program/Service: The Real Deal Orientation

During the beginning of fall quarter African Students Programs hosts "The Real Deal Orientation". During this program, students have the opportunity to speak with 10 upperclassmen about their experience in College, and hear things that they would have wanted to know as freshman. Topics range anywhere from Financial aid to housing, faculty and staff who are supportive to buying Books. We believe this is a great experience for students to hear firsthand about subjects that aren't covered during the mandatory summer orientation sessions. This event served undergraduate students.

8. Program/Service: Annual Inland Empire Black Health Expo

Presented by: African Americans United in Science in collaboration with African Student Programs the UCR School of Medicine, Healthy Heritage Movement, the Riverside Community Health Foundation and the J. W. Vines Medical Society.

The expo provides free health screenings, vaccinations/immunizations, blood pressure testing, blood sugar/glucose, cholesterol, lung function, kidney disease assessment, renal disease, hearing, vision and HIV testing. Local hospitals and health-based agencies will be invited to provide a wide range of health information from prevention to self-examination.

According to the County of Riverside Department of Public Health / Community Health Profile 2013, in 2010 the top five causes of death in Riverside County included heart disease, cancer, lung disease (CLRD), stroke, and unintentional injuries. The top five causes of death for Blacks in Riverside County were heart disease, cancer, stroke, lung disease and unintentional injuries. The highest rates of heart disease were among American Indians (289.6 per 100,000) and Blacks (269.3 per 100,000), much higher than the overall County rate of 188.2 per 100,000 population.

The objectives for this project are to get community members to the expo for free screening, testing and provide information on self-examinations along with alcohol and smoking awareness. We aim to accomplish this by aggressive marketing through social media, radio, newspapers, local parks, school districts and offering free parking. Another objective of the expo is to have workshops that focus on mental health and mental wellness. The workshops will address critical mental health issues from patients being under diagnosed, misdiagnosed, under or over medicated. A third major objective is to get participants interested and excited in embracing a healthier lifestyle by making better choices.

9. Program/Service: Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

This annual celebration of the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. is hosted by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and co-sponsored by African Student Programs. During the Candlelight Vigil held at the Bell tower, participants light candles and have a moment of silence to remember MLK. Immediately following the vigil, everyone walks in unity to the celebration location. UCR students, staff and faculty as well community members enjoy a night of entertainment which includes speeches, dance performances, music and storytelling and history sharing about the remarkable life of the late Martin Luther King, Jr.

This event served both graduate and undergraduate students.

10. Program/Service:

11. Program/Service: ASPTV

ASPTV is a student-ran social media organization that promotes African Student Programs through a YouTube channel. The purpose of this channel is to give students a voice and arena to showcase their talents/interest in visual media and video production, directing and editing. The purpose of the YouTube channel is to bring awareness about African Student Programs and the university to the community, especially middle school and high school students by highlighting the Black student experience through videos of student organization/departmental cultural, academic and social events, fundraisers, workshops and ceremonies. These videos are also used as an outreach tool to middle school, high school and potential students who want to see live videos of UCR campus life. As a result of ASPTV's involvement and knowledge of social mediums, the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, Undergraduate Admissions and VCSA Communications have requested that ASPTV take the lead role in developing a recruitment video as a larger, campus-wide effort to recruit potential students

12. Program/Service: PATH Workshops

This series of workshops coordinated with the Academic Resource Center and hosted by AMP support PATH residents in their academic goals. The workshops focus on areas of concern for current residents. The workshops take place once per quarter.

13. Program/Service: BLAACK presents "A Network of Brothers"

This event is an opportunity to network with UCR staff, faculty, undergraduates, graduate students, alumni and community members. The purpose of this event is to provide a venue where UCR African American male students can share your thoughts, opinions and solutions to the critical issues that face Black men today and in the future. With more than 500 male undergraduates on campus this fellowship/social networking opportunity offers students opportunities to enhance their network base with committed and dedicated professionals and scholars.

This event served both graduate and undergraduate students.

14. Program/Service: African Black Coalition Conference

The African Black Coalition (ABC) is an alliance of the African Student Unions on the nine University of California undergraduate campuses. Through outreach and conferences, the ABC jointly stands against inequalities that students of color encounter. Through conferences like this one, the ABC hopes students gain a sense of community support and activism that last far beyond the conference weekend.

The ABC conference consists of workshops, panels and keynote addresses, mostly facilitated by UC students, staff and faculty that focus on a variety of topics, issues and concerns that affect students of color, particularly students of African descent at the nine UC campuses. The purpose of the conference is for these students to unite and strategically develop solutions to tackle these issues that will eventually improve their undergraduate student experience during their educational endeavors at the University of California. This event served undergraduate students.

15. Program/Service: Professional Speakers Series

This speaker series will highlight UCR alumni as well as community members and UC faculty and staff who represent various career fields. Students will hear from professionals about their careers, how they obtained the training required, the career options, the necessary educational level, etc. This will also serve as a networking opportunity for our students to initiate conversations regarding their career goals. This event served both graduate and undergraduate students.

16. Program/Service: Student Leader/Volunteer Appreciation

In order to appreciate and thank our student leaders and volunteers, we held a dinner for them. Catered by HUB 2 Go, students enjoyed a pasta dinner while reminiscing about the year. Ken Simons and Rhiannon Little gave words of thanks and appreciation. Music was played and students mingled during this informal gathering. We hope to make it an annual event in the future. This event served undergraduate students.

17. Program/Service: Black Graduation

This event has grown tremendously over the last 13 years. It began with a dozen student participants and their guests totaling around 200 in 2003 and has blossomed to more than 130 student participants and their guests totaling more than 3,500 in 2015. Black Graduation is a celebration, an opportunity for students of African descent and their non Black friends to personalize this milestone in their academic career. It is a way participants can share their accomplishment with all the members who make up 'their village' in an intimate setting. Black Graduation is not an 'alternative' ceremony in that students who participate are encouraged to experience the pageantry of commencement by participating in the regular ceremonies as well. One advantage for graduates and their families is that with our large venue and smaller number of graduates, there is no limit to the number of guests each student can invite. We understand that teachers, coaches, mentors, preachers, faculty, staff, alumni, relatives and community members from a multitude of ethnicities have all played a vital role in

<p>the success of these young scholars and we are happy to be able to provide a place for them to celebrate together. This event served both graduate and undergraduate students</p>
<p>18. <u>Program/Service: “Beyond R’ Margins” Conference</u> In collaboration with the Ethnic and Gender Programs, ASUCR, and the Diversity Council, ASP cosponsored the conference that attracted over 200 attendees and explored social justice, cultural competency, and more.</p>
<p>19. <u>Program/Service: Unity Hour</u> A weekly social hour between the Ethnic and Gender Programs created to bring student leaders and student groups closer together from different departments.</p>
<p>20. <u>Program/Service: “One Mic. One Voice”</u> A collaborative event with student and professional spoken word artists to showcase our diversity and unite over issues of social justice and cultural acceptance and inclusion.</p>

**3. Strategic Vision: discuss your short-term (2016-2017) plans and major program goals that will use HESSR funds:**

<p>Our short-term 2016-2017 use of HESSR funds are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Student Life and Development Specialist I</li> <li>Student Org support</li> <li>Student conference, travel and registration</li> <li>Black Family Day</li> <li>Staff professional development</li> <li>Camping retreat</li> <li>Black Graduation</li> <li>Peer mentor programming</li> <li>Donor appreciation luncheon</li> </ul>
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**4. Challenges: Identify obstacles that need to be overcome and/or need to be met.**

<p>The main challenges for ASP:</p> <p>ASP is faced with the challenge of telling the story of who we are and the impact we have made in the lives of the students we have served and continue to serve. Data collection on student academic achievement and assessment of our programs is needed to get a better understanding of the department’s effectiveness.</p>
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5. Please provide information on any recent evaluations your unit may have had. What recommendations were made, and what actions were taken in response to the recommendations

N/A

6. Additional information or clarification you would like to provide the committee on your department's program plan for using HESSR funds:

N/A

**B. BUDGET QUESTIONS**

- 1. Describe any SSFAC budget requests below. Departments may not duplicate budget requests for SSAF and RSAC.**

**Funding for Student Life and Development Specialist I – Community Manager****Student Life and Development Specialist I - \$57,040.00**

\$40,000 – Salary

\$11,200 – Benefits (28% of salary)

\$5,840 – UCRP

We are requesting permanent funds for a Community Manager (Student Life and Development Specialist I) to work 75% time at ASP to support the growing constituency and needs of our students of African descent at UCR. To further develop our department and provide the proper attention, programming, and resources to our growing community, a Student Life and Development Specialist is critical to the success of ASP.

- 2. How many FTE positions are currently open? Which if any of the positions are newly created? Why was there a need to hire additional staff? What expanded services are provided by the new hires?**

Two permanent FTE is the current staffing for ASP

- 3. Additional information or clarification you would like to provide the committee on your department's Budget plan:**

N/A

### C. Funding Proposal and Narrative

List below each use of funds you propose, following the guidelines put forth by the Referendum:

The Highlander Empowerment Student Services Referendum will allow the seven departments to better meet undergraduate students' needs by providing:

- Increased co-programming with student organizations and student-led initiatives, including funding and advising
- Staffing to assist students in finding support and resources
- Support for conference hosting and conference travel
- Support for Common Ground Collective projects & collaborative initiatives with the ASUCR Diversity Council
- Peer mentoring and peer education programs support
- More resources in each student program office and center, such as student computer support and educational materials
- Operational support for student services programs as described above, as the costs of campus services continue to increase

**1. Overview: Any Information you would like to provide the committee on this year's proposal.**

ASP will seek additional funds to produce our 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary documentary of the UCR African American Student Life Experience.

Fund Amount	Short Description
\$2,000	<u>ASP Camping and Leadership retreat</u> This retreat is held during the fall quarter each academic year. All student organizations that work directly with African Student Programs are expected to attend this retreat. Their participation guarantees them a table at the Welcome/Networking BBQ. The retreat is an all day event in which student organizations come together to discuss, collaborate and plan for the upcoming academic year.
\$2,500	<u>Staff Professional Development</u> ASP will set aside funds to send staff to conferences or workshops that address best practices for Black Scholars in higher education

\$4,000	<p><u>Student Conference Travel</u> ASP will set aside funds to assist in travel or registration for the following conferences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● African Black Coalition Conference (ABC)</li> <li>● Nigerian Student Coalition Conference (NSCC)</li> <li>● National Society of Black Engineers National Conference (NSBE)</li> <li>● Circle of Change Leadership Conference</li> </ul>
\$4,000	<p><u>Student org. support</u> ASP will assist student organizations and clubs with co-sponsoring events such as culture shows and appreciation events.</p>
\$5,000	<p><u>Black Graduation 2017</u> This event celebrates and recognizes the academic achievements and graduation of students of African descent as well as other students who would like to participate. Friends, families, UCR alumni, staff, faculty, community and administrators will help the graduating seniors celebrate by attending the ceremony. This annual event consists of various speakers including a keynote speaker, alumni speaker and student graduate speakers. In addition, a slideshow will feature pictures of seniors throughout their academic journey. Entertainment during the ceremony will include music featuring a student singing "Lift Every Voice and Sing", the Black National Anthem and two student organizations, Abyssinian Student Union dance team and the Nigerian Student Association dance team. The event will conclude with the graduating seniors walking across the stage as their names and majors are presented.</p>
\$3,000	<p><u>Black Family Day</u> Black Family Day is a celebration of the village. We recognize that students are raised by a village of family who have been instrumental in helping them along their academic journey. We also recognize the importance of informing not only the student but their family about the college admissions, financial aid, housing, campus safety and more. Black Family Day is an opportunity for admitted students and their immediate family to attend informational workshops, panel discussions, network with faculty and staff, meet current students and alumni, find out about student organizations and more!</p>
\$1,200	<p><u>Peer Mentorship Program</u> The Academic Mentorship Program is designed to facilitate mentoring relationships between UCR upper classmen and first year students. The mentors are assigned to mentees with similar majors. Mentors serve as a resource to their mentee, referring them to academic resources as necessary.</p>
\$2,500	<p><u>Office Supplies and Equipment</u> ASP will continue to provide resources to maintain the day-to-day functionality of our department.</p>

\$2,800	<u>UCOP Tax Reserve</u> Setting aside the amount for the UCOP Tax Reserve
\$1,500	<u>RSAC Stipend</u> Funds will be requested to support student stipends for RSAC.
\$2,000	<u>Donor Appreciation Luncheon</u> This is an event that we are doing for the first time. We will be seeking additional finds to host this luncheon. The purpose is to recognize all donors that have contributed to supporting our students financially. The event is set for Saturday October 29 <sup>th</sup> from 4:00pm to 6:00pm in HUB 302.
\$500	<u>Diversity Council Support</u> These funds will go towards a diversity council retreat in the summer or early fall, in addition to the programming budget.