Assessing short-term learning for first-year success: Findings from the 2018 Fall EOP Enrichment Workshops

Presenters:
Dr. Lui Amador, EOP Director,
Danielle Chambers, EOP Associate Director,
Dr. Mari Luna De La Rosa, EOP Research Associate
Cal State LA’s Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) provides educational access and opportunity for low-income students, the majority of whom are first-generation college students.

To encourage their college-going identity, first-year EOP freshmen are required to attend three EOP workshops their first fall semester.
Description of EOP Enrichment Workshops

The Skill of Time Management
Discover Your Learning Style
Develop Your Study Strategies
Why Should You Get To Know Your Professors?
Completing Your GE Requirements
Filling out the FAFSA/CADAA
SAP Info Session

#Level Up
Any Idea Why You Should Snag an Internship? Community College or Career Experience? You Decide
Freeing the Child Within
Assessment Data Collection Steps

• **301** students who participated in these workshops received an email with online survey using Qualtrics Survey Software

• Sent in first week of spring 2019 semester

• **103** students responded for a response rate of: **34.2%**
Student Participants' Choices of EOP Enrichment Workshops
N=103

- The Skill of Time Management: 22%
- Filling out the FAFSA/CADAA: 20%
- Freeing the Child Within: 20%
- #LevelUp: 14%
- Discover Your Learning Style: 10%
- Community College or Career...: 6%
- Completing Your GE Requirements: 6%
- Develop Your Study Strategies: 2%
- Any Idea Why You Should Snag an...: 0%
- Why Should You Get to Know Your...: 0%
- SAP Info Session: 0%
Academic Skill Building Workshops
N=103

Campus policies and application completion Workshops
N=103

Career Planning and Personal Goals Workshops
N=103
Comparison of Progress in Student Learning from EOP Enrichment Workshops: "Substantial to Excellent Progress" N=103

- Campus policies and application completion: 65%
- Academic learning strategies: 46%
- Career planning and setting personal goals: 45%
Selected Open-Ended Comments on What Student Participants Learned

“Getting involved and using the resources on campus will highly increase your chance of succeeding.”

“I learned new ways to cope with stress. Also, I learned how to study for finals.”

“I learned what it means to be a college student in terms of willpower and work.”
SELECTED OPEN-ENDED COMMENTS ON HOW TO IMPROVE THIS WORKSHOP SERIES

“More available dates and times; in addition to maybe adding snacks.”

“They should give out more EOP merch. For example, EOP shirts, bags, lanyards, etc.”

“More announcements, or sending reminders.”
Next Directions

Add other data points to this assessment such as fall semester GPA or units completed to determine if short-term learning gains help with academic performance.

Continue to monitor relevance of topics and curriculum in these workshops.

Continue to improve logistical aspects such as scheduled times, workshop reminders, snacks, EOP merch, etc.