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SCHOLARS

Supporting Kessler Scholars' Summer Transition and Enrichment Opportunities

Thursday, March 21, 2024

March 2024 Community Conversation

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Kessler Kudos and Birthdays
3. Summer Transition Support and Enrichment Opportunities
4. Discussion and Share-Out
5. Next Steps and Reminders



Congratulations!

Kessler Kudos 🌟 🎉 🌟

Shoutouts to...

- **Kessler Scholars hit the road!** **Syracuse University** to hold a student retreat in the Adirondacks; **Cornell University** students travel to Ghana; **Queens College** planning alternative spring break to a regional farm; and **WashU** students explore the STL Zoo for insights into veterinary services
- **Collaborative Student Leadership Board** hosted a workshop series for fellow Kessler Scholars, with more than 70 students attending across four events
- **Bob Ream (UC Riverside)** offered his expertise to the *Chronicle of Higher Education* on how UCR supports lower-income students
- **Shakima Clency, April Belback (Pitt), and Kia Fletcher (OSU)** presented on Kessler Scholars at NASPA; **Kristen Glasener** and **Ify Oliobi (Ithaca S+R)** at ACPA

What else would you like to share or celebrate?

HAPPY

Birthday



March Birthday Celebrations

Caroline Doglio

April Belback

Valerie Blackwell-Truitt

Shannon Musgrove

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Supporting Kessler Scholars Over the Summer

- Navigating relationships with family and peers
 - Break-away guilt and returning home after the first year of college
- Financial responsibilities and family obligations
 - More than 25% of first-year Kessler Scholars reported being a provider of financial support for their family
- Structured (and funded!) summer enrichment opportunities to further student learning and engagement
 - #MakeYourMarkMonday campaign on Kessler Scholars and Alumni LinkedIn Group
 - Summer Research Opportunity Program (SROP) at U-M for Kessler Scholars

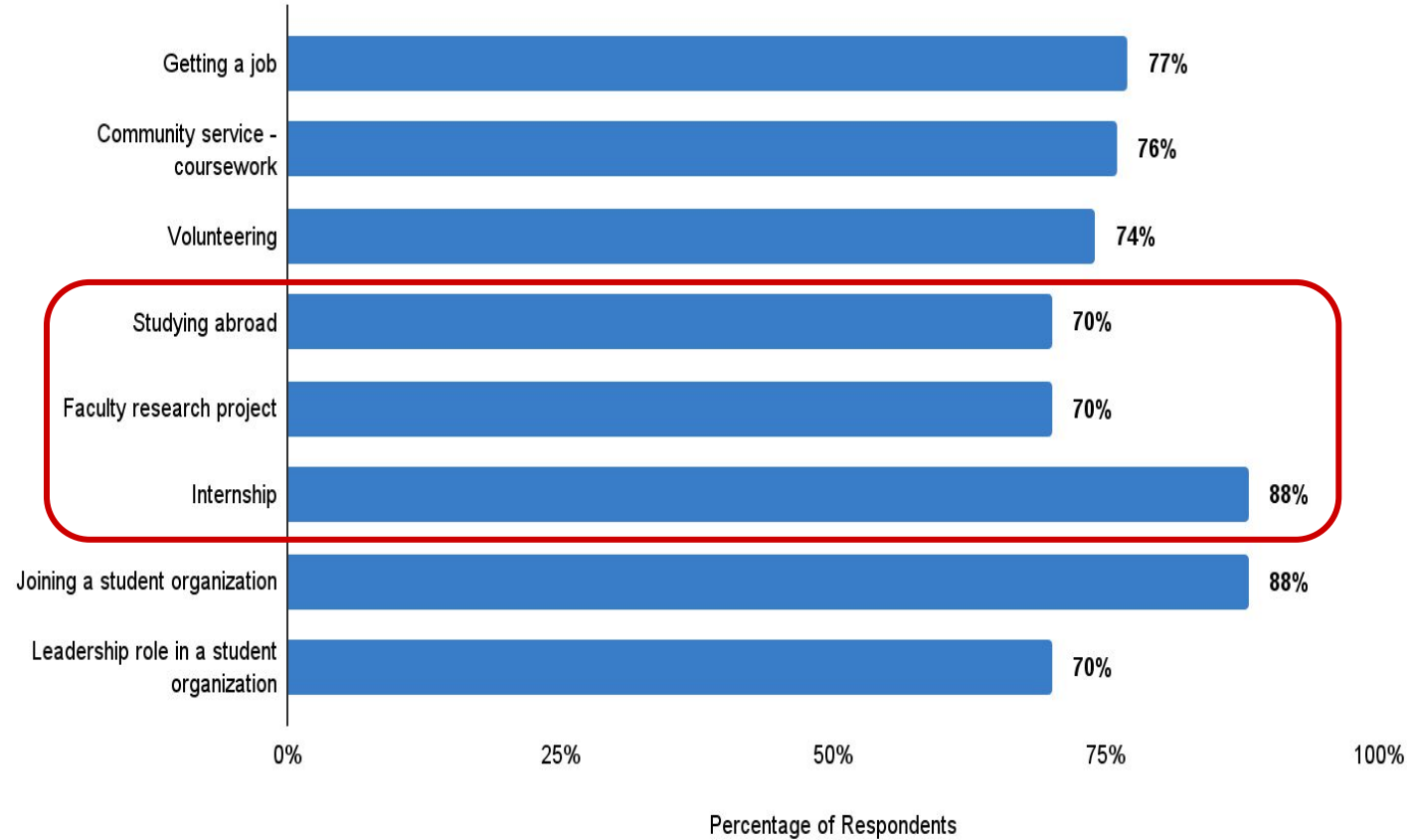
Summer Enrichment

First-Year Kessler Scholar: HIP Interest

Over two-thirds of first-year Kessler Scholars report that they are interested in studying abroad

70% are interested in working with a professor on an undergraduate research project

Almost 90% are interested in having an internship experience

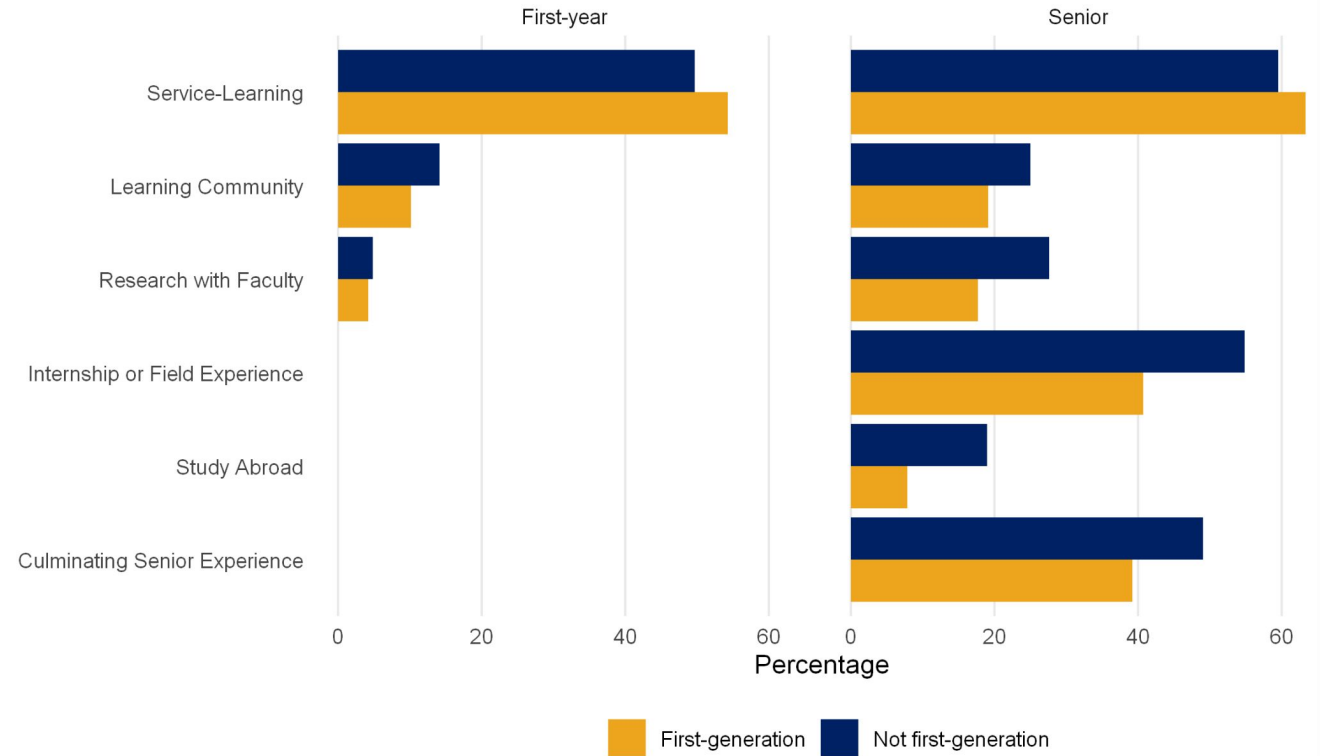


Making the Most of Summer

Promoting High-Impact Practices (HIPs):

- HIPs are associated with a range of positive outcomes:
 - Higher levels of engagement in deep learning, higher GPAs, improved writing skills, higher retention rates, and lower odds of underemployment ^{1,2}
- FGLI students are less likely to experience HIPs compared to their peers ³

Participation in HIPs by First-Generation Status in 2020



Sources:

¹ Finley, A. and McNair, T. *Assessing Underserved Students' Engagement in High-Impact Practices* (Washington, DC: Association of American Colleges and Universities, 2013).

² Burning Glass Institute and Strada Institute for the Future of Work, *Talent Disrupted: Underemployment, College Graduates, and the Way Forward*, 2024

³ NSSE Annual Results 2020, High-Impact Practices: Interrogating Quality and Equity

Promoting High-Impact Practice Participation

1. What support do you offer Kessler Scholars to make the most of their summer?
2. How can you encourage higher participation in internships, study abroad, undergraduate research, or other experiential learning opportunities over the summer?

Approaches to Summer Transition Support

Tailored summer bridge or pre-orientation programs specifically designed for Kessler Scholars

Short-term summer programs that support Kessler Scholars and other students (optional or required)

Multi-week pre-college summer academic programs that support Kessler Scholars and other students

Other summer transition support for Kessler Scholars (e.g., virtual meetups, peer mentor/ambassador outreach)



Student Focus Group Feedback on Summer Programming

- Overall positive experience - students found the summer support to be **beneficial and useful**
- **Needs:** Experience the campus environment, understand academic expectations, program support, and financial aid, and make new friends and connections
- **Challenges:** Balancing attendance with family responsibilities, summer jobs, other summer support programs, college sports
- **Promising practices**
 - Interactive programming, campus and city tours, and social content really foster belonging
 - Be mindful of the hidden costs of attendance - limited dining operations, family travel/lodging
 - Timing matters! Carefully consider dates in relation to fall start and other orientation activities
 - Sensitize faculty, staff and campus units to the particular needs of scholars
 - Virtual support through online events or peer mentoring can help to reach more students
 - Provide support to students to navigate the financial aid process given FAFSA changes

Summer Transition Support for Incoming Kessler Scholars

- **Chrystle-Claire Greene**, Queens College
Summer Bridge Programming for Kessler Scholars
- **Mark Figueroa**, Washington University in St. Louis
First-Year Summer Academic Program (FSAP)
- **Adan Hussain**, University of Michigan
Summer Ambassador Program and Virtual Mixer

Our Shared Practice: Summer Engagement and Transition Support

- What are your plans to support incoming, first-year Kessler Scholars?
 - Are there any adjustments you plan to make or anything new you are trying this summer?
- What would you like to know more about?
 - What questions or challenges do you have with respect to summer transition support for first-year Kessler Scholars?

Looking Ahead

Next Steps and Reminders

- Remind Kessler Scholars to complete the spring student survey and help us achieve our goal of 100% response rate! Survey closes Tuesday, March 26
- Register for the Summer Convening registration: Deadline is Friday, April 5
 - Save the Date: July 23-24
- Schedule quarterly meetings with your Collaborative campus liaison by end of April
- Identify a student representative to serve on the 2024-2025 Collaborative Student Leadership Board

Share Your Feedback

Toward Continuous Improvement

We welcome your feedback!

- Collaborative staff prioritize your feedback and input
- Please stay online to complete a brief survey about today's meeting

Thank you, and enjoy the beginning of spring!





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