

Slug Support Opinion Poll Spring 2017

Background:

- UCSC Slug Support Program was established in 2011
- This program aims to address emergency situations, remove financial barriers, and provide resources so that every student can make academic progress and ultimately graduate from UC Santa Cruz.
- Slug Support provides students who are experiencing food insecurity with grocery or campus meal cards, students who are experiencing housing insecurity with emergency housing, and provide students with mental health support as well as financial assistance for books, and school supplies.
- Slug Support helps retain students and move them toward graduation.
- The number of students accessing assistance through the Slug Support Program has nearly doubled in the last two years
 - In 2014-2015 there were 899 student cases
 - In 2015-2016 there were 1640 cases
 - Between July 2016 and March 2017, there have been over 2000 cases.
- Along with the growth in number of cases, we have also seen an increase in expenditures for direct assistance over the last two years
 - In 2014-2015 Slug Support spent \$160,000 towards providing direct student assistance
 - In 2015-2016 Slug Support spent \$314,000 towards providing direct student assistance
 - For the 2016-2017 academic year, Slug Support expects to spend \$380,000 towards providing direct student assistance.

Funding:

In the future, the Slug Support program anticipates that the annual cost for direct student assistance will be \$400,000. Currently, the only permanent budget associated with the program is \$30,000. The annual budget for the program has been pieced together using one-time funds generated through contributions from campus partners such as Student Health Services, College Provosts, the Division of Student Success, and the Dean of Students, as well as the Student Emergency Fund, which is generated through the generosity of donors. In order to sustain this program and develop a sustainable funding strategy for future expansion, Slug Support is considering hiring a development officer to generate fundraising and secure private grants.

Expansion:

Food security continues to be one of the main reasons that students reach out to Slug Support. In the future, Slug Support hopes to expand these services and secure additional resources for students. In addition, students are requesting workshops such as budget planning, healthy eating, building resiliency and others. Slug Support hopes to expand the program to include educational workshops and programming.

Question:

Would you support a student fee of approximately \$10 per quarter (\$30 per year) to support the activities described above?

Answer: yes or no

Comments or feedback about Slug Support, including ideas for programming and workshops:
[text box]