Learning Across Differences:
How to Foster Supportive Student Spaces

UC Davis Stay Day 2015
Session Outline

• Introduction & Welcome
• Why are we here?
• Why are you here?
• Case Study 1
• Understanding space
• Case Study 2
• Campus resources
Who We Are

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Session Outcomes

• Walk away with an understanding of how we influence space as staff.
• Walk away with an understanding of how to foster supportive student spaces.
• Walk away knowing campus resources available to faculty and staff in holding challenging conversations with students about identity.
Case Study 1
Initial Response

• Engage division leadership
• Connect with student leadership
• Identify colleagues you could use as resources or support
• Notification to other stakeholders that may be affected
Moving Forward

- Regular communication with student and division leadership
- Foster opportunities for peer:peer communication
- Understanding the needs of the student groups involved
- Creating supporting but challenging spaces
- Utilizing established partnerships
On Going Efforts

• Identifying what are the community needs moving forward
• What needs to be done so we can begin being proactive?
• Pinpointing campus resources that can be utilized
• Leveraging student leadership for change
Defining Space

Physical

Visual

Environmental

In creating a welcoming and supportive space:

• What should you keep doing?
• What would you like to change?
• What are student expectations about spaces?
• How do we receive student feedback about space?
Case Study 2
You’re a supervisor to a group of student staff that support programs and administrative tasks for your department. Your office is right next to the open student work space. As you’re sitting in your office one afternoon, you overhear the conversation between a few student staff when an subtle biased comment is made about a religious group on campus by one of the students.
Campus Resources

• Cross Cultural Center
• Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersexed, and Asexual Resource Center
• Women’s Resources and Research Center
• Harassment and Discrimination Assistance Prevention Program
• Student Academic Success Center
• Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life
• CARE
• ASAP
• Counseling Services
• Student Recruitment and Retention Center
• SO MANY MORE!!!!!!!
Thank you for attending Stay Day 2015!

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