

STUDENT SERVICES FEE

2020-21

DEPARTMENTAL REPORT TO THE COUNCIL ON STUDENT AFFAIRS AND FEES (COSAF)

Student Services Fee Recipient: **Middle Eastern/North African/South Asian Student Resources**

Contact: **Affaf Waseem**

Finance Manager **Michael Rogai**

Total 2020-21 Projected Allocation: **\$116,111**

Approximate Percent of the Total 2020-21 Campus Student Services Fee Revenue: **0.33%**

| Expense | 2019-20 Actuals | 2020-21 Projected Allocation |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| Salaries/Benefits | \$92,838 | \$86,491 |
| Operational Costs | \$12,762 | \$29,620 |
| Other | \$0 | \$0 |
| TOTAL | \$105,600 | \$116,111 |

1. Please provide a *general* description of your department's function:

The Middle Eastern, North African, and South Asian (MENASA) Student Resources is a unit which falls under the Community Resource and Retention Centers umbrella. These centers provide resources, programs, and opportunities to students to help them develop personally and professionally.

Our mission is to provide holistic support to MENASA students at UC Davis. We approach the work through education, advocacy, and an intersectional lens. Our holistic support model includes a focus on student wellness, community building, academic support, advocacy, sense of belonging, and cultural identity.

Our programs aim to touch on each of these holistic support themes. We also recognize that our students hold various identities which shape their experience on campus and how they interact with resources. We hope to facilitate accessing these resources while providing understanding in order to help students *transition from high school into college successfully and to graduate*. Regardless of your major/minor, we are here to support you and help you on your journey through college!

2. Please list the departmental program(s) or service(s) specifically funded by the Student Services Fee:

Annual MENASA Fall Welcome, workshop series called MENASA Meetups, book club discussion series, Annual MENASA Leadership Retreat, Annual MENASA Graduation, additional events, marketing, student staff salary, space reservation, general programs hosted by the office, career staff salary, CGA and SSO fees

3. Please provide information regarding the benefit to UC Davis students from the departmental program(s) or service(s) specifically funded by the Student Services Fee.

Be as specific and concise as possible. Include the specific type (e.g., undergraduate, graduate, professional, transfer, etc.) and an estimated number of students served.

As of Fall 2019, 11.8% of the undergraduate student population, including transfer and international students, identify as Middle Eastern, North African, and/or South Asian. This number has slightly increased from 2017 (10.7%), when this unit was fully integrated within Student Affairs.

We disaggregate these students out of more general racial categorizations to provide culturally sensitive and specific resources. The office is starting to analyze patterns of performance in this disaggregated group to identify the specific needs of these students as they are overlooked when we aggregate them into larger groupings of "Asian, White, African American, etc." due to the unique histories and challenges of students in these demographics.

All our events are open to the general community with a focus on the Middle Eastern, North African, and South Asian experience. Our unit is fairly young, and while we do not have sufficient quantitative data available the qualitative data from students suggest that our services provide the Middle Eastern, North African and/or South Asian students the opportunity to engage in dialogue about issues pertaining to their experiences, cultures, and identities.

Apart from events, career staff provide referral services to connect students to existing resources, or help them personally in the transition to UC Davis. The director also meets with students on community concerns like addressing discrimination folks in the community face, or providing more information regarding resources across campus.

The director has also been working on connecting mental health resources to the community in the absence of our CAN counselor.

Additionally, the office answers questions prospective students may have about UC Davis and works closely with housing to provide consultations to the Living Learning Community.

Many have expressed that our services allow students reflect about their identities, feel recognized and seen in their whole selves, and express greater sense of belonging given national climate. Some of our current goals are to create better assessment of programs, working on connecting alumni to current students to build more networking opportunities, continue to enhance cross partnerships across campus to promote student retention, and working on developing on cross UC campus collaboration.