

Pre-Academic Program For Senacyt Scholars (PAPSS)
Annual Report FY 2014-2015

Graduate School and International Education



Memorandum

TO: Dr. Jorge A. Motta, Executive Secretary of SENACYT
Lynn A. Mosesso, Director of International Recruitment and Admissions

FROM: Mayra G. Torres, Associate Director of Special Programs

SUBJECT: Pre-Academic Program for SENACYT Scholars (PAPSS)
Annual Report FY 2014-15

DATE: September 30, 2015

Introduction

This report describes the work accomplished under the Pre-Academic Program for SENACYT Scholars (PAPSS) during project period June 2014-June 2015. The mission of PAPSS is to prepare participating scholars for college success at the University of Arkansas. Under this mission PAPSS focused on the following areas:

- (1) Enrollment management;
- (2) Partnership and budget management;
- (3) Scholar orientation and academic adjustment;
- (4) Scholar progress and recognition;
- (5) Campus and community programming; and,
- (6) Program evaluation.

1) Enrollment management

- Total PAPSS participants: 108 (18 new scholars)
 - Group 1 & 2- 32 students enrolled full-time at the University of Arkansas during the 2014-2015 academic year.
 - Group 3- 5 students enrolled full-time at Spring International Language Center (SILC) for Fall 1, August 2014; 11 enrolled part time SILC and part time University of Arkansas, 8 enrolled full-time at the University of Arkansas during the Fall term, 2014.
 - Group 4- 29 students enrolled full-time at the University of Arkansas during the Spring term, January 2015
 - Group 5- 18 students enrolled full-time at Spring International Language Center (SILC) during the spring term, January 2015.

2) Partnership and budget management

- Patricia Gamboa, Lynn Mosesso, and Brian Hill visited Panama City on December 2014 and met with SENACYT/IFARHU, Education USA Panama, and PAPSS parents and scholars.
- PAPSS staff submitted official transcripts, enrollment verification, Pat Walker Health Center receipt, and enrollment summary for summer 2014, fall 2014 and spring 2015 to SENACYT/IFARHU for all scholars.
- Lynn Mosesso submitted student budgets to SENACYT representatives for Group 4 Phase III. Mayra Torres submitted budgets for Group 5 Phase III.
- Melissa Jean Erwin, financial manager, maintained the program budget, and posted payments on student accounts.

3) Scholar orientation and academic adjustment

- PAPSS staff coordinated with SILC to provide new scholars airport pickup, temporary housing, dorm move-in, and orientation for fifty-one (51) scholars. Fifty-one (51) scholars attended SILC Orientation.
- Eighteen (18) scholars completed the Compass Exam Spring 2015.
- Eighteen (18) new scholars resided in UA housing and had an American roommate during the academic year.
- Michael Rau maintained the University of Arkansas PAPSS Program Facebook. The program used an email newsletter "PAPSS Newslink," Blackboard Learn Announcements, [University of Arkansas PAPSS Program Facebook](#), and UARK email to disseminate information to scholars, parents, and partners.
- PAPSS partnered with the Enhanced Learning Center to offer basic study skills training, personal tutoring and supplemental instruction for high demand courses, some include: math, chemistry, English composition, physics, business law, data analysis, and principals of accounting.
- PAPSS partnered with the Freshman Engineering Program (FEP) to offer peer mentoring.
- Group 4 and Group 5 scholars are matched with currently enrolled Group 1 and 2 scholars through the PAPSS Peer Mentor Program.

4) Scholar progress and recognition

- Twenty-Two (22) Scholars were enrolled in Phase I & II full-time at Spring International Language Center, as of spring 2015.
- Sixty-Seven (67) Scholars are enrolled in Phase III, full-time degree seeking undergraduate students at the University of Arkansas. The retention rate for the program is 100%. The scholars enrolled in 935 hours during the spring term, 2015.
- PAPSS scholars are highly involved on campus. Some have received several awards.

Club Involvement, Awards and Nominations:

Members of the Honors College

National Society of Collegiate Scholars

Selected for summer Internships

Panamanian Immersion Leader Award

Spring 2015 Outstanding Student Mentor Award

Fall 2014 Arkansas Traveler Award

International Culture Team Certificate of Appreciation

2015 Outstanding Electrical Engineering Sophomore of the Year

RSO Member of the Month

Certificate for Excellent Evaluation

Chancellors List

Honors Society of Mechanical Engineers (Pi Tau Sigma)

Member and Program chair of the Honor Society of Engineers (Tau Beta Pi)

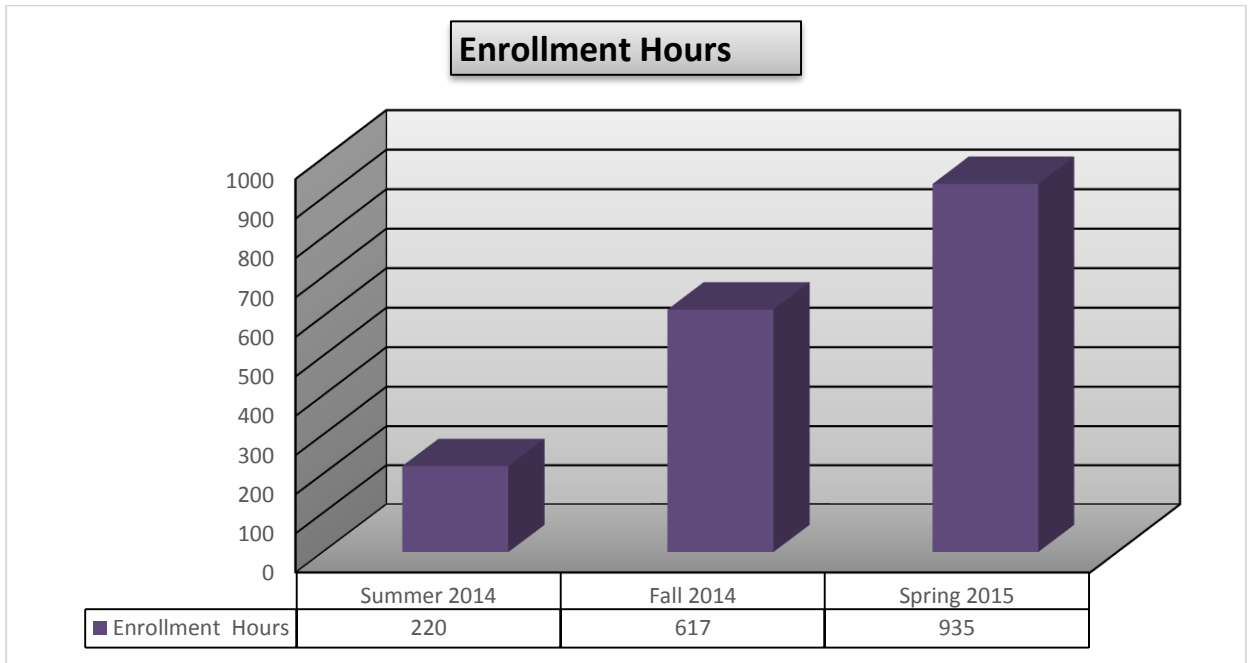
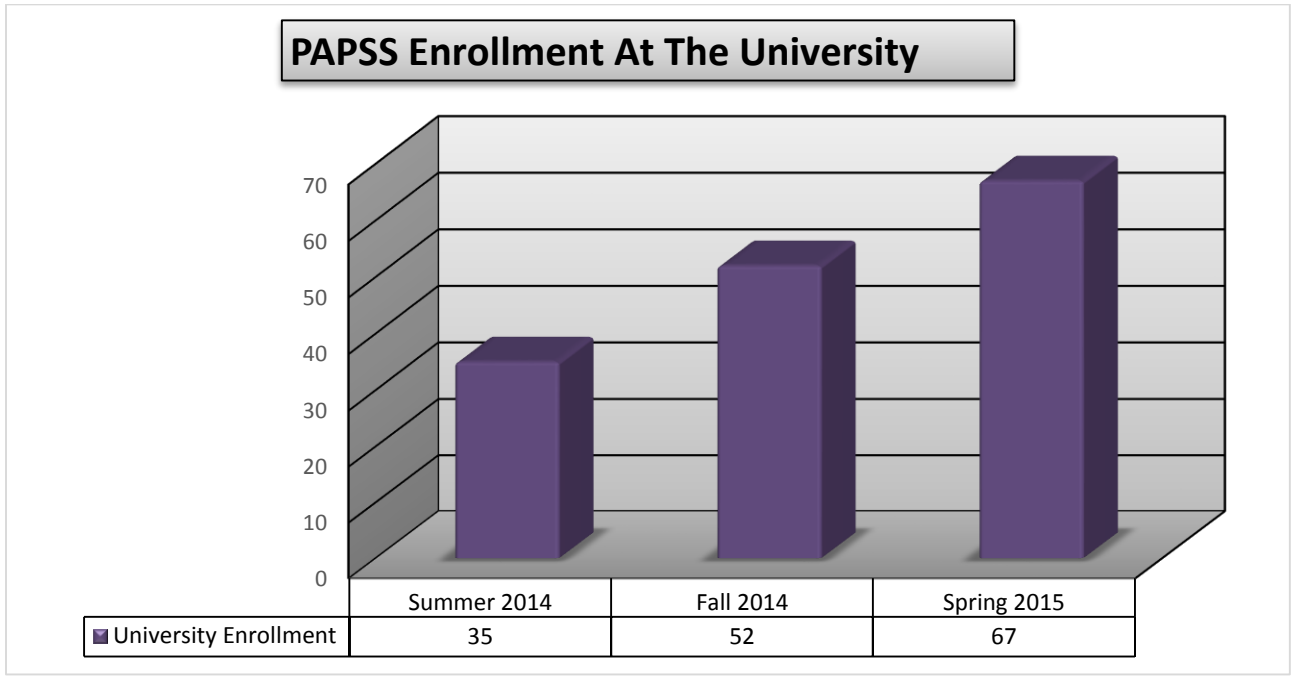
Alpha Lambda Beta Honors Society

Spring International Student council

Recognition of International Ambassadors

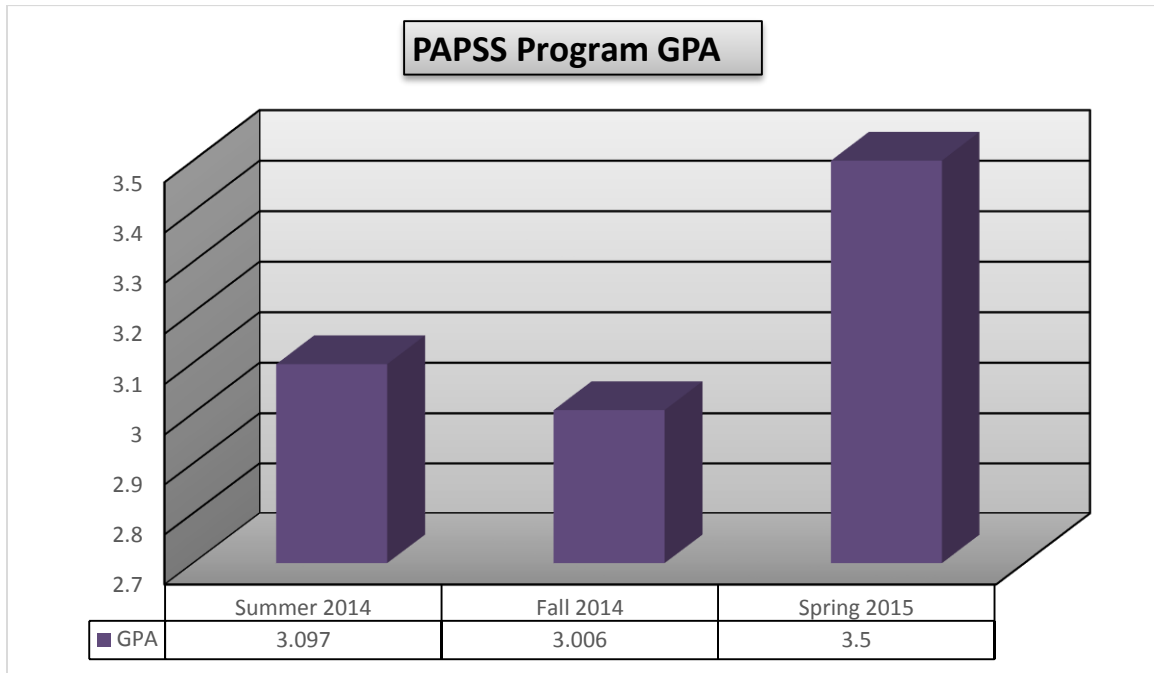
Dean's List

Intramurals League 2014



- PAPSS scholars maintained an average 3.06 GPA. PAPSS Scholars maintained a cumulative GPA of 3.18 for the spring term, 2015. 62.68% maintained a 3.50 GPA or higher (42 of 67); while 21% have lower than a 3.50 but higher than a 3.00 cumulative GPA (14 of 67) after the summer term, 2014.

- PAPSS scholars attended a nine day math boot camp, spring 2015. Six-teen students placed out of 94 credit hours of mathematics classes (a total of 31 math courses), with every student testing out of MATH0003 (Beginning and Intermediate Algebra) and MATH1203 (College Algebra).



- Scholar academic progress was monitored using UA Success, an advising and tracking software package that enables faculty and staff to view student progress. In addition, the 6 week progress reports and SILC mid-term progress reports were used as early indicators of progress. Students with C or lower in any course were encouraged to attend tutoring or SILC helpdesk.
- The PAPSS program recognized the accomplishments of several scholars:
 - i. Members of the Honors College: Miguel Abrego, Agustin Ceceres, Rolando Morales, and Blanca Pereira
 - ii. PAPSS Scholars were elected to serve in leadership positions of the Panamanian Student Organization: President, Esteban Miranda, Vice-President, Daniela Arauz Gonzalez, Social Chair, Suellen Ayala, Secretary, John Navarro, Treasurer, and Edgardo Sanchez.
 - iii. Jean Carlos Morales Orocu was awarded a \$500 scholarship to study abroad in Rome
 - iv. Kimberly Alfaro Ortiz conducted a summer internship in Panama with Farmazona in Colon.
 - v. Hog W.I.L.D Crew: Jonathan Quiel

5) Campus and community programming

- Thirty-Four (34) scholars attended the fall break socio-cultural activity to Branson, Missouri, November 22, 2014. The trip was coordinated by Michael Rau and included the Hollywood wax museum and Dolly Parton: Dixie Stampede holiday dinner show.
- PAPSS Scholars performed Panamanian Folkloric dances in traditional costumes and hair ornaments at various functions and events.
- PAPSS Scholars engaged in the following activities:
 - Precious Moments Chapel & Fantastic Caverns in Springfield MO and Shopping at Branson Landing 9/27/14
 - Haunted Bus Ride in Bella Vista AR 10/17/14
 - Ripley's Believe It or Not museum and Silver Dollar City 11/8/14
 - Thanksgiving Dinner in Elkins 11/27/14
 - Reenactment 12/6/14
 - Tour the haunted Crescent Hotel in Eureka Springs and hear campfire stories of Eureka's past 1/24/15
 - Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge in Eureka Springs, AR 2/14/15
 - Fastlanes 2/27/15
 - Titanic Museum in Branson, MO and shopping in the Branson Landing 4/11/15
 - Renaissance Fair 5/2/15
 - Jurassic World movie 6/18/15
 - White Water Branson 6/27/15
- Patricia Gamboa maintained office hours at SILC to foster effective relationships with incoming scholars.
- PAPSS staff held regular meetings through the Undergraduate University Success Series. The topics included: Welcome to the 2014-2015 Academic Year, Living in off Campus Housing, and Holiday Celebration.

6) Program Evaluation

Scholars filled out a survey to determine overall satisfaction after the spring term, 2015. This evaluation will direct continuous improvement for the 2015-16 academic year. Data was captured using Survey Monkey online via an email and web link sent directly to 108 scholars with a return rate of 3% (36 complete).

The survey included six multiple choice questions and three open-ended questions which allowed scholars to elaborate on their responses. We find that scholars are mostly satisfied with the Enhanced Learning Center Supplemental Instruction (SI), tutoring, and mentoring. The students enjoy seeing new places and would like to continue socio-cultural trips.

PAPSS Survey Results for FY 2014-2015

Q1 What do you like best about the Pre-Academic Program for SENACYT Scholars (PAPSS) and/or the University of Arkansas?

I like that we have an organization that help and support us here.

the support that is given to all of us

Effective communication

I like the field trips they do

The best thing about SENACYT scholars and the University of Arkansas is how we receive the support to keep working and don't give up in the university life.

Everything

The Unity

The best thing that I like about the Pre-Academic Program for SENACYT Scholars is our trips to get out of stress.

We are a big familia PAPSS. What I like the most is how everyone is ready to help you when you need assistance. The kindness of the PAPSS staff.

all the programs that I can participate

Trips

Everything

the resources

TRIPS

That There are many ways to stay in touch with the coordinators and that we can get answers to our questions sooner. The trips are very helpful to keep the union in the group.

The organization, meetings, trips, parties, fun things...

I have the opportunity to study abroad

Trips

The organization and trips.

People here care about the students, it is like a family

Everything

Trips.

Staff

Q2 What can we do to improve the program or your experience at the University of Arkansas?

I think that the program is fine how it is right now.

More trips

more meeting about the opportunities in the University of Arkansas

I would like to get more tutors, extra help as a business student. There is always more help in all the aspects to students who are from the engineering programs

Making activities that will help us to develop leadership attitudes.

More group activities.

I do not know

The best thing that the program can improve is the enhancement of the communication with the students because sometimes you communicate some news about the program late, especially for those students who were at Spring International Language Center.

Activities to get students to know each other. We are over 150 and most people do not know everyone

Helps us to know more about some programs

Idk

do more activities

keep working as now

I'm my opinion you are doing good.

I think it is good.

Communication

I don't know now.

More informative meetings

Q3 What has been your biggest challenge this semester or year?

Was not a hard semester for me overall

My biggest challenge has been the time because this term has been shorter than the others. Therefore, it was harder to learn all the material in less time.

Money

Time management. Lack of sleep.

My biggest challenge this past semester was to keep up waking up very early to go to my classes

I think my biggest challenge has been reorganize my schedule to work better in my homework.

Get As in my summer classes

English

Fast track

My first semester and the English.

The biggest challenge this semester has been the beginning of the university life.

Turning into my junior year has been my biggest challenge. Courses become more demanding and which requires a change y methodology of study

This semester was awesome

University

Management my time

English

make more friends

keeping the same energy in my last term in SILC, but I'm so excited about going to the university that I'm doing pretty well

My time between the dorm and SILC

Trying to balance my grades was the biggest challenge because I was a part time student.

I took some hard classes, but it was difficult as it should be.

The university

The language in the university. Try to be organized. Now I know if I want to get good or better grades, I have to study in advance.

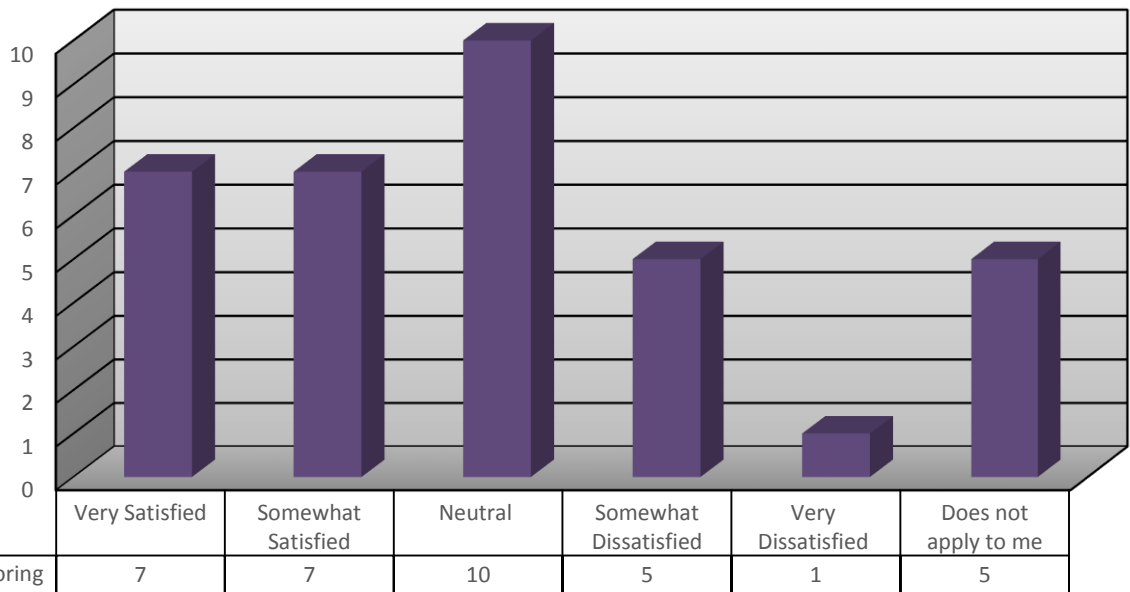
Math placement

Q4 (PAPSS University Students) Please rate your level of satisfaction with your Mentor

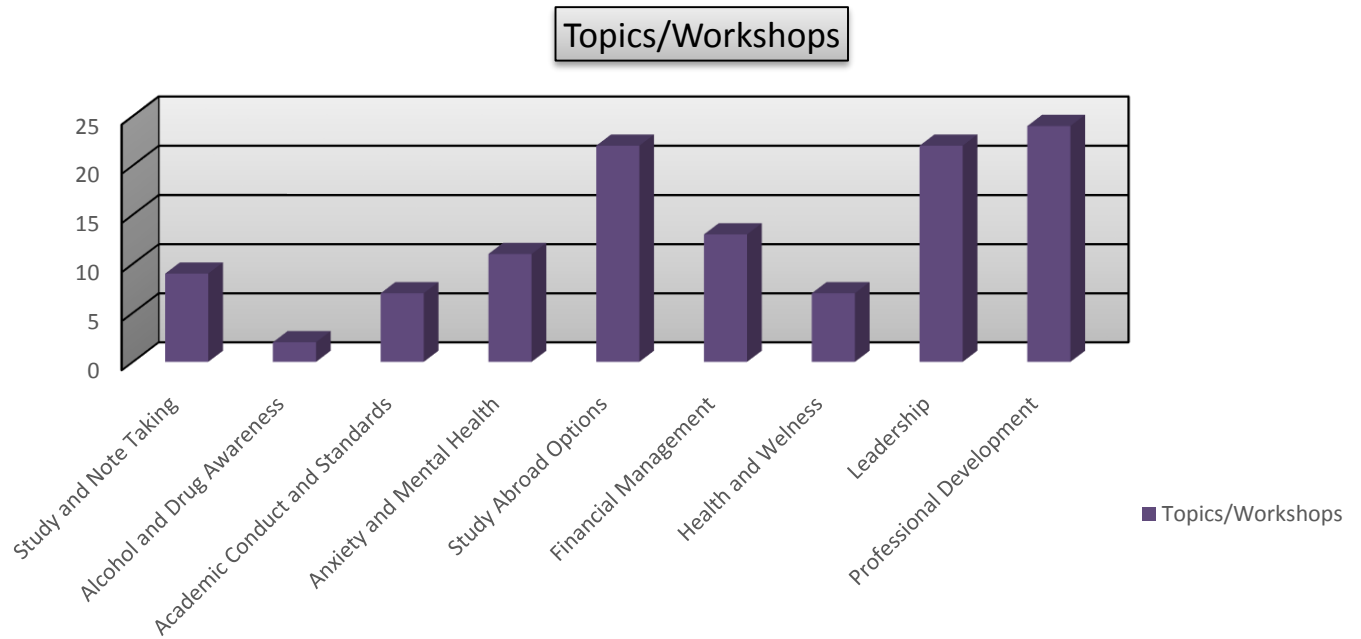


Q5 (PAPSS University Students) Please rate your level of satisfaction with Supplemental Instruction and Tutoring managed by the Enhanced Learning Center (ELC).

ELC SI and Tutoring

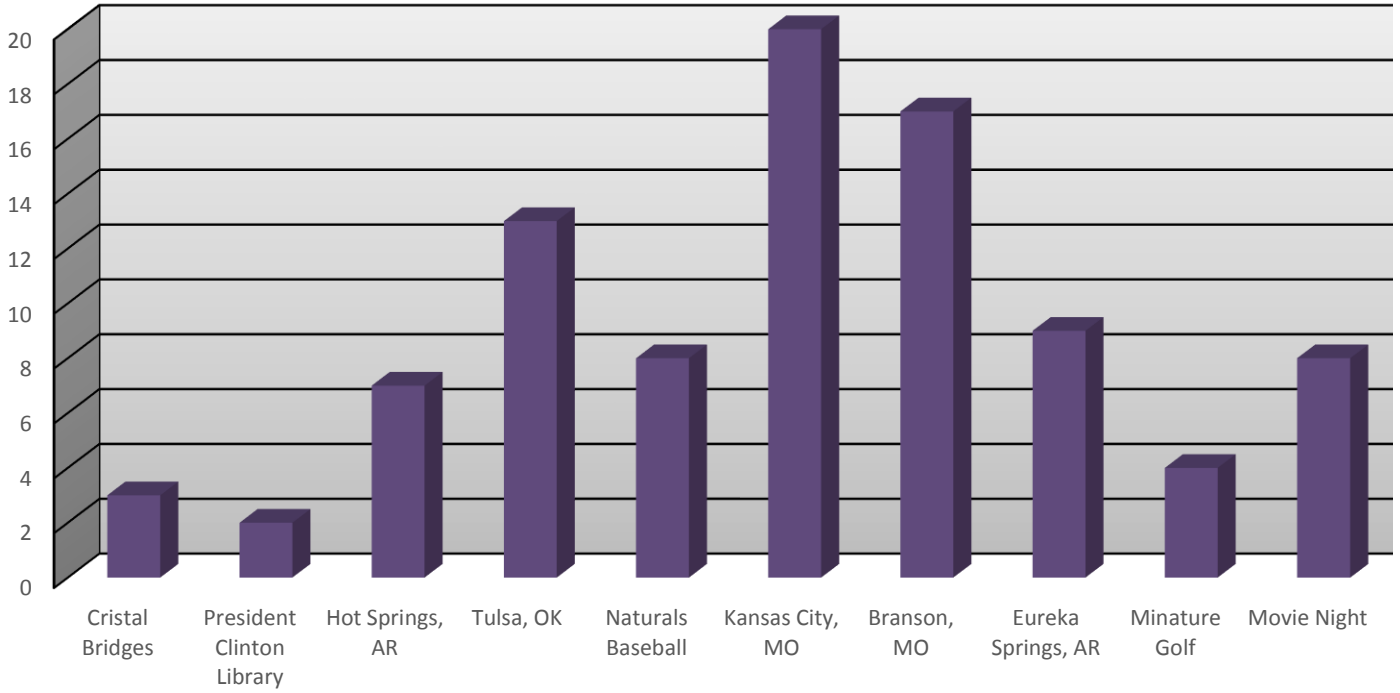


Q6 What topics would you prefer for PAPSS group meetings?



Q7 Please let us know what social events and recreational field trips you prefer to participate in.

Social and Recreational Field Trips



PAPSS Demographics

PAPSS Enrollment	Group 1 (26)		Group 2 (6)		Group 3 (25)		Group 4 (33)		Group 5 (18)	
	Total	Credit hours	Total	Credit hours	Total	Credit Hours	Total	Credit Hours	Total	Credit Hours
University of Arkansas										
Term 1146	26	157	6	48	3	15	0	0	0	0
Term 1149	26	341	6	77	18	172	0	0	0	0
Term 1153	26	320	6	72	23	307	12	188	0	0
SILC Enrollment	Total	Term 1/Term 2	Total	Term 1/ Term 2	Total	Term 1/ Term 2	Total	Term 1/ Term 2	Total	Term 1/ Term 2
Term 1146	0	0	0	0	22	Full Time	33	Full Time	18	Full Time
Term 1149	0	0	0	0	7	Full Time	33	Full Time	18	Full Time
Term 1153	0	0	0	0	2	Full Time	21	Full Time	18	Full Time
Major	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Agriculture	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Animal Science	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Biological Engineering	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0
Biology	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Biomedical Engineering	1	4	0	0	2	1	1	2	2	1
Chemical Engineering	4	1	0	1	2	1	1	2	0	0
Civil Engineering	0	1	1	0	3	3	4	3	1	3
Community Health Promotion	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Computer Engineering	1	0	1	0	2	0	1	1	1	0
Communication	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Electrical Engineering	2	0	0	0	2	0	6	2	1	3
Environmental, Soil and Water	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Food Human Nutrition and Hospitality	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food Science	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial Engineering	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Information Systems	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mechanical Engineering	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Music Education	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Psychology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Physics	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Supply Chain Management	2	4	0	0	0	3	1	1	0	1
	13	13	3	3	15	10	19	14	7	11