

# 2017-2018 Assessment Final Report

Department: KU Memorial Union

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## The Big Event Student Leaders Learning Outcomes Project

### Introduction

#### Assessment Project Description

The SUA Student Leader Learning Outcomes Project provides a universal method and tool for staff to use with student leaders I student organizations, programs, or activities to help in the assessment and documentation of enhanced learning in relation to the students' leadership experiences.

#### Service/Program Student Learning Outcome(s)

Students participating in Student Union Activities, KJHK, and The Big Event will be able to...

- **Leadership Development:** Students who provides, utilize or interact with services and programs provided by KU Memorial Unions will be able to develop leadership skills (such as community building, goal setting and pursuit, and decision-making) that allow them to effectively guide others in pursuit of common goals.
- **Event Management:** Students who provide, utilize or interact with services and programs provided by KU Memorial Unions will be able to develop event management skills (such as time management, budgeting, and risk management strategies) that can be applied to KU and beyond.
- **Intrapersonal Development:** Students who provide, utilize or interact with services and programs provided by KU Memorial Unions will be able to develop life skills that will enable them to hold a realistic self-view, demonstrate personal accountability, and seek emotional balance.
- **Interpersonal Development:** Students who provide, utilize or interact with services and programs provided by KU Memorial Unions will be able to develop

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interpersonal skills that will enable them to form meaningful and healthy relationships and communicate effectively with others.

- **Social Justice, Multiculturalism, & Civic Engagement:** Students who provide, utilize or interact with services and programs provided by KU Memorial Unions will be able to demonstrate their commitment to creating safe, equitable, and inclusive communities and KU and beyond.
- **Intellectual Growth & Thinking:** Students who provide, utilize or interact with services and programs provided by KU Memorial Unions will be able to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills that will enable them to apply and connect acquired knowledge.

## **Population/Sample:**

6 The Big Event student leaders

## **Assessment Method(s):**

Pre/Post Self-Assessment.

Additionally, a monthly focus on an individual learning outcome that includes discussions and activities surrounding the learning outcome. At the end of the month the student leader takes a self-evaluation and the SUA advisor completes a rubric on the student's progress concerning the individual learning outcome. The advisor and leader discuss the evaluation and rubric at a weekly one-on-one meeting.

## **Summary of Key Findings/Results**

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Although advisors are seeing positive results as far as structured developmental conversations with leaders, significant change was only seen in Intellectual Growth and Thinking.

	Pre-Test	Post-Test
<b>(n = 5)</b>		
Social Justice	3.97	4.07
Leadership	3.33	3.76
Intrapersonal Development	3.62	3.91
Intellectual Growth & Thinking	3.70	4.20*
Interpersonal Development	3.92	4.00
Event Management	3.57	3.90

## Conclusions

### Impact of Assessment

The results of the assessment have helped us conclude that the current approach to learning outcomes has run its course with leaders and an entirely new system needs to be implemented. Many activities were happening late in the evening due to availabilities, advisors were relying on their own individual resources, and during heavily busy times, learning outcomes were not being discussed as diligently.

Further, The Big Event specifically has more challenges for learning outcome implementation. With the structure of their leadership year, our one-on-one time with the leaders is more compressed than the other groups, making implementation of learning outcomes more difficult. This forced us to squish several activities into one or two days.



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As such, the process for learning outcomes for all Union Programs groups is being restructured for next year. Students will be in a weekly or bi-weekly structured training class during day-time hours, with a curriculum designed to go over learning outcomes in a more uniform format with individual conversations for follow up. This allows each staff member to take a module and better schedule out time to work on the learning outcomes. And specifically within The Big Event it allows us to add a new touch point time with the leaders, spreading out the impact time of the learning outcomes.

## **Lessons Learned**

Our current system is not making a statistical impact. A more structured approach that is not dependent on availabilities, individual advisor resources, and evening trainings is necessary moving forward.