

TWC STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS PRIMARY THEMES FROM OPEN SPACE DIALOGUES/PRESENTATIONS

An open space dialogue is a semi-structured process that provides an opportunity for participants to have conversations about the issues they care most about. Open Space participants in the TWC Strategic Planning Process focused on: Vision & Mission, Student Activism, Innovative Programs, Allies & Allyship, Preserving TWC History, and Pressing Issues (These topics were based on findings from the Center's self-study and external review). Data gleaned from these dialogues were used to help the strategic planning committee identify the current needs of students at Brown and prioritize the TWC's initiatives in the Center's next evolution. Below are the primary themes from transcribed dialogue notes:

- Be a voice for students of color
- Maintain "safe" space for students who currently use the Center
- Collaborate across campus to integrate work of the Center
- Assess and evaluate the Center's scope, visibility, and reach
- Maintain (legacy of) activism and politicized space
- Build community among students, faculty, graduate students, alumni, and community members of color

These themes were derived from the 16 open space dialogues that were facilitated by Mary Grace Almandrez and members of the TWC Student Advisory Board (SAB). Approximately 330 students, alumni, and staff participated in these dialogues from October 2013 – March 2014. Groups who participated include:

STUDENTS

- Black Board
- Brown Organization for Multiracial and Biracial Students (BOMBS)
- Brown University Latino Council (BULC)
- Movimiento Estudiantil Chican@ de Aztlán (MEChA de Brown)
- Native Americans at Brown (NAB)
- Pan Asian Council (PAC)
- Residential Peer Leaders (RPLs)
- Sarah Doyle Women's Center & LGBTQ Center
- Student Advisory Board (SAB)
- Student Advisory Board Applicants
- University Council of Students (UCS)

STAFF & FACULTY

- ALANA Faculty Network
- Campus Life Executive Group (CLEG)

ALUMNI

- Alumni of Color
- Minority Peer Counselor (MPC) 40th Anniversary Participants

In addition, Mary Grace presented the strategic planning process to the President's Diversity Advisory Council, Campus Life Committee of The Corporation, Brown University Community Council (BUCC), Executive Committee, Office of Student Life Brown Bag Series, Multicultural Alumni Committee, and Alumni Affinity Group members.