Global Siblings
Data Summary, 2018-2019

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Research Questions

• What is the profile of applicants to the Global Siblings program?

• What are the most appealing attributes about the program for siblings and coordinators?

• How meaningful was the experience for coordinators?

• How can the Dashew Center enhance the Global Siblings program in the upcoming quarter/year?
Methods & Data Sources

• Methods:
  • Quantitative
  • Qualitative

• Data Sources:
  • Application data, 2018–2019
  • End of year survey data, 2018–2019
Applicants’ Profile

What is the profile of applicants to the Global Siblings program?
Roadmap

- Academic status
- Domestic status
- Academic field
- Transfer status
- Gender
Number of Applicants by Academic Status  (N = 291)

- Freshman: 54
- Sophomore: 38
- Junior: 63
- Senior: 28
- Undergraduate: 183
- Graduate: 108

Source: Dashew Center Global Siblings Application, 2018-19
Number of Applicants by Domestic Status and Academic Status (N = 288)

Source: Dashew Center Global Siblings Application, 2018-19
Note: the graph combines data for undergraduate and graduate students to provide anonymity for categories with cell size less than 10. N only reflects the numbers reported in the graph.

Source: Dashew Center Global Siblings Application, 2018-19
Number of Applicants by Academic Status and Field (N = 282*)

Note: the graph suppresses numbers less than 10 to provide anonymity. N only reflects numbers reported in the graph.

Source: Dashew Center Global Siblings Application, 2018-19
Number of Applicants by Transfer Status (Undergraduate Applicants)  (N = 183)

- Not Transfer: 136
- Transfer Students: 47

Source: Dashew Center Global Siblings Application, 2018-19
Number of Applicants by Academic Status and Gender  (N = 283)

Undergraduate Applicants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graduate Applicants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: to protect anonymity, applicants who identify as non-binary gender identity do not appear in the graph because their cell size is less than 10.

Source: Dashew Center Global Siblings Application, 2018-19
Number of Applicants by Domestic Status and Gender (N = 286)

Note: to protect anonymity, applicants who identify as non-binary gender identity do not appear in the graph because their cell size is less than 10. For the same reason, the graph does not show the difference between undergraduate students and graduate students.

Source: Dashew Center Global Siblings Application, 2018-19
Number of Applicants by Academic Status and Application History  (N = 288)

Undergraduate Applicants

- New Applicant: 158
- Repeat Applicant: 25

Graduate Applicants

- New Applicant: 85
- Repeat Applicant: 20

Source: Dashew Center Global Siblings Application, 2018-19
Data Summary

• Disparity in participation between domestic and international applicants, especially for graduate applicants
• Gap in participation between females and males students
• Visiting scholars show low participation
• Undergraduate applicants show lower repeat interest, compared to graduate applicants
Appealing Attributes

What are the most appealing attributes about the program for siblings and coordinators?
Appealing Attributes for coordinators

- Socializing
  - Getting to know other people and LA
  - Participating in fun activities
  - Learning about languages
  - Sharing stories and different cultural backgrounds
  - Promote cultural diversity awareness
  - Help/influence UCLA international community
  - To de-stress from academic pressure
  - Gain leadership experience

- Learning different Cultures and Languages

- Personal & community Growth
I absolutely loved participating in this program this year, getting to know my family and my global brother, and **meeting people from all around the globe**! This organization speaks so specifically to my interests and passions, that it would be hard not to try to become a bigger part of it all. I love **learning about the languages and cultures** around the world, **making friends**, and participating in **fun activities** together to **de-stress** and **explore Los Angeles**!

... **getting to combine so many of my passions into one club is been the highlight of my college career so far.**
In my two years as a participant in Global Siblings, I have gained a lot from the program and wish to have the opportunity to give back and contribute. Some of my closest friends today are the friends that I made in my first year of Global Siblings and I hope to be able to facilitate that and bring about the same experiences I had for future participants as well.

I strongly believe in the mission of Global Siblings in building cross-cultural friendships, which I feel is extremely meaningful and beneficial for participants. I would love to be able to work together as a team on meaningful projects that help forge friendships, promote cultural diversity awareness and appreciation, and encourage learning, all of which I feel are very important for one's personal growth in college.
Global Siblings is a brilliant idea and a helpful program to help international students integrate with the UCLA community. As an international student who has lived in the US for a long time and received a lot of support from others when I first came to study in the US, I want to give back. My experience planning events and leading others gives me a unique ability to help Global Siblings plan and execute the logistics to benefit UCLA students, both domestic and international, the most.”
Appealing Attributes for Siblings

**Learning different Cultures and Languages**
- Learning about different cultures and languages
- Sharing stories and different cultural backgrounds
- Participating fun activities
- Getting to know other people and LA
- Exploring LA
- Participating fun activities
- Helpful for adjusting to UCLA and LA
- Helpful to future career development
- Learning new things

**Socializing**

**Personal & Community Growth**
“Being able to learn is always my favorite hobby as well as my honored mission. Being a international student, I feel lucky to have the opportunities to learn people from around the world. When I heard of Global Sibling, it made me trembling for a moment. I was so excited and nervous that I created an elegant journey in my head. Although it is just my excessive feeling, my desire to be one of those "Global Siblings" was already formed and shaped. Having fun, making friends, learning languages, and gaining experience are "giveaways" when joining in Global Sibling. I surely love these "giveaway" but additionally there is some things I particularly want to earn. It is the connection and mutual understanding between people whose background are dissimilar or even totally different. This is a journey and an adventure that will undoubtedly elevate my mindset.”
"I believe being a global citizen is one that is aware of current events both in the US but also internationally. As a new resident of Los Angeles, originating from Seattle, WA, I know that Los Angeles is a very international city where interacting with people of various cultural and linguistic backgrounds is crucial. As someone who has travelled extensively around the world and grew up in a bi-cultural household, I value my international experiences and the many friendships that have grown from having friends from diverse national origins. As a Global Sibling I get to share my experiences with another graduate student, hear about theirs and explore LA together!"
To pursue my undergraduate admission I decided to come around 9000 miles away from home with the prime purpose of obtaining an education where I not only enrich myself with knowledge but escape my comfort zone and learn to experience freedom, responsibilities of living an independent life in a foreign country. While this may sound very fascinating, it is extremely daunting as well to be in a land whose culture, values and traditions are different from mine. And the best way to settle in and truly enjoy this education is to learn more about the American culture, make new friends from different backgrounds and not just associate with people of your same country/ethnicity because of the sub-conscious comfort it possesses. Hence I want to be part of this Global Siblings family and meet new people, get to know them better and learn about one another's culture."
“As an Iranian-American, my parents themselves were immigrants, and here their daughter stands, at UCLA, writing about how she wants to play a role in impacting the life of someone who has recently arrived in the United States to accomplish a goal, just like my own parents. Exploring foreign language, culture, and travel have always been passions of mine. I am drawn to just about anything with a global concept. However, just by reading about what a Global Sibling is, I can tell that it goes beyond just a global concept. I want to spend time with someone who wants a connection with someone here, and I want to invite him or her with open arms and make memories with them.”
Note: In boxplots (graph on the right), the black line in the middle is the average number, the bottom horizontal line is the minimum, and the top horizontal line is the maximum value. The top of the box is the 3rd quartile, where 75% of the data fall below, and the bottom of the box is the 1st quartile, where 25% of the data fall below.
Coordinators’ Experience

How meaningful was the experience for coordinators?
A meaningful experience is defined by its ability to improve participants’ skillsets in the following areas:

- Coordinating large groups
- Event planning and logistics
- Problem solving
- Leadership skills
- Communication
- Intercultural competence
- Critical thinking
Experienced Considerable Improvement by Being a Global Siblings Coordinator  (N = 9)

Source: Dashew Center Global Siblings Coordinator EOY Survey, 2018-19
Experienced Slight or No Improvement by Being a Global Siblings Coordinator (N = 9)

- Coordinating Large Groups: 1
- Event Planning: 1
- Problem Solving: 2
- Leadership: 1
- Communication: 2
- Interculture: 2
- Critical Thinking: 3

Source: Dashew Center Global Siblings Coordinator EOY Survey, 2018-19
Junior – International student

“I hope to meaningfully contribute to the program by creating a friendly and helpful atmosphere because expecting for something only reasonable when I devote to it simultaneously. Besides experience and new knowledge I will be able to learn from other peers, I also have a chance to reinforce my skills and improve my mindset. Especially, I could learn more about UCLA, Bruin values and alumni networks which is a valuable resource for my future.”
On the one hand, I could learn different cultures and traditions in different countries. It is a good way for me to improve my English and make me have a deeper insight into the United States, where I will live for years. Also, I will learn the important skills to get along with people from different origins, respect different cultures and become open to different perspectives. These skills are very important for my future career development.

On the other hand, I could gain a lifelong friendship from the Global Sibling Program. University is an important places for us to make friends, because we have same topics and activities. When we meet problems in academic or life, we can meet our sibling and solve problems together. When we find something interesting, we can share the happiness with sibling.”
Support and Communication

The following statements help evaluating the programming support and communication from Dashew Center:

• I felt supported by my Program Advisor(s) in the Dashew Center throughout my time as a GSC.

• I felt comfortable going to my Program Advisor(s) regarding problems I encountered with my co-Coordinator.

• I felt comfortable going to my Program Advisor(s) regarding problems I encountered with members of my family.

• The expectations my Program Advisor(s) had of me were clear throughout my time as a GSC.

• I felt the training provided to me (GSC Retreat, GSC Handbook and supporting training documents, etc) prepared me for the responsibilities of being a GSC.
*The questions offer three options: disagree, neutral, agree.

Source: Dashew Center Global Siblings Coordinator EOY Survey, 2018-19
The expectations my Program Advisor(s) had of me were clear throughout my time as a GSC (N = 9)

I felt the training provided to me (GSC Retreat, GSC Handbook and supporting training documents, etc) prepared me for the responsibilities of being a GSC (N = 9)

*The questions offer three options: disagree, neutral, agree.

Source: Dashew Center Global Siblings Coordinator EOY Survey, 2018-19
Data Summary

• Efficient support from DCISS advisors
• Unclear expectations
• Training is not enough to prepare GSCs for responsibilities
• GSCs experienced improvement in event planning and problem solving
• GSCs experienced little improvement in critical thinking skills
Future Enhancement

How can the Dashew Center enhance the Global Siblings program in the upcoming quarter/year?
**Recommendation – By Siblings**

- Provide more budget
- Increase number of events
- More on-campus events
- Add more siblings per family
- Start date of program should be earlier in fall
- The way points are counted should be revised (e.g. when siblings hang out could counted toward points as well)
Recommendation  
– By coordinators

• Planning must happen more in advance

• Add a survey at the end of each event for the siblings to ask about their idea for next event

• Google doc evaluation rather than google form format, because splitting up tasks are easier

• Comment about making a folder for each event within our coordinator folder which in the folder they can upload photos and receipts as well as fill out one post event form with all the questions.

• Events should happen more frequently
Recommendation
– By coordinators_GSC Training

• The Schedule is too Packed

• The unnecessary details in the handbook could be removed since it is too long and it should include more important information as bullet points e.g. ‘the responsibility requirements as a coordinator’ and etc.

• The training process could be shorter, instead the event planning skills could be more emphasized.
Survey

**Overall**

- Avoid using “Neutral” in scale questions

**GS End-of-year Survey**

- Consider incorporating evaluation of the coordinators by siblings
- Consider incorporating evaluation of meaningful experience for siblings
- Consider conducting mid-program evaluation
  - Index cards – three things working well & three things for improvement

**GSC End-of-year Survey**

- Add open-ended questions for detailed insights about experience
- For question asking for “unexpected challenges”, avoid using adjectives that limit the responses.
Programming Logistics

• Improve pre-program training to better prepare GSCs for responsibilities

• Provide transparent and clear expectations for GSCs
Program Participation

• Encourage participation from arts and humanities departments

• Encourage visiting scholars to participate
  • Consider working directly with the J-1 unit, promoting the program during events such as scholar lunch

• Increase domestic graduate participants
  • Consider partnering with departments directly
  • Consider using “snowball” strategy to promote the program among domestic graduate students
  • Consider working with the annual TA conference or the graduate student resource office

• Increase male undergraduate student participation
  • Consider using gender-neutral language to promote the program
    ❑ Focus group with current male siblings to understand what may drive more male student participation
    ❑ Highlight both social connection and outdoor adventures