

**RSAC Annual Report  
2019-20**

<b>Unit Name:</b>	MIDDLE EASTERN STUDENT CENTER
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**Department Mission:**

The Middle Eastern Student Center supports intellectual exchange, encourages the study of Middle Eastern culture and history, while promoting the advancement of higher education. The MESOC fosters relationships to build inclusion, acceptance, and earnest communication with an emphasis on cultural diversity. We collectively pursue civic engagement and civil discourse as a means to promote mutual understanding. Within a changing campus climate we create alliances and engage meaningful conversations to meet the needs of the Middle Eastern student population at UCR.

**Purpose:**

- 1) Summarize information for the new RSAC in Fall.
- 2) Present information for the RSAC web site.

Projected Referendum Fees Income in original Budget Plan: **\$100,000**

Actual Referendum Fees Income: **\$104,918**

STIP Income: **\$1,291**

Carry Forward Funds from last year for department: **\$27,497.39**

**Total Available Funds = \$133,706.39**

<b>Budget Item</b>	<b>Final Expenditures</b>	<b>Carry-forward</b>
Cultural & Educational Programming	\$37,566.68	
Student Salaries & Benefits	\$33, 823.47	
Staff Development Training	\$7,770.94	
Supplies & Expenses	\$4,184.90	
RSAC Stipend & Food	\$1,575.88	
CSS Billing	\$853.08	
Diversity Council Support	\$500	
Conference Travel	\$386.19	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$86, 661</b>	<b>\$47,045.39</b>

**Carryforward Notes or Other Budget Notes, If applicable:**

The carryforward balance of \$46,429 is a result of a \$32,665.86 carryforward from 2018-2019 and then the remaining additional balance from 2019-2020. The 2018-2019 carryforward was a result of a loss in a full-time director and reducing the number of programs offered, in addition to saving for furniture and technology expenses related to moving offices. The 2019-2020 carryforward came as a result of COVID impacting our ability to do large scale programs such as Middle Eastern Week and a reduction in our plans for the annual MESC Gala.

This carryforward balance will be used for our upcoming move (Summer 2021) into a new Costo Hall location that will require us to furnish multiple offices, a conference room, and lounge area.

**Overview of Programs, Services, Staffing, & Support**

**Budget Item: Cultural & Educational Programming**

1. MESCAfe
  - a. Every Tuesday at 11am, students come together to discuss current events, issues, and other relevant topics to the Middle Eastern community.
2. Tartan Soul Kick-Off
  - a. Tabling event for new year event
3. MESC Fall Mixer
  - a. To get students familiarized with MESC and the organizations that fall under it
4. Game Changers Leadership Series
  - a. A series of workshops focused on introducing policy tools and strategies to tack problems in their community.
5. MESC and Rest
  - a. Free messages and snacks to prepare for Midterms
6. Calligraphy with ME
  - a. Provide a lesson on Arabic calligraphy and engage students in culture through a demonstration of art.
7. Student Org Info Session
  - a. To inform student leaders of the different resources that they can have access to through the MESC. To encourage student org involvement on campus and with the MESC.
8. Persian Poetry & Prose
  - a. The goal was to provide an educational workshop about Irani Poetry and Prose. Share aspects of Irani art and culture with students. Share the role and importance of Irani literature in Iranian Culture. Provide a free learning opportunity during Iran week led by a professional.
9. Cook with ME: Iran Edition
  - a. Introduce attendees to Irani food as an aspect of Irani culture. Provide a cooking demonstration for students to learn the recipes for Irani food. Provide an opportunity for attendees to experience and enjoy Irani food.
10. ME Sweet: Iran Edition

- a. To host an event that celebrates Iranian culture and art. Give attendees an opportunity to enjoy a variety of traditional Iranian desserts. Share the art of Farsi calligraphy with students
- 11. Sounds of Iran
  - a. Share the beauty of Iranian culture through music, dance, and food. Celebrate the cultural diversity of our student community on campus. Provide an entertaining night of professional dance and musical performances
- 12. MESC and Rest
  - a. The goal is to have students relax and get food and massages because of midterms
- 13. Intersectional Feminism Panel
  - a. Panel of activists and scholars discussing feminism with the Middle Eastern community
- 14. MESC Alumni Check-In
  - a. opportunity to share and discuss with alumni
- 15. Study with ME
  - a. Virtual study sessions for students to complete work together
- 16. Netflix with ME
  - a. Netflix parties with students to watch movies and build community
- 17. Game Nights with ME
  - a. Virtual game nights

**Budget Item: Student Salaries & Benefits**

HESSR paid for the salaries of 4 student interns who worked at the MESC throughout the year at 20 hours per week.

**Budget Item: Staff Development & Training**

- 1. Big Bear weekend leadership retreat for MESC students and staff
  - a. Expenses include transportation, food, lodging, activities

**Budget Item: Supplies & Expenses**

Supplies and expenses include the purchase of new student and employee laptops, marketing materials for events, parking for speakers

**Budget Item RSAC Stipend & Food**

\$500 quarterly stipend for RSAC representative Evan Ismail.

Food charges are from quarterly RSAC meetings

**Budget Item: Citrus Shared Services Billing**

Billing for Citrus Shared Service processing

**Budget Item: Conference Travel**

Conference travel occurred in Spring Quarter of 2019 and were charged to our account for the following fiscal year. Typical conferences that our students attend, such as Lebanese Collegiate Network & the Afghan-American Conference were cancelled due to COVID-19.