Student Preferences for Scheduling and Communication of Co-Curricular Activities

When are the best times to schedule out-of-class activities to maximize the participation of students in co-curricular programs and activities? How do students wish to be informed about these activities? Entering first-time UH-Mānoa students reported the following:

Weekday Schedule Preferences of Students

- During the weekdays, an equal proportion of students preferred an afternoon (45 percent) and an evening schedule (46 percent) of activities.

- However, there were significant differences between student groups and weekday scheduling preferences.
  
  - Students from Hawaii (50 percent) and students who commuted to campus (52 percent) favored an afternoon schedule.
  - Students from the mainland U.S. (63 percent) and those who lived on campus (58 percent) preferred an evening schedule.
  - There were no significant differences between gender and weekday scheduling.

- A morning schedule was the most unpopular time for scheduling co-curricular activities during the week for all student groups.

Figure 1
Best Times to Schedule Student Activities During Week Days

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Best Week-Day Time</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Hawaii</th>
<th>Mainland</th>
<th>Off-Campus</th>
<th>On-Campus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mornings</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afternoons</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evenings</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Student Interest Survey 2008, CAPS
Weekend Schedule Preferences of Students

- During the weekends, most students preferred an afternoon schedule (48 percent) followed by a morning schedule (39 percent) of activities.

- There were significant gender differences and differences between students from Hawaii and those from the mainland U.S. and scheduling preferences.

  - More men (51 percent) than women (46 percent) preferred an afternoon schedule; more women (42 percent) than men (34 percent) preferred a morning schedule.
  
  - More students from the mainland U.S. (56 percent) than from Hawaii (44 percent) preferred an afternoon schedule; more students from Hawaii (42 percent) than from the mainland U.S. (29 percent) preferred a morning schedule.

- An evening schedule was the most unpopular time for scheduling co-curricular activities during the weekend for all student groups.

![Figure 2]

Best Times to Schedule Student Activities During the Weekend

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Best Week-End Time</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Main-land</th>
<th>Off- Campus</th>
<th>On- Campus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mornings</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afternoons</td>
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<td>51</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evenings</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Communicating Co-Curricular Activities to Students

First-time students were asked to select no more than two ways in which they wanted to be informed about campus activities and opportunities. Top on the list by far was communication by e-mail (91 percent).

![Figure 3]

Best Means of Communicating Co-Curricular Activities to Students