Project Topic:

Immigration Reform and its Impact on Undocumented College Students

Project Overview:

Even though Ohio is hundreds of miles away from the U.S. and Mexican border, the state is still home to an estimated 100,000 undocumented residents as estimated by the Pew Hispanic Center. Of this 100,000, there is a significant portion of young men and women who are newly eligible to begin their post-secondary education. Our goal is to raise awareness of the issue, and success would be to offer outreach programs that keep undocumented students informed of their current situation.

Events/Initiatives:

1. Contacting representatives of the Spanish and Portuguese department here on campus will allow us to learn the extent that they are willing to collaborate with us. This will be the first step we take to get the ball rolling and contribute to our goal of finding ways to get in contact with the community at large.

2. A panel/roundtable discussion of the event at a John Glenn Civic Leadership Council meeting will allow us to not only inform other policy enthusiasts about this pressing issue but also help us judge what types of presentation are most effective and which aren’t so effective. Some other Civic Leadership Council members should be able to help us moving forward as well.

3. Contacting members in the student government of other prominent Ohio schools (such as Cincinnati, Ohio University, Toledo, etc) will allow us to gauge the interest of other schools in regards to immigration policy. We can see what the extent of their collaboration will look like.

(Major) Measurable Goals:

1. Success will partly be measured by how many people we are able to contact and the amount of events we are able to host regarding this topic. How many people attend these events will be important as well, since events are pointless unless people actually take notice of them.

2. Success will also be measured based on agreement we come to regarding changes that need to be made in relation to current policy.

How will you collaborate with consortium schools?

We will work in conjunction with the department of Spanish and Portuguese on our campus as well as with other Latino programs in the varying Ohio colleges, as long as individuals from other Ohio universities are in support of the same policy. This is mostly an informational outreach with a look at what could be changed in current policy as well. If we're able to inform other colleges, and allow
them to begin their own outreach programs based on our own, it would be of their own interest and choosing.