

STUDENT FEES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SFAC)
FY2027 PROGRAM QUESTIONNAIRE

Questionnaire completed by (André J. Adams, Director, ajadams6@central.uh.edu, (713) 743-9297:

1. Please provide in brief terms: your unit's mission, goals that support your mission, and a justification of your unit's student fee allocation in terms of benefits for students.

Mission:

The A.D. Bruce Center for Spirituality and Religion embraces, celebrates and fosters spiritual and religious experiences of the diverse University of Houston community.

Since its opening in the fall of 1964 and its dedication in May 1965, the A.D. Bruce Religion Center has been a focal point for numerous on-campus religious activities for 52 years. While the building is a bustling center of many ongoing educational programs, activities and services, it is also a place for both quiet meditation and spiritual discovery and growth.

In support of the University's mission, the A. D. Bruce Religion Center provides an organized means for

- celebrating diversity,
- assisting in establishing and encouraging inter-faith dialogue, and
- the promotion of a continuing search for knowledge.

The Religion Center supports student success through our facilities management and resources, providing opportunities for student employment and internships and providing quality customer service to students, faculty, staff and our University guests. Our primary focus is to engage students and create opportunities where student look to explore their relationship with faith, religion and spirituality. We look to build community through our signature programs, Free Wednesday Lunch, Interfaith Dialogue Dinner, Good Morning Mondays, Lego Your Stress programs and others, where students can connect with one another and build relationships which can also potentially lead to faith, religion and spiritual connections.

The Religion Center sponsors 13 campus ministry programs, 10 groups have office suites in the building. Three of those groups [Catholic Newman, Baptist Student Ministry and Hillel] subsequently constructed their own off-campus religion centers. They continue to retain their office suites in the A.D. Bruce Religion Center.

The original 10 Charter denominations or Resident Ministries, provided financial support for the construction of the Religion Center. Those groups are: **Baptist Student Union** [now *Baptist Student Ministry*], **B'nai B'rith Hillel**, **Catholic**, **Christian Science**, **Church of Christ**, **Disciples of Christ** [now included in *United Campus Ministries*], **Lutheran** [Missouri Synod], **Lutheran / National** [now *Evangelical Lutheran Church in America/ELCA*], **Methodist**, **Presbyterian** [now included in *United Campus Ministries*] and **Protestant Episcopal**.

The Religion Center also provides support for the Campus Ministries Association (CMA) which is comprised of all of the full-time staff of the campus ministry programs at the University of Houston currently representing 13 various faiths and denominations.

The Religion Center Policy Board meets during the fall and spring semesters and provides guidance and support for the programs, services and policies of A.D. Bruce Religion Center.

University of Houston students, faculty, and staff utilize the Center for programs, lectures, meetings, and special events. General purpose rooms are available for worship, study, discussions, and reflection. The Religion Center's University Chapel, with seating for 294, is the site for weddings, memorials, funerals, baptisms and quinceañeras, including the University's annual memorial service. The Meditation Chapel and two classrooms provide Friday Prayer space for the Muslim Student Association. The Religion Center currently provides office space to only one Registered Student Organization: UH Muslim Student Association.

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2. Please discuss the means that you are utilizing to evaluate your success in achieving the DSA strategic initiatives as well as action steps in contributing to the retention of students. Where data exists, discuss any assessment measures and/or learning outcomes used to evaluate program success. Please provide the method for collecting this data.

Building Utilization Numbers

Building utilization provides direct information with regards to foot traffic within the building. While these number represent all days of the week, we can always look at certain days when events are being hosted to determine if building programming is significantly affecting utilization numbers and engagement with building services.

Door Counters

Month	Fall 2021 Door Count	Fall 2022 Door Count	Fall 2023 Door Count	Fall 2024 Door Count	Increase/ Decrease
August	6,506	6,769	8,110	8,421	3.9% Increase
September	6,493	11,134	11,091	12,015	8.3% Increase
October	8,142	11,192	11,743	11,899	1.3% Increase
November	6,793	8,338	9,674	11,009	13.8% Increase
December	3,121	3,256	3,103	3,610	16.3% Increase
TOTALS	31,055	40,689	43,721	46,954	7.4% Increase
Month	Spring 2022 Door Count	Spring 2023 Door Count	Spring 2024 Door Count	Spring 2025 Door Count	Increase/ Decrease
January	2,849	4,691	5,849	6,184	5.7% Increase
February	6,449	10,598	10,153	9,247	8.9% Decrease
March	7,376	10,872	11,691	10,606	9.2% Decrease
April	10,517	12,578	13,258	13,596	2.5% Increase
May	5,841	4,517	4,731	4,962	4.9% Increase
TOTALS	33,032	43,256	45,682	44,595	2.4% Decrease
Month	Summer 2022 Door Count	Summer 2023 Door Count	Summer 2024 Door Count	Summer 2025 Door Count	Increase/ Decrease
May (from 5/15)	2,433	1,309	3,791	4,962	31% Increase
June	1,991	2,005	2,624	2,746	4.6% Increase
July	3,055	2,469	2,722	2,127	21.8% Decrease
August	6,769	8,110	2,144	5,444	154% Increase
TOTALS	11,815	12,584	8,559	15,279	78.5% Decrease

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Event Attendance

Several of our signature programs all increase in attendance. We would credit the increase primarily to our increase in campus marketing and providing students with services they are looking for. While we did not have a chance to do assessments during the fall semester, we do plan to include fall attendees in our assessments that are sent out in the Spring semester.

Program/ Events	Fall 2021 Attendance	Fall 2022 Attendance	Fall 2023 Attendance	Fall 2024 Attendance	Increase/ Decrease
Free Wednesday Lunch	2580	2926	4429	4781	7.9% Increase
Good Morning Mondays	259	518	707	1067	50.9% Increase
Interfaith Dialogue Dinner	197	263	162	95	41.3% Decrease
Program/ Event	Spring 2022 Attendance	Spring 2023 Attendance	Spring 2024 Attendance	Spring 2025 Attendance	Increase/ Decrease
Free Wednesday Lunch	2,096	3,181	3,820	3,820	0% Increase
Good Morning Mondays	379	583	808	1,136	40.6% Increase
Interfaith Dialogue Dinner	242	319	165	0	100% Decrease

AD Bruce Assessment Initiatives

Customer Service Assessment (Weddings)

Purpose

Using reservation contact information, we sent surveys to wedding customers to assess the reservation and communication process. We also asked about the building conditions and overall helpfulness of the staff throughout the reservation process. We determined the length of the reservation process as from initial contact through the end of the in-person event/reservation.

Highlighted Findings

- Why did you choose AD Bruce Religion Center for your wedding?
 - 92% because of both “Cost Effectiveness” and “Venue Aesthetics”
- How did you hear about AD Bruce Religion Center?
 - 70% Alumni or Family are Alumni.
 - 20% Referred by someone at UH.
 - 10% Wedding site
- Please rate your level of satisfaction: Interactions with ADBRC Staff?
 - 92% Very Satisfied
- Please rate your level of satisfaction: University Chapel conditions?
 - 80% Very Satisfied
 - 12% Satisfied
- Please rate your level of satisfaction: Overall Experience with ADBRC?
 - 92% Very Satisfied

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Action Plan based on Assessment Findings

- Continue to explore options to update the venue.
 - Refinish pews or replace pews and flooring.
- Continue to develop student employees in ways that enhances confidence and critical decision making.
- Find ways to partner/promote with UH Alumni Foundation.
- Note: We must identify ways to enhance the ADBRC spaces/services so that there is value and reasoning behind increasing reservation rates.

Student Employment

Purpose

The student employee assessment was developed to assess the level of comfort and knowledge related to the student employee's position at A.D. Bruce Religion Center and what the Religion Center staff can do to enhance the work experience and competencies. The assessment is administered to each student employee at the end of each semester.

Highlighted Findings

- As a result of my employment at A.D. Bruce Religion Center, I have increased my understanding and communicate effectively within cultures (Cultural Knowledge & Competence).
 - 80% Strongly Agree
 - 20% Moderately Agree
- As a result of my employment at A.D. Bruce Religion Center, I have increased my dependability, honesty, and trustworthiness (Ethics, Values & Integrity).
 - 70% Strongly Agree
 - 20% Moderately Agree
- What is the single most important factor positively affecting your level of satisfaction with this position at the A.D. Bruce Religion Center?
 - 80% Work Environment
 - 10% Flexible Work Schedule
- What is the single most important factor negatively affecting your level of satisfaction with this position at the A.D. Bruce Religion Center?
 - 80% Hourly Wage

Action Plan passed on Assessment Findings

- Continue to train and develop student employees in a way that is comprehensive and inclusive of different competencies.
- Continue to work with each individual student employee to gain the best understanding of their needs for them to be successful.
- Continue to build upon the positive work environment by collecting regular feedback from our student staff.
- Continue to look at ways to increase our budget so we can look at our pay wages for student employees.

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Benchmark Colleges & Universities, Houston Churches, and Professional Organizations

Benchmark research includes comparison of rental/special fee rates and interfaith programming in the Houston market as well as with other public/private institutions. Currently, the Religion Center is only one of three religion centers with offices/ministerial services on a public university campus. Traditionally, most universities do not provide such space and support requiring their religious/spiritual groups to set up office and event space off campus.

Campus Ministry Programs

Florida State University
Massachusetts Institute for Technology
North Carolina State University – Chaplains Cooperative
Northern Illinois University – Association of Campus Religious Organizations
Pennsylvania State University
University of Notre Dame
Southern Illinois University – Edwardsville
University of Nebraska – Lincoln
Western Carolina University

Chapels

Auburn University – University Chapel
Bastyr [WA] University – Chapel
Emory University – Cannon Chapel
Howard Univ. – Andrew Ranking Memorial Chapel
Indiana Univ. – Beck Chapel
Michigan State Univ. – Alumni Chapel
Northwestern Univ. – Chapel [2]
Rice – Memorial Chapel
Southern Methodist University – Perkins Chapel
Texas Tech Univ. – Kent Hance Chapel
Trinity Univ. – Chapel
Tulane University – Rogers Memorial Chapel
Univ. of Chicago – Rockefeller Memorial Chapel
Univ. of Georgia – Chapel
Univ. of Kansas – Danforth Chapel
Univ. of Maryland – Memorial Chapel
Univ. of Mississippi – Paris Yates Chapel
Univ. of Missouri – A.P. Green Chapel
Univ. of Southern California
Univ. of S. Mississippi – Danforth Chapel
Univ. of Tulsa – Sharp Chapel

Houston Area Churches and Other

American Guild of Organists
American Youth Corp [*national interfaith dialogue org*]
Christ Church Cathedral (Episcopal)
Christ the King Lutheran Church
First Evangelical Lutheran Church
First Methodist Church
First Presbyterian Houston
Houston First Baptist Church
Saint John Vianney Catholic Church
Saint Paul's Methodist Church
Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church

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3. Please discuss any budget or organizational changes experienced since your last (FY2026) SFAC request, their impact on your programs, and your reason for implementing them. SFAC recognizes that some programs did not receive the funds that they requested, that some programs were impacted by additional expenses after the conclusion of the budget cycle, and that some programs may be ahead of or behind their self-generated income projections.

Under the advisement of the Vice President of Student Affairs, A.D. Bruce Religion Center did not move forward with Wudu Design Plan. We were advised to seek a more comprehensive report of the building needs. A.D. Bruce Religion Center is currently awaiting a Facility Condition Assessment which will provide a comprehensive report of building needs and costs to update building to code.

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4. Please use the following file naming conventions when submitting your pdf files to the Dean of Students:

FY27Q_DepartmentName	Questionnaire
FY27AOT25a_DepartmentName	Add'l One time request - change "a" to "b", "c", etc. for additional one-time requests
FY27WS_DepartmentName	Excel worksheet
FY27OTa_DepartmentName	One time request - change "a" to "b", "c", etc. for multiple one-time requests
FY27PRES_DepartmentName	Presentation

Please answer the questions below. The totality of your responses should give the members of the Committee a comprehensive understanding of the role and function of your unit(s).