



Research Brief

Fall 2013 Aquatics Center Survey Results from Staff and Faculty Respondents

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Purpose of brief:

The purpose of this brief is to analyze the results of the Fall 2013 CHC Aquatics Center survey completed by 94 staff and faculty respondents. The survey prompted respondents to provide opinions about the use of the college pool.

Findings

- 80.9% of respondents stated that they would like access to the CHC pool.
- 57.4% of respondents would be willing to pay a nominal fee to get access to the pool.
- 55.3% of respondents said that they would not purchase a \$20 pool access card valid for 10 swims at various times.
- 54.3% of respondents considered themselves swimmers.

The **top three activities** staff and faculty would like **to do in the pool:**

1. Water exercise/aerobics (56.4%)
2. Lap swim (52.1%)
3. Lounge/wade (35.1%)

The **top five days and time slots** staff and faculty selected for pool use:

1. Friday - 4:00-7:00 p.m. (69.6%)
2. Monday - 4:00-7:00 p.m. (69.5%)
3. Wednesday - 4:00-7:00 p.m. (69.0%)
4. Tuesday - 4:00-7:00 p.m. (66.1%)
5. Thursday - 4:00-7:00 p.m. (63.9%)

- A majority of respondent open-ended comments indicated that they were not willing to pay fees incurred with use of the pool or were not interested in utilizing it.

Overview:

During the Fall 2013, the Crafton Hills College (CHC) Aquatics Center administered an online survey to collect staff, faculty and student opinions in regards to the use of the college pool. This brief analyzes the result from 94 staff and faculty respondents who answered the survey.

Methodology

The online survey consisted of six multiple-choice questions and one open-ended question. The prompts asked respondents about whether they would like to have access to the CHC pool, whether they considered themselves swimmers, if they would be willing to purchase a \$20 pool access card for 10 swims at various times until a smaller fee became available, if they would be willing to pay a nominal fee to get access to the pool, the type of pool activities they preferred, to specify the days and time slots they favored for pool access, and to provide any suggestion and/or comments.

Findings

Tables 1-4 illustrate the results of the online survey completed by staff and faculty respondents. The following findings were compiled as a result of the survey:

- 80.9% of respondents stated that they would like access to the CHC pool.
- 54.3% of respondents considered themselves swimmers.
- 55.3% of respondents said that they would not purchase a \$20 pool access card valid for 10 swims at various times.
- 57.4% of respondents would be willing to pay a nominal fee to get access to the pool.
- The top three activities respondents would like to do in the pool:
 1. Water exercise/aerobics (56.4%)
 2. Lap swim (52.1%)
 3. Lounge/wade (35.1%)
- The top five days and time slots respondents selected:
 1. Friday - 4:00-7:00 p.m. (69.6%)
 2. Monday - 4:00-7:00 p.m. (69.5%)
 3. Wednesday - 4:00-7:00 p.m. (69.0%)
 4. Tuesday - 4:00-7:00 p.m. (66.1%)
 5. Thursday - 4:00-7:00 p.m. (63.9%)

Table 1. Staff and faculty responses to prompts about pool use.		
Responses to whether they would like to have access to the CHC pool.	#	%
Yes	76	80.9
No	18	19.1
Total	94	100.0
Responses to whether they considered themselves swimmers.	#	%
Yes	51	54.3
No	43	45.7
Total	94	100.0
Respondents' willingness to purchase a \$20 pool access card valid for 10 swims at various times until a smaller fee becomes available.	#	%
Yes	42	44.7
No	52	55.3
Total	94	100.0
Respondents' willingness to pay a nominal fee to get access to the pool.	#	%
Yes	54	57.4
No	40	42.6
Total	94	100.0

Table 2A. Respondents' preferred pool activities.	#	%
Water Exercise/Aerobics	53	56.4
Lap Swim	49	52.1
Lounge/Wade	33	35.1
Water Polo	3	3.2
Other	19	20.2
Total	94	100

Table 2B. Other pool activities respondents listed.
I am not interested in swimming.
I will not be using the pool.
I would not participate in any pool activities.
With fees, it doesn't matter.
None, I am wary of public use pools.
Clean it after public use.
I'd like to just jump in the pool when I have time and not wait for a 'class'.
Swim, but not lap.
Astronomy
Swimming lessons.
Under water basket weaving, it's really fun if you have never done it. Can I teach this?
What is lounge/wade?

Respondents were provided the opportunity to select from a list of days and time slots they preferred to use the pool. Table 3 illustrates the results from the day and time slots respondents selected. Respondents' selections were organized from the highest to least percentage.

Table 3. Preferred days & time slots respondents selected to use the pool.	#	N	%
Friday - 4:00-7:00 p.m.	39	56	69.6
Monday - 4:00-7:00 p.m.	41	59	69.5
Wednesday - 4:00-7:00 p.m.	40	58	69.0
Tuesday - 4:00-7:00 p.m.	39	59	66.1
Thursday - 4:00-7:00 p.m.	39	61	63.9
Saturday - 7:00-9:00 p.m.	13	45	58.9
Saturday - 2:00-4:00 p.m.	26	45	57.8
Saturday - 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	23	45	51.1
Saturday - 4:00-7:00 p.m.	20	45	44.4
Saturday - 7:00-9:00 a.m.	19	45	42.2
Friday - 2:00-4:00 p.m.	20	56	35.7
Saturday - 9:00-11:00 a.m.	16	45	35.6
Monday - 2:00-4:00 p.m.	18	59	30.5
Thursday - 2:00-4:00 p.m.	17	61	27.9
Tuesday - 2:00-4:00 p.m.	16	59	27.1
Wednesday - 2:00-4:00 p.m.	15	58	25.9
Friday - 7:00-9:00 a.m.	14	56	25.0
Thursday - 7:00-9:00 a.m.	15	61	24.6
Tuesday - 7:00-9:00 a.m.	14	59	23.7
Tuesday - 7:00-9:00 p.m.	14	59	23.7
Wednesday - 7:00-9:00 a.m.	13	58	22.4
Monday - 7:00-9:00 a.m.	13	59	22.0
Monday - 7:00-9:00 p.m.	13	59	22.0
Friday - 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	12	56	21.4
Friday - 7:00-9:00 p.m.	12	56	21.4
Thursday - 7:00-9:00 p.m.	13	61	21.3
Wednesday - 7:00-9:00 p.m.	12	58	20.7
Wednesday - 9:00-11:00 a.m.	10	58	17.2
Wednesday - 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	10	58	17.2
Tuesday - 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	10	59	16.9
Monday - 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	9	59	15.3
Thursday - 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	9	61	14.8
Thursday - 9:00-11:00 a.m.	8	61	13.1
Friday - 9:00-11:00 a.m.	7	56	12.5
Monday - 9:00-11:00 a.m.	7	59	11.9
Tuesday - 9:00-11:00 a.m.	7	59	11.9

Note: Respondents had the option to select multiple days and time slots.

Table 4 below includes open-ended comments and/or suggestions from staff and faculty who completed the survey. Respondents' comments were categorized by the researcher. A limitation to the categorized comments is that reviewers of the comments might group them differently. The majority of respondent comments indicated that they would not be willing to pay fees or were not interested in using the pool. Additionally, respondents pointed to challenges with the use of the pool.

Table 4. Respondents' open-ended comments and/or suggestions.

Would not pay fees/not interested (n=9)

As a former student of CSUSB, that has a pool and a gym, any time there wasn't class occurring in the gym or in the pool both were open free of charge to students without a charge (just show ID). Open gym and pool times were posted and anyone could take advantage of the open times. I will keep my \$30 a month LA Fitness membership as opposed to using the CHC pool. I can go swim anytime between 4:30am and 10pm any day of the week.

At this time I am not interested in using the pool facilities.

I am allergic to chlorine and therefore cannot use the pool!

I chose "no" for the \$20 pool access card mainly due to the fact that nothing EVER gets cheaper over time. Another college charges a small fee (\$2) per semester to have access to lab swim. Other fees could be charged for official classes, like water aerobics.

I think that employees should be able to use the pool without charge. It is [part of employee health and also a part of our workplace. I would not support the pool or the charge of any fees if that were the case.

My responses were negative as to fees, because it isn't clear to me who is getting the money or what hours would be available to me. I might consider paying a fee. However, I think I can get a much better deal for my money at one of the local fitness providers, where I not only get pool access but also a lot more, such as access to gym equipment, with better accessibility in terms of hours. I think that if the District really cared about promoting good health for its employees, it would arrange for us to be able to access the pool and other fitness equipment free of charge, maybe at some limited "staff only" times.

Staff already pays for parking; couldn't there be a FREE FOR STAFF option as a benefit of employment? It would go a long way in supporting the employees of the District. Or, if CHC employees have the free option and SBVC and DISTRICT employees paid a nominal fee, any funds coming in could pay to increase hours. Let there be some special compensation for being a dedicated CHC employee.

We really work hard for our campus and do so because we care about our students and their success. We pay for parking. There are no hours available for staff to use the gym. We have no choice but to pay union dues. ???? Please don't misunderstand that I don't appreciate campus offerings for students...they do deserve it.

No, I wouldn't support a fee to use the pool for staff. It is ridiculous that we have to pay for parking. Think about it, if you are classified you are paying \$30/month for CSEA fees, \$30.00 for parking per term (I know it is not a monthly fee, but still) and potential use of pool. These fees add up! Some employees are overloaded with work and to charge them for use of amenities on campus is an outrage rather than provide support towards their health and well-being.

Challenges with use of pool (n=7)

The pool should be a community asset used by all. Instead, it has become a pet project for the mayor, who should be representing the faculty and students, but has chosen the city, and some kind of sick political gain, over the inclusive mission of a community college campus.

It would be great to be able to reserve the pool without having to deal with the city employees. They are rude and do not like to honor reservations that have been made through CHC.

I have tried the adult lap swim once and the lifeguard had us adult swimmers (3) in the small water polo lane. Only one person at a time could use this only available lane? I have not returned since. Are there regular width lanes available now in November?

A major concern is water temperature; I would not be interested in swimming in a pool under 84 degrees.

What are the fees to join YST so I can have preferential treatment and swim times?

Why can't I swim when YST gets to use the pool? Why should I have to pay to join YST to swim when the District pays for the pool?

Please also consider the fact that energy and custodial supplies usage will increase, and the hours available to service the pool area will decrease.

Willing to pay fees (n=1)

Please, please, please open the pool for staff for hours before and after normal work hours. I desperately want to swim daily, and I'm even willing to pay a nominal fee to do it, which I wish we didn't have to do, but I can't come in the middle of the workday and I just can't afford to pay essentially 40\$ per month (the 20\$ for 10 swims card) to swim in the campus pool where I work. I have worked at other schools with pools and they are free for faculty to use; the lack of access is so frustrating! This is a wonderful opportunity to encourage staff health and fitness and offer a real option for the campus. We don't have a gym or exercise area that's available to staff and faculty, so opening the pool would be incredibly helpful. I would use it daily. Thank you for putting a survey out and wanting to know what the campus thinks.

Willing to pay fees for gym use (n=1)

I would sign a waiver and pay a fee to use the gym/weight room and I think a lot of others would too and the college would make money. I would be ok with use only outside of class time.

Suggested activities (n=1)

Have swim lessons for children.

Include additional guest in pool fees (n=1)

Would be great to provide the staff/employee rate for one guest (significant other/partner).