



FIRST2 NETWORK

FIRST2 NETWORK CHANGE IDEA EXPERIENCE



HIGHLIGHTED CHANGE IDEA



Green Bank Observatory (GBO) Field Trip

This is a copy of the scavenger hunt to help the students engage with GBO and students from the other groups; Fairmont, Shepherd, and High Rocks Tech Express.

DO

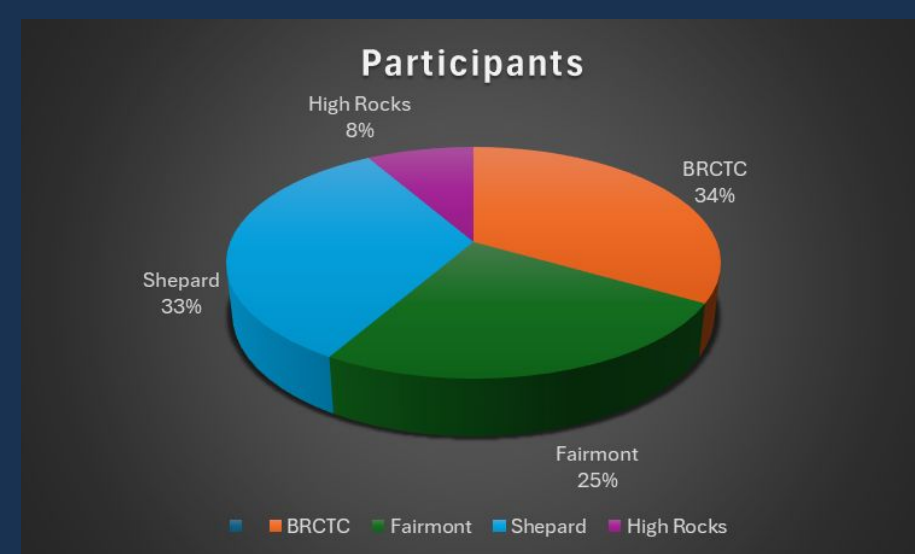
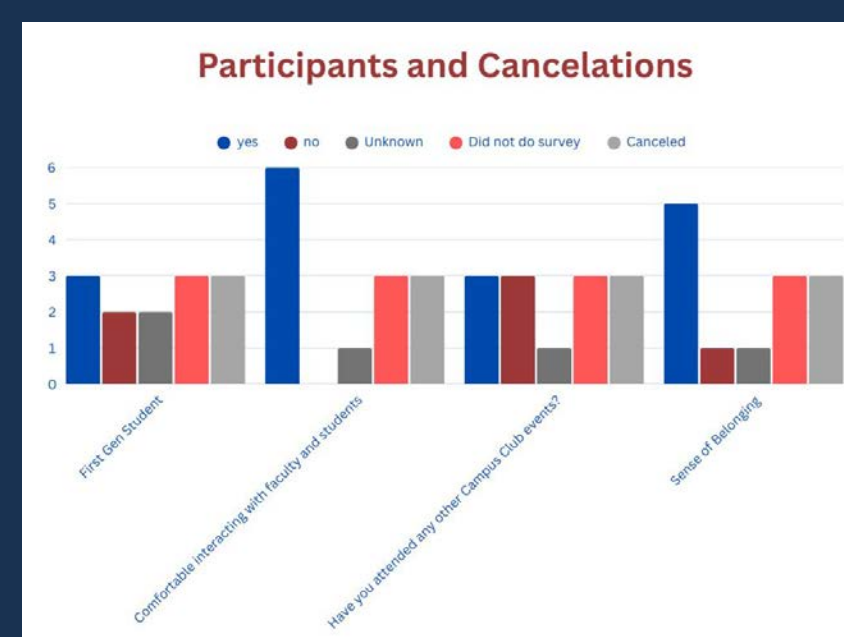
Contacted the GBO to set up a good time for dates and events for the trip. We intended to invite Shepherd, and soon after Fairmont contacted us and asked to join...which then snowballed into High Rocks joining us for a great collaboration among all students and organizations.

ACT

We would like to continue future multi-institution trips to bring all students together among all campuses across the First2 Network. I would start the planning process earlier and confer with other First2 Student Directors about possible trips and activities.

DATA

Data collected from Surveys



Participation from each Institution

SUMMARY

The Green Bank Observatory field trip, initially planned for BRCTC students, expanded to include Shepherd University and High Rocks also asked to join. We embraced the idea of a multi-institutional collaboration to foster camaraderie amongst First2 Network members.

Engagement activities include a 'Get to Know You' Bingo and a GBO scavenger hunt to encourage interaction among the students and enhance their overall experience with hands-on learning. Post-trip surveys will assess student interaction and the overall learning experience.

PLAN

First2 Student Leaders at Blue Ridge CTC planned a field trip with faculty and administrators, in hopes of bridging the communication gap between students, faculty, and administrators. The purpose of this change idea was to make students feel more comfortable speaking with faculty members and administrators by having them interact in a casual setting. We planned to give a survey at the end of the trip to measure how comfortable participants felt about engaging with other students and faculty.

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



STUDY

Of the 13 original participants, we had three cancel the trip for personal and/or health reasons and 6 responded to the survey out of 8 students and 2 faculty for nearly an 80% response rate.

100% of student respondents said they spoke with more than 6 people.

100% of student respondents had a good time and wanted to make the trip longer.

We had a good mix of first-time attendees as well as students who attended other events.

We had a good mix of first-generation and non-first-generation students

90% of respondents had a good sense of belonging since the trip.

DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

We feel the overall experience for the Green Bank Observatory trip was a great experience for the students to connect with each other. Based on the survey results, the students felt comfortable interacting with fellow students and faculty. The students also had a greater sense of belonging. There were comments about wanting to have another trip like this one for a longer duration. Students were worried about not being able to use their phones for two days, however, the comments after the trip indicated that most students didn't miss their phones; some students even informed us they were glad they had not used their phones.

TIPS FOR OTHER INSTITUTIONAL TEAMS

Start communication with other institutions early. Reach out to the other First2 Student Directors to coordinate contacts with faculty and set up Zoom sessions to discuss the planning amongst each other.



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