

CHANGE IDEA

To combine the First2 Club with the FirstGen Club to avoid duplicative efforts and over scheduling. This will allow us to increase our reach to students in additional STEM majors that aren't represented by student directors

SUMMARY

First2 Network directors are to work with other first generation students to run the FirstGen Mountaineers Club, to help connect FirstGen students and to increase their sense of belonging at the university.

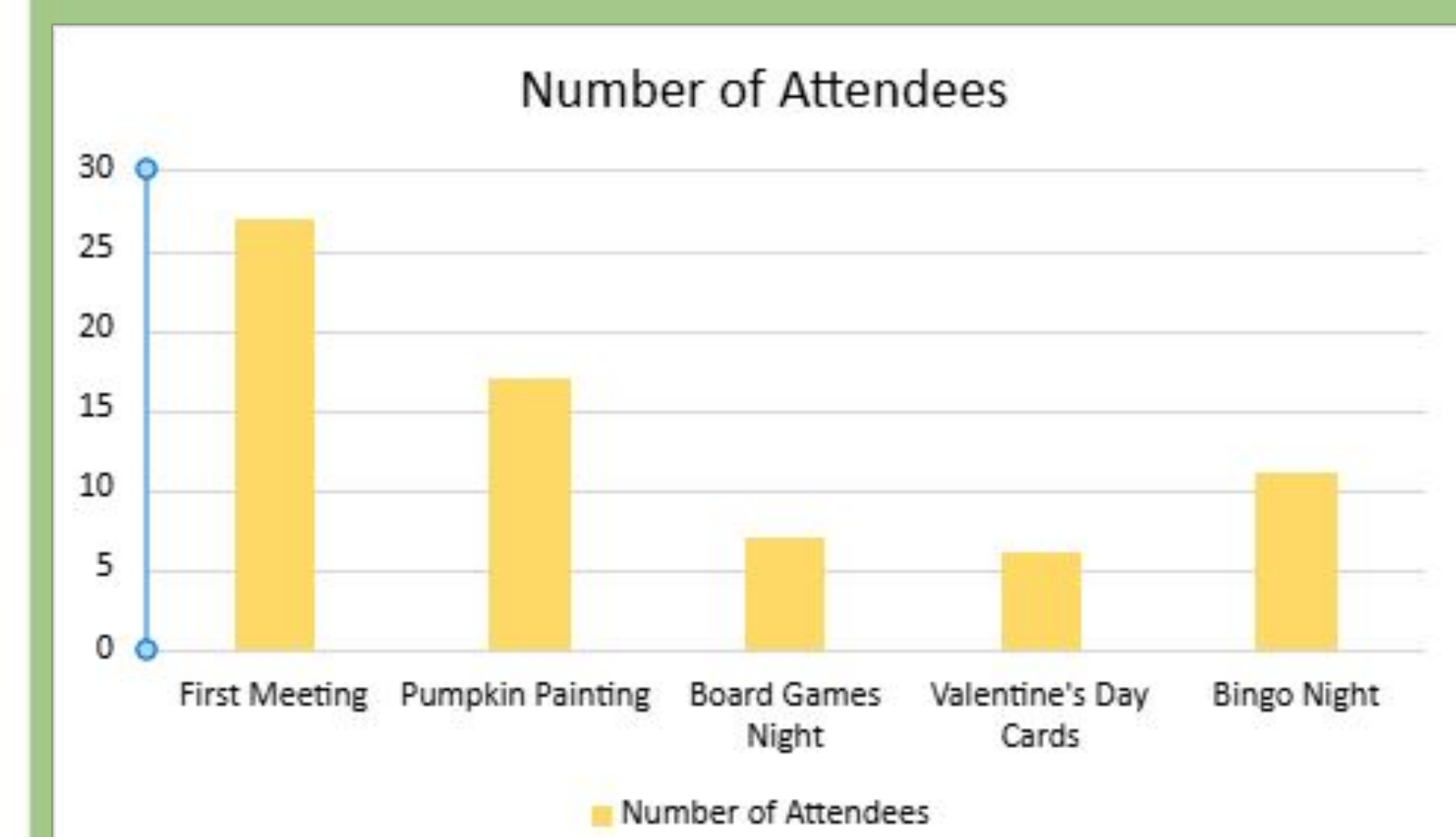
- **Primary Driver:** STEM students are meaningfully connected with faculty, staff, and peers in ways that promote belonging, wellness, resilience, and financial stability
- **Secondary Driver:** To support fit, institutional teams work with STEM department chairs and lead faculty to develop a welcoming campus climate to First2 students

ACT

We plan to adapt our club to meet the different needs of our students/members. With each passing year we are losing past members and gaining new ones, so we need to modify our club so we are able to meet them where they are.

PLAN

- First2 student directors and the FirstGen officers will work together with the club advisor (Michelle Paden) to coordinate upcoming meetings and schedule events
 - Reminders/updates will be sent out via email and Engage post to invite STEM members and all FirstGen students
- FirstGen Mountaineer Campus Club will meet/and or hold meetings at least once per month
- Officers will track the attendance of each member present via the engage platform
- During meetings present members will be encouraged to connect with the other members to increase the sense of belonging in the club and overall in the university

DATA

DO

- On October 6th: Hosted a distressing pumpkin painting event for members to relax during midterm exam session - 17 attendees
- On February 9th: Hosted a Valentine's Day card making workshop, where members were able to connect with their community by making cards for the Sundale Nursing home - 6 attendees
- On April 7th: Held a bingo night with pizza and prizes, where students were able to destress after midterm exams and win some fun WVU merch - 10 attendees
- On April 23rd: FirstGen Initiatives held a FirstGen celebration networking event where first generation students of any major could come a mingle with other first generation students, staff, and faculty


STUDY

1. How many first-generation first- and second-year students STEM students will regularly participate in campus club meetings and events?
2. To what extent does regular participation in campus club meetings and events increase students' sense of belongingness in their STEM field, as measured by a retrospective post surveys?
3. To what extent does regular participation in campus club meetings and events support students remaining in good standing (not on academic probation)?
4. To what extent does regular participation in campus club meetings and events support students remaining enrolled in their intended STEM major for the following semester?
5. Which club events accrue the largest attendance or are perceived as most useful to club members?

TIPS FOR OTHER INSTITUTIONAL TEAMS

Listen to the feedback that the students/members give you! They are the best voice to listen to because they are the ones that are currently going through it!

DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

We observe multiple trends with the data that we have collected.

- We have the highest attendance at the beginning and end of the semester. There is a decrease of in participation during the middle of the semester.
 - This is probably due to exams and coursework being heavy.
- Events that are posted on social media platforms about a week prior to the event happening have the highest engagement.
- Events posted on Instagram and GroupMe have higher attendance than events just posted on Engage.