

SERU/UCUES Research Symposium  
A New Generation of University Students: Understanding the Student Experience and Seeking  
Opportunities to Translate Analysis into Practice  
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**ABSTRACT**

***Making a Difference:  
The Impact of Civic Engagement on Asian American Student Development***

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The main purpose of this study is to better understand how community service and political involvement affects Asian American college students' development of self- and social awareness. Using statewide data from the 2006 University of California Undergraduate Experience Survey (UCUES), analyses focus on Asian Americans attending the nine undergraduate campuses. The investigation looks at self-reported gains in critical thinking, communication skills, leadership, cultural appreciation, and social awareness that may result from civic engagement. Findings aim to provide insights into how a positive, holistic self-concept and social change consciousness can be cultivated among Asian Americans, currently the fastest growing college-going population in the U.S.