



History Adds Perspective to Immigration Debate

Despite the United States' recent sharp focus on immigration, the tensions that surround immigration are much older than the country itself, said **Lacee Harris** of the Northern Ute and Northern Paiute tribes.

"This isn't something that happened five years ago," he said. "This has been going on for thousands of years."

During Weber State University's Diversity Conference, two sessions will seek to put the current immigration debate in its proper historical context.

First, Harris will present "A Native View on Immigration," which examines what he says is Americans' ignorance of their own immigration history. The native historical perspective on immigration, he explained, is one of great disruption in which "foreigners" brought disease, war

and arbitrary boundaries to what are now the Americas.

"Here we were, living happily, doing our thing, then all of a sudden these foreigners came," he said.

The second session, titled "Migration Histories: Total Recall or Selective Amnesia," will center on uses and abuses of history in the immigration discussion. Panel members will include **Chris Newman**, legal director for the National Day Laborer Organizing Network, and **Israel Pastrana**, a University of California, San Diego doctoral history student. Pastrana focuses upon Chicano studies specifically.

Janine Joseph, a WSU assistant professor of English who emigrated from the Philippines when she was 9, also will serve on the panel.

Omar Guevara, moderator for the discussion and WSU director of

forensics, said Joseph's inclusion will serve as a reminder that immigration is a global issue, not just one regarding relations between the United States and Central and South America.

Guevara also said he hopes that the diverse panel members provide three things for attendees: a sense of the debate's history, knowledge of the legal difficulties that surround the current debate and the resolve to stay focused on the issue until its conclusion.

"I'm expecting some pretty grand wisdom to be dropped," he said.

Taking the history of the immigration debate into account can only help present and future conversations on the subject, which won't cease anytime soon, Guevara said.

"There's no shortage of people who want to live in the land of the free."



Do you remember your first year in college? I remember starting college as a dreamer. I wanted to develop ideas, challenge conventions and bring to the table those who were disenfranchised. As a political

scientist, I was always asking myself, "What is at stake?" Now more than 20 years later, I work at a university that helps students, faculty, staff and community members make their dreams come true. And I still ask myself, "What is at stake?"

Weber State University has attained national prominence because of its ability to answer that question intentionally – at stake for us are our values: access, learning and community. This means that we seek to include others in our educational, cultural and service opportunities. It also means that we learn not only from books, but from our experiences, from each other and from our history. Finally, it means we know that community requires us to work together. While we may not always agree, we can find opportunities to connect in our commonality while respecting our differences.

One of the first ways this engagement begins is with this year's diversity conference. Our theme maintains pace with society by engaging the question: Immigration: Whose American Dream? As a committee we sought to find ways to investigate what was at stake – and who were the stakeholders. We sought to develop thoughtful workshops and panel presentations for each of you.

I hope you will join us as we engage this question from multiple perspectives to articulate what is at stake for us individually as well as collectively. I also encourage you to review our calendar of events inside to find more opportunities engagement.

Adrienne Andrews,

Special Assistant to the President for Diversity

diversity! WORKS!

Diversity Conference asks: 'Immigration: Whose American Dream?'

Truth lies on all sides of the immigration debate. That's the message **Edward Schumacher-Matos**, an immigration policy expert and fellow at the Migration Policy Institute, will share during the keynote address at the 15th Annual Diversity Conference. He will speak on Oct. 11 at 8:30 a.m. in the Shepherd Union Ballrooms.

Schumacher-Matos, who also serves as the ombudsman for NPR and is a visiting professor at the Columbia

Journalism School, said he wants to dispel some of the immigration myths and enable an honest conversation regarding the topic. Among the myths he hopes to counter are the ideas that immigrants come to the United States to take advantage of welfare and do not work.

However, Schumacher-Matos said some form of immigration laws must exist in order to ensure the country is not overwhelmed. He characterizes current immigration law as incompatible with today's realities.

"We have 11 million people living in the United States without documentation, who are here illegally, but they are very much a part of the American social fabric by now," he said.

In addition to his academic expertise, Schumacher-Matos brings a personal perspective to immigration. He emigrated from Colombia as a child and then later volunteered for the Army during the Vietnam War. Many immigrants feel a heightened need to prove themselves as Americans, he said.

"You feel this extra debt, burden and appreciation for the nation, and you want to contribute," he said.

Adrienne Andrews, special assistant to the president for diversity, said Schumacher-Matos will enable a robust immigration conversation at WSU.



"We have 11 million people living in the United States who are here illegally, but they are very much a part of the American social fabric by now."

"As an academic and a journalist, Schumacher-Matos brings a critical eye to the often divisive issue of immigration," she said. "His investigative nature, combined with academic prowess, demonstrates a critical understanding of the issues and what is at stake as we uphold democracy."

Starting the evening of Oct. 10 and ending early the afternoon of Oct. 11, the conference will feature multiple workshops and sessions that revolve around the theme "Immigration: Whose American Dream?"

Educational in nature, the conference encourages attendees to think critically and take part in the marketplace of ideas.

This year's conference topic not only will discuss inclusion of those who desire to be citizens, but other issues, Gillespie said. For instance, when immigrants can no longer stay in the United States, they take their skill sets with them.

"With all of these questions swirling around us, how do we decide who gets to come?" she asked. "Who are we to decide who gets to come?"

WSU RESOURCES	
Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity	801-626-6239 weber.edu/aaeo
Center for Diversity & Unity	801-626-7243 weber.edu/diversity
Education Access & Outreach	801-626-7006 weber.edu/eao
Multicultural Student Center	801-626-7330 weber.edu/multicultural
Special Assistant to the President for Diversity	801-626-6338 weber.edu/diversityoffice

COMMUNITY RESOURCES	
Immigration Policy Center	immigrationpolicy.org
Refugee & Immigrant Center Asian Association of Utah	aau-slc.org
Refugee Services Office	jobs.utah.gov/refugee
Salt Lake Dream Team	sldt.info
U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services	uscis.gov

14th Annual Diversity Conference

Immigration: Whose American Dream?

October 10 & 11, 2013

All Events are Free and
Open to the Public

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10

WSU Davis Campus, Building 3 Ballrooms

6-6:30 p.m.
Opening Reception

6:30-8 p.m.
Film and Discussion with Dr. Pepper Glass

Brief Remarks: Edward Schumacher-Matos, Ombudsman of NPR and James Madison Visiting Professor at Columbia Journalism School

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11

WSU Ogden Campus, Shepherd Union Ballrooms

8:30 a.m.
Conference Keynote: Edward Schumacher-Matos, Ombudsman of NPR and James Madison Visiting Professor at Columbia Journalism School

Concurrent Panel Sessions and Presentations

9:30-10:20 a.m.
Dispelling the Myths: What's Your IQ? Legal Immigration to the U.S. Key Issues in Global Migration

10:30-11:20 a.m.
A Native View on Immigration Economic Impacts of Immigration Those Left Behind

11:30 a.m.-12:20 p.m.
Impacts of Immigration on Education The Dreamers Refugees and Immigration

12:30-1:20 p.m. Closing Panel and Lunch "Migration Histories: Total Recall or Selective Amnesia? The Uses and Abuses of History in the Immigration Discussion"

2013-2014 DIVERSITY EVENTS

OCTOBER

Oct. 2 **LGBT Lounge Grand Opening**
Shepherd Union Room 232
10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
adrienneandrews@weber.edu

Oct. 3 **Tribute to Dr. Forrest Crawford**
Former Assistant to the President for Diversity
Shepherd Union Mezzanine and Ballrooms, 4-6 p.m.
adrienneandrews@weber.edu

Oct. 3 **Grand Opening Community Education Center**
United Way/Red Cross Building (2955 Harrison Blvd, Ogden)
6-8 p.m., knielsen@weber.edu

Oct. 8 **"It Gets Better Campaign" Lunch**
Shepherd Union Room 232
Noon-1:30 p.m.
adrienneandrews@weber.edu

Oct. 11 **Gay Men's Chorus**
Peery's Egyptian Theater (2415 Washington Blvd, Ogden)
dstern@weber.edu

Oct. 14 **National "Coming Out Day" Celebration**
LGBT Lounge/Shepherd Union
L2B2, adrienneandrews@weber.edu

Oct. 16 **Safe Zone Training**
Shepherd Union Lair
1:30-3:30 p.m.
adrienneandrews@weber.edu

Oct. 17 **HIV/AIDS Rapid Testing**
Shepherd Union 232
9 a.m.-2 p.m.
adrienneandrews@weber.edu

Oct. 19 **Black Scholars United BBQ**
Wildcat Village
3-6 p.m., csheehan@weber.edu

Oct. 30 **Multicultural Youth Leadership Summit**
Shepherd Union Building
7 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
jannahfaumuina@weber.edu

Oct. 31 **Black Scholars United Halloween Dance**
Shepherd Union Ballrooms
7 p.m., csheehan@weber.edu

NOVEMBER

Nov. 18-22 **Transgender Awareness Week**
adrienneandrews@weber.edu

Nov. 6 **Safe Zone Training**
Shepherd Union Lair
1:30-3:30 p.m.
adrienneandrews@weber.edu

Nov. 16 **Expect the Great Conference**
University of Utah
jannahfaumuina@weber.edu

DECEMBER

Dec. 5 **HIV/AIDS Rapid Testing**
Shepherd Union 232
9 a.m.-2 p.m.
adrienneandrews@weber.edu

JANUARY

Jan. 10 **Gospel Music Festival**
Browning Center for Performing Arts, adrienneandrews@weber.edu

Jan. 20 **MLK Freedom Breakfast & March**
adrienneandrews@weber.edu

FEBRUARY

Feb. 4 **Black History Month Harlem Renaissance**
Wildcat Theater/Shepherd Union, adrienneandrews@weber.edu

MARCH

Women's History Month
adrienneandrews@weber.edu

March 4 **Mardi Gras Celebration**
Shepherd Union Atrium
11 a.m.-2 p.m., csheehan@weber.edu

March 15 **Latinos in Action Conference**
Shepherd Union
jannahfaumuina@weber.edu

March 21 **Second Annual Moyes College of Education International Education Symposium**
International Service Learning Experiences
pschvaneveldt@weber.edu

March 31-April 4, 2014 **Holocaust Remembrance Week**
adrienneandrews@weber.edu

APRIL

GAYPRIL!, adrienneandrews@weber.edu
Annual American Indian Symposium
adrienneandrews@weber.edu

JUNE

June 14 **Juneteenth**
bettysawyer@weber.edu

June 17-20 **Summer Summit Leadership Institute**
jannahfaumuina@weber.edu

Dreamers Tell Stories of Lives in the Shadows

When 18-year-old **Eusebio Echeveste** graduated from West High in 2013, he had a scholarship to attend a California college. What he did not have was a Social Security number. His family, his friends, his schooling and his memories are all from America, but his citizenship is not.

Echeveste arrived in the United States with his parents at age 3 and moved to Utah at age 8. His American dream includes an education, a successful career and the opportunity to come out of the shadows and uncertainty that have plagued his family.

Without the chance for a scholarship or federal financial aid, Echeveste was happy to take advantage of Utah House Bill 144. The legislation offers in-state tuition at state colleges to undocumented children who meet several criteria including having graduated from or attended high school in Utah for three years or more.

"I chose Weber State because I heard their message on YouTube," Echeveste said. "They love to give back to the community, which I love to do. They also talk about reaching your dreams."

The message resonated with Echeveste, who wants to major in political science and business and to establish a "Weber Dream Team." His model is the Salt Lake Dream Team, which is part of the larger Dreamers movement. The name comes from The Dream Act, a federal law first proposed but defeated in 2001. The law and its many subsequent versions would provide undocumented youth raised in the United States a path to legalization. President Obama bolstered their status on June 15, 2012, announcing that his administration would stop deporting youth who meet certain criteria, such as five years of U.S. residency.

The Dreamers are using tactics of the civil rights movement to unify and speak out for a life where they can seek scholarships, get driver's licenses, work legally and vote in the country they know as home.

Dreamers, including Echeveste, will share their stories during a panel discussion Oct. 11 at 11:30 a.m.

"We want to put a face to undocumented immigration as well as start dialogue for participants to assess their own positions, maybe not to change their minds but to give respect to a variety of views about the topic," said **Pepper Glass**, an assistant sociology professor and session facilitator. "I think the diversity conference is supposed to humanize different groups that are often vilified."

According to recent Pew Research data, about one million unauthorized immigrants under age 18 live in the U.S., as well as 4.5 million U.S.-born children whose parents were unauthorized.

At WSU, 214 students currently take advantage of the in-state tuition offered through H.B. 144. WSU's **Eulogio Alejandro**, WSU's Student 2 Student coordinator, tries to meet and help all of them. He says many are too afraid to identify themselves to him — even though he enrolled at Weber State without documentation in the '80s. Alejandro eventually earned his degree and his citizenship and has devoted his life to advocacy.

"The most important message Dreamers are trying to share is they are American in every practical sense," Alejandro said. "They are no different than any other citizen, and have done everything we ask American kids to do; they just lack the recognition and security they need."

What's Your "I.Q." (Immigration Quotient)?

Here are five True/False questions that test your immigration knowledge:

- 1 Immigrants don't pay taxes and they cost the government more than they contribute.
- 2 Immigrants take jobs and opportunities away from Americans.
- 3 Most immigrants cross the border illegally.
- 4 Undocumented immigrants bring crime.
- 5 Immigrants come here to take welfare.



All five statements are false. Learn the truth during the I.Q. session on Friday at 9:30 a.m.

Diversity Works! is published by the Office of University Communications. We welcome story ideas and feedback from faculty, staff and all of our readers.

Send comments to mailcode 4025, email ahess@weber.edu, or call ext. 7948.

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