From the Desk of Our Director

“Embracing our past, enhancing our present to inspire our future”

The spectacular colors of Fall have peaked and the chill of winter is near while we are in the midst of mid-terms for the semester. We are looking forward to the goals that we have set out for the beginning of the school year and celebrating those accomplishments. In anticipation of continuing to serve the needs of our stakeholders, please help me congratulate, Teresa Holt, in her successful transition to the Student Training and Employment Program and Services (STEPS) Supervisor where she has been instrumental in providing you with the essentials to be successful. Ms. Carey Francis (African American Advisor) is the newest member of our “familia” who will also guide, mentor, and serve the needs of our students. One thing that the seasons hasn’t changed for us is our commitment for bringing you as much information and resources as efficiently and effectively as possible. We look forward to your visit at the Center!

Warm Regards,
Michiko Nakashima-Lizarazo, Director

Culturally United

November 2012
Issue Eight

Last Lecture Series – Dr. Crawford

OGDEN, UT - On October 17, 2012, Dr. Victor C. Crawford gave his last lecture series in the Watts Business Building at Weber State University. He stated that there is always struggle, and that we should go beyond the content of a book, and pursue higher learning. He said that with reverence there is always a teachable moment that compels you to move in different directions.

Dr. Crawford talked about five ways of effective teaching. The first was reverence pedagogy, which is teaching democracy to students and helping them learn civility and personal responsibility. The second was teaching for global citizenship by connecting students to their global community. The third was teaching students values, cultures and beliefs for diversity and multiculturalism. The fourth was teaching students meaning about life and helping them problem solve. The final one was teaching for humility. He emphasized the importance of teaching students empathy and knowledge towards one another.

When interviewing Michelle Diez, employee of the MSC, she described the presentation as motivational and educational. She learned a lot about diversity in the community that she was not aware of.

By: Josselyn Rodarte

November 2012 Issue Eight

CULTURALLY UNITED

DIWALI: THE FESTIVAL OF LIGHT

It’s that beautiful time of year for celebration and festivities! Diwali, also known as Dasara, is one of the many Hindu holidays celebrated all over the world.

It involves setting out candles and lighting up fireworks in honor of good triumphing over evil. The story of this festival originates from ancient India and has been carried on from generation to generation.

It is about the return of Lord Rama after being exiled for fourteen years in the jungle and vanquishing the demon Ravana. This is why people light candles every evening during this four-day festival.

On the fifth day, according to the Indian calendar, marks the day of the New Year! So have a Happy Diwali and Happy New Year and may your future be as bright as the flame of a candle!

By: Juhi Dubal

Dia de los Muertos

Dia de los Muertos translated to English means “Day of the Dead”. On this day people from different parts of the world honor loved ones that have passed away. In Mexico special bread is made just for this occasion. An altar is put together that represents the person. The altar is surrounded with flowers that are made from colorful paper.

Other things that are also displayed on the alters are pictures of those who have passed away and anything that those people loved. The gravesyards are decorated, food is brought, and there is live music, then, people spend the night at gravesyards celebrating.

Dia de los Muertos is celebrated in places like Guatemala, Mexico, France, Bolivia, Spain, Portugal, Italy, some parts of Africa, and some parts of Asia. Each place has a unique way to celebrate this day, but they all honor and remember the deceased.

By: Maria Huerta

If you would like in being a picture to display on the Dia de los Muertos Altar, please feel free to do so. It is open for everyone!

Join us Nov 2 at the Union Building for free bread and Careña Drink.

Art by Carey Francis

WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY
Contact us at 801-626-7330 | weber.edu/multicultural
Text “MSC” to 469-578-2390 to receive updates via WSU mobile.
FEATUREURING OUR 2012-2013 MSC PROFESSIONAL STAFF

EVENI SULLI TAFITI is currently a Counselor for the Multicultural Student Center and Asian/Pacific Islander Student Advisor at Weber State University in Ogden, Utah. He was born and raised in Western Samoa of a Samoan father and a Samoan/American mother. He was educated at the American Samoa High School in Samoa. He served a two year LDS Church mission in Samoa. He received his BSW in Social Work from Brigham Young University Hawaii Campus in June 1993 and his MAE/ECN in Educational Counseling from University of Phoenix-Utah Campus in May, 2003. He has worked in the arena of youth correction, juvenile court system, youth services, family court system, school system and gang prevention intervention programs the last 24 years. He is on Retired Reserve since October 25, 2004 from the United States Army Reserve after working in the personnel units as a personnel records and personnel administrative sergeant.

He believes that “The measure of a man’s life is NOT its DURATION, it is DONATION.”

TERESA HOLT Welcome back! I am eager to begin another busy and eventful school year. This year I will be attending Weber State in the graduate program in Health Administration. I am extremely happy to be a student again! Since graduating in my undergrad in 2010, I am nervous and excited to start back up, but I feel it is time to continue my education and start working towards a career. I will also begin helping in the role as the STEPS Supervisor. I am coming into this position with open eyes and ears to learn about how to improve the program and allow the STEPS employees to excel and succeed. I see this program as a catalyst for these students to become leaders in their future endeavors. Keep a look out for future campus and community events that our students will be at! Go Wildcats!!

COLEEN SHERIDAN Coleen enjoyed recent vacations to Santa Fe, NM, Hawaii, and a trip to Canada where her husband centered his dog in “working dog trials”. Her garden is finished for the year and she is working on in-door home-improvement projects.

JEFF SIMONS Born on the Ft. Belknap Indian reservation in Northern Montana. Jeff grew up in Missoula living on various reservations and attending Indian Boarding School in Pierre, South Dakota as a child. He served a mission to the Southeast Indian Mission to New Mexico. After his mission he attended BYU in Provo, Utah where he earned his Bachelor’s Degrees of Science and a Masters in Organizational Behavior from the Graduate School of Management. He graduated in the top ten percent of his class. Jeff has also completed over two and half years of full-time doctoral work in the field of Education before transferring to Claremont Graduate School in Southern California. Jeff lived in Southern California until he was recruited to come to Weber State University where he has taught in the College of Business. Jeff served as the Coordinator for the Multicultural Center and has been a Multicultural Counselor and Advisor to the Native American students at the University.

RAYMOND ESPINOL currently serves as Administrative Associate of the Multicultural Student Center at Weber State University. He has held various positions on campus since 2005. He continues to work towards completing a B.S in Athletic Therapy. Raymond plans on pursuing his dream job in Physical Therapy. His interests include focusing on cultivating personal relationships, exploring new foods, and contributing to the health of himself, others and the planet in ways that he can. Although not centered on one specific charity or cause, his contributions in civic engagement are too many to list. A bit of a dreamer he likes to stay present minded, contribute to society and enjoy life as it presents itself. A social individual, who invites discussion on a myriad of topics, awaits to support those looking to foster their own growth and endeavors.

The Ohana Association

The Ohana Association, also known as the TOA Club, is organized by students from many different islands within the South Pacific Ocean, as well as friends and families that are an inheritance of the Polynesian ancestors.

The TOA Club, consists of different ethnicities of the many islands of the South Pacific (Samoa, Tonga, Fiji, Havaii’, Australia, N. Zealand, Tahiti, etc...) and many others. The Club is family oriented, every member of the TOA club is there for each other, in bad or good times.

The TOA Club has seasonal events that will help the students understand more about their ancestors. These events also give students, who are not Polynesian, the opportunity to learn about the different cultures and life styles of the PACIFIC ISLANDS.

By: Owen Tipu

Black Scholars United

Black Scholars United is an organization at Weber State University. They have a mission to provide a wide variety of cultural experiences and promote higher education as well as create leadership and education awareness.

This is a great opportunity if you are interested in leadership, communication skills, and many other opportunities. Two events will be hosted by the organization on November 3rd and 10th.

Event: Expect the Great
When: Saturday, November 3rd 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Location: Weber State University

Event: BSU Retreat
When: Saturday, November 10 2012, 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM
Location: Weber State University

Educational Excellence/ Leadership, Organizational Planning/ and Cultural Effect.
Please be able to participate for the entire time.
Breakfast and lunch will be provided.
For more information text BSU at (469)-579-2390 or contact Me at (801)-648-4098 or at MacGregor@gmail.com for any questions.

By: Chelsea Bybee

American Indian Council

The Multicultural Student Center is known for its unique diversity, cultural exploration, and exhibition. Some of our main counterparts are our Area Councils, One in particular, the American Indian Council (AIC), allows students to have an opportunity to celebrate their Native American culture and for others to learn about their culture as well as history. Anyone is welcome to attend AIC meetings, which are held on Wednesdays at 1:00 PM. The American Indian Council holds events that range from community service to the Annual Pow Wow held in March.

Events and other information are attainable at the AIC meetings as well as with the American Indian Council advisor. Jeff Simons and the Native American Senator, Stephanie Quinn.

For all wanting to get involved, the council will be meeting on Wednesdays at 1:00 PM in room 233 of the Student Services Building.

By: Chelsea Bybee

Volunteering for the Dinosaurs

On Saturday October 20th, two of our peer mentors, Michelle Diez and Chelsea Bybee, volunteered at the Big Halloween Nights event at Ogden’s very own Dinosaur Park. This is an event that the Dinosaur Park has put on for the past few years for the community with a free event on Friday and the ultimate event on Saturday where families and friends could come together to dress up, do activities, attend storytelling shows, get train rides, get candy, and of course see the dinosaurs. Michelle and Chelsea were happy to volunteer for the event and they enjoyed the experience to learn more about the Dinosaur Park, hand out candy and postcards to children, and help out with this fun event hosted by the Dinosaur Park. They had fun volunteering and they were able to share their experiences with others.

By: Michelle Diez

Black Scholars United

By: Michelle Diez

Spanish Area Council

Bienvenidos! The air is getting breezy, the snow has arrived! We would like to invite you to the Hispanic Area Council events that will be taking place this upcoming month.

We would like to invite you to El Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead). We will be setting up the altar on Tuesday October 30th at 6:00 PM. We will be displaying the altar at the Union Building from Wednesday through Friday.

Since Friday is the main day we will serving Carne and Pan de Muerto. In honor of all our loved ones that have passed away.

Our next event we will be taking place at the Union Station on November 15th from 5:00 PM - 8:30 PM. We will be presenting the famous pictures of CASASOLA of the Mexican Revolution during the 1910s.

For those participating or collaborating in HAC we have our area council meetings Mondays at 1:00 PM at Senate Chambers in the Union Building room 332. If you have any questions or concerns feel free to email us at hispanicareaconsult@gmail.com. Have a wonderful and safe spring break.

For any questions or concerns, e-mail Viviana Felix at vivianafelix@weber.edu

By: Maria Rodriguez

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For more information or advertising please contact us at (801) 626-7330