

Diversity Committee

Members:

Kim Orlijan, Chair

- Josue Abarca, Classified
- Kim Orlijan Faculty
- Dolores Cornejo, Management
- Olivia Veloz, Management
- Jane Ishibashi, APIA
- Andre Strong, BFSA
- Paul McKinley, DSS & VRC
- Vince White, GLADE
- Bob Miranda, LFSA

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APIA Member Annie Liu demonstrates to FC staff the technique of making spring rolls



Participants in the Conversation Circle: Muslim in America



FULLERTON COLLEGE

ELEVATING EXCELLENCE.



Diversity on Campus

Issue #2

Fall 2011 in Review

Message from the Chair by Kim Orlijan

It has been my pleasure and honor to serve as the Diversity Committee Chair. I took over the post this fall from the venerable (and much missed) Lily Espinoza, who, at the end of the semester, left Fullerton College for other endeavors. I am looking forward to the challenges and rewards that accompany this position.

Notably, I am the first faculty member to become Chair of the Diversity Committee, a fact that helps highlight one of my goals during my tenure—to involve the faculty more in diversity issues on

campus. To be sure, the faculty work tirelessly for the success of our students; I would like to challenge all members of the faculty (and, indeed, all members of our campus community) to become even more involved in, committed to, and passionate about contributing to a healthy, safe, and welcoming environment for all.

As a committee, we hope to bring diversity-related issues to the front burner on our campus and to spur dialogue and deeds that will help to create this environment. Oftentimes, challeng-



ing issues get ignored or discussed only in hushed tones; it is the job of the Diversity Committee to expose those issues and directly and honestly grapple with them to help build an inclusive environment at Fullerton College. We hope this academic year to contribute to a Diversity Action Plan that helps to bring into focus the ways we can all play a part in creating the inclusive environment that we all deserve.

Asian/Pacific Islander Association by Jane Ishibashi

Since its inception in 2009, the Asian Pacific Islander Faculty & Staff Association (APIA) has held a number of successful activities. Under the leadership of this year's APIA president, Karyn Nguyen, the most recent event was a Vietnamese spring rolls workshop in which Karyn Nguyen and Annie Liu taught faculty and staff how to assemble their own spring rolls. Satisfied participants were able to roll up their lunch then take home delicious samples of this traditional Vietnamese food. At the Cadena Transfer Cen-

ter's spring 2011 reception for transferring graduates, APIA gave out its first scholarship to Chiaki Kimura who will be studying at California State University at Long Beach. Ms. Kimura was active in volunteer activities including fund-raising for earthquake victims in Japan. She planned on majoring in dance at CSULB.

APIA continues to hold book discussions with dinner afterwards at nearby Asian restaurants. *I Love You are for White People* by Lac Su was the last book critiqued by the group. The next book discus-

sion will be on *I-Hotel* by Karen Tei-Yamashita followed by a meal at a local Japanese restaurant. This coming spring semester, APIA is planning on organizing an event to celebrate Asian Pacific Heritage Month. With funding from the Fullerton College Foundation, APIA will be holding an event that will celebrate diversity on campus.

For more information about the Asian Pacific Islander Faculty Staff Association, please consult the APIA blog at <http://fullcollapia.blogspot.com/>.

Black Faculty & Staff Association By André Strong and Josue Abarca

On January 12, 2012 Fullerton College EOPS had its 33rd annual College Preparation Conference. All of the students are recruited from our surrounding title-one high schools for this program by the EOPS Outreach Team, Josue Abarca in particular, along with Andre Strong and Lizette Garcia. The main goal of the event is to motivate high school seniors to consider the possibilities of pursuing a college education. As we say here at EOPS what better place to start this than Fullerton College. The conference started at approximately 8:20 am and ended 1:30 p.m., and Sodexo provided the students with a Continental Breakfast. We had a very exciting program scheduled for the students this year as every year. We started off with the students being introduced to the agenda by Andre Strong, the EOPS Program Coordinator. Then the students were given a welcome to Fullerton College by the Dean of Student Services and EOPS Director Robert Miranda. After Mr. Miranda spoke, our College President Dr. Rajen Vurdien introduced himself to the students and shared with them some inspirational

words. Next, Stephanie Reyna, our Fullerton College Marketing & Outreach Assistant, let the students know about herself and shared some career and computer information with the students. The students got the chance to hear from a very powerful Keynote Speaker, Sidney J. Cosby, who presently works at Southwest College as their Trio Program Coordinator. Mr. Cosby really connected with the students sharing with them some of his past and letting them know what was around for them to take advantage of to secure a prosperous future. After Mr. Cosby gave his inspiring speech, one of our former EOPS students, Sy Mobley, shared his journey here at Fullerton College and how it led to him obtaining a full ride to Chapman University. After Mr. Mobley spoke he showed the students a video of his dance troop, and then he performed a solo dance for the students. The dance performance concluded the morning session and the students were split into three groups that concurrently attended workshops while getting a tour of the campus.

One of the three workshops the students got to attend was "Tools for College Success" that consisted of information about EOPS, Financial Aid, the Puente Program, and the Transfer/Cadena Center. The second workshop was a Student Panel ("Student Success") where the high school students got a chance to meet our Fullerton College students, hear their success stories, and ask them questions. The third workshop was "Academic Options" where the students got a chance to meet our EOPS counselors and get a brief overview of what academic counseling could offer them. After the workshop session the students were served lunch in our cafeteria and got a chance to attend College Fair and enjoy the sounds of DJ Rafael Barragan. After the College Fair and lunch, the students were off to the buses and headed back to their high schools, hopefully with thoughts of Fullerton College on their minds. astrong@fullcoll.edu



Disability Support Services & Veterans Resource Center By Paul McKinley



A Wall of Diverse Heroes Fullerton College is fortunate to be able to serve over 600 veterans and active members/reservists from all the United States Military branches. Reflect for a moment on this thought of a twenty-plus year veteran – "We are a vastly diverse group from the most diverse nation on earth being deployed to diversity never known to us before in our young lifetimes". This powerful thought by this veteran is something we all should consider while preparing for and teaching our classes and providing services to these men and women. Fullerton College should embrace this group every opportunity it can.

On November 10, our cam-

pus celebrated our college and community Veterans during a "party" in the Historic Library Courtyard. There was Veteran representation all the way back to WWII. Many long-time faculty and staff reported that this type of event has long been overdue. The Veterans Resource Center challenges the entire FC population to embrace and respect the diversity of this unique group of students as they do all distinct groups on campus. The VRC will assist you in meeting this challenge in a variety of ways. The VRC is in the beginning stages of a wonderful project that will be an everlasting tribute to all Veterans associated with the college. The "Wall of Heroes" is being raised outside the VRC

in room 518 to honor all students, staff, faculty and alumni who served their country. Stop by and see how you can be a part of this project. The VRC staff is also bringing Veteran Awareness training to the campus beginning the first week of December and on-going from there.

Veterans bring a unique perspective of many types of diversity to our campus – EMBRACE IT before it slips away!



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Veteran's Appreciation Week Celebration



Gay & Lesbian Assoc. of District Employees By Vince White

I am happy to announce that GLADE continues to grow its membership; this year, we welcomed two new members, allies to the LGBT community. GLADE continues to maintain an active presence in the district with representation on both the Cypress and Fullerton College Diversity Committees. This presence has been especially important given the recent anti-gay incidents at Fullerton College early this fall and at Cypress College last year, as well as issues at the School of Continuing Education regarding the use of restrooms for transgender persons. To address the anti-gay incidents, I have been in contact with Ken Robinson, District Director of Equity and Diversity; Dr. Michael Kasler, Cypress College President; and the Fullerton College Diversity Committee. I was very pleased that Mr. Robinson, Dr. Kasler, and the members of the Diversity Committee were all very concerned and receptive to any ideas to help address the issues. In addition, in response to the issues surrounding transgender students at SCE, Vaniethia Hubbard, Chair of the SCE Diversity

Committee, invited the OC Human Relations Commission to SCE to present on serving our LGBT students.

Of course when such incidents arise, our central concern must be the safety and well-being of our LGBT students. At the request of the Cypress College (LGBT students) Support Club, in September, I returned to Cypress College to offer an empowerment seminar geared to LGBT students. In addition, I am very pleased to report that the Cadena Cultural Center hosted the first LGBT Students Forum. This forum attracted approximately 90 students from Fullerton and Cypress Colleges; a memo highlighting the forum outcomes was drafted and sent to our administrators within our student services. More importantly, our LGBT students felt a strong sense of empowerment and solidarity. These issues highlight the continuing need to address homophobia among our students and staff, and to ensure that our policies that address discrimination include language to address homophobia. This is why GLADE petitioned the District to ensure that the recently developed "social media guidelines"

be revised to include homophobic comments to the list of "user-posted content" that the "District will delete." We agree with the District that such postings to "sanctioned social media sites" should "conform with District/college guidelines" especially District Board Policies 3410 & 3430 - policies that address discrimination.

Unfortunately, the District denied our request and refused to pursue the matter any further. We believe that such a response does nothing to help foster a positive environment for LGBT students and staff and highlights the continuing need for our LGBT students and staff to engage our District and campuses for their support of a climate that is welcoming to the LGBT community. We welcome a continuing dialogue with the campus and District Diversity Committees on this issue. Lastly, this is my fifth and final year serving as the President of GLADE. I look forward to working with our new President.

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Latino Faculty and Staff Association by Bob Miranda

The NOCCCD Latino Faculty & Staff Association would like to wish all a Happy New Year for the coming Spring semester. This last Fall LFSA sponsored in collaboration with Student Services the 8th Annual Bienvenidos Celebration & Orientation, which was established in 2003 as a formal welcome to all new and returning students and to provide valuable information about the different services on campus. Students were provided lunch and had the opportunity to listen to and to meet

Judge Cruz Reynoso who was our guest speaker.

In September, the FC Dream Team awarded the AB 540 Scholarships to seven students; six full-time students received \$400 and one part-time student received \$200.

For the Spring semester, LFSA will award the Enrique "KiKi" Zuniga Scholarship, and applications will be available February 1st with a deadline of March 16, 2012. Student must have:

- Cumulative G.P.A of 2.0
- Been active in the community or college providing services to others.

This scholarship will be offered district-wide. Also, there will be a second round of AB 540 scholarships offered in the Spring.

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1st Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Students Forum



GLADE SCHOLARSHIP Application available in the Cadena Cultural Center spring 2012



FC Student Chris Sanchez Leads the 3rd Annual Latino Students Forum



Bienvenidos! With Guest Speaker Dr. Cruz Reynoso

**DIVERSITY
COMMITTEE**

The committee meets the first
Wednesday of each month in
Room 227 3:00—4:30pm

Chair: Kim Orlijan
Phone: 714-992-7321
E-mail: korlijan@fullcoll.edu

**Planning a diversity or
cultural event?**

Contact the
**Cadena Cultural
Center**

**We can post it on the
Campus Diversity
Events Calendar!**

Check out the calendar of this
year's events!
<http://cadena.fullcoll.edu>
"Campus Diversity Events Calendar"

For more information contact the
Cadena Coordinator, Vince White
At (714) 732-5528
white@fullcoll.edu



**Academic Support Center
John Reid, (714) 992-7000
x24067, SDSI@fullcoll.edu
Room 801B**

Collaboration Efforts at Fullerton College by Chris Lamm

KinderCaminata

The Class of 2028 will come to the Fullerton College campus on the morning of March 9, 2012. Eighteen Hundred and Sixty-six strong!

KinderCaminata brings over 2000 kindergartners, teachers and parents from three adjacent school districts to the campus to experience why Fullerton College provides a great educational experience. It also gives the college students an opportunity to see the relevance of what they are studying by sharing their discipline with others, and it provides them an incentive to successfully complete their own educational goals. KinderCaminata provides the college student with leadership opportunities to positively impact the lives of students at the beginning of their formal education. Many of the college volunteers represent populations addressed in the Achievement Gap reports. When they share their goals and dreams with the kindergartners,

they get a renewed sense of purpose.

Another benefit of KinderCaminata is that it affords an innovative opportunity for college students to participate in an integrated student support program, giving them a sense of connectedness to the college and a sense of community. Both are critical factors in student success and course completion.

KinderCaminata offers a comprehensive model of collaboration and planning across the campus with a primary focus on supporting student success. It also models community collaboration in working closely with the local K-12 school districts, community groups and local business.

FC Food Bank

FC Food Bank Collaborative came together to address the growing concern regarding the number of students at Fullerton College struggling to find resources to provide nutritional food for themselves and/or their families. The lack of nutritional resources directly affects student learning.

This causes students to have difficulty focusing, following through on assignments, and contributing to the critical thinking in class discussions.

Fullerton College is a community. When a need is perceived, members of the community help in providing solutions to address that need. The goal of the Collaborative is to create a Fullerton College Food Bank/ Food Pantry to support our students to be successful learners. Community partnerships will be a key component in providing a successful Food Pantry for our students. Many of the students in need are part of the target population identified in the achievement gap. Providing nutritional support is a critical step in helping them achieve their goal of a college education. This program will give students a sense of connectedness and purpose at Fullerton College, creating a sense of belonging, a sense that should directly and positively affect student retention and

Student Diversity Success Initiative by Olivia Veloz

The Academic Support Center (ASC) is offering several new collaborative pilot programs this semester to increase the academic support available to students: Cosmetology Study Hour, Veterans Resource Center, and Student Diversity Success Initiative (SDSI) pilot program. Which I would like to highlight in this article.

The (ASC) is concerned with the low rate of recruitment, success, retention, graduation, and transfer among the African American and Latino male student population. To support these students, the ASC is collaborating with Counseling, Library, and Student Services to help close the achievement gap through the SDSI pilot program.

The purpose of SDSI is two-fold; 1) Increase the success, retention, graduation, and transfer rates among the African American and Latino male students and; 2)

Prepare these student to be successful learners by providing specialized services. These services will encompass the following components:

Mentoring—Mentoring Coordinator (staff) and Peer Mentors (students) will be selected, from Counseling, UMOJA, Honor Society, and other campus entities. The mentors will provide an opportunity for students to discuss concerns and issues that impact their academic and personal life in a supportive environment.

Cultural Pride—Provide guest speakers, activities, and workshops relevant to the identity of self and cultural groups.

Tutoring—The Tutoring Center will provide tutoring in most academic subjects through individual or small group tutoring and workshops. The Writing Center will provide individual tutoring for any writing assignment.

Life Skills Development—SDSI will provide skills that are intended to enhance the student's personal, aca-

ademic, and professional development—such as self-knowledge skills, work skills, managing money skills, problem-solving skills, and relationship skills—all to increase the student's quality of life.

Data Collection

The rates of retention and success of the students in SDSI will be collected. The number of hours students receive service through SDSI will be collected.

Student Progress Report

Two progress reports per semester will be requested from instructors and a weekly intervention will be put in place if student's progress for any class is "D" or "F."

If you know of a student who can benefit from the Student Diversity Success Initiative pilot program, kindly direct that student to us. Your direction makes a difference to our students!