



Trying to make a difference!

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Office of Multicultural Student Affairs Newsletter

Let's get it started...

The Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, better known as OMSA is a place where students at the University of Wisconsin Parkside have learned to call home, by relaxing, studying, and just hanging out with friends. The staff consists of Damian Evans (Director), Carman Ireland (Coordinator for Retention Programs/Advisor), Mary Xiong (Coordinator for Retention Programs/Advisor), and April Puryear (Program Assistant). They are all a great help and people who student know that they can come to when they need assistance. Another resource students can utilize in OMSA are the Peer

Advisors, Sarina Scott and Kong Lee. Jackie Schultz serves as the Communication Coordinator for the Always Reaching Upward mentoring program and Doua Vang, the Graphic Designer, use their great leadership skills to assist and show they care about their fellow peers at UWP. OMSA sponsors many great activities that are open to the campus community as well as the Racine and Kenosha communities. Programs OMSA coordinates include, Always Reaching Upward Mentorship Program, Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration, Multicultural Professional Day, Taking Care of Business, Winter Cultural

Celebrations, and OMSA Speak Outs. Those are some of the successful programs that make OMSA one of the many stops for students on their road to success. With the new year already here, OMSA will continue to be that home away from home to the students at UWP.

-Victoria P. Coleman



Native American Heritage Month Kick Off: November 7, 2005

Special Holiday...

January 15, 1929, should be a day that everyone across the world should recognize. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was born on that day and would become an American. Dr. King was a Baptist Minister and Political activist

who was one of the most famous leaders of the American civil rights movement. He also won the Nobel Peace prize and the Presidential Medal of Freedom before being assassinated on April 4, 1968. In his famous "I have a Dream..", he made it clear that he felt that one

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day this world would become a place governed by the philosophy of non-violence and that race would no longer determine the rights of men and women throughout the world.

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Special points of interest:

- Learn what OMSA really provides for UWP students
- The life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
- The New face in OMSA
- Top News in Entertainment
- Looking back on a program that OMSA provides every year.

Special Holiday Continued...

On August 28, 1963 is so powerful that everyone becomes so silent and moved by the sound of Kings voice and how he delivers the speech. In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. OMSA has their annually MLK Celebration where they give students at UWP the chance to express "How Dr. King's words inspire them to move their community" in an essay. In addition to the essay contest, there is also a community outreach project that students can do as well. Last year's college essay award winner was Junior, Jackie Schultz, and the Ladies of Gamma Alpha Omega won the community service project. This year the MLK

celebration will be on January 20, 2006 at UWP at 7pm in the Communication Arts Theatre. This is a huge tribute to be involved in because King gave so much of himself to make sure that people living in today's society would become more accepting. King will always be remembered and on this day everyone should let go of any hatred in their hearts and take the time out to listen once more to Dr. King's Speech, "I Have A Dream".

-Victoria P. Coleman



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

What do you want to happen in the year 2006?

Being that it is a new year, I wanted to ask students and staff at The University of Wisconsin Parkside, "What do you want to happen in the year 2006?" A lot of students answered right away while other had to really think of what they wanted or expected to happen in 2006, but the responses that I received were very interesting and opened my eyes to things that really need to change or happen this year.

"I want Greek Unity in the Divine 9 and I want the misconceptions from non-Greeks about Greek life to stop.

-Sarina Scott, Senior

"I want more African Americans to be enrolled in The University of Wisconsin Parkside and for them to continue to be enrolled."

-LaToya Henry, Junior

"My goal for 2006 is to have a 3.5 G.P.A by the end of this semester."

-Krissy Howard, Freshman

"I want more students to graduate and pursue graduate level degrees."

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-Damian Evans, Director of OMSA

"I want new Dell Computers for OMSA."

-Kong Lee, Senior

"I would like to see student organizations more involved in each others events. Such as going to one another socials or what not. By doing so it will show other students that its okay to go to any event on campus regardless of sex, race, religion, etc. we are known as one of the most diverse schools in the UW-system, but we are not interacting as much as we should."

-Anonymous, Senior

I would like to see more of our minority population continuing to obtain knowl-

edge by staying in college and graduating.

-Katrina Edwards, Senior

"In 2006, I personally want people to stop being hypocrites. Meaning preaching about sticking together and helping one another, and then turning around and bringing down their own people."

-Anonymous, Senior

This year I hope that people grow up and start to take life seriously. For our Soldiers to come back home, and that America will be at peace for once and all.

-Whitney Mays, Sophomore

"In 2006 I would like for all of our gifted artist to get along and stop all the BEEF that is leading to violence."

New face in OMSA...

Mary Xiong is one of the new faces here on UW-Parkside campus and to OMSA. I had the chance to sit down and talk to her after one of her busy days to have her answer some questions that many students may have never known.

Victoria: What college did you graduate from?

Mary: Carleton University in Northfield Minnesota

Victoria: What did you get your degree in?

Mary: American Studies

Victoria: What made you come to UW-Parkside?

Mary: It was an great opportunity to work, and had a smaller campus setting. Also having the chance to work with multicultural student.

Victoria: What were your expectations coming here, and were they met?

Mary: The only expectation I had coming here was to serve the students and help multicultural students succeed. So I would have to say YES, my expectations were met.

Victoria: What is your position in



Mary Xiong
Coordinator of Retention Program/
Advisor

OMSA, and what duties do you perform?

Mary: My title is Coordinator of Retention Programs/Advisor. Some of the things I have done are assisting with MLK Celebration, ARU Program, Multicultural Professional Day, and Student-one-on-one.

Victoria: What programs have you assisted with since you have been at UWP?

Mary: I assisted with the MLK Celebration, OMSA Speak Out, Asian Awareness Month, and Summer Scholars Program.

Victoria: Are you a part of any organizations here at UWP or outside of UWP?

Mary: I am a part of the Advisory Board, for the Peace Academy.

Victoria: What are you looking forward to this year here at OMSA or Parkside in general?

Mary: Students ending the year with a

strong expectation and G.P.A. I am also looking forward to supporting them in their first year.

Victoria:How do you feel about the diversity here on UWP campus?

Mary:Every campus is different when it comes to Diversity. Here at UWP Diversity is talked about and promoted more. I see strong values on diversity and that makes students more culturally aware.

Victoria: Do you have any words of encouragement for the students who come into OMSA?

Mary: I have a motto and it pertains to these four words, "CEDS" which means Connect Empower Develop and Succeed. In order for students to be successful they need to follow this method.

"Here at UWP, diversity is talked about and promoted more. I see strong values on diversity and that makes students more culturally aware."

Top News in Entertainment...

Here's the latest news in the entertainment world from Yahoo:

Rapper Juvenile arrested in Florida

"Juvenile was arrested in central Florida and later released on his own recognizance on a warrant related to a child support case", jail official said. "He was arrested on a writ of bodily attachment child support warrant Friday and released that evening", Marion County jail officials said.

Eminem marries high school sweetheart
Hip-hop rapper Eminem exchanged vows

with his high school sweet heart Kimberly Mathers. Family and close friends were in attendance, including members of D12, 50 Cent, Obie Trice and members of G-Unit," Dennis Dennehy, a publicist for Eminem's label, Interscope Records, said in a statement. D12's Proof served as best man.

Sanaa Lathan and Denzel Washington Fling

Sanaa Lathan denies an affair that was supposedly said to be with Denzel Washington, her co-star in the 2003 thriller "Out of Time," in the Feb-

ruary issue of Vibe. "(The rumor) got started because the movie had a love scene with Denzel, and people took that and translated it to real life," the 34-year-old actress tells the magazine, now on newsstands.

Jamie Foxx tearing up the charts

Jamie Foxx continues to remain at the top as his sophomore album, *Unpredictable*, spent its second straight week at number one. The album sold another 131,000 copies for the week ended Sunday, according to Nielsen Sound Scan.

-Victoria Coleman

Trying to make a difference!

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OMSA Mission Statement:

The Office of Multicultural Student Affairs promotes a diverse inclusive campus environment and serves as a resource to the campus community as well as the surrounding community, while offering academic and cultural programs. It is our goal to enhance the college experience, so all students achieve academic and compete in a global society.

Remember when?...

Every summer OMSA has its annual Summer Scholars Seminar. What this is, is a five-day program that exposes students to UWP resources and a new type of environment. Students who participate in this seminar gets the chance to live on campus in the residence hall exposing them to workshops, academic overview, exposure to leadership opportunities at various social/networking activities. The best thing about students who get the chance to experience the Summer Scholars Seminar is that they get paired up with a mentor their freshman year at the University of Wisconsin Parkside.

Last summer students were on a busy schedule; the seminar started July 18, 2005 to July 22, 2005. Each day students had an overview of what was

going to be explained to them. The first day was the Introduction to the Summer Scholars, which was just an introduction of OMSA, the main purpose of the program and answering questions and concerns about the week. The next day students had an Academic Overview of all the important resources on campus; Res. Life, Financial Aid, Advising/Testing center, Career Center, etc. The Following day students went over Leadership/Majors/Minors explaining possible fields that are offered at UWP. The last day is basically the conclusion of the week, were students reflect on their time spent.

-Victoria P. Coleman



Participants from the OMSA Summer Scholars Program.
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