

News of Note

- Congratulations to Eileen Williams, administrative support assistant in Educational Equity's main office, who celebrated twenty-five years with Penn State on February 1.
- Congratulations to Angela Steffy, assistant director of our Talent Search program, who received our regional TRIO's Mid-Eastern Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel (MEAEOPP) distinguished service award for Pennsylvania.
- Office of Veterans Programs welcomes Elisa Van Cise as a counselor/certifying official.
- Equal Opportunity Center, Philadelphia welcomes Darlene Hatch-Tripp as its new administrative support assistant.
- Upward Bound welcomes Javier Lugo-Ramos, who serves as the counselor in the Upward Bound Migrant program.
- The McNair Scholars Program welcomes Darlene Kolesar as its new administrative support assistant.
- Student Support Services Program welcomes Alicia Kehn as a new counselor.
- Wil Del Pilar, director of Development for Educational Equity, successfully defended his doctoral dissertation on March 21. Congratulations Dr. Del Pilar!
- A reception was held on April 2 to honor Bill Welsh for his thirteen years of service as director of the Office for Disability Services. Bill has accepted a position as executive director of Disability Initiatives at Rutgers University.



Image: Henry Gong

Powwow Marks 10th Year

The annual New Faces of an Ancient People Traditional American Indian Powwow celebrated its tenth year on April 6 and 7, 2013, at the Mt. Nittany Middle School in Boalsburg, Pennsylvania. Penn State has recognized the powwow and its coordinator, John Sanchez (apache), associate professor in the College of Communications, in the Faces of Penn State campaign (<http://faces.psu.edu/faces/john-sanchez>).

Message from the Vice Provost for Educational Equity

There is much to note this spring. Halualani and Associates made their on-site visit to the University Park campus on February 25 and 26 and collected an array of data; the resulting Diversity and Inclusive Excellence Scorecard for Penn State will serve as the midpoint assessment of the *Framework*. We are working with the Office of Planning and Institutional Assessment to merge diversity planning into the overall strategic planning process, as per Core Council recommendations. It was decided to delay the strategic planning cycles for both unit planning and University-level planning, therefore, we anticipate the next set of unit plans to be submitted by July 1, 2014.

We have also improved our web presence. The Office for Disability Services has updated its website to be more user-friendly. The Educational Equity home page has been reorganized with an "About" page for additional information. And,

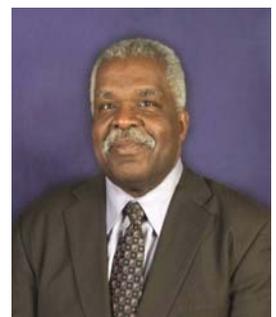
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More than one hundred American Indian dancers, four Native Drum Groups, and twenty-five traditional artists and vendors from American Indian reservations and communities across North America and Canada travel hundreds, some thousands, of miles to State College every year for one of the finest Traditional American Indian powwows in or outside of Indian Country. Native foods such as frybread,

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collaboration with the Penn State home page redesign team has ensured a high profile for diversity and inclusion within their major redesign project. We continue to work with Penn State's web content team to feature the stories of our success. There have also been year-end receptions, awards ceremonies, and other celebrations of the accomplishments of our amazing students. Their stories and academic achievements are always impressive. Also inspiring is the work each of you do on a day-to-day basis to help our students and our University achieve the greatest excellence. Thank you. 🌈



Dr. W. Terrell Jones, Vice Provost for Educational Equity

Richard Santana Speaks at Penn State's University Park and Schuylkill Campuses

Richard Santana is a Harvard-educated, nationally recognized speaker who was once a tough-talking, third-generation Latino gangster. His moving accounts of his gang-life experiences and how they shaped his beliefs, attitudes, and self-expectations were inspiring, unsettling, and thought-provoking to audiences at both University Park and at Schuylkill. He challenged students, faculty, and staff to critically assess their own

perceptions, to recognize how these perceptions influence work relationships, effectiveness, and productivity, and to become advocates for our most challenged youth rather than giving up on them.

Santana's talk at University Park was the feature of the Commission on Racial/Ethnic Diversity's (CORED) open house on March 13 at the Hintz Family Alumni Center. Santana spoke at Penn State Schuylkill

on March 14, co-sponsored by the Penn State Schuylkill Criminal Justice Club and CORED. Read more about Richard Santana at: <http://homeboygoestoharvard.com/speakers/richard-santana/>.

For more information about CORED, visit equity.psu.edu/cored.



Richard Santana



Image: Patrick Mansell

Visitors to Penn State's new Veterans Memorial have honored their loved ones and heroes with keepsakes and items of personal importance placed at the memorial. These items have been collected and are on display in the Office of Veterans Programs on the third floor of Boucke Building, University Park campus.

Initiatives Support Service Members and Veterans

Penn State has been involved with the U.S. military for more than 150 years and currently has a number of initiatives that support military members and veterans, a population that has risen significantly in recent years on many Penn State campuses as well as the World Campus. The Office of Veterans Programs provides outreach, certification, and general counseling services for veterans and Department of Veterans Affairs benefits recipients. Penn State has recently signed the new U.S. Department of Defense Voluntary Education Partnership agreement, which re-authorizes Penn State to provide higher education opportunities for those who use federal educational benefits through the

original and the Post-9/11 GI Bills. "We look forward to welcoming veteran and active-duty military service members and their family members to Penn State, at our campuses and through online studies," said Rob Pangborn, interim executive vice president and provost. Penn State also participates in the Veterans Administration Yellow Ribbon Program, and has been recognized as a military-friendly school. Read more at <http://news.psu.edu/story/266665/2013/02/27/academics/penn-state-signs-educational-partnership-department-defense>

Powwow Marks 10th Year *continued from page 1*

corn soup, and buffalo from the northern tribal nations are available for purchase. One hundred fifty local volunteers, including area teachers and Penn State faculty, staff, and students, help make sure the event runs smoothly. More than 6,000 visitors attended the powwow, which has earned a national reputation as an excellent example of honoring family values and remembering American Indian traditions. The highlight of this year's event was a traditional American Indian wedding, an event not often seen anymore, even at powwows in Indian Country.

The powwow is sponsored jointly by Penn State and the State College Area School District. For more information please visit powwow.psu.edu.



Image: Patrick Mansell

CLGBTE Award Recognitions



On April 19 at its annual awards ceremony, the Commission on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Equity (CLGBTE) recognized the contributions of individuals within the Penn State community who have shown outstanding service regarding lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) concerns.

The Ally Recognition Award and the Outstanding Service Award recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the Penn State LGBTQ community. Current Penn State faculty, staff, and students are eligible for both awards.

The following individuals were recognized:

2013 Ally Recognition Award

Rodney A. Erickson, President

2013 Outstanding Service Award: Faculty

Kathleen Bieschke, professor of Counseling Psychology, Department of Educational Psychology, Counseling and Special Education, College of Education

2013 Outstanding Service Award: Student

Cameron O'Mara, doctoral candidate in philosophy, College of the Liberal Arts

Ally House now Accepting Students for Fall 2013

The Commission on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Equity (CLGBTE), in partnership with the Office of Residence Life, has established a special living option for LGBT and Ally students at University Park, available for fall 2013 housing. Ally house will be located in Watts Hall in West Halls, and may encompass the entire hall if applications remain as high as anticipated. Ally House's designated coordinator and graduate assistant will facilitate programming through the LGBT Student Resource Center, Center for the Performing Arts, the Palmer Museum of Art, Residence Life, and the Sexuality and Gender Studies Minor, with which the special living options is academically aligned. Penn State is the only University in the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) to offer an entire building for LGBTQ students and their allies.



(Left to Right) Rodney A. Erickson, Angelique Murillo, John Sanchez, and Edwin Escalet

Way Pavers Award Ceremony

The Council of College Multicultural Leadership presented its second annual Way Pavers awards at a luncheon ceremony on April 2 at The Nittany Lion Inn. The award was created "in honor of those who have contributed to supporting diversity initiatives, which have positively enhanced student life and the climate throughout the college and local community, while maintaining a high level of character and leadership." This year's winners were

Rodney A. Erickson, President (Administrator Award); John Sanchez (Apache), associate professor of Communications (Community Member Award); The Multicultural Admissions and Community Affairs Office, represented by Edwin Escalet (Faculty and Staff Award); and Angelique Murillo, Bunton-Waller Fellow in Communication Sciences and Disorders (Student Award).

Karen Kihurani Recognized for LGBT Advocacy

Karen Kihurani, a member of the Commission on Racial/Ethnic Diversity, was honored with the Dr. Susan R. Rankin Award for Leadership, Integrity, and Outstanding Contributions to Penn State. As coordinator of Multicultural Programs at Penn State Berks, Karen has for

many years exemplified leadership with LGBT activities and support on her campus. She has served as adviser to Rainbow Alliance since 2003, and has consistently created a safe and supportive space for LGBTQQIA students, faculty, and staff on her campus, as well as

helping coordinate numerous projects and events. The award was presented during the Pride Week Rally in March on the steps of Old Main.



Educational Equity Green Paws Recognized

On March 19 President Erickson presented Level Four Green Paws certification to four units in Educational Equity. “Sustainability is being embraced at Penn State and we want every student to graduate with a full understanding of what this approach to decision-making is and why it is important,” he said, addressing the twenty staff who participated in the program. Staff from Educational Equity’s Information Technology, Multicultural Resource Center, Upward Bound Math and Science Center, and Office for Disability Services received the certificates and framed letter from the President. President Erickson went on to note that these four offices repre-

sent the top 1 percent of offices in the Green Paws program, because only three other offices have achieved this Level Four distinction from more than eighty offices with more than 1,700 Penn Staters working through the program. Shelly Aina, Information Technology manager and chair of the Educational Equity Green Team, remarked, “I am proud and energized by the Educational Equity commitment to environmental stewardship and its far-reaching impact on so many aspects of our lives. I hope our actions will serve to encourage others to complete Green Paws certification. We ARE!” 🌱

2013 THON Logo Designed by Educational Equity Student

The 2013 THON logo, chosen from among numerous submissions, was designed by Lenfest Scholar Jing Wu, a student in the Graphic Design program in the College of Arts and Architecture. Jing’s design was featured in THON 2013 marketing and appeared on posters, t-shirts, mugs, buttons, and any promotional items representing THON. The logo “was drawn directly from a kid’s point of view,” says Jing, “based on their imagination.” It shows “how you can plant a seed and it can grow into anything.” The theme for THON 2013 was “Inspire Tomorrow’s Miracles.” A three-minute video interview with Jing describing her design can be found at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gCtBADIrSd4&feature=youtu.be> 🌱



Commissions Visit Penn State Campuses

Every year, each of the President’s commissions for equity visits a Penn State campus. The visits typically include a tour of the campus, welcome by the campus chancellor, opportunity to discuss campus climate and concerns with students, faculty, and staff, and informational meetings. Campus meetings help to build stronger partnerships between the commissions and the campuses as they

work together to address concerns and celebrate accomplishments. This year, the Commission on Racial/Ethnic Diversity visited Penn State Schuylkill; the Commission on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Equity visited Penn State Harrisburg; and the Commission for Women visited Penn State Abington. 🌱



COE Dean Monk and Rose Baker

Rose Baker Recognized for College Diversity

Rose Baker, co-chair of the Commission for Women for 2012–13, was awarded the College of Education Climate Enhancement Award for her contributions to the college’s diversity goals. An assistant professor of education, Rose has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to diversity and improving the work lives of women within the college and the University since coming to Penn State in 2006. “The contributions Dr. Rose Baker has made to this University through work on the commission is selfless, of high quality, and is having an impact on students, staff, and faculty” said Lisa German, associate dean for University Libraries and chair-elect of the Commission for Women. 🌱

