

VOICES

Office of Diversity and Community Initiatives



October, 2011



Welcome to the second issue of VOICES. The year has gotten off to a great start.

In this issue you will find exciting diversity updates from around campus. If you have information that you would like to share, please email diversity@wm.edu. Have a great month!

One Tribe. One Family,
Chon Glover

In this issue:

- College Milestone
- Affinity Group Receptions
- International Student Services
- Disability Student Services
- Veterans Outreach
- Cohen Center Diversity Brunch
- WMSURE program
- Student Organization Spotlight
- Student Summer Experience
- Upcoming Events

Hulon Willis Alumni Association Recognizes First African-American Residential Undergraduate Students



Lynn Briley



Janet Brown



Karen Ely

In 1967, the College of William and Mary admitted the first African-American undergraduate residential students. All Virginia residents, Lynn Briley, Janet Brown, and Karen Ely were roommates in the basement of Jefferson Hall. The three women were not the first students of color to attend the College; however, they were the first to live in a residence hall. This marks a significant milestone in the college's history, as 2011 is the 40th anniversary of their graduation. To celebrate this occasion, the Hulon Willis Alumni Association and the Office of Diversity and Community Initiatives will honor the three alumnae on Saturday, October 22 at 1:00 pm in the Sadler Center Tidewater Rooms in conjunction with the HWA annual meeting. For additional information on the experiences of Briley, Brown, and Ely at William and Mary, please visit the Swem Library Archives. The images to the left were taken from the Colonial Echo, the college yearbook. The image to the right is of (l-r) Karen Ely and Lynn Briley standing in front of Jefferson Hall while visiting campus in August, 2010.



Affinity Group Welcome Events

On September 19, the Office of Diversity and Community Initiatives sponsored the second Welcome Back reception for faculty of color. New instructional and professional faculty were introduced along with remarks by President Taylor Reveley and Provost Michael Halleran. Pictured to the left (l-r) is Monika Gosin, new professor in Sociology and Taylor Reveley, President.



On September 21, EqualityWM and the Office of Diversity and Community Initiatives sponsored a reception to honor Jeff Trammell, Rector, Board of Visitors. EqualityWM officers presented Mr. Trammell with a plaque to recognize his support and encouragement. Pictured here are the officers with Mr. Trammell. (l-r) Ben Boone, Secretary; Linda Knight, Co-Chair; Jeff Trammell, Rector; and Bobby Reis, Co-Chair.

On October 3, the Women's Network and the Office of Diversity and Community Initiatives sponsored the annual Fall Reception in the Botetourt Gallery of Swem Library. The focus of the gathering was to welcome new faculty and administrative colleagues and honor those who were promoted and/or tenured during the 2011-2012 academic year. President Taylor Reveley provided remarks. Provost Michael Halleran was also present.



Undergraduate Admission Fall Programming

The Undergraduate Admission Office's Multicultural Recruitment team has an extremely busy fall planned.

In collaboration with the Hispanic Studies Department, they will host Encuentro Latino at Northern Virginia Community College on **October 8th**. The event will showcase Hispanic Studies, current William & Mary students and alumni. The goal is to encourage prospective Latino/a students and their parents to visit campus and apply to the College.

On **October 15th**, the team will host prospective students of color on campus for Autumn Blast. Prospective students will have an opportunity to interact with the campus community while they attend various events.

Upcoming Events

October 19

Thulani Davis, Author and Poet,
7:00 pm, Muscarelle Museum

October 22

HWA Annual Meeting, 1:00 pm,
Sadler Center, Tidewater Rooms

October 22

25th Anniversary Celebration of
W&M GALA, 7:00 pm, Great Hall

October 22

Homecoming Stepshow, 8:00 pm,
Commonwealth Auditorium

October 25

CSD Speaker: Faisal Alam,
7:00 pm, Millington 150

November 10

Gloria Ladsen-Billings, Author,
7:00 pm, School of Education

November 11

Expressions of South Asia, 7:00 pm,
Commonwealth Auditorium

December 2

Pre-Kwanzaa Celebration, 7:00 pm,
Commonwealth Auditorium

VOICES

International Student Services

Study Abroad Storytelling

Night: Have you studied abroad, are you interested in studying abroad or are you an international student studying at W&M right now? Then come to a Study Abroad Storytelling Night on Wednesday, October 12 from 7-9 pm in the Reves Room. Talking about your international experience is crucial when interviewing for post-graduation employment or applying to graduate school. This is a perfect venue for you to perfect that story or memory. Stories can be humorous tales about an adventure or serious reflection

on how studying abroad has changed your perspectives and values. Snacks and drinks will be provided.

International Student Success

series: an extended orientation program designed to give international students the tools for success at William & Mary. The program combines workshops on special topics with social and cultural events. During the month of October, there will be a trip to Washington D.C. and a session on "Transitioning to Life in the U.S." To obtain more information, or to register for



any of the workshops, please contact Bronwen Watts at globe@wm.edu

Reves Hall Coffee Hour: Dr. Steve Hanson, Vice Provost for International Affairs and Director of the Reves Center for International Studies, is presenting "20 Years After the Collapse of the USSR - What Have We Learned?" on October 7 from 3-4pm in the Reves Room.

News from Disability Services

On September 30, Disability Services partnered with the Richmond Road Area Residence Life staff on their annual "Midnight Madness" scavenger hunt. During the hunt, participating students received a clue that had them locate and visit Disability Services' Watson Lab, which resides in Campus Center room 110. While at the lab, participants had the chance to utilize one of Disability Services' assistive technologies first-hand to assist them in solving a puzzle. This interactive experience with Disability Services was an excellent way to promote general awareness of the office to hundreds of students on campus.

If you would like a tour of the Disability Services Watson Lab and an introduction to some of the assistive technologies available there, please contact Disability Services Graduate Assistant Michael Mullin at mjmullin@wm.edu.

Veterans Outreach

Recently, the College of William and Mary was designated as a Military Friendly School by G.I. Jobs. Several offices and schools work closely with veterans on campus, continually seeking new ways to offer support and services. An example of this is the School of Education's New Horizons Family Counseling Center. New Horizons offers free, confidential counseling to William & Mary student veterans and their families. This fall, the center also plans to begin group counseling for veterans and their families through a collaboration with the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program, which offers clinical services and raises awareness and support for injured service members. Victoria Foster, professor of education, manages that program and accepts referrals by phone or e-mail at 757-221-2363, 757-784-6867 and vafost@wm.edu. Additionally, the College's undergraduate and graduate admission offices are offering application fee waivers to veterans.

Cohen Career Center hosts Second Diversity Brunch



The Cohen Career Center presented the Annual Networking and Recruiting Diversity Brunch and Showcase for the Center for Student Diversity Clubs on Friday, September 9, 2011. There were 30 employers in attendance at the event. Ninety-one students attended the event, which included students having the opportunity to network with employers and enjoy a meal together throughout the Cohen Career Center Presentation Room, under the Patio Tent and on the Rooftop Terrace. Another highlight of the morning included a showcase of clubs and organizations from the Center for Student Diversity. The clubs provided visual banners, display boards and paraphernalia related to their organization that visually displayed the organizations' mission and involvement in the William and Mary and Williamsburg community.

A new Career Center Program, Diversity Tribes Workplace Mentoring Program was announced at this year's breakfast. This program allows employers from companies who recruit at William & Mary to mentor William & Mary students from diverse backgrounds on workplace topics. To become a mentor employers can sign up at <https://forms.wm.edu/2466>, to participate as a Mentee, students can sign up at <https://forms.wm.edu/2467>. For more information, please contact Tiffanie Rosier at tnrosier@wm.edu.

WMSURE Program



A new program at William & Mary is seeking to make sure that everyone in the College's diverse population has the opportunity to pursue undergraduate research and explore options for graduate and professional school. The William & Mary Scholars Undergraduate Research Experience (WMSURE) offers workshops, guidance, and social opportunities to students who are interested in getting involved in research.

The program is co-directed by Anne H. Charity Hudley, Ph.D., associate professor of English and education, and Cheryl Dickter, Ph.D., assistant professor of psychology. Students who participate in the program conduct research with faculty mentors. They also attend events and workshops, open to all students at the College, that focus on subjects including time management, writing, scholarships and grants, and graduate school. In addition, they participate in social activities aimed to establish them as a cohort on campus.

In addition to WMSURE's programming for students, there are programming components for faculty members, including workshops and lectures. Charity Hudley and Dickter have already received an overwhelmingly positive response from interested faculty members. Over forty faculty members have volunteered to serve as mentors to students or to act as liaisons for their schools or departments. This year, the WMSURE program is in full swing. Over 50 students attended the first Introductory event held on September 8th to learn more about the program's mission and upcoming events, with many incoming freshmen in attendance. WMSURE also hosted a successful event over Family Weekend in which current honors students presented their research projects to a group of WMSURE students and their family members. Professors Charity Hudley and Dickter are very encouraged about the level of excitement and high turnout at the first two events of the year. The Writing Resources Center is the new home to the WMSURE program, one of the many things that the co-directors of the WMSURE program have to be excited about for this school year. For more information about the WMSURE program, check out the website at www.wm.edu/sure or contact Prof. Cheryl Dickter at cltickter@wm.edu.

Recently, Pulitzer prize winning author of *Ruined*, **Lynn Nottage** visited campus. *Ruined* will be presented by William and Mary Theatre, April 19-21, 2012 at 8 pm in PBK Hall. Pictured below is Ms. Nottage with students.



The William & Mary Safe Zone Program will be offering workshops this fall for faculty, staff, and students who want to visibly show their support of people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, and /or transgender or queer (LGBTQ). The purpose of Safe Zone is to foster a campus environment where LGBTQ members of our community feel safe, welcome, respected and supported.

Individuals interested in participating must attend a training workshop to learn more about how to be an effective ally. After the training, they sign an agreement form which defines their role and responsibilities as a Safe Zone Program volunteer. Registration for fall workshops will open on Friday, October 7. Registration is online at www.wm.edu/safezone.

National Pan-Hellenic
Council grows at William and
Mary

Congratulations and welcome to the Sigma Lambda chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. and welcome back to the Xi Theta chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. In addition, the Alpha Delta Sigma chapter of Omega Psi Fraternity, Inc. celebrated it's first year of chartering on September 18, 2011.

IDEA Grant Proposals
Due on November 1 by
5:00 pm to Chon Glover,
Hoke House 1 or via email
at diversity@wm.edu.
The application is on the
ODCI website at
www.wm.edu/diversity.

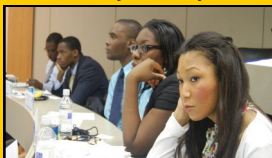
Cultural Student Organization Spotlight - Hillel



Hillel is a tight-knit Jewish student organization at WM. The Jewish population at the College is about 285 people, or approximately 2-4% of the student body. There are Shabbat services and dinner every Friday, events for the holidays, and a wide variety of social events, service projects, and Israel-related programs to get involved in. They also host seders on Passover and cook Kosher-for-Passover meals each night. On September 28, Hillel hosted a **Rosh Hashannah** Dinner on campus. The dinner drew over 100 people. Members blessed traditional candles, challah, apples and honey.

Student Summer Experience—Tonisha Spratte

Tonisha is 4th from the left below.



"Over the summer I was one of two people selected from William and Mary to attend Duke University's Fuqua School of Business' inaugural Ph.D. Pipeline Opportunity Program." Duke received funding for this innovative program which aims to increase diversity within business school faculty. The program, led by Lucy Reuben, professor of business administration, was granted \$750,000 for three years from the U.S. Department of Education. A national network of business faculty collaborated on the Ph.D. Pipeline Opportunity Program to inform minority undergraduate students about faculty careers, including the steps needed to prepare for such a career, and provided a support network for qualified students. Recent studies suggest that increasing the number of under-represented faculty in business disciplines can encourage and support the success of minority students in these disciplines, thus contributing to a more globally competitive workforce for America facing those professors. "The program paid for all our expenses (transportation, lodging, meals, etc.), and provided all participants with two stipends and an iPad 2. It was a great networking opportunity, great speakers, and gave me look at what is involved with earning a Ph.D. And, I met many influential people!"
—Tonisha Spratte, Class of 2013

Religion and Culture—Did you know?



Diwali is popularly known as the "festival of lights." It is an important five-day festival in Hinduism, Jainism, and Sikhism, celebrated for different reasons, occurring between mid-October and mid-November. For Hindus, Diwali is one of the most important festivals of the year and is celebrated in families by performing traditional activities together in their homes. For Jains, Diwali marks the attainment of *moksha* or *nirvana* by Mahavira in 527 BC. For Sikhs, Diwali is important because it celebrates the release from prison of the sixth guru, Guru Hargobind, who also rescued 52 Hindu kings held captive by Mughal Emperor with him in the Gwalior Fort in 1619. The name "Diwali" is a contraction of "Deepavali," which

translates into "row of lamps." Diwali involves the lighting of small clay lamps filled with oil to signify the triumph of good over evil. During Diwali, it is custom for celebrants to wear new clothes and share sweets and snacks with family members and friends.

LGBT History Month is a month-long annual observance of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender history, and the history of the gay rights and related civil rights movements. It is observed during October in the United States, to include National Coming Out Day on October 11. October was chosen as the month for the celebration because National Coming Out Day already was established as a widely known event and October commemorated the first march on Washington by LGBT people in 1979. LGBT History Month is intended to encourage honesty and openness about being lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. On June 2, 2000, President Bill Clinton declared June 2000 "Gay & Lesbian Pride Month." President Barack Obama declared Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Pride Month on June 1, 2009. On October 11, 1987, half a million people participated in the March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. It was the second such demonstration in our nation's capital and resulted in the founding of a number of LGBT organizations. From this idea the National Coming Out Day was born. To this day National Coming Out Day continues to promote a safe world for LGBT individuals to live truthfully and openly.

