**From the Desk of Our Director**

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

The Multicultural Student Center (MSC) provides multicultural student outreach, recruitment, transition, and retention support services to over 14% self-identified ethnic minority students in a university setting of 21,000+ students. In the fiscal year of 2012-13, the MSC had 743 students visit and obtain services. From July 1-December 5, 2013, we have already had 414 student visits mid-year. Our Center has been busy! I urge those of you that serve students to help make them aware of these important programs and services.

I would like to focus on Student Training Employment Program & Services (STEPS). In the past 3 months, we faced an impactful transitional period. I would like to thank Team Lead, Michelle Diez, and thank the following for their support, participation, and trust in maintaining the integrity of the program: Timmy Phomsouvanh, Anna Reyes, James “Riley” Painter, Ashley Cawley, Chelsea Bybee, Juhi Dubal, Jeff Henry, Maria Huerta, and Niesha Miller. Our Student employees have diligently and consistently worked to improve and enhance this program. Way to go!

I would also like to thank our professional, support staff and again the STEPS crew for exhibiting exceptional work with intentional interventions to help guide and assist our students. I join the staff of the Multicultural Student Center in expressing our gratitude for your support and the opportunity to share our resources with our students, partners, families and friends. Let us help you accomplish your goals. Come visit us today!

Michiko Nakashima-Lizarazo
Director of Multicultural Student Center

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**Upcoming Events**

- **Mardi Gras Celebration**
  - March 3rd, 2014
  - 9am-2pm in SU Attrium

- **Taboo Talks-Utah vs. China Pollution**
  - March 19th, 2014
  - 12:30-2:30pm in SU 232

- **Unity: Women of Mozambique Project**
  - March 16th, 2014
  - 5pm-10pm SU Ballroom B

- **Weber’s Got Talent**
  - March 21st, 2014
  - 7pm SU Mezzanine

- **SIL Colorfest**
  - March 28th, 2014
  - 4:00 PM, Davis Campus D3 D3-151-BALLROOM

- **Black and White Ball**
  - March 28th, 2014
  - 8pm-11pm, SU Skyroom

- **Tasty Thursday-Australia**
  - March 27th, 2014
  - 11am-2pm, SC 150

- **Tasty Thursday-Antarctica**
  - April 17, 2014
  - 11am-2pm, SC 150

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**President’s Day**

Washington’s Birthday is the official name designated to what many of us know as President’s Day. During the month of February the birthday of two of our greatest Presidents takes place, both George Washington who was born on Feb. 22nd and Abraham Lincoln born on Feb. 12th.

Washington's Birthday, also known as President’s Day, is a federal holiday held on the third Monday of February. The day honors presidents of the United States, including George Washington, the USA's first president.

By: Timmy Phomsouvanh

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**Weber turns 125!!**

Last month, students, staff, and faculty of this university gathered in the atrium of the Union building to celebrate Weber State turning 125. There was a stage set up, speeches about the university, a giant balloon drop, and of course the ginormous Weber State cake. Madahi Mejia, a student who went to this occasion, said, “Oh it was fun! The balloon dropping and the cake was great. I especially loved the fact that President Wight was there serving it to all the students.” The celebration went on to Historic 25th street for the opening of the bookstore.

Everything was being sold for .50, and so on in theme of the 125 years. Overall, it was a great event and loads of fun!

By: Juhi Dubal

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**January & February 2014 Issue eighteen**

**Black History Month**

“Freedom is never given; it is won.”

- A. Philip Randolph

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**In this issue....**

- Black History Month
  - WSU 125th
  - Tasty Thursday
  - Area councils
  - And much more...

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**WSU 125th**

**Madame C.J. Walker**

- "I am not ashamed of my past. I am not ashamed of my humble beginnings."
  - Michelle Obama

**Lewis Howard Latimer**

- Invented electric control devices for guided missiles.
  - IBM computers and pacemakers.

**Otis Boykin**

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**Otis Boykin**

- Invented electronic control devices for guided missiles, IBM computers and pacemakers.

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**Lewis Howard Latimer**

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**Contact us at 801-626-7330 or multicultural@weber.edu**

Visit us Online at weber.edu/multicultural
Midterms have arrived and we’re half way done with this 15-week long semester! For some of us unlucky students come midterm exams and papers. However, there is a way to make it through this “hump week” of the semester. Take a look at the following tips to fuel your success to knock these midterms out of water:

- **Start Early**
  - You should prepare and determine a schedule the week before your tests and papers are due. Do this to limit stress and procrastination.
- **Sleep**
  - Make sure to include sleep as part of your schedule. Studying while you are well rested definitely comes with its benefits.
- **Limit Distractions:**
  - Study in a quiet place and avoid distractions off to focus on academics.
- **Time Management**
  - Don’t be afraid to say no to situations that may take time away from you academics.
- **Take Breaks**
  - Make sure to take a 15 minute break for every hour of studying to avoid burnout, and to gain the most out of your study sessions.

Hopefully these tips will help you to succeed with your midterms. Believe in yourself and understand that it will all be worth it in the end. Midterms are designed to help you prepare for your finals week at the end of the semester, so take them in stride and find the light at the end of the tunnel! You can do it!

By: Chelsea Bybee

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**Lantern Festival & Valentine’s Day**

This year, there were two major world holidays on February 14th! In China, the Lantern Festival is celebrated on the 15th day of the first month of the new year. With the lantern often considered a symbol of love, it’s both a day of celebration for families and also for love. Conveniently enough, this fell on the same day as Valentine’s Day! While Valentine’s Day is mostly known for roses, and heart-shaped chocolate boxes, most are unaware that Valentine’s Day is actually a church-sanctioned holiday by the Roman Catholic Church.

The origins of Valentine’s Day can be traced back to ancient Rome, where on February 15th, they celebrated Lupercalia. As a part of the festival, men and women would draw names from a box, and each couple would be paired up until the next year. The pagan celebration of Lupercalia continued until Pope Gelasius I declared it to be St. Valentine’s Day near 498 A.D. It is not clear what St. Valentine he honored the day after, as there are three St. Valentines who have been said to have been martyred on February 14th.

We are at the Multicultural Student Center hope you’ve been able to enjoy the early holidays of the year! Please join us for an upcoming Mardi Gras celebration!

By: Ashlee Cawley

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**Tasty Thursdays**

Every month students and staff at the Multicultural Student Center celebrate a different continent, and to learn about the different services that the Multicultural Student Center has to offer. For January and February, Asia and Europe were celebrated with food from India, China, Italy, and France along with fun and colorful decorations from different countries in Asia. Come join us on March 27th from 11-2 in SC 150 to celebrate Australian culture, and to find out what the Multicultural Student Center has to offer.

By: Michelle Diez

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**Black Scholars United**

**The Ohana Association**

**Hispanic Area Council**

WSU Celebrating Chinese New Year

The past two months have been a great time of celebration for wildcats! This year, the Chinese New Year fell on January 31st. Members of Weber State’s Chinese Club kicked off the year on the 28th with celebration, treating their audience to beautiful dances and performances by Chinese students. Through Weber State’s Center for Diversity and Unity and Weber State’s Chinese Culture and Language Club, another celebration was held on the 31st, celebrating the Year of the Horse by including performances from Chinese-language students and other performers. The Chinese New Year begins each year on the second new moon after the winter solstice. The Chinese calendar is a lunar calendar, with twelve animal zodiacs for the twelve year cycles.

By: Ashlee Cawley

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**For more information about Area Councils please visit www.weber.edu/multicultural**

Chief Editor: Michelle Diez | Co-Editor: TimmyPhomsouvanh

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