

Mosaic Times

When Jesus Christ asked little children to come to him, he didn't say only **rich** children, or **White** children, or children with **two-parent** families, or children who didn't have a **mental** or **physical handicap**. He said, "Let all children come unto me."

(Marian Wright Edelman)

Greetings from the Director's Desk



Johnika Nixon, Director, CID

A new year always brings new things but a new academic year at the Mount means so much more. At the Mount this year is a new Director for the Center for Intercultural Development, new Faculty Co-Director, and new plans for the Center. As you noticed at the top of this newsletter, CID has a logo. The logo has 4 puzzle pieces with different words which in my opinion connect the meaning of the Center's focus simply as—Connecting Individual Differences. That's truly the goal of CID. New initiatives of CID include SPIRIT @ the Mount, TEAM Diversity Peer Educators, and Mix It Up. SPIRIT, a Dialogue on Campus Issues as they relate to anything, stands for Student Problem Identification and Resolution of Issues Together, runs for 4 hours each on Tuesday, September 25 and Tuesday, October 2, 2007 at Mount Saint Mary's. TEAM Diversity Peer Educators, who are a group of students committed to social justice teachings of acceptance, understanding and help-

ing others, begins with a Fall Retreat in October and begins spreading the good news in the Spring of 2008. TEAM stands for Teaching Everyone About Multiculturalism. Brought back by popular demand is Mix It Up, an amazing diversity dialogue forging conversations among the students of the Mount. Mix It Up will be facilitated by TEAM Diversity Peer Educators. Also, the CID Student Organizations, BSU, MSA, ASA, HCA (formally known as Latin Student Association), GC, SDC, ISA are up and running and for more information about these clubs I urge you to open up to page 3 of this newsletter. Hispanic Heritage Month is on the horizon and much is planned, so I urge you to keep your eyes, ears and email boxes open. With the Mount's 200 Year Bicentennial ushering us along, this is certain to be a great year of activism, cultural, personal, and professional exploration, and endless

opportunities to learn something new, meet new people, mingle with plenty of alumni and gain a great understanding of that good ole Mount pride. My office is always open not only to international and underrepresented students, but all students, faculty, staff, and administrators of the Mount community. I always enjoy the new academic year and try to celebrate every day as a new year, just another one of God's opportunities that allow me to do something better today than I did yesterday.

Respectfully,

Johnika Nixon

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Notable Hispanic Figures	2
CID Co Director	2
Alumni Spotlight	2
Multicultural Student Org	3
Hispanic Heritage Facts	3
Immigration	3
Calendar	4

Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month 2007

Hispanic Heritage Month began as a week long event in 1968 by President Lyndon B. Johnson. In 1988, we began to observe the month long celebration from September 15 through October 15. September 15 was chosen as the initial start of the celebration because it is the

independence anniversary of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. Mexico and Chile also celebrate their independence during this time, their anniversaries on September 16 and September 18, respectively.

America celebrates the culture and traditions of U.S. residents who trace their roots to Spain, Mexico, and the Spanish-speaking nations of the Caribbean and Central and South America. (U.S. Census Bureau) Join us at the Mount as we celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month 2007, themed *Mi America*, with a movie and discussion, fantastic food, Latin Jazz entertainment, a dynamic Cuban guest speaker and much more.

Famous Firsts by Hispanic Americans

Government

Member of U.S. Congress: Joseph Marion Hernandez, 1822
U.S. Representative: Romualdo Pacheco, 1876
U.S. Senator: Octaviano Larrazolo, 1928
US Surgeon General: Antonia Coello Novello, 1990-1993 (*Also first woman to ever hold this position*).
US. Attorney General: Alberto Gonzales, 2005-2007

Military

Medal of Honor recipient: Philip Bazaar, 1865.
Admiral, US Navy: David G. Farragut, 1866. Entering the navy at 10 years old, he is also the youngest person to have ever enlisted.

Science and Medicine

Astronaut, male: Franklin Chang-Diaz, 1986.
Astronaut, female: Ellen Ochoa, 1991.

Literature

Novel in English: Maria Ampara Ruiz de Burton, *Who Would Have Thought It?* (1872).

Music

Opera diva, Lucrezia Bori, 1912.
Rock star, Richie Valens, 1958.
Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee: Carlos Santana,

1998.
Film
Oscar, Best Actor: Jose Ferrer, 1950.
Oscar, Best Supporting Actress: Rita Moreno, 1961.
Oscar, Best Supporting Actor: Benecio Del Toro, 2000.
Hollywood Director: Raoul Walsh, 1914.

Drama

Tony, Best Director: Jose Quintero, 1973.
Tony, Best Supporting Actress: Rita Moreno, 1975.

Television

Star of a network show: Desi Arnaz, 1952, *I Love Lucy*.
Broadcaster of the Year: Geraldo Rivera, 1971.

Baseball

Major league player: Estaban Bellan, 1871, Troy Haymakers.
World Series player: Adolfo "Dolf"

Luque, 1919.

Hall of Fame inductee: Roberto Clemente, 1973. Also first Hispanic player to reach 3,000 hits.
Team Owner: Arturo "Ante" Moreno brought the Anaheim Angels in 2003.

Football

NFL player: Ignacio Molinet, 1927.
#1 NFL draft pick: Jim Plunkett, 1971.
Football Hall of Fame inductee: Tom Fears, 1970. Also first Hispanic American head coach.

Sports

LPGA Hall of Fame inductee: Nancy Lopez, 1987.
Heavyweight boxing champ: John Ruiz, 2001.

Other

Supermodel: Christy Turlington.

For more on Famous Firsts by these or other Hispanic Americans, visit FactMonster.com



Novello was appointed Surgeon General by President George H. W. Bush, beginning her tenure on March 9, 1990. She was the first woman and the first Hispanic to hold the position.

"One day our descendants will think it incredible that we paid so much attention to things like the amount of melanin in our skin or the shape of our eyes or our gender instead of the unique identities of each of us as complex human beings." (Unknown)

CID Faculty Co-Director

Meet Dr. Maureen Oakley, a tenured faculty member within the Political Science Department at Mount St. Mary's University.

Dr. Oakley, a native Chicagoan received her Bachelor's from Hope College and Master's from Northern Illinois University, both in Political Science and her Doctorate in Public Policy from Kent State. When not teaching an

array of course such as *Politics of Gender, Race and Ethnicities, Research Methods for Political Science, State and Local Government or Public Policy*, Dr. Oakley enjoys running marathons, her last one she ran in January 2007. So far, believe it or not, she has run a total of 14. When asked what she enjoys about the Mount, she replied happily "the interdisciplinary

discussions with faculty." When asked what she enjoys about working with CID, she mentioned enthusiastically that she loves the new student initiatives, such as SPIRIT and TEAM Diversity Peer Educators and energy coming from the Center. As the CID Faculty Co-Director, Dr. Oakley serves as a faculty representative/liason to further centralize CID as focal point to the academic and cultural development of all Mount students.

Welcome, Dr. Oakley!

Cultural Conversation: Immigration Reform

By: Dr. Maureen Oakley

The United States is often called "a nation of immigrants" and many Americans can trace their ancestors to other nations. We still hear the terms "Irish-American, Italian-American, Mexican-American, etc. Some may not realize that the majority of immigrants in the United States are here legally. Over 21 million have permanent resident status; over twice the number of immigrants in the U.S. without proper documentation. Yet, the issue of immigration in the United States today often provokes emotional responses, due to an increase in illegal immigration

from about 3.5 million fifteen years ago to more than 10 million illegal immigrants, with more than half of them residing in California, Texas, Florida and New York. Illegal or undocumented immigrants are estimated to be about five percent (six million people) of the work force.

While some argue that undocumented immigrants in U.S. depress wages, threaten national security and put a strain on government resources, others make the case that American employers need this source of labor, and that these workers contribute to the overall

economy. While some express concern that immigrants will rely on government support, it is estimated that 96% of the 4.5 million men in the country illegally are working, according to Jeffrey Passel, a senior research associate at the Pew Hispanic Center and former U.S. Census demographer.

Recognizing the need for reform, President Bush called for major immigration reform in 2003 focusing on a guest worker program allowing immigrants to legally enter the country on a temporary basis to fill jobs that employers say that they can not fill. The plan was put on hold with the onset of the Iraq war and was set aside during the campaign

of 2004. By late 2005, legislation had made its way to the floor of the House of Representatives, but Republicans rejected Bush's plan and called instead for the deportation of all illegal immigrants. They also proposed making it a felony to offer any assistance to illegal immigrants.

Immigrants' rights groups, churches and others were outraged at this approach and organized protests during the spring of 2006. In the Senate, a group of senators from both parties reached a compromise on a bill that would create both a guest worker program and a path to citizenship for many undocumented immigrants. The presi-

Multicultural Student Organizations



APIC

Asian/Pacific Islander Club

Looking for students of or interested in Asian heritage and culture.
Contact C.I.D.



BSU

Black Student Union

Open to students interested in or of African/African American heritage and culture.

Meetings: Tues. 6:00-Mount Cafe

MSA

Multicultural Student Association
Umbrella organization for all CID organizations.



SDC

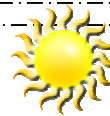
Social Dance Club

Open to all students interested in contemporary dancing. Experience not needed.

Meetings: T/Th 8-10 PM-Aerobics Room, ARCC

HCA

Hispanic Cultural Association

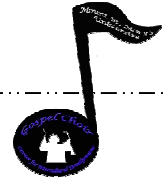


Open to all students interested in or of Hispanic/Latin American heritage and culture.

Meetings: Mon. at 7:30, Upper McGowan

GC

Gospel Choir



Open to all students interested in singing gospel music.

Meetings: T/TH-Pang Chapel



ISA

International Student Association

Open to all students interested or of International heritage and culture.

Meetings: Wednesday at 7:30-AC 221

For more information on any of these organizations, visit the CID website.

By the year 2050, nearly one-quarter of the nation's population will be Hispanic.

Hispanic Heritage: Fast Facts

Did you know that:

- As of July 1, 2005, peoples of Hispanic origin account for the nation's largest ethnic or race minority, with 42.7 million in population (US Fact Finder)
- The United States is the 5th largest Spanish speaking nation in the world.
- The 35 million Hispanics that reside in the U.S. come from various Latin American countries: 66% from Mexico, 15% from Central and South America, 9% from Puerto Rico, 6% from other countries and 4% from Cuba. (US Census 2000)
- By the year 2050, nearly one-quarter of the nation's population will be Hispanic (US Dept. of Ed)

Cultural Conversation cont'd: Immigration

Cont'd from pg. 2 -dent's support was behind the bill, but many conservative Republicans opposed the bill, calling it an amnesty plan. After the 2006 election, Senate control changed to the Democrats by a narrow margin. A new plan was proposed in 2007 by a bipartisan group of Senators that attempted to address the security issues raised by conservatives first before turning to the matter of guest workers and a path to legal status for undocumented workers. The proposal was defeated June 28th when a vote to end debate on the bill failed. Senators from both parties indicated that it was unlikely that a bill would be passed this session. More than eighty percent of undocumented immigrants come from Latin America with fifty-seven percent of those coming from neighboring Mexico, yet we

rarely hear about this issue from a Mexican perspective. Mexican President Felipe Calderon criticized U.S. immigration policy on September 2nd in his state of the nation address saying, "We strongly protest the unilateral measures taken by the U.S. Congress and government that have only persecuted and exacerbated the mistreatment of Mexican undocumented workers," he said. "The insensitivity toward those who support the U.S. economy and society has only served as an impetus to reinforce the battle for their rights." One recent high profile case that illustrates Calderon's frustration is that of Elvira Arellano who has an eight year old son who is a U.S. Citizen. She was deported to Mexico after spending a year in a church to avoid being returned there. Her son is one of many U.S. born children

attempting to build a life in Mexico after parents have been deported. The Arellano's continue to fight to be able to return to the U.S. *How might we look at this issue from a Catholic perspective?* On the day following the failure of the Senate to pass immigration reform in June, Bishop Gerald R. Barnes, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops committee on migration, urged Congress not to abandon reform, calling it a humanitarian issue and the status quo morally unacceptable. The Bishops supported proposed legislation in the House called STRIVE (HR 1645) which stands for The Security Through Regularized Immigration and a Vibrant Economy Act of 2007. This bipartisan legislation was sponsored by Rep. Juis Gutierrez (D-IL) and Jeff Flake (R-AZ). It improves boarder security, creates a guest worker program, as well as a path to citizenship, and focuses on family unification, which is a major concern of the

Bishops. The plans supported by the President, on the other hand, make cuts to family-based immigration programs and impose very high costs for the new visas (\$3,500 every three years and \$10,000 once some become eligible for permanent residency). The Bishops fear this would put them out of reach for many, and cause a continuation of the current problems of an exploited, very low-paid underclass. In addition to passing immigration reform, the Bishops also urge the U.S. to help Mexico and other countries address the underlying economic problems that result in migration. While the 110th Congress has not been successful in passing immigration reform and probably will not do so before the end of the session, this social justice issue will hopefully remain on the public agenda. This is definitely an issue to watch as the candidates continue to gear up for the 2008 elections. (CQ Researcher)

In the News: Racism Still Alive & Well

Center for Intercultural Development

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By: Johnika Nixon—If you haven't heard about Jena 6, let me sum it up in a few words. Jena is a small town of about 4,000 in Central Louisiana. In the Fall of 2006, an African American high school student asked to sit under a specific shaded tree that had a historical, unwritten rule of "for whites only." Administrators at the school didn't mind, however the next day three nooses were hanging from the tree. Since then, violence has erupted showing that there is still a racial divide so thick in the town that many civil rights leaders have felt the personal need to step in. The phrase Jena 6, stands for the 6 African American high school students who are currently up for or awaiting trial from incidents that have occurred since that late day in September, one year ago. To get up to date news on Jena 6, "Google" and you'll find what your own backyard or local news won't tell you: **Racism Still Exists.**

Hispanic Heritage Month 2007 Events



*Movie &
Discussion*

*"Goya in Bordeaux." Mon., Sept. 17th @ 6 (Purcell)
HCA, Spanish Club & French Club Discussion. Mon., Sept. 17th @ 7:30 (Purcell)*

*Dinner &
Entertainment*

Latin Jazz & Dinner. Tues., Sept. 18th @ 5:30pm (Patriot)

speaker

The Cuban Guy. Wed., Sept. 26th @ 7pm (Purcell)

Wrap Up

Brown Bag Discussion: Immigration. Monday, Oct. 1st @ 5pm (TBA)

Co-Sponsored by Center for Intercultural Development (CID), Hispanic Cultural Association (HCA), Multicultural Student Association (MSA), the Calles Unidas, and Table Française.

Cultural Calendar

September 2007

- 9/3 – Labor Day (USA) (Canada)
Result of the effects of the labor union movement to commemorate the economic and social achievements of workers.
- 9/9 – Chong Yang (China)
Dedicated to the older generation.
- 9/11 – Patriot Day (USA)
Day of Remembrance for the attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon in 2001.
- 9/13 – Rosh Hashana (Israel/Jewish)
Jewish New Year.
- 9/13 – Ramadan (Islamic)
9th month of the Islamic year in which Muslims fast every day during the month between dawn and sunset.
- 9/15 – Hispanic Heritage Month (USA)

- 9/15 – Independence Day (Central America)
Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua gained Independence from Spain in 1821.
- 9/16 – Dia de la Independencia (Mexico)
Celebrates Mexico who gained Independence from Spain in 1820.
- 9/16 – Oktoberfest (Germany)
- 9/22 – Yom Kippur (Jewish)
Day of Atonement is commemorated with a 25 hour fast and intensive prayer.
- 9/24 – Heritage Day (South Africa)
Celebrates the cultural diversity in South Africa.

October 2007

- 10/1 – Independence Day (Nigeria)
Gained independence from the UK in 1960.

- 10/2 – Ghandi's Birthday (India)
Indian nationalist who adopted non violence in fighting for his country's independence.
- 10/7 – Confucius' Birthday (China, Taiwan)
- 10/9 – Laylat al-Qadr (Islamic)
Anniversary of the night in which the Qur'an was first communicated in its entirety to Muhammad.
- 10/10 – Columbus Day (USA)
- 10/12 – Eid ul-Fitr (Islamic)
Marks the end of Ramadan, month of fasting.
- 10/15 – National Heroes Day (Jamaica)
Honors Jamaican heroes.
- 10/21 – Diwali (India)
Hindu Festival of Lights.
- 10/31 – Halloween (USA)
Begun as a religious celebration of all saints and martyrs, this day has become a cultural event, originated in Ireland.