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Guess That Bridge & Get Some Swag...
(Send guesses to oid@cofc.edu)
Greetings

We are pumped about this academic year!

Last month we co-hosted “The Power of the Student Athlete,” in Sottile Theatre, with CofC Hall of Famer, Jermel President, ’03. We also co-hosted an ice cream social drop-in with the College’s Black Alumni Council to formally-welcome the 2018 cohort of MSPS’ SPECTRA students to the CofC Family. We recently joined The Black History Intercollegiate Consortium which is comprised of MUSC, Charleston Southern University, Trident Technical College and The Citadel.

We’ve added two new team members; Dr. Charissa Owens will lead diversity workshops and Amanda Henderson is our graduate assistant. Round two of Crossing the Cistern (CTC) is off to a great start, with 13 students participating in the program this year. Seven CTC alumni are serving as mentors. This year, diversity programs are defined by cross-campus collaborations and community engagement.

And lastly, the Shifa Clinic – a full-service health clinic working to close the gap in healthcare throughout the Tri-County region – is this year’s campus project for The College Cares Initiative. Be on the lookout for more campus partnerships, community outreach and engagement of CofC alumni as the academic year progresses.

As always, thank you for your support, and I hope to see you at some of our workshops and programs during the fall and spring.

Sincerely,

Dr. Rénard Harris

Introducing...

Amanda Henderson

I’m in the MPA program and this is my first semester. Here at OID I will be assisting the office with whatever projects they are working on. Right now my primary focus is helping with CTC and using Qualtrics for data analysis to gather information from our upcoming programs. I received my bachelor’s from Washington State University. I was born in Idaho but believe that home is where you make it; right now I would say I have homes both in Washington and Charleston. I’m excited to be working for OID because of all the programs they offer to support students currently at the College of Charleston, increase diversity on campus in future classes, and educate people on how we can be more inclusive and united rather than divided.

Dr. Charissa M. Owens

I come to the Office of Institutional Diversity having received a B.S from the University of South Florida, and an MA and Ph. D in Education from the University of Central Florida. I am a published scholar, advocate, and expert in identifying and supporting individual differences across a variety of learning settings. With over 15 years of experience in the field of education, I have led numerous workshops nationally and internationally. As Director of Diversity, Education, and Training, I will assist the Office of Institutional Diversity in achieving its mission of promoting an all-inclusive campus community and advancing the cultural competence of the College of Charleston’s students, faculty and staff.
OID recognizes that student leaders can play a key role in helping CofC create and sustain an all-inclusive campus community. This semester, we’re introducing a new feature called "Student Voices." This month’s feature is written by Tripp Keeffe, President of the Student Government Association for the 2018–2019 academic year.

The Bridge Builder: How does SGA plan to address diversity this year?

Tripp Keeffe

SGA has several plans to address diversity in the 2018–2019 academic year. To begin, we have created a diversity council, which will be a committee of students from various diverse and minority communities. This council will meet biweekly with the SGA president and periodically with Interim President Steve Osborne based on his availability. The goal of this council will be to provide SGA with the perspectives of individuals and communities on campus who are typically underrepresented and to give these individuals and communities an amplified voice.

Additionally, I will personally seek, as SGA president, to voice concerns I hear from the diversity council and general student body with the upper administration and to advocate for policies and initiatives that will enhance and increase diversity. I also would like to meet periodically with Dr. Rénard Harris to take advice from OID about how best the SGA can help to enhance diversity on campus.
Meet Lambda Theta Phi, Incorporated

The scope of diversity continues to expand at CofC. In the Fall of 2017, Fraternity and Sorority Life added Lambda Theta Phi, Incorporated to its offerings. The Bridge Builder (BB) caught up with a few of the brothers to learn more about the cultural impact they’re having on campus.

BB: Can you introduce yourselves to the rest of campus? Tell us about the Brothers of Lambda Theta Phi.

SS: We are Lambda Theta Phi Latin Fraternity, Incorporated. We are the first Latin Fraternity to establish ourselves in the nation back on December 1st, 1975 and the first Latin Fraternity to establish ourselves on the campus of the College of Charleston since Fall of 2017, November 11 to be precise. We started out as 8 brothers, but one graduated in Spring of 2018 and is back in Brazil. All of us come from all walks of life which include ethnicities (Mexican, Colombian/Dominican, Indian, Jordanian, African American, and Brazilian), majors (math, music, education, business, biology, geology, and communication), and much more.

BB: Why did you guys decide to start a chapter of this fraternity at CofC?

DR: We decided to start a chapter at CofC because there has never been a Latin Fraternity on campus and we wanted to form an organization where multicultural students could feel like they belong.

BB: What is your organization’s primary focus?

JP: To showcase diversity on campus by holding events and really make an impact in the community by uniting minorities.

BB: I see that all of you are seniors! What legacy do you hope to leave behind at the College?

VR: New recruits and a continuing legacy of excellence, growth, and impact both on campus and in the community.

BB: Are there any upcoming events or interest meetings students can attend to get to know you guys better?

OV: Interested gentlemen have already signed up on our email list. If anyone wants more information about us and/or how to join, please contact me at omar.valenciafal7@gmail.com. Also, look out for our Salsa night and elote sales! Details will be coming soon!
**Upcoming Programs**

**THE OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL DIVERSITY PRESENTS**

**CREATIVE CONCEPTS**

**WITH COMMUNITY COMES UNITY**

- **DANCEFX**
  Charleston’s Premier Nonprofit Adult and Youth Dance Studio will perform a piece celebrating womanhood.

- **ArtPot**

**FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**SEPTEMBER 13TH 2018 6PM - 8PM**

**HALSEY INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART AND HILL ART GALLERY**

161 CALHOUN STREET | CHARLESTON, SC 29403

**VISIT DIVERSITY.CCPC.EDU FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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**STAND OUT RISE UP SHINE TOGETHER**

3:00 - 4:30 P.M.

Suicide and bullying continue to plague the LGBTQ community. Help us promote advocacy, inspire unity and celebrate life by joining us for a table fair, continuation of the LGBTQ Quilt Project and food.

6:00 - 8:00 P.M.

LATER IN THE EVENING, JOIN US FOR A FORMAL EVENT FEATURING...

- **ALISON BERK** (SU/CC Student, Peer Prevention Educator, Student Council) - Speaker, Awareness Trainer
- **JANET CLEMETTI** (Director of Film, Clemson) - Eggplant Speaker
- **VANITY RED** (SU/CC Student) - Speaker

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2018**

**RITA LIDDY HOLLINGS SCIENCE BLDG, ROOM 101**

This event is free and open to the public.

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**HISPANICS**

One Endless Voice to Enhance our Traditions

Join ODI, Multicultural Student Programs and Services, IACS, Hispanic Studies Department and Circulo Hispanamericano de Charleston as we celebrate the unique cultures of Puerto Rico, Colombia and Guatemala. The evening will conclude with a reception featuring authentic food from each country and a musical performance by Otto Sar!

Stern Center Ballroom
71 George Street
6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2018**

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In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, please join us for

**CHARTING A PATH TO SUCCESS**

Panelists from Career Services, the Counseling Center, Office of Institutional Diversity, Civic Engagement, Center for Student Learning and current students

Thursday, September 27, 2018
6:00 PM
Alumni Center - School of EHHP
86 Wentworth Street

**GETTING THE MOST OUT OF YOUR COLLEGE EXPERIENCE**

Music provided by Javier Polo and Omar Valencia
Upcoming Workshops

Access, Responsiveness, Inclusion, Equity, and Social Justice (ARIES) Lunch Series workshops are designed to help participants learn more about diversity on campus and in the community. Designed using universal learning guidelines in an inviting and inclusive setting, each hour-long workshop features a special guest. As a collective, A.R.I.E.S. Lunch Series workshops advance the cultural competency and fluency of the College’s students, faculty and staff.

When: 12pm – 1pm
Where: Stern Center, Rm. 409

September 12 & September 13 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · You, Me, We are Diversity
September 19 & September 20 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · Identifying Interlocking Identities
September 26 & September 27 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · Color Me Blind
October 3 & October 4 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · Sharing in Campus Pride
October 10 & October 11 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · Vaccinating Stereotype Threats
October 17 & October 18 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · Demystifying Why Pronouns Matter
October 24 & October 25 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · Advocating for Neurodiversity
November 14 & November 15 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · Fan Favorite Title
October 31 & November 1 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ARIES Reflection Panel
From the African drumbeats of the Cuban mambo, to the smooth sound of Brazil’s Bossa Nova, the musical contributions of Latin American music is truly rich. It is what makes Latin American music special to millions around the world. In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15 – October 15) here’s a list of songs sure to keep you dancing all month long!

Oye Como Va – Tito Puente
I Like It – Cardi B (ft. Bad Bunny & J. Balvin)
Ritmo de mi Cuba – Celia Cruz
Corazón Espinado – Santana
Urubu Malandro – Pixinguinha
Mi Gente – J. Balvin (feat. Willy William)
La Gozadera – Gente de Zona
Quimbara – Celia Cruz
Magalenha – Sérgio Mendes
Heaven – Los Lonely Boys
Como La Flor – Selena
Tumbao – Prince Royce (ft. Gene de Zona, Arturo Sandoval)
Despacito – Luis Fonsi (ft. Daddy Yankee)
Vivir Mi Vida – Marc Anthony
Gasolina – Daddy Yankee
Suavemente – Elvis Crespo