

Online Catalyst

A Newsletter for Students

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It's Hispanic Heritage Month!

Hispanic Heritage Month events are observed this year from Sept. 17–Nov. 4. All events are free and open to the public.

Thursday, Sept. 17—*La Cultura: A Personal Portrait of Tejanos and Mexicanos.* The guest artist is Al Rendon, owner of Rendon Photography and Fine Art. His photographs have appeared in many books and national magazines; Library and Learning Center, Ecolab 302, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 24—*Latinos in the Twin Cities: Challenges and Perspectives;* a Chicano/Latino panel of service providers moderated by Assistant Professor Aureliano DeSoto discusses the challenges and perspectives of Latinos in the Twin Cities; Library and Learning Center, Ecolab 302, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 7—*Four U.S. Latino Topics and Their Social, Economic and Public Policy Importance to the U.S. Today;* Associate Professor Renee Rosenbaum, Michigan State University, is the presenter; Ecolab 302, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

Friday/Saturday, Oct. 9–10—*Third Annual Summit of the Minnesota Network of Latinos in Higher Education* is being cohosted by Metropolitan State; the theme is *Voces Latinas. Becoming Visible in the Academy*; see www.mnlatinosinhighered.org. The Equal Opportunity and Diversity Office and the student organization *Los Latinos* will pay the registration fee for the first 30 university employees or students. Those interested should contact the EOD Office at 651-793-1270 by Sept. 18.

Thursday, Oct. 15—*Brincando el Charco: Portrait of a Puerto Rican,* a film about photographer/videographer Claudia Marin, followed by a discussion led by Aureliano DeSoto; Library and Learning Center, Ecolab 302, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 4—*Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead)*; RSVP by Oct. 15 if you wish to set up an *ofrenda* (altar) dedicated to the spirits of deceased loved ones. Space is limited to the first 15 groups or individuals who RSVP. For a schedule and set-up instructions, contact the EOD Office; New Main, Great Hall, 1–6 p.m.

RSVP your attendance for all events to cultural.events@metrostate.edu or call the Equal Opportunity and Diversity Office (EOD) at 651-793-1270. This year's events are sponsored by the Chicano Latino Student Services, EOD, and the student organization, *Los Latinos*. Student activities fees help fund these events.

Bus passes available for purchase

The university is offering Go-To-College Bus Passes this semester. They will **not** be subsidized but are still a “deal” at \$175 for unlimited mass transit usage (good until Dec. 31, 2009). Cash or a credit card can be used. Students are encouraged to call ahead to the cashier's window (651-793-1878) to ensure that there is stock on hand before making the trip to purchase the pass.

The passes can be purchased only by students and are not available for employees.

Management faculty named

Blink Bonnie's hours

Blink Bonnie's hours for fall semester are Monday–Thursday, 8 a.m.–8 p.m.; Friday–Saturday, 8 a.m.–2 p.m. Blink Bonnie is closed on major holidays.

Allan Bernard, Bloomington, was appointed assistant professor to teach management courses in the College of Management, Metropolitan State University. This nine-month appointment started Aug. 17.

Besides teaching, Bernard participates in professional organizations and is involved in community service. Since 2006 he has been a business instructor at Metropolitan State, Minneapolis Community and Technical College and Hamline University. He was also the

campaign coordinator of Citizens for Justice Paul Anderson. Previously he was chief of staff to city council members for the city of Minneapolis and manager of American Amusement Arcades.

Bernard holds a B.A. in political science from the University of Minnesota and a master of business administration from Metropolitan State.

He can be reached at the Minneapolis Campus, Room M1240; his phone number is 612-659-7236.

Psychology faculty member appointed

Psychology Club spins the wheel at FallFest

The Psychology Club challenges you to spin the "wheel of psychology" at their booth at FallFest on Friday, Sept. 11. Club members are invited to send questions with answers and to volunteer to work at the booth. Reply to metropsychclub@gmail.com.

Kerry Soon Kleyman, Maplewood, was appointed assistant professor to teach psychology courses in the College of Professional Studies, Metropolitan State University. This nine-month appointment started Aug. 17.

Kleyman teaches undergraduate courses in diversity and ethics, personality, and social and general psychology. She was a statistical consultant and graduate research assistant for the Center for Research Design and Analysis, University of Nevada, Reno, where she was also an instructor. Earlier she was a research methods

teaching assistant and undergraduate research assistant at Metropolitan State University.

Kleyman holds a B.A. in psychology from Metropolitan State and an M.A. in social psychology from the University of Nevada, Reno. She is a doctoral candidate for a Ph.D. in social psychology, also from the University of Nevada, with plans to graduate next spring.

She can be reached at the Midway Center, Suite 101, Office 102; her phone number is 651-999-5833.

Accounting faculty appointed

Application deadline

All students are welcome to apply for the Professional Communication major, which includes a communication core and three professional tracks. The application deadline is Sept. 30. Call the Communication, Writing and the Arts Department at 651-999-5940 for an application packet.

Linda McCann, St. Anthony, was appointed assistant professor to teach financial accounting courses in the College of Management, Metropolitan State University. This nine-month appointment started Aug. 17.

McCann's responsibilities include teaching in the area of financial accounting (advanced, intermediate and introductory), participation in professional organizations and community service. She has served as community faculty at Metropolitan State since 2005 and is also a community faculty instructor in finance for National American University. She worked as

headquarters' controller for American Refugee Committee International, as financial statement lead auditor for Wilkerson & Associates and as operations manager and accountant for Alpha-M, Inc.

McCann holds a B.A. in business administration from the College of St. Catherine and an M.B.A. from Metropolitan State. She is a certified public accountant.

She can be reached on the Minneapolis Campus, Room M2260; her phone number is 612-659-7263.

Accolades

Jeanne Grant, assistant professor of history in the College of Arts and Sciences, was selected as a Fellow for the Annual Summer Institute on the Holocaust and Jewish Civilization sponsored by the Holocaust Educational Foundation that took place at Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill., between June 21 and July 3. This summer institute was an intensive residential two-week course of study and discussion with leading

scholars in fields related to the Holocaust.

Grant teaches, among other courses, HIST 354: History of Holocaust. Her participation in this prestigious scholarly opportunity reflects and adds to her accomplishments, and demonstrates her integration of the latest scholarly knowledge into her teaching at Metropolitan State.

STEM Student Summit is Sept. 25

Student worker needed

The Metropolitan State University Publications/News Services Office seeks a responsible and energetic student with excellent writing, proofreading, typing and English language skills to work up to 20 hours a week. Punctual attendance required. Knowledge of Macintosh computers, QuarkXPress and Photoshop helpful. Direct inquiries to Darlene Esko, publications/news services academic editor, at 651-793-1824 or e-mail darlene.esko@metrostate.edu.

All Metropolitan State University students and faculty in science, technology and math are invited to attend a STEM Student Summit on Friday, Sept. 25, from 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. This event, which will take place in the Great Hall (and beyond) on the Saint Paul Campus, will feature speakers and activities throughout the day.

The keynote speech, “The Importance of STEM Knowledge” will be delivered at 9:30 a.m. by Liesl Chapman, professional development director, Science Museum of Minnesota. This will be followed by a fun slate of activities (testing wind turbines, learning how to detect earthquakes and more) and breakout speaker sessions on various topics (“The Biology

of Cancer,” “Programming Robots” and more).

The day will wrap up with a bomb show at 3:15 p.m. Come see faculty demonstrate experiments not to be tried at home.

To ensure that a sufficient number of free lunches are ordered, everyone who plans to attend should R.S.V.P. to diana.reichel@metrostate.edu. This will be a great day to celebrate how science, technology, and math provide meaningful careers, interesting activities and contributions to society. This event is sponsored through a grant from Minnesota State Colleges and Universities’ Center for Teaching and Learning.

Marcus Engel presents *In the Blink of an Eye*



Marcus Engel, blinded and severely injured by a drunk driver, comes to Metropolitan State University with his message on Oct. 6 at the Saint Paul Campus, New Main, Great Hall, from 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Secretary of State Mark Ritchie will introduce Engel.

Engel inspires audiences to achieve success by making intelligent choices. He promotes

- understanding repercussions of unhealthy decisions;
- breaking through self-limiting behaviors;
- achieving success despite the obstacles;
- learning how choices, not circumstances, determine happiness;

- exploring issues associated with disability; and
- realizing the true value of interpersonal relationships.

Marcus overcame unimaginable obstacles to return to college and reclaim his life. This dramatic story inspires audiences to maximize their potential and achieve their dreams.

RSVP to cultural.events@metrostate.edu or at 651-793-1270. National Disability Awareness Month is sponsored by Disabilities Services, the student organization ACCESS and the Equal Opportunity and Diversity Office. Program funding is also provided by the Student Activities Fee Advisory Committee (SAFAC).

Visit Camp Darfur on Oct. 8

Library offers extended hours

The Library and Learning Center, Saint Paul Campus, is providing extended evening hours on Fridays and Sundays for fall semester. The Friday hours are 8 a.m.–10 p.m. The Sunday hours are noon–10 p.m.

Other hours of operation are Monday–Thursday 8 a.m.–11 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m.–6 p.m. The Library and Learning Center will be closed for the Labor Day weekend Saturday, Sept. 5, through Monday, Sept. 7.

Metropolitan State University is hosting a national traveling exhibit called Camp Darfur on Thursday, Oct. 8, at the Saint Paul Campus, Great Hall, noon–6 p.m. The event calls attention to the ongoing genocide in Darfur, Sudan, and provides the opportunity to learn more about the genocides in Rwanda, Cambodia and Armenia, and the Holocaust. Visitors have an opportunity to hear speakers, visit informational tables and walk through five tents providing interactive media.

In the Darfur region of the Sudan, an estimated 400,000 people have died and more than 2.5 million are displaced, exposing them to increased risks of violence and starvation. The goal of this event is to educate, raise awareness,

and encourage the active involvement of people to end the current situation in Darfur and to prevent future displacements and genocide.

Throughout the day, speakers are addressing such topics as historical genocides, the current situation in Darfur, the refugee camps in neighboring Chad, American efforts to end the genocide and the experiences of people who have survived.

All members of the Metropolitan State community as well as schools, organizations, and the broader community are invited to participate in this event. For more information on Camp Darfur, visit their Web site: www.stopgenocidenow.org/campdarfur.

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Internship opportunities

Visit the following Web sites for internship opportunities:

- Career Link: metrostate.edu/career
- Center for Community-Based Learning: metrostate.edu/ccbl/. Click on "Academic Internships," "Internship Resources."

In preparation for National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, join the American Cancer Society (ACS) for a Lunch and Learn brown bag presentation on Wednesday, Sept. 16, from noon to 1 p.m., at the Saint Paul Campus, Library and Learning Center, Ecolab 302. The program is sponsored by the Communication, Writing and the Arts Department.

Metropolitan State alumnus, Steve Skinner, will discuss the mission of the ACS and their upcoming fund-raising walk/event called Making

Strides against Breast Cancer. This noncompetitive walk is Saturday, Oct. 10, at Lake Nokomis in Minneapolis. There is no registration fee for the walk, nor any type of minimum fund-raising minimum associated with the event.

Come to the lunch and learn more. Perhaps we can build a team to represent the university. For more information, see the ACS's Web page at www.cancer.org/stridesonline or contact Associate Professor Erica Rasmussen at erica.rasmussen@metrostate.edu.

Minnesota Learning Commons offers new online resource

A new online resource expands learning options for students, provides more resources for educators and assists parents and advisors in guiding young people on their educational path. Minnesota Learning Commons is a collaboration of the Minnesota Department of Education, the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities and the University of Minnesota.

Created to provide a central source of resources for K–12 through higher education, the Minnesota Learning Commons also has an online

support center. On the Web site, parents, students and advisors can find online high school and college courses and information about financing higher education and planning careers. Educators can create online instructional materials, complete training programs, access library materials and engage in discussions with peers on educational issues and topics.

Explore this new site at www.mnlearningcommons.org.

Counseling Services welcomes new counselors

Frederick appointed to MnSCU Board

Gov. Tim Pawlenty appointed Christopher Frederick of Mankato to the MnSCU Board of Trustees. Frederick is a student at Minnesota State University, Mankato, where he is working toward a master of science in mathematics. He was the recent past state chair and interim executive director of the Minnesota State University Student Association and the past president of the Minnesota State Student Association in Mankato. His two-year term expires June 30, 2011. He replaces Allyson Lueneburg on the board.

Three new practicum counselors in Counseling Services are providing psychological counseling as part of their advanced practicum training experience. They are all from the University of Minnesota (U of M).

Reiko Hirai, M.A. in clinical psychology from Columbia University, has counseled university students for academic stress, career concerns, interpersonal issues, depression, anxiety and past trauma. She also counseled adults who struggled with substance use. Her special interests include cultural transitioning, depression, anxiety, academic stress, career concerns and interpersonal relationships.

Hyun Kyung Lee, M.A., has counseling experience in college counseling centers and community counseling settings. She also worked with minority populations and provided social service and counseling in Los Angeles, Calif. She is interested in multicultural counseling and

supervision. She is teaching at the U of M and working as a practicum counselor at Metropolitan State for the 2009–2010 academic year.

Stephanie Pituc received her master of education and master of arts from Teachers College–Columbia University in New York City. Her counseling experience includes work in academic, personal and career counseling in both community college and university settings. She has provided service to individuals from diverse backgrounds, including ethnic minorities, international students, recent immigrants, refugees, and first-generation college students. Her areas of special interest include multicultural issues (including discrimination, identity development and intergenerational family concerns), work-life balance, women's issues, relationship issues, depression and anxiety.

Students may call 651-793-1558 for more information or an appointment.

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Anyone with disabilities needing accommodations for a Metropolitan State event or who needs a publication in an alternative format, should call Disability Services at 651-793-1549 or 651-772-7687 (TTY).

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