

Online Catalyst

A Newsletter for Students

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Learn about genocide at Darfur on Oct. 8

Genocide is defined by the United Nations as one or more acts (that is, killing, causing serious bodily or mental harm, forcing living conditions designed to destroy, preventing births, or transferring children) committed with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial or religious group (*The History Place, 2009*).

In the 20th century alone, the world has witnessed several genocides: From 1915–1918, it is estimated that 1.5 million Armenians lost their lives; in 1937, over 300,000 citizens and soldiers of Nanking, China, were killed by the invading Japanese Imperial Army; during World War II, over 6 million Jews and at least 5 million others were exterminated by the Nazis; 7 million Ukrainians were forced into famine for striving for independence from opposing Stalin; from 1975–1979 an estimated 2 million people died in Cambodia at the hands of the Khmer Rouge; and in 1984, 800,000 Tutsis were killed in Rwanda by Hutu militia (*The History Place*). Today, the genocide in the Darfur region of the Sudan has led to an estimated 400,000 deaths and the displacement of over 2.5 million people, made more vulnerable to violence, starvation and illness, and the destruction of families.

Often, people hearing about such overwhelming global events feel powerless. However, through awareness and opportunities to send messages of peace and taking action, people reclaim their power. On Thursday, Oct. 8, Metropolitan State is hosting a national traveling exhibit called Camp Darfur with the intention of educating and empowering all of us to support the people of Darfur. This event features tents, multimedia displays, speakers, and informational tables giving people information on past genocides and what can be done today. All students, staff and faculty of Metropolitan State University as well as the broader community are welcome to visit the Great Hall on the Saint Paul Campus between noon and 6 p.m. to walk through the tents, listen to informed speakers, and become part of a community opposing violence in our world.

For more information on Camp Darfur, visit the Web site:
www.stopgenocidenow.org/campdarfur.

Campus Crime Report is available

Each year the Security and Safety Office publishes the *Metropolitan State End of the Year Crime Report* offering three years of campus crime statistics. The Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act requires that this report include crime categories relating to homicides, sex offenses (forcible and nonforcible), robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, arson, liquor/drug/weapon offenses and hate crimes or crimes of prejudice.

This report further includes policy statements, program descriptions, and procedures to follow in response to criminal activities. Information relating to the notification of registered sex offenders that are enrolled or employed by this university can be obtained by visiting the Minnesota Department of Corrections Level 3 Sex Offender Information at www.doc.state.mn.us/level3/search.asp/.

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Campus Crime Report continued

The crime report is located at www.metrostate.edu/security. It can also be obtained in a hard-copy format from the safety literature display cases at the Saint Paul and Minneapolis campuses and Midway Center, or from the Security Office on the Saint Paul

Campus, Founders Hall. Upon request to 651-793-1725, the report will be mailed to students, prospective students and employees. It is also available in alternative formats through Disability Services at 651-793-1549 or 651-772-7687 (TTY).

STEM Student Summit is Friday, Sept. 25

Students and faculty interested in science, technology, engineering or math, won't want to miss the STEM Student Summit on Friday, Sept. 25, at the Saint Paul Campus, Founders Hall, Auditorium. At 9:30 a.m., Liesl Chatman from the Minnesota Science Museum speaks; at 11 a.m. there are hands-on activities; at 12:45 p.m., a free lunch is provided while Amy Lindgren, author of the *Saint Paul Pioneer Press* career column, speaks. At 2 p.m. there are

breakout presentations on everything from fractals or robots to genetics, and at 3 p.m., there is a bomb show featuring exciting experiments. If you plan to attend, e-mail diana.reichel@metrostate.edu before 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 23.

This event is sponsored by a grant from MnSCU CTL. STEM students and faculty at Century College and Saint Paul College have also been invited.

Psychology and human services advisor appointed

Be a part of UAB

University Activities Board (UAB) is a student professional and staff-run organization. Volunteer for the UAB and gain skills in leadership, cooperation, communication, decision-making, committee structures/workgroups; network with university student leaders, faculty, staff, employers and other MnSCU students; and meet new friends. For information on how to join, contact Lori at student.activities@metrostate.edu or call 651-793-1556.

Darcel M. Hill, Saint Paul, was named the academic advisor for the Psychology and Human Services departments, College of Professional Studies, effective Aug. 31. This is a one-year fixed-term appointment. She provides advising services to students, develops policies and procedures, provides Web-based advising services and is a liaison for the Metro Alliance institutions. She will continue advising Power of YOU students through October or until the vacancy is filled.

Hill has worked at Metropolitan State since 2005, first as interim assistant director for student and retention services and liaison for African-American students, and later as academic advisor

for the College of Arts and Sciences and Power of YOU Program coordinator. Previously she worked at Saint Paul College as admissions and retention advisor and program director for 27 years. She also serves as part-time Project SPIRIT/Freedom School director with the Saint Paul Area Council of Churches.

Hill attended the University of Minnesota pursuing a psychology major and vocational-technical education. She holds an individualized B.A. from Metropolitan State; and a B.A. in theology, an M.A. in counseling and a doctorate in theology, all from Minnesota Graduate School of Theology, Brooklyn Center.

Credentials evaluator named

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.

Jericho Doron, Minneapolis, was appointed Metropolitan State University credentials evaluator in the Registrar's Office effective Aug. 19. He works with college deans and faculty in making transfer decisions to create catalogs in the Degree Audit Reporting System (DARS), processes student transfer evaluations and addresses student concerns regarding transfer of credits. He also helps with the office's activities related to graduation.

Doron has worked at Metropolitan State for three years, first as a student worker, then as customer service specialist, transcript evaluator and finally as a credentials evaluator. Earlier he worked for Cingular Wireless in Bloomington.

He holds an individualized B.A. in ethnic studies/human resource service from Metropolitan State University.

Minneapolis Campus hosts open house

As part of Metropolitan State's festivities surrounding the inauguration of President Sue K. Hammersmith, help celebrate Metropolitan State's Minneapolis programs on Thursday, Sept. 24, with an open house at the Management

Education Center (1300 Harmon Place), second floor, from 3:30–6 p.m. Learn more about the programs, enjoy light refreshments and help celebrate our new president!

Urgent message about street parking

As a courtesy to our neighbors, please consider not parking on the streets in front of homes around the Saint Paul Campus. Many homes within this area do not have driveways or garages and rely on street parking.

Parking is available in the main parking lot. Parking debit cards are available to purchase at

the Cashier's Office, third floor, Founders Hall, or you may find additional information at the following Web site: www.metrostate.edu/bldgservices/security/park_violations.html.

Thank you for considering this request.

For safety and security information, visit www.metrostate.edu/security.

Planning to graduate in December?



Students who are prospective December graduates are reminded that Friday, Sept. 18, is the deadline to notify Deborah "Deb" Tix at the Graduation Desk at 651-793-1231 (if you are an undergraduate); Gloria Marcus at 612-659-7258 (if you are a College of Management graduate student); Suzanne Narayan at 651-793-1388 (if you are an C.N.H.S. graduate student); Helen Correll at 651-999-5949 (if you are an M.S. in technical communication graduate student); or Kelly Hazel at 651-999-5827 (if you are a M.A. in psychology graduate student) of your intention to graduate.

The Web link to the Declaration of Intent to Graduate is www.metrostate.edu/msweb/pathway/registration/graduation/graduation_expo.html and click on "Declaration of Intent to Graduate form." The form may be submitted by fax, e-mail or mail.

You must be registered for all of your course work fall semester to be eligible for December graduation. No exceptions. **Students planning to graduate need to contact their advisors by Oct. 2.**

The Grad Expo is Saturday, Oct. 24, 9 a.m.–1:30 p.m. at the Saint Paul Campus, New Main, Great Hall.

Now is the time to get your M.B.A.

Are you prepared to weather the economic and financial crisis? Take part in the perfect opportunity to learn more about the GMAT and the Metropolitan State M.B.A. program.

A free Kaplan GMAT/Metropolitan State M.B.A. Forum takes place on Saturday, Oct. 10, at the Minneapolis Campus, College of Management, Helland Center, Room H0800, from 10 a.m.–noon. Space is limited, so RSVP to COM.graduateprograms@metrostate.edu or call 612-659-7290 to reserve a spot.

This is what you can expect at the M.B.A. Forum:

- Get tips on how to score well on the GMAT

from a Kaplan Test preparation instructor;

- Hear from the College of Management dean, current M.B.A. students and alumni about their experiences and the value of an M.B.A. degree;
- Meet with M.B.A. admissions counselors;
- Network with other professionals;
- Receive free parking in the MCTC ramp;
- Have a chance to win door prizes, including a Kaplan GMAT test preparation course valued at \$1,400.

For directions, visit

www.metrostate.edu/bldgservices/location.html.

Latinos in the Twin Cities: Challenges and Perspectives

Hispanic Heritage Month 2009 presents *Latinos in the Twin Cities: Challenges and Perspectives*, a panel comprised of Chicano and Latino service providers with moderator Aureliano DeSoto, assistant professor of ethnic studies. The program takes place on Thursday, Sept. 24, from 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m. in the Library and Learning

Center, Ecolab 302. Panelists are Vicenta del Carmen Valero, Office of Multicultural Affairs, Minneapolis; Jessie Saavedra, Minnesota Department of Health; and Mitch Roldan, Centro Cultural.

RSVP to cultural.events@metrostate.edu or call 651-793-1270.

Veteran and Military Women's Summit is Oct. 16–17

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."

The Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs is hosting its first Women Veteran and Military Women's Summit on Oct. 16–17 at the Mall of America Ramada Inn. To view the summit information in its entirety, go to www.mdva.state.mn.us and select **more information** under Women Veteran Summit: www.mdva.state.mn.us/women/Summit2009.htm.

This event is specifically designed to allow military women, active duty women and spouses of active military or veterans an enjoyable opportunity. You will gain valuable information on past military service and veteran's services. The department has planned a variety of exciting speakers, vendors will be providing gifts and service providers will be present to address your needs. The event is free of charge.

Kathy Brown, an international keynote speaker, author, and seminar leader promises to open your day with laughter and enthusiasm. Visit www.kathybrown.com for more information.

Joan Rusco, home loan expert, will demonstrate how easy it can be to buy a home or refinance. Visit www.valoansmn.com for more information about Joan Rusco and VA Loans MN.

Attendees need to register and make arrangements for housing on Friday night if they choose to stay on location.

If you are interested in attending, fill out the PDF Registration Form (<http://www.mdva.state.mn.us/women/Summit2009.htm>) and return it to:

Women Veterans Coordinator
Bishop Henry Whipple Federal Bldg.
1 Federal Drive, Room 191
Saint Paul, MN 55111
Fax: 612-970-5796
E-mail: aline.mcdonough@state.mn.us

For additional information, call 612-296-2562 or e-mail aline.mcdonough@state.mn.us.

Celebrate 12 Days of Peace—Sept. 21–Oct. 2

The 12 Days of Peace begin on Sept. 21, International Day of Peace, and end on Oct. 2, Mahatma Gandhi's birthday. These celebrations are suggested by the Nonviolent Peaceforce, a Minneapolis-based unarmed, professional civilian peacekeeping force that is invited to work in conflict zones worldwide.

- **Monday, Sept. 21**—Celebrate United Nations International Day of Peace by working a day for peace, donating all or a portion of your day's wages to a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization seeking to foster nonviolent peacekeeping worldwide.
- **Tuesday, Sept. 22**—Sign the Peace Alliance's petition to create a Department of Peace with a cabinet level Secretary of Peace on the presidential staff (www.thepeacealliance.org).
- **Wednesday, Sept. 23**—Write a blog post on Twitter and Facebook noting that you are marking The 12 Days of Peace.
- **Thursday, Sept. 24**—Reestablish and reconnect with a past friend, relative or colleague with whom you've had conflict.
- **Friday, Sept. 25**—Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper, and/or a letter to your Congressperson expressing support for nonviolent, unarmed peacekeeping in conflict zones worldwide.
- **Saturday, Sept. 26**—Visit a community park with your friends and family for a picnic or gathering in celebration of peace and harmony among those closest to you.
- **Sunday, Sept. 27**—Conduct a prayer for, or meditate upon, peace.

- **Monday, Sept. 28**—End your day by enjoying a piece of music that demonstrates peace to you, such as *Imagine* by John Lennon or *Peace on Earth* by U2.
- **Tuesday, Sept. 29**—Watch the 18-minute film *Civilian Unarmed Peacekeeping: Building a Nonviolent Peaceforce*, documenting the social and economic benefits of unarmed civilian peacekeeping as trained Nonviolent Peaceforce workers seek to create a safe space for peace within conflict areas. View at <http://tinyurl.com/n7xvl9>.
- **Wednesday, Sept. 30**—Spend time with your children and family discussing the social and healthful benefits of practicing peace among their friends and community.
- **Thursday, Oct. 1**—Plant a rock for peace. See www.plantingrocksforpeace.org for samples and lesson plans.
- **Friday, Oct. 2**—Celebrate Gandhi's birth anniversary and the U.N. International Day of Nonviolence by borrowing Gandhi's autobiography, *The Story of My Experiments with Truth*, from your public library.

With international headquarters in Brussels, Nonviolent Peaceforce has worked in the conflict areas of Sri Lanka, the Philippines and Guatemala. It works with local groups to foster dialogue among parties in conflict and provides a proactive presence and safe spaces for civilians. Its staff includes veterans of conflict zones and experienced peacekeepers.

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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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