



13th Annual URI Diversity Week

Co-Sponsored by Lifespan

September 29—October 5, 2009

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Final Fall Edition

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Welcome

To URI Faculty and Staff,

Please join us in making this year's URI Diversity Week the successful event we have all worked to make it become. In celebrating the 13th Annual URI Diversity Week, we have organized a full week of workshops, presentations, music performances, and festivities. There is a variety of ways that URI faculty has brought inclusive diversity and multiculturalism in their classrooms. Ideas and resources can be found on the **URI Diversity Week Online Teaching Manual at www.uri.edu/mcc**. Consider incorporating URI Diversity Week into your Fall courses.

Mission

When it was founded, URI Diversity Week was envisioned as an agency for enhancing campus climate and building campus community across cultural and disciplinary boundaries. Thirteen years later, URI Diversity Week has evolved into a vehicle for infusing global learning into the campus culture.

The American Council on Education defines global learning as “the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that students acquire through a variety of experiences that enable them to understand world cultures and events; analyze global systems; appreciate cultural differences; and apply this knowledge and appreciation to their lives as citizens and workers.

URI Diversity Week Keynote Address and Honors Colloquium Speaker Dr. Dipesh Chakrabarty of University of Chicago



Dr. Dipesh Chakrabarty is the Lawrence A. Kimpton Distinguished Service Professor in History, South Asian Languages and Civilizations, and the College. He is also a Faculty Fellow of the Chicago Center for Contemporary Theory, holds a visiting position at the Research School of Humanities at the Australian National University, and an Honorary Professorial Fellowship with the School of Historical Studies at the University of Melbourne, Australia. He is a founding member of the editorial collective of *Subaltern Studies*, a co-editor of *Critical Inquiry*, and a founding editor of *Postcolonial Studies*. He has also served on the editorial boards of the *American Historical Review* and *Public Culture*.

This program is co-sponsored by the URI Honors Colloquium and the Multicultural Center.

Tuesday, September 29th

Diversity Video & Film Festival

Tue - Mon	Diversity Week's Empty Canvas: Help us Fill it ^{NC} Memorial Union, 193° Coffeehouse Facilitated by Justin Quintanilla, <i>Computer Science</i> , and Allyson Van Wyk, <i>English</i>	
9:30am - 10:45am	"King Gimp": Artist Extraordinaire (Video) Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum (Rm. 101) Facilitated by Pamela Rohland, <i>Disability Services for Students</i>	
11:00am - 12:15pm	Depression: "Fighting the Dragon" (Video) Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum (Rm. 101) Facilitated by Pamela Rohland and Rosemary Lavigne, <i>Disability Services for Students</i> ; Mary Jane Klinkhammer and Dr. Jasmine Mena, <i>Counseling Center</i>	Racism on the Contemporary College Campus: Stories from Women of Color of Bias Without Intention Multicultural Center, Computer Classroom (Rm. 005) Facilitated by Dr. Annemarie Vaccaro, <i>Human Development and Family Studies</i>
12:30pm - 1:45pm	Body Image: Effects of the Mass Media on the Self-Image of Diverse Groups Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum (Rm. 101) Facilitated by Sue Ash, <i>Health, Behavior, and Society</i> ; and members of the Body Image Acceptance Committee <div style="position: absolute; top: 50%; left: 50%; transform: translate(-50%, -50%) rotate(-45deg); font-weight: bold; color: red;">Workshop Full</div>	Critically Examining the Cultural Politics of the 'Boy-Man' in New Millennium America Multicultural Center, Computer Classroom (Rm. 005) Facilitated by Dr. Kyle Kusz, <i>Kinesiology</i>
2:00pm - 3:15pm	Establishing Critical Perspective on Race Through the Critical Incident Technique Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum (Rm. 101) Facilitated by Osvaldino Dasilva, <i>Communication Studies</i> ; Dr. Lynne Derbyshire and Dr. Ian Reyes, <i>Communication Studies</i>	"War Child": A Film About the Life of Emmanuel Jal, a Child Soldier in Africa (Video) Multicultural Center, Computer Classroom (Rm. 005) Facilitated by Michaela Cashman, <i>Environmental Science and Management</i> ; and David Nelson, <i>Biology</i> ; and members of the Student Nonviolence Involvement Committee
2:00pm - 3:15pm	Before America was 'America' Memorial Union, Atrium II Facilitated by Sierra Stanton, <i>Secondary Education</i> ; and members of the Native American Student Organization	
3:30pm - 4:45pm	"Traces of the Trade": A Story from the Deep North (Video) Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum (Rm. 101) Facilitated by Rev. Dr. Jennifer Phillips, <i>St. Augustine's Episcopal Church</i> ; and James DeWolf Perry VI, <i>Harvard University</i>	Racial Profiling in Rhode Island: Disparities and Significance Memorial Union, Rm. 318 Facilitated by Dr. Leo Carroll, <i>Sociology</i> <div style="position: absolute; top: 50%; left: 50%; transform: translate(-50%, -50%) rotate(-45deg); font-weight: bold; color: red;">Workshop Full</div>
5:15pm - 6:45pm	'Pudding' the ABILITY Back into Disability: Interactive Simulation & Reflection About Disabilities (Participation limited to the first 30 people) Multicultural Center, Computer Classroom (Rm. 005) Facilitated by Pamela Rohland, <i>Disability Services for Students</i> ; and members of Students for a More Accessible Campus, the URI Disability Services for Students, and the URI Advisory Committee on Disability Issues	
7:30pm - 9:00pm	Indian Modernity: Once Colonial, Now Global Chafee Hall, Chafee Auditorium (Rm. 271) Presented by Dr. Dipesh Chakrabarty, <i>University of Chicago</i>	

NC – Credit should not be given for attendance at this event. This event may not have a reflective/discussion component.

Wednesday, September 30th

Ideas, Interactions & Dialogue

Wed - Thur	The Art and Material Cultures of Africa ^{NC} Memorial Union, Gallery Facilitated by Dr. Gitahi Gititi, <i>English</i>	
10:00am - 10:50am	National Student Exchange (NSE): Travel, Study, and Enjoy a Semester at Another American University Memorial Union, Atrium I Facilitated by Donna Figueroa, <i>Office of International Education and NSE</i>	Climate Change and Justice Memorial Union, Atrium II Facilitated by Christine Muller, <i>Music</i>
11:00am - 11:50am	Representation of Women in the Media Memorial Union, Rm. 318 Facilitated by John Pantalone and Dr. Barbara Luebke, <i>Journalism</i>	Working with Future Generations for a Nonviolent Global Community Memorial Union, Atrium II Jonathan Lewis, <i>The Gathering</i>
12:00pm - 12:50pm	<u>Ordinary People, Turbulent Times</u>: Growing up Jewish in 1930's Nazi Germany Memorial Union, Atrium I Facilitated by Alice Goldstein, <i>Author, Warwick</i>	Stress Reduction Through Knowing Yourself Memorial Union, Atrium II Facilitated by Dr. Celina Pereira, <i>Health Services</i> ; and Holly Nichols, <i>Counseling Center</i>
1:00pm - 1:50pm	Frontiers in Health Care: Development of a Professional, Inclusive, and Culturally Competent Work Force Memorial Union, Atrium I Facilitated by Dr. Lynne Dunphy, <i>Nursing</i> ; and Gertrude Jones, <i>Lifespan</i>	Reports from 'URI Academic Alternative Spring Break: Classroom Without Borders' Memorial Union, Atrium II Facilitated by Gail Rashed Faris, <i>Women's Center</i> ; and URI Academic Alternative Spring Break Student Panel
2:00pm - 2:50pm	Frontiers in Medical Practice: Transfusion-Free Surgery in the U.S. Memorial Union, Atrium I Facilitated by Kevin Wright, <i>Rhode Island Hospital</i>	
2:00pm - 4:45pm	Designing Sustainable Solutions for Developing Countries Lippitt Hall, Rm. 303 Facilitated by Dr. Tom Boving, <i>Geosciences</i> , and Dr. Vinka Craver, <i>Civil and Environmental Engineering</i>	
3:00pm - 3:50pm	Frontiers in Food Policy and Hunger Programs in the U.S. Memorial Union, Atrium I Facilitated by Dr. Diane Martins, Leah Murphy, Maria Mendez, Mercy Otieno, Jessica Delacruz, Jonah Martins and Sekboppa Sor, <i>Nursing</i>	A Human Rights and Regional Approach to U.S. Immigration Policy Memorial Union, Atrium II Facilitated by Dr. Rosaria Pisa, <i>Sociology</i>
4:00pm - 5:30pm	Cultural Competence in Pharmaceutical Care Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum (Rm. 101) Facilitated by Dr. Nasser Zawia, <i>Graduate School</i> ; and Pharmacy Students	The URI Multicultural Center Dialogue Project: Deconstructing and Problem-Solving Issues of Diversity on Campus Multicultural Center, Computer Classroom (Rm. 005) Facilitated by Kepler Jeudy, <i>College Student Personnel</i>
6:00pm - 6:50pm	Shakespeare: A Poet for the Ages, A Man of His Time—Anti-Semitism and Racism in <u>The Merchant of Venice</u> Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum (Rm. 101) Facilitated by Bryna Wortman, <i>Theatre</i>	
7:00pm - 10:00pm	Diversity Week Open Mic ^{NC} Memorial Union, Ballroom Doors open at 7:00pm. Open Mic begins at 8:00pm. Facilitated by Kalyana Champlain, <i>Communication Studies</i>	

Thursday, October 1st

Interacting with Art & Music

Wed - Thur	The Art and Material Cultures of Africa ^{NC} Memorial Union, Gallery Facilitated by Dr. Gitahi Gititi, <i>English</i>	
10:00am - 10:50am	Community Sing Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum (Rm. 101) Facilitated by Sue Warford, <i>CDC</i> ; and the Child Development Center teachers, preschool, and kindergarten children	Working to Demobilize Child Soldiers in Liberia: Personal Reflections Multicultural Center, Computer Classroom (Rm. 005) Facilitated by Jones Mallay, <i>Communication Studies</i>
11:00am - 12:15pm	‘We Will Make Miracles’: A University-Inner City School Peace-in-Action Partnership Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum (Rm. 101) Facilitated by Dr. Susan Trostle Brand, <i>Education</i> ; Jane Picciotti, <i>CVS-Highlander School</i> ; and the Highlander School teachers and second grade students	Face to Face: Learning How to Dialogue with Difference Multicultural Center, Computer Classroom (Rm. 005) Facilitated by Dr. Jasmine Mena and Dr. Robert Samuels, <i>Counseling Center</i>
12:30pm - 1:45pm	‘Speech is my Hammer...’: Hip Hop and the Public Sphere Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum (Rm. 101) Facilitated by Kalyana Champlain, <i>Communication Studies</i>	Military Unity to University Classroom: Student Veterans Cope with Transition Challenges Multicultural Center, Computer Classroom (Rm. 005) Facilitated by Christine Dolan, <i>Education</i> ; Daniel Ustick, <i>Career Services</i> ; and panel of veteran students
2:00pm - 3:15pm	Out of Diversity: We Speak Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum (Rm. 101) Facilitated by Dr. Jody Lisberger, <i>Women Studies</i> ; Dr. Stephen Barber, <i>English</i> ; Dr. Lynne Derbyshire, <i>Communication Studies</i> ; Frank Forleo, <i>Talent Development</i> ; Dr. Yvette Harps-Logan, <i>Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design</i> ; Brandon Brown, <i>Political Science and African and African American Studies</i> ; Marissa Fisher, <i>Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design</i> ; Eva Jones, <i>English</i> ; and Kou Nyan, <i>Journalism</i> .	Addressing Health Disparities: Fighting for a Healthy Rhode Island Multicultural Center, Computer Classroom (Rm. 005) Facilitated by Ivette Luna, <i>Ocean State Action</i> ; and members of the Latin American Student Association
3:30pm - 4:45pm	Introduction to T’ai Chi Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum (Rm. 101) Facilitated by Dr. Clifford Katz, <i>Office of the Provost</i>	A Tribute to the Great Nat King Cole: Jazz Vocalist and Pianist Multicultural Center, Computer Classroom (Rm. 005) Facilitated by Dr. George Willis, <i>Education</i>
5:00pm - 6:15pm		Another 'Wise Latina' Looks at the U.S. Supreme Court: Why Justice Sotomayor Matters Multicultural Center, Computer Classroom (Rm. 005) Facilitated by Dr. Rosie Pegueros, <i>History</i>
6:00pm - 6:50pm	Embracing Culture: The Origins of African Dance ^{NC} Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum (Rm. 101) Facilitated by Yasmine Lima, <i>College of Continuing Education</i> ; and members of Alima International Dance Company	
7:00pm	“Everything but Free” (Video) ^{NC} Swan Hall, Auditorium Facilitated by Dr. Silas Pinto, <i>Psychology</i>	

Friday, October 2nd

Roots & Legacies of Community

10:00am – 10:50am	You Know What Songs You Like, But, Do You Know What Songs You Came From? Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum (Rm. 101) Facilitated by Dr. Audrey Cardany, <i>Music</i>	A Window to Understand the Cultures of China and the United States: The Work of the Confucius Institute at URI Multicultural Center, Computer Classroom (Rm. 005) Facilitated by Dr. Yan Ma, <i>GSLIS</i> ; and Dr. Limeng Qiu, <i>Languages</i>
11:00am – 11:50am	Gender Stereotypes in Fitness and Wellness Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum (Rm. 101) Facilitated by Leticia Orozco, <i>Recreational Services</i>	<u>American Karma: Race, Culture and Identity in the Indian Diaspora</u> Multicultural Center, Computer Classroom (Rm. 005) Facilitated by Dr. Sunil Bhatia, <i>Human Development, Connecticut College</i>
12:00pm – 12:50pm	Peace and Harmony Meditation Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum (Rm. 101) Facilitated by Dr. Celina Pereira, <i>Health Services</i> ; Dr. Paul Bueno de Mesquita, <i>Psychology</i> ; Dr. Art Stein, <i>Political Science</i> ; Clare Sartori-Stein, <i>Psychology (CCE)</i> ; Melvin Wade, <i>Multicultural Center</i> ; and students from the Center for Nonviolence and Peace Studies	Early Childhood Intervention Programs: Federal-State-Private Services for Children with Disabilities and Other Underrepresented Groups Multicultural Center, Computer Classroom (Rm. 005) Facilitated by Riley O'Neill and Alisha Kutzler, <i>Human Development and Family Studies</i>
1:00pm – 1:50pm	Managing Everyday Conflict: Living in the Present Moment Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum (Rm. 101) Facilitated by Dr. Faye Mandell, <i>InWobble Inc.</i>	From Baghdad to Bombay: A Jewish Story Multicultural Center, Computer Classroom (Rm. 005) Facilitated by Sam Shamoan, <i>Shamoan Planning LLC</i>
2:00pm – 2:50pm	Music for Social Justice, Protest, and Diversity Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum (Rm. 101) Facilitated by Dr. Paul Bueno de Mesquita, <i>Psychology</i> ; Dr. Libby Miles, <i>Writing and Rhetoric</i> ; and Dr. Stephen Wood, <i>Communication Studies</i>	The Status of Women Under Islam Multicultural Center, Computer Classroom (Rm. 005) Facilitated by Dr. Assem Sayedahmed, <i>URI Muslim Chaplain and Food Microbiology</i>
3:30pm – 4:45pm	The Haves and the Have Nots (Participation limited to the first 60 people) Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum (Rm. 101) Facilitated by Denice Couchon, <i>Human Development and Family Studies</i> ; Dr. Kyle Kusz, <i>Kinesiology</i> ; Dr. Jacqueline Sparks, <i>Human Development and Family Studies</i>	InduKid: A Post-80's Digital Novel by a URI Chinese Student Multicultural Center, Computer Classroom (Rm. 005) Facilitated by Xu Liang, <i>Computer Engineer</i>
8:00pm	Pangaea: The URI Roots Music Series, featuring Odaiko New England ^{NC} Edwards Hall, Auditorium Facilitated by Michael Lapointe, <i>Housing and Residential Life</i>	

Saturday, October 3rd

Celebration & Exploration of Diversity

Chinese Moon Festival
6:00pm Memorial Union, Ballroom

Monday, October 5th

Celebration & Exploration of Diversity

URI Diversity Week Focus Group
1:00pm - 1:50pm
Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum (Rm. 101)

Forum on Diversity and Graduate Education at URI: Part I Panel Discussion and PowerPoint Presentation
2:00pm - 2:50pm
Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum (Rm. 101)
Facilitated by Dr. Nasser Zawia, *Graduate School*; and Dr. Paul Bueno de Mesquita, *Psychology*

The Influence of Textiles from India on American Design
Multicultural Center, Computer Classroom (Rm. 005)
Facilitated by Dr. Margaret Ordonez, Dr. Linda Welters, and Kira Munroe, *Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design*

Forum on Diversity and Graduate Education at URI: Part II Promising Scholars
3:00pm - 4:50pm
Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum (Rm. 101)
Facilitated by Dr. Nasser Zawia, *Graduate School*; and Dr. Paul Bueno de Mesquita, *Psychology*

Globalizing Education: Being an Interdisciplinary Graduate Student
5:00pm - 5:50pm
Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum (Rm. 101)
Facilitated by Jennifer Brandt and Eva Jones, *English*

Latinos in the Eye of a Political and Social Hurricane: Does the Law Protect Ethnic Equality in the U.S.?
6:00pm - 6:50pm
Multicultural Center, Conference Room (Rm. 201)
Facilitated by Dr. Tom Morin, *Languages*

“Gran Torino” (Video) ^{NC}
7:00pm
Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum (Rm. 101)
Facilitated Jennifer Longa Moio, *Women’s Center*; and members of the URI Peer Advocates

“Saving Marriage”: Winning Marriage Equality in Massachusetts - Now on to Rhode Island (Video)
Multicultural Center, Computer Classroom (Rm. 005)
Facilitated by Andrew Winters, *GLBT Center*; Kathy Kushnir, *MERI*, and members of Marriage Equality Rhode Island (MERI)

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Addressing Health Disparities: Fighting for a Healthy Rhode Island. *Ivette Luna, Lead Organizer, Ocean State Action, and URI Alumna. Co-sponsored by the Latin American Student Association (LASA).* Some studies suggest that a majority of Americans receive the same quality of health care as white Americans. However, even when adjustment is made for socioeconomic class, insurance status, and age, a larger body of published research indicates that racial and ethnic minorities in the U. S. experience a lower quality of health care across a range of illnesses and health services than the majority. Decreasing racial and ethnic disparities will require interventions in the way health care is legislated, organized, regulated, financed, and delivered; in improving the consistency and stability of provider-patient relationships; in promoting multicultural education for providers and patients; in expanding the use of community health workers and language translators; and in diversifying health care providers. This workshop reviews the status of racial and ethnic disparities in Rhode Island; and discusses public policy interventions, such as Ocean State Action and the Transcultural Health Network. **Thur, 10/1@2:00pm**

American Karma: Race, Culture, and Identity in the Indian Diaspora. *Dr. Sunil Bhatia, Associate Professor, Human Development, Connecticut College.* His book *American Karma: Race, Culture and Identity in the Indian Diaspora* (2007) traces the processes of post-colonial identity reconstruction for the Indian professional classes who migrate to the United States after 1965. Identified by traditional markers of socioeconomic class, culture, and geography in their native country, the new immigrants encounter a new system of racial and cultural labels that seeks to impose minority status and downward assimilation upon them. This workshop invites participants to understand the social dynamics of American society; and the creative coping strategies of Indian professionals in defending their upward mobility while repositioning themselves in relation to other minorities, and reframing their notions of self, other, and home. **Fri, 10/2@11:00AM**

Another 'Wise Latina' Looks at the U. S. Supreme Court: Why Justice Sotomayor Matters. *Dr. Rosie Pegueros, Professor, History. Co-sponsored by Sigma Lambda Upsilon/Senoritas Latinas Unidas Sorority, INC (SLU) and Chi Upsilon Sigma (CUS) National Latin Sorority Inc.* "I would hope that a wise Latina woman with the richness of her experiences would more often than not reach a better conclusion than a white male who hasn't that life." A graduate of Princeton and Yale, Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor will bring to the Court a constellation of life experiences far different from most of the 110 members who have preceded her. She is the first Latina on the Court, the third woman, and the fifth person of color. She was raised in a Bronx housing project in the midst of poverty. She has had diabetes since childhood – a medical condition which is a disability under federal law. She also will be the most experienced trial judge on the Court. Justice Sotomayor's emphasis on the importance of having a diversity of life experience, like President Obama's advocacy for an "empathy" standard, is central to the most fundamental debate in contemporary U. S. legal theory, pitting "strict constructionists" against "contextualists". Strict constructionists claim to interpret the U. S. Constitution based on the intentions of the "framers"; the original meanings of the law, and "the ordinary meaning of the law as perceived by reasonable persons living at the time". All these interpretations focus on the primacy of the "text" as fixed, immutable, and objective. By contrast, the contextualists regard the U. S. Constitution as a living document that evolves as the cultural, economic, and political context changes. The original meanings of the Constitution are balanced against modern differences in the complexity of society, in contemporary norms of human conduct, and in the impact of the law on groups and individuals. These interpretations adjust the text to the context, and the law to the diverse needs of the people. This workshop comments on the importance of the U. S. Supreme Court in our daily lives, and discusses why Justice Sotomayor will make a difference. **Thur, 10/1@5:00pm**

The Art and Material Cultures of Africa. *Dr. Gitahi Gititi, Professor, English.* This exhibit explores the role of figural and contemporary art and material culture within African cultural contexts. African art often utilizes harmony with the natural universe to make abstract commentary about the culture. **Wed-Thu**

Before America Was 'America'. *Sierra Stanton, Undergraduate Student, Secondary Education, and President, Native American Student Organization. Co-sponsored by the Native American Student Organization (NASO).* During the 1970's, a New Native American scholarship emerged, representing a distinct path away from prior Indian studies. Influencing and being influenced by other relatively new scholarly bodies of knowledge, such as ethnic studies and social history, Native Americans and their allies began to generate new models for understanding and explaining Native American history. Their research incorporated Native American perspectives, voices, actions, and decisions. Instead of marking the onset of American history with the arrival of Europeans, the focus of the narrative shifted toward the documentation of 'agency', illustrating how Native Americans were active participants in molding their history and culture. This workshop explores the importance of Native American agency, and raises new questions about the telling of the 'dominant narrative' of American history. What is the meaning and significance of beginning 'American history' with the arrival of Christopher Columbus? What were the similarities and differences in world view and culture between the aboriginal peoples in America before the arrival of Columbus? What languages were spoken and what were their characteristics? What distinguished their systems of agriculture and which cultigens were bequeathed to later generations? What aspects of their culture were syncretized to survive to contemporary times? **Tue 9/30@2:00pm**

Body Image: Effects of the Mass Media on the Self-Image of Diverse Groups. *Sue Ash, MS, RD, LDN, Health Services and members of the Body Image Acceptance Committee.* People in industrialized countries have experienced a dramatic decline in their satisfaction with their bodies. Mass media, popular culture, and the corporate world have contributed greatly to the emergence of the most common negative body image - the perception of not being thin enough. While this trend toward negative body perception may affect as many as 9 of 10 women in the United States, dissatisfaction with body image also affects all groups, including people of color, gays, lesbians, and disabled persons. Utilizing excerpts from selected videos, this workshop will address the major causes of poor body image; and examine the consequences, such as obsessive dieting, low self-esteem, and eating disorders. **Tue 9/29@12:30pm**

Chinese Moon Festival. *Dr. Yan Ma, Director, Confucius Institute and Professor, Graduate School of Library and Information Science.* Along with the Chinese New Year, the Chinese Moon Festival, the most globally prominent of the Asian moon festivals, is one of the two most important Chinese holidays. The Festival falls on the fifteenth day of the eighth lunar month. At this time, the moon's orbit is at its lowest angle to the horizon, making the moon appear larger and brighter than at any other time of the year. According to the lunar calendar, this period is the exact middle of autumn, which begins in the seventh month and ends in the ninth month. Often considered to be the Chinese version of Thanksgiving, this occasion brings into reunion families and friends in celebration of history, heritage, and the harvest. The "moon cake" is a traditional component of the festival. **Sat, 10/3@6:00pm**

Climate Change and Social Justice. *Christine Muller, Faculty, Music.* Over the last decade, scientific research has revealed the danger to the planet being caused by the burning of fossil fuels, e. g., oil, coal, and natural gas; the consequent buildup of "greenhouse gases" in the atmosphere; and the effects of heat energy trapped in the atmosphere. As the greatest contributors to global warming, the top fifth of the world's most industrialized nations account for over 60% of global carbon emissions with 40% attributed to the US and China, while the

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lowest fifth produces only 2%. With just 5% of the world's population, the US consumes 25% of the world's energy and 33% of the world's paper, while producing 72% of the world's most hazardous waste. Though the most industrialized countries bear the greatest responsibility for air and water pollution, and deforestation, scientific studies indicate that the least industrialized countries – India, most African countries, Arctic regions, and small island states – are most vulnerable to the devastating effects of predicted climate change, such as flooding, land erosion, severe heat, water contamination, and communicable disease. Because of their greater technological and adaptive capacity, the industrialized countries are more secure. The workshop provides a scientific overview of the causes and impacts of climate change, and raises challenging ethical questions. **Wed, 9/30@10:00am**

Community Sing. Sue Warford, Coordinator, Child Development Center (CDC); and the CDC teachers, preschool and kindergarten children. This workshop presents children in performance as they explore how age-appropriate music can be used to enhance personal growth and development and to increase awareness of diversity. **Thur, 10/1@10:00am**

Critically Examining the Cultural Politics of the 'Boy-Man' in New Millennium America. Dr. Kyle Kusz, Assistant Professor, Kinesiology. Adam Sandler movies; Nick Hornby novels; gangsta rap by Snoop Dogg; and Oliver Stone's biopic on former President George W. Bush have helped to influence the rise of "men growing up to boys" in contemporary American popular culture. In television, this modern-day Peter Pan type exists in a fixed state of adolescence, evident in the over-the-top cynicism of *South Park* and *The Family Guy*, and the self-indulgence of *Two and A Half Men*. Often addicted to videogames, consumerism, violence and horror as spectacle, sexual fantasy, and sports, the boy-man can be aimless and obsessive, engaging in a flight from traditional markers of responsibility, such as pair-bonding, parenting, and civic participation. While some assume that film and television are apolitical sites through which we cathartically escape the 'real world', the purpose of this workshop is to raise critical consciousness about the subtle messages in the popular cultural texts related to masculinity as it intersects with race, gender, and sexuality; and to read these texts as everyday commentary on power and privilege. **Tue 9/29@12:30pm**

Cultural Competence in Pharmaceutical Care. Dr. Nasser Zawia, Dean, Graduate School, and Professor, Biomedical Science; and a Panel of Students. An emerging consensus in the profession suggests that a competent pharmacist during the 21st century must be a culturally competent pharmacist. When there is a lack of diversity in the leadership and work force of the profession; when systems of care and delivery are designed without attention to the social, cultural, economic, and linguistic needs of diverse patient populations; and when communication between providers and patients is not reciprocal, barriers to culturally competent care exist. Culturally competent practice seeks to "understand the importance of social and cultural influences on patients' health account beliefs and behaviors; consider how these factors intersect at multiple levels of the care and delivery system; and design interventions for diverse patients that take the factors into account." This workshop acquaints participants with a framework of cultural competence that enables the design of interventions at the organizational level (e. g., diverse administration and staff); the structural level (e. g., accessibility to interpreters, diverse marketing materials, continuing provider education); and the clinical level (provider knowledge, attitudes, and skills). **Wed, 9/30@4:00pm**

Depression: "Fighting the Dragon" (Video). Pamela Rohland, Assistant Director, Disability Services; Rosemary Lavigne, Coordinator, Disability Services; Mary Jane Klinkhammer, Clinical Counselor, Counseling Center; and Dr. Jasmine Mena, University Psychologist, Counseling Center. The World Health Organization predicts that depression will soon rival heart disease as a primary cause of premature death and disability. While the increasing incidence of depression now affects up to 10% of the population during their life cycle, the vast majority never seek treatment. This video and discussion examines the struggles of five people to overcome

depression. The moving personal narratives are enhanced by the insights of prominent researchers discussing new imaging technologies that enable us to see changes in the human brain during depression and its treatment; describing new approaches to treatment; and advocating the need for greater public education. **Tue 9/29@11:00am**

Designing Sustainable Solutions for Developing Countries. Dr. Tom Boving, Associate Professor, Geosciences; and Dr. Vinka Craver, Assistant Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering. Co-sponsored by the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE). HPR 323-02 invites URI Diversity Week participants to preview this Honors course in Interdisciplinary Studies. This course focuses on creating awareness about problems in developing communities in Kenya, India, and South America. Students cultivate the attitudes, knowledge, and skills to address these problems and to create culturally appropriate sustainable solutions. **Wed, 9/30@2:00pm**

Diversity Week Open Mic. Kalyana Champlain, Graduate Student, Communication Studies. One of the most popular events during Diversity Week, the Open Mic is a student-generated and student-judged performance event, open to poets, musicians, dancers, comedians and storytellers, who sign up in accordance with the rules of the night. Inspired by the "spoken word" emphasis in hip hop culture, the Open Mic attracts performers at all stages of their careers, from seasoned veterans to novices, providing them an opportunity to showcase their talents before a live audience. To sign up for slots that usually last 3-5 minutes, visit <http://www.uri.edu/mcc>. Some speculate that the rising popularity of open mic performances over the last ten years has helped to lay the foundation for the blockbuster success of *American Idol*. **Wed, 9/30@7:00pm**

Diversity Week's Empty Canvas: Help us Fill It. Justin Quintanilla, Undergraduate Student, Computer Science; and Allyson Van Wyk, Undergraduate Student, English. All creative minds welcome. All art, media and literary types are encouraged to submit original art, literary, musical and artistic compositions to put on display with a short description explaining what makes the creator and their work unique. The works will be put on display in the 193 Degree Coffee House in the Memorial Union during Diversity Week, September 28-October 5, 2009. Artwork, writing, or any other compositions can be submitted to Ally at arisan@mail.uri.edu. Music can be submitted to Justin at infinity_of_thought@hotmail.com. **Tue-Mon**

Early Childhood Intervention Programs: Federal-State-Private Services for Children with Disabilities and Other Underrepresented Groups. Riley O'Neill, Graduate Student; and Alisha Kutzler, Graduate Student, Human Development and Family Studies. Children enter school at different levels of academic, social, emotional, cultural, and physical readiness. These levels of readiness reflect likelihood of attaining success in most US schools. This workshop introduces participants to the background, organization, and impact of Early Intervention Programs, which offer early identification, support, and other services to families and their eligible children from birth to three years. Examples of these services may include tutoring for reading and math proficiency, access to quality health and child care, exposure to social interaction and positive role models, parent education, and family coaching. Research indicates that effective early childhood programs justify their costs by increasing academic achievement and persistence, developmental progress, school graduation, and college enrollment, while decreasing participation in special education, juvenile crime, and social welfare programs. **Fri, 10/2@12:00pm**

Embracing Culture: The Origins of African Dance. Yasmine Lima, Undergraduate Student, College of Continuing Education and Alima International Dance Company. Deriving its name from an Arabic word denoting "those who are skilled in dancing and music", the Alima International Dance Company presents an interactive celebration by student dancers, mostly from Africa, drawing cultural referents from countries as diverse as Liberia, Ghana, Nigeria, Cape Verde, and Senegal, with the goal of creating understanding between Africa and the United States. **Thur, 10/1@6:00pm**

Abstracts

Establishing Critical Perspective on Race Through the Critical Incident Technique. *Osvaldino Dasilva, Undergraduate Student, Communication Studies; Dr. Lynne Derbyshire, Associate Professor, Communication Studies; and Dr. Ian Reyes, Assistant Professor, Communication Studies. Co-sponsored by the Cape Verdean Students Association.* A productive technique being used on college campuses to discuss race and other emotionally charged topics is the Critical Incident Technique (CIT). The CIT is a structured group process in which participants collectively compare, contrast, and reflect upon their expectations about incidents that diverge from the perceived norm. Through the CIT, participants can meaningfully comment upon the values, beliefs, and attitudes used to evaluate and classify observed behaviors in the incident. In this workshop, participants will describe the causes, occurrence, and outcome of a videotaped "critical incident"; explore the resultant feelings and perceptions; examine any consequent actions; and recommend appropriate changes. **Tue 9/29@2:00pm**

"Everything But Free" (Film). *Dr. Silas Pinto, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Psychology; Film Director-Producer; and URI Alumnus.* "It's like an underground cave...you don't fall into it by choice." A film by a URI alumnus, this feature-length, action film presents the stories of 5 young adults trying to overcome the lure of "the streets", balance personal and family obligations, and make sense of life in their South Providence, RI neighborhood. **Thur, 10/1@7:00pm**

Face to Face: Learning to Dialogue with Differences. *Dr. Robert Samuels, Director, Counseling Center; and Dr. Jasmine Mena, University Psychologist, Counseling Center.* An interactive workshop designed for students, faculty, staff, and the external community to engage in a meaningful dialogue about their multiple, intersecting identities that either lessen or increase distance. Participants will be invited to discuss issues of power, privilege, and oppression as they relate to culture, ethnicity, race, national origin, language, gender, sexual orientation; age/generation; ability/disability, religion, socio-economic status; and other group identities. **Thur, 10/1@11:00am**

Forum on Diversity and Graduate Education at URI: Part I Panel Discussion and PowerPoint Presentation. *Dr. Nasser Zawia, Dean, Graduate School; and Dr. Paul Bueno de Mesquita, Professor, Psychology.* The nation's leading graduate schools are seeking to recruit and graduate a diverse and inclusive student population, and to develop cultural competence and global citizenship among all graduate students. In aligning URI with professional trends, this forum presents research data around issues of assessment in graduate education that seek to enable students, faculty, and staff to develop a culture of accountability. A PowerPoint presentation on demographic diversity among graduate students will be followed by questions and feedback. **Mon, 10/5@2:00pm**

Forum on Diversity and Graduate Education at URI: Part II Promising Scholars. *Dr. Nasser Zawia, Dean, Graduate School; and Dr. Paul Bueno de Mesquita, Professor, Psychology.* This forum presents individual stories and research presentations by 3 students from the sciences, technology, engineering, and mathematics; and 3 students from the social sciences. **Mon, 10/5@3:00pm**

From Baghdad to Bombay: A Jewish Story. *Sam Shamoan, former Director, Planning & Development and Inspections and Standards, City of Providence.* Descended from the oldest continuous community of Jews outside Israel in Baghdad, Iraq, where the population was 40% Jewish, Shamoan's parents fled to Bombay, India, in 1941, in the wake of the Farhud, "pogrom" in Arabic. Shamoan grew up with his two brothers in Bombay, now Mumbai. Delineating a new trajectory of the Jewish Diaspora, this workshop compares and contrasts the history and customs of Jews from eastern Europe with those from Iraq and India. **Fri, 10/2@1:00pm**

Frontiers in Food Policy and Hunger Programs in the U.S. *Facilitated by Dr. Diane Martins, Assistant Professor, Nursing; Leah Murphy, Undergraduate Student, Nursing; Maria Mendez, Undergraduate Student, Nursing; Mercy Otieno, Undergraduate Student, Nursing; Jessica Delacruz, Undergraduate Student, Nursing; Jonah Martins, Undergraduate Student, Nursing; and Sekboppa Sor, Undergraduate Student, Nursing.* While an estimated 35 million Americans annually endure chronic hunger and food insecurity, all Americans should be aware and involved in the making of decisions by government, business, education, agriculture, health and medicine, and public advocacy about access, affordability, and quality of food. This workshop invites participants to discuss recent controversies related to food policy, such as the production of ethanol and other biofuels, biotechnology and genetic engineering, food stamps and other anti-hunger programs, children's advertising, natural foods, and obesity; to analyze the effects on the population; and to address the politics of food. **Wed, 9/30@3:00pm**

Frontiers in Health Care: Development of a Professional, Inclusive, and Culturally Competent Work Force. *Dr. Lynne Dunphy, Professor, Nursing, and Routhier Endowed Chair for Practice; and Gertrude Jones, Director, Diversity and Inclusion, Lifespan.* Co-sponsored by Uhuru SaSa. In the US, the current supply of qualified nurses is generally regarded as inadequate to meet present demand. As the population becomes older and more diverse, the need for a more representative and culturally competent workforce will present the nation with an even greater crisis in the future. Although schools of nursing have recently experienced increased enrollments, the numbers of nurses in the national pipeline have been constrained by a shrinking pool of qualified nursing faculty, changing demographics, uneven K-12 education, scientific and technological advances, the effects of wars, the economic recession, rising healthcare costs, and assorted job pressures. People of color collectively are less than 11% of both the nation's nurses and nursing faculty. Since the early 1990's, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has been a leading national innovator in reconstructing the nation's nursing workforce. In Rhode Island, the Statewide Health Assessment Planning and Evaluation (SHAPE) Study analyzed the capacity of the health care system to address present and future needs based on current healthcare services and utilization, market trends, national data, and predicted scenarios. According to SHAPE, the state's nursing shortage will reach 55% by 2020, requiring up to 9000 new nurses and as many as 250 new faculty. Health care and social assistance comprise the state's largest employment sector. A qualified, inclusive, and culturally competent nursing workforce is expected to lead to shorter hospital stays, improved recovery outcomes, and overall health gains. This workshop will enable participants to understand the political, economic, professional, and educational context for developing the nursing workforce in Rhode Island. **Wed, 9/30@1:00pm**

Frontiers in Medical Practice: Transfusion-Free Surgery in the U.S. *Kevin Wright, Manager, Transfusion-Free Medicine and Surgery, Rhode Island Hospital.* Over the past quarter-century, transfusion-free medicine and surgery in the United States has emerged as a body of practices that utilize an array of medications and technologies to stimulate blood cell production and to minimize blood loss without engaging in invasive medical procedures. Research indicates that transfusion-free practices have generally resulted in lower rates of infection and mortality, faster recovery times, reduced costs, and greater patient satisfaction. The numbers of bloodless medical centers has grown from a few in the 1990's to over 100 in 2007. This workshop provides an orientation to this rapidly evolving body of practice, and to its key issues. **Wed, 9/30@2:00pm**

Gender Stereotypes in Fitness and Wellness. *Leticia Orozco, Coordinator, Recreational Services.* One of sport's most persistent gender myths is that women lack stamina and endurance. This conventional logic is the reason for limiting women's tennis matches to three sets, while men's matches can extend to five sets. Actually, the physiological differences that generally cause muscle mass in men to be greater result in no advantage in endurance. Studies suggest that women can exercise as intensely as men. Yet gender stereotypes have stubbornly persisted. This workshop will discuss the misconceptions men and women often hold about fitness and wellness; explore the role of the popular culture in amplifying these myths; and address their pervasive effects. **Fri, 10/2@11:00am**

Abstracts

Globalizing Education: Being an Interdisciplinary Graduate Student. *Jennifer Brandt, Graduate Student, English; and Eva Jones, Graduate Student, English.* Graduate education in the United States is increasingly being called upon to contribute to the resolution of complex global problems, such as immigration, conflict resolution, energy sustainability, health care, land and water use, and climate change. Creative solutions to these problems will require researchers, teachers, students, and constituents working together in teams or in collaboration to integrate and synthesize new perspectives, theories, methodologies, and content that transcend disciplinary boundaries to illuminate and solve real-world problems. For example, the National Science Foundation-funded Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) was created to catalyze a change of the organizational culture in Ph.D. education for scientists and engineers by developing a “fertile environment for collaborative research that transcends traditional disciplinary boundaries.” Another goal of IGERT is to facilitate diversity in student recruitment and education, while developing an inclusive, world-class, and globally engaged workforce. This workshop provides an overview of the movement to infuse interdisciplinary approaches into graduate education in the US. **Mon, 10/5@5:00pm**

“Gran Torino” (Video). *Facilitated by Jennifer Longa Moio, Assistant Director, Women’s Center. Co-sponsored by URI Peer Advocates.* The Ford Gran Torino was among the last of the “muscle” or “macho” cars which provided the foundation of the dominance of Detroit as a factory city, and the U. S. Big Three – General Motors, Ford, and Chrysler – in the global auto market. During the decade before, these modified racing cars were successfully marketed to the young through advertising in movies, TV, and magazines. After 1973, the need to increase auto safety and efficiency, and to lower manufacturing costs revolutionized the market, leading to the rise of Japan’s Big Three auto companies – Toyota, Honda, and Nissan. Over the years, a huge subculture, nostalgic for the dominance of America and Detroit, has been built around collecting, restoring, and showing these cars – cars that are symbols of an America that no longer exists. This Clint Eastwood film is about a retired Polish-American auto worker, decorated Korean War veteran, and a widower near the end of his life, struggling with the scars of his past, and the relationship with the world around him. One of the last of an old breed in a relentlessly changing world, Walt Kowalski blames the immigrant Hmong families from Laos, some of whom fought with the U. S. in Vietnam, for the decline of his formerly homogeneous, working-class neighborhood. He actually worked on the assembly of the 1972 Gran Torino in his garage. His car holds special meaning to him as a reminder of how things used to be. **Mon, 10/5@7:00pm**

The Haves and the Have Nots (Participation limited to the first 60 people). *Denice Couchon, Senior Clerk Stenographer, Human Development and Family Studies; Dr. Kyle Kusz, Assistant Professor, Kinesiology; and Dr. Jacqueline Sparks, Associate Professor, Human Development and Family Studies.* This workshop explores the institutional barriers that exclude and prevent diverse communities from reaching their individual and collective goals. Through examples of inequality in resources, participants will learn reasons some groups choose to assert dominance over others. Awareness of inequality will develop in participants an increase in cultural sensitivity, and an understanding of the importance of diversity. **Fri, 10/2@3:30pm**

A Human Rights and Regional Approach to U.S. Immigration Policy. *Dr. Rosaria Pisa, Lecturer, Sociology.* The United States is bound together with Mexico by networks of transportation, trade, communication, culture, kinship, and friendship. From 1965-1986, the cross-border flow of migrants from Mexico was stable and predictable, providing a transnational influx of seasonal workers for a low-wage, uncompetitive segment of the secondary labor market in the US. In 1986, the enactment of the Immigration Reform and Control Act introduced more restrictive immigration policies and border controls, disrupting prior migration patterns. At the same time, other US policymakers were negotiating the North American Free Trade agreement (NAFTA) to integrate the labor markets of the countries and promote the exchange of capital, goods, and services. The contradictory effects of these policies impelled migrants

away from seasonal and circular patterns of movement toward more permanent settlement. The policy changes have also expanded the underground traffic of workers and drugs, enhancing conditions for crime and political backlash. This workshop presents the case for a future bilateral strategy based on shared history and culture, economic market integration, and human rights. **Wed, 9/30@3:00pm**

Indian Modernity: Once Colonial, Now Global (URI Diversity Week Keynote Address and Honors Colloquium Speaker). *Dr. Dipesh Chakrabarty, Lawrence A. Kimpton Distinguished Service Professor, History, University of Chicago.* **Tue 9/29@7:30pm**

Indukid: A Post-80’s Digital Novel by a URI Chinese Student. *Xu Liang, Undergraduate Student, Computer Science.* The literary landscape in contemporary China has been transformed by the emergence of digital literature from writers born during and after the 1980’s. Having experienced the rise of the Internet and Chinese commercialism, and the imposition of the one child per family policy, this generation of writers tends to be anti-establishment, individualistic, and irreverent. Though they are not usually overt political activists, their parents and grandparents regard the youth as corrupted by Western culture. Their writings often feature ordinary people as protagonists, confronting injustice and alienation, with subtexts of opposition to the influence of state-owned media, and the intensely competitive educational system. Within the past decade or so, digital writing has been boosted by China’s registration of over 3000 literature websites and weblogs, creating access to a domestic audience of over 253 million Internet users. This workshop introduces participants to a digital novel by a URI student who is actively engaged in China’s “new” literary movement. **Fri, 10/2@3:30pm**

The Influence of Textiles from India on American Design. *Dr. Margaret Ordonez, Professor; Dr. Linda Welters, Professor; and Kira Munroe, Undergraduate Student, Textiles, Fashion Merchandising, and Design.* Since ancient times, religion, commerce, warfare, and travel have spread the design and manufacture of textiles to countries throughout the world, transforming the ways in which color and image on fabric are applied and perceived. The earliest forms of textile printing in blocks are believed to have originated in India. According to Colin Gale (2002), the introduction of Indian chintz to England and France established the foundation for modern textile design in the West. Today, the expanded scope of textile design ranges from clothing to interiors to fiber art. Leading couturiers, such as Yves St. Laurent, have incorporated themes and textiles from India into their fashion collections. Spearheading a movement to use technology to convert trash into textiles, India has forged new territory in sustainable textile in sustainability. This workshop enables participants to follow the new trends in global thinking and production, and their influence on the US. **Mon, 10/5@2:00pm**

Introduction to T’ai Chi. *Dr. Clifford Katz, Assistant Provost, Finance and Personnel.* T’ai Chi (Ch’uan) can be directly translated as “grand ultimate energy that manifests when balance and harmony are achieved.” The concept of t’ai chi is first described in the ancient Chinese philosophical text, the *I Ching* (Book of Changes). In Chinese legend, a monk originated the practice after watching a snake defeat a crane by diverting the adversary’s momentum. In Chinese philosophy, t’ai chi derives from the eternal cycle of birth and fusion of two opposite but complementary forces in the universe – the yin (feminine) and the yang (masculine). Practitioners of t’ai chi use movement to direct the yin and yang forces so as to connect to chi, or life energy. Popular in the West since the 1980’s, the practice employs flowing, rhythmic, deliberate, often circular movements, with control of the breath, and ritualized stances and positions. In China, t’ai chi is believed to integrate body, mind, and spirit; reduce stress; promote longevity; and enhance balance and flexibility. This workshop presents an orientation to the practice of this ancient Chinese discipline, teaching participants to move and breathe with awareness. **Thur, 10/1@3:30pm**

Abstracts

"King Gimp": Artist Extraordinaire (Video). *Pamela Rohland, Assistant Director, Disabilities Services.* This video documents the years of growth and development from ages 12 to 25 in the life of Dan Keplinger, now 36. Keplinger has overcome cerebral palsy suffered at birth to become a critically acclaimed visual and media artist whose work has been exhibited throughout the United States. As the writer as well as the on-screen subject for the film, he explains his choice of the title. "Most people think 'gimp' means someone with a lame walk. But 'gimp' also means a fighting spirit." To cope with his disability, he displayed that spirit by creating his paintings through the use of brushes attached to a brace on his head. Raised by his mother to feel empowered, he describes his approach to life's challenges. "Obstacles and challenges are a universal part of the human condition. We all face them in everyday life...Many of us are likely to get discouraged during difficult times in our lives. In my work, I hope to show everybody that they have the ability to persevere. Ironically, when the film won an Academy Award in 1999, he had to watch his collaborators accept the Oscar because the stage was not wheelchair-accessible. **Tue 9/29@9:30am**

Latinos in the Eye of a Political and Social Hurricane: Does the Law Protect Ethnic Equality in the U.S.? *Dr. Tom Morin, Professor, Language; and a Panel of URI Alumni and Community Leaders. Co-sponsored by La Unidad Latina Lambda Upsilon Lambda Fraternity (LUL).* Over the course of its history, the US Supreme Court has generally been a conservative institution that has mirrored the political attitudes of the American majority. Latinos now constitute the largest of the groups of color, their numbers beyond 40 million and growing. Some fear their worst-case scenario – that the US will no longer be an ethnically white and English language-dominant "melting-pot". Because many in the current majority would experience this prospect as a loss of privilege, and even identity, immigration of Latinos – but not Europeans – has become one of the most contested and racialized issues on the domestic political agenda. In turning to the US Constitution to seek due process and equal protection, Latino civil rights leaders and their allies have compiled a substantive if contradictory body of case law before the US Supreme Court, including *Hernandez v. Texas* (1954), re the exclusion of Mexican-Americans from grand juries; *Miranda v. Arizona* (1966), re the rights of the criminally accused; *San Antonio ISD v. Rodriguez* (1973), re equality in school funding; *Espinoza v. Farah Mfg. Co.*; re discrimination against national origin in employment; *Plyler v. Doe* (1982), re educating children of undocumented immigrants; and *Alexander v. Sandoval* (2001), re the validity of English Only laws. This workshop critically examines the role of the law in both upholding and eliminating racial inequality. **Mon, 10/5@6:00pm**

Managing Everyday Conflict: Living in the Present Moment. *Dr. Faye Mandell, Chief Executive Officer, InWobble, Inc.* "Living in the present moment" means being open to full awareness and appreciation of the life possibilities we have. When we are fully aware of what is happening in ourselves and in our world, we experience our thoughts and emotions without judgment. When we lose our anchoring within the present moment, we are propelled away from our locus of control. We then hang on to guilt from the past, anticipate the future with fear, or lose perspective on who we are. Applying insights from psychology and quantum physics, this workshop provides a model for everyday use that reconnects us to the here and now. **Fri, 10/2@1:00pm**

Military Unity to University Classroom: Student Veterans Cope with Transition Challenges. *Christine Dolan, Specialist II, Policy and Programs, Education; Daniel Ustick, Career Advisor, Career Center; and a panel of student veterans.* Over 270,000 of the 1.65 million U. S. military veterans serving since 9/11 have finished their tours of duty in Iraq, Afghanistan, and at other bases around the world. Many of these student veterans are returning to civilian American society and enrolling in colleges across the nation. With the average service obligation ranging from five to seven years, enrolling veterans are often older and more disciplined than their classmates. However, many student veterans have experienced sights, sounds, and emotions of military conflict that differentiate them from their

civilian peers. Seeking to facilitate the transition from military service to campus life, this workshop assists student veterans and their allies in understanding the process of acclimation to college life; in building support networks; and in connecting to other student veterans and on- and off-campus resources. **Thur, 10/1@12:30pm**

Music for Social Justice, Protest, and Diversity. *Dr. Paul Bueno De Mesquita, Professor, Psychology; Dr. Libby Miles, Associate Professor, Writing; and Dr. Steve Wood, Professor, Communication Studies.* Ever wondered how to sing some of those old songs from the 60's that helped change the country? Workshop participants will sing protest songs to enhance their understanding of the reasons and mechanisms for initiating social transformation. Utilized by the civil rights, anti-war, labor, and immigration movements, these songs typically identify a social problem, suggest a response, appeal to common values, arouse external sympathy and support, and develop group unity. **Fri, 10/2@2:00pm**

National Student Exchange (NSE): Travel, Study, and Enjoy A Semester at Another American University. *Donna Figueroa, Assistant Director, International Education and National Student Exchange.* NSE provides students an opportunity to broaden their personal and educational experiences, explore and appreciate new cultures, learn from different professors, expand curricular and co-curricular options, access courses with different perspectives, break out of their comfort zones, and investigate graduate schools or employment possibilities. Since its founding in 1968, over 90,000 students, several from URI, have participated in NSE. This workshop features reflections from a panel of exchange students, some from URI having returned to campus, and others from other colleges but now in residence at URI. **Wed, 9/30@10:00am**

Ordinary People, Turbulent Times: Growing up Jewish in 1930's Nazi Germany. *Alice Goldstein, former Senior Researcher, Population Studies and Training Center, Brown University, and Author. Co-sponsored by Hillel.* A member of one of three families in their village in Germany's Black Forest in 1933, Goldstein recalls the sudden decline in her family's fortunes in 1933. After the Nazis established control, her father was swiftly ostracized from social contact with former associates. Her mother's pastime of playing the piano was taken away. Later, her father was humiliated by spending several weeks in the concentration camp at Dachau. Young Alice recalled that she encountered forms of ethnic segregation, being refused service at a restaurant, and having to occupy separate rooms at a school. Survivors of the "Kristallnacht", "the night of broken glass", Alice and her parents remained through the first months of the Holocaust. In 1939, the Goldsteins received a visa to the US, where Alice's father began work as a butler, and her mother as a domestic. Eventually, her mother managed her own catering service, while her father became a department store manager. This workshop provides participants an eyewitness account of the Holocaust, and a reminder about the effects of intolerance. **Wed, 9/30@12:00pm**

Out of Diversity: We Speak. *Dr. Jody Lisberger, Director, and Assistant Professor, Women's Studies; Dr. Stephen Barber, Associate Professor, English; Dr. Lynne Derbyshire, Associate Professor, Communication Studies; Frank Forleo, Assistant Director, Special Programs for Talent Development; Dr. Yvette Harps-Logan, Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design; Brandon Brown, Undergraduate Student, Political Science and African and African American Studies; Marissa Fisher, Undergraduate Student, Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design; Eva Jones, Graduate Student, English; and Kou Nyan, Undergraduate Student, Journalism.* Students and faculty rarely find time to engage each other and share the value of their individual and collective lives. This reading of expressive writing from 4 culturally diverse faculty and 4 students will reveal the influences of our diverse ways of being and knowing on ourselves and our significant others. By reaching across boundaries of education, discipline, age-generation, ethnicity, race, and sexuality this reading celebrates the impact of multiculturalism on our intellectual, spiritual, emotional, physical, and occupational choices, and enables us to model collaboration. **Thur, 10/1@2:00pm**

Abstracts

Pangaea: The URI Roots Music Series, featuring Odaiko New England. *Michael Lapointe, Hall Director, Housing and Residential Life.* Sponsored by the Office of Housing and Residential Life, and named for the common land mass formed during the age when all the continents were joined together, the 2009 Pangaea Roots Music Festival features Odaiko New England, the region's leading performance ensemble dedicated to *taiko*. Taiko refers to the family of wooden drums upon which a variety of melodic, supporting, and contrasting rhythms are performed; the music, choreography, visual symbols, and social commentary of the performance; and the core principles of interconnectivity between music, body, community, and the spiritual energy of the universe. Integrated into the life of the imperial court, the religious practice of Shinto and Buddhism, the village, and the military of Japan since ancient times, taiko was transplanted to North America, emerging as the most popular form of identity expression among Japanese-Americans during the 1960's and 1970's. In attunement with the counter-cultural movements of the era, it is said that sansei (third-generation Japanese-Americans) discovered the cultural meanings of the art form, utilizing taiko to convey cultural and political messages about their , relationships with issei (first-generation), nisei (second-generation), yonsei (fourth-generation), as well as with the larger society. **Fri, 10/2@8:00pm**

Peace and Harmony Meditation. *Dr. Celina Pereira, Physician, Health Services; Dr. Paul Bueno De Mesquita, Professor, Psychology; Dr. Art Stein, Professor, Political Science; Claire Sartori-Stein, Lecturer, Psychology, CCE; and Melvin Wade, Director, Multicultural Center.* Deriving its origins from the ancient Eastern religions, particularly those of India, China, and Japan, meditation is both a body of ancient spiritual practices and a set of contemporary mind-body techniques. It seeks to center the mind by concentrating focus on an object of attention, freeing the mind from material attachment, and opening the mind to heightened consciousness. This gathering increases awareness of basic principles and practices, and offers an opportunity to direct collective energies to attaining peace and harmony on the URI campus. **Fri, 10/2@12:00pm**

'Pudding' the ABILITY Back into Disability: Interactive Simulation and Reflection about Disabilities (Participation limited to the first 30 people). *Pamela Rohland, Assistant Director, URI Disability Services for Students; with Students for a More Accessible Campus, and the URI Advisory Committee on Disability Issues.* Co-sponsored by Students for a More Accessible Campus. Designed to increase awareness and knowledge of disability as cultural diversity, this interactive workshop will present an overview, followed by simulated activities; facilitated reflection; and assessment. By taking part in the simulations and discussion, participants will broaden their base of diversity experiences, and help to eradicate stereotypes and other institutional barriers faced by people with disabilities. **Tue 9/29@5:15pm**

Racial Profiling in Rhode Island: Disparities and Significance. *Dr. Leo Carroll, Professor, Sociology.* Though whites were more likely to be found with contraband, independent analyses of data on traffic surveillance from police departments in Rhode Island revealed that African-Americans and Latinos were much more likely to be stopped and to be searched by police. A recent study indicated no significant change in these patterns. State police officials continue to deny that any problem exists. In 2008, Governor Carcieri issuing an executive order authorizing local police to assist in enforcing federal immigration law, which some say has exacerbated racial profiling. A coalition of community organizations is backing proposed legislation to renew the collection of data on traffic surveillance, establish protocols for police activity during traffic stops, limit searches of juveniles, and place immigration policies and agreements on public record. Many among the police espouse the traditional, paramilitary model for the police, in which social control over an adversarial community of "different" others is maintained through the application of force, the use of fear, and the demand for deference. The community organizations advocate for the community policing model, which was propagated in response to the US Civil Rights movement of the

1960's, when armed police often brutally attacked unarmed citizens practicing nonviolence and civil disobedience. Assuming that the best law enforcement is based on winning the hearts and minds of the community, community policing encourages the police to establish social control through community partnerships, contributions to the quality of life, citizen empowerment, and the maintenance of trust and respect. This workshop discusses racial profiling as "the practice of targeting individuals for suspicion of crime based on their race, ethnicity, religion, and nationality"; and provides historical and sociological context to the controversy. **Tue 9/29@3:30pm**

Racism on the Contemporary College Campus: Stories from Women of Color of Bias Without Intention. *Dr. Annemarie Vaccaro, Assistant Professor, Human Development and Family Studies.* Many whites in the US believe that racial parity has been achieved; that no significant barrier exists to any racial or ethnic group; and that racial discrimination is rare. Often these members of the dominant racial group regard themselves as colorblind in self-image. At the same time, they may be unaware that their membership provides them unearned privilege, or that they may be engaging in micro-aggressions or unconscious avoidance behaviors that maintain control and emotional distance over other groups. The aversive theory framework identifies subtle and indirect ways in which asymmetrical power relations operate to influence academic, employment, and legal decisions as well as group problem-solving, musical preferences, and dating. This workshop provides an opportunity to learn about some of the personal impacts of aversive racism on college students. Participants will also have an opportunity to share intra-group and intergroup experiences in a safe space and dialogue about change at URI. **Tue 9/29@11:00am**

Reports from 'URI Academic Alternative Spring Break: Classroom Without Borders'. *Gail Faris, Assistant Director, Women's Center; and a Panel of URI Students.* During URI's 2009 Spring Break, 27 students travelled to Birmingham, AL – an important site for civil rights and labor history – to engage in short term community service projects in conjunction with Habitat for Humanity's Collegiate Challenge while learning about issues of poverty and civil rights. Being immersed in a different environment enables students to experience, discuss, and reflect from multiple perspectives about the root causes and effects of poverty, hunger, and unemployment. The workshop enables panelists to share the impact and relevance of their learning, and to describe the transfer of lessons learned onsite back to their careers as students, citizens, and workers. **Wed, 9/30@1:00pm**

Representation of Women in the Media. *John Pantalone, Lecturer, Journalism; and Dr. Barbara Luebke, Professor, Journalism.* Because we are immersed in a society where the Internet, television, film, radio, and print constitute, rather than reflect, reality, it is important to learn how to understand, interpret, criticize, and create media messages and their meanings. These messages provide a frame in helping us to construct our sense of what is right or wrong, normal or abnormal, mainstream or marginal, and beautiful or ugly. When they dominate the exchange of communications, media messages can achieve greater power and validity in the cultural arena. Some women writers posit that contemporary media messages often legitimate images that disempowered women, and reinforce gender inequality. This workshop interrogates the processes by which media messages become dominant (or counter-dominant), by whom, for whom, and at what costs. **Wed, 9/30@11:00am**

Abstracts

"Saving Marriage": Winning Marriage Equality in Massachusetts - Now On to Rhode Island (Video). *Andrew Winters, Assistant to the Vice President for GLBT Affairs; Kathy Kushnir, Executive Director, Marriage Equality Rhode Island (MERI); and members of MERI.* The U. S. has traditionally defined marriage as a religious and legal commitment between a man and a woman, sanctioned and/or supported by the church, state, family, and community. Historically, same-sex couples have been denied permission to marry. However, the tide of public opinion has swung toward acceptance, with Massachusetts, Connecticut, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine having passed marriage equality legislation. The changing tide is evident in the majority opinion of the U. S. Supreme Court overturning Colorado's Second Amendment referendum. Writing for the majority, Justice Anthony Kennedy observed that its ban against same-sex marriage directly violated the Equal Protection clause of the U. S. Constitution. Proponents also observe that same-sex marriage should be legally sanctioned since research indicates that married people tend to have greater wealth and higher incomes; live longer; and lead healthier lives. R. I. State Senator Rhoda Perry (D-3rd Dist., Providence) and R. I. State Representative Frank Ferri (D-22nd Dist., Warwick) have sponsored marriage equality bills. This workshop evaluates the progress of marriage equality as both an organizational and a legislative issue in Rhode Island. **Mon, 10/5@7:00pm**

Shakespeare: A Poet for the Ages, and A Man Of His Time – Anti-Semitism and Racism in *The Merchant of Venice*. *Bryna Wortman, Associate Professor, Theatre.* As early as the 11th Century, A.D., Jews in England were regarded as outsiders because of their religion. Only Christians were able to pursue conventional paths to respectability by owning land or joining the artisan guilds. In order to earn a living, Jews often relied on the vocation of money lending. In assessing interest and collecting debt, the Jewish money lenders frequently became targets of resentment. By the late 13th Century, anti-Semitism and hostility to money lending led to repressive measures against Jews, resulting in prohibition against usury, and a period of exile from England, lasting 300 years. When William Shakespeare wrote the romantic comedy, *The Merchant of Venice* in the 16th Century, stereotypes about Jews had crystallized in the popular imagination. Forming the backdrop of ideas upon which Shakespeare wrote was the myth of "blood libel", based on the groundless notion that Jews kidnapped children at Easter and murdered them in ritual ceremonies. In late 16th Century Venice where *Merchant* is set, there lived a Jewish community within a strong, homogeneous, hostile Christian society. Jews were ghettoized and abused. Against this backdrop, Shakespeare drew upon the stock characters of Elizabethan drama to present his play's antagonist, Shylock. A Jew and money lender, Shylock is actually a complex character. Shakespeare also revealed society's antagonism to people of color – the Prince of Morocco. Participants are invited to observe the scene selection, share their reactions to Shylock and the play and to discuss the role of art in creating community. URI Theatre's Spring 2009 production of *The Merchant of Venice* urged its audiences to enjoy its beauty while opposing its prejudices. **Wed, 9/30@6:00pm**

"Speech Is My Hammer...": Hip Hop and the Public Sphere. *Kalyana Champlain, Graduate Student, Communications.* Within the world of hip hop youth culture, a struggle for ascendancy is being contested between the "consciousness school" who operate from a "public sphere" model, where the audience is viewed as citizens, and the "public interest" is the yardstick against which artistic performance is measured; versus the "gangsta school" who employ a "market" model, where the audience is regarded as consumers, and profitability is the criterion for success. In "Hip Hop" from his CD *Black On Both Sides* (1999), Mos Def comments on the role of the "conscious" hip hop artist as a change agent: "Speech is my hammer, bang the world into shape/ Now let it fall...(Hungh!!)". This workshop discusses the influence of "consciousness" hip hop in shaping the role of the artist, the culture, the art form, and the audience. **Thur, 10/1@12:30pm**

The Status of Women Under Islam. *Dr. Assem Sayedahmed, Post-Doctoral Fellow, and Muslim Chaplain.* Some Muslim women scholars point to the early years of Islam as an era in which women were empowered to hold property and to comment authoritatively about the meaning of the Koran. During the concurrent Middle Ages, these opportunities were foreclosed to women under Christianity. With the rise of fundamentalism and patriarchy in Islam and Christianity, the viewpoint evolved that religious and legal doctrine should be treated as static and immutable, providing a framework for the codification of the dominance of men over women. While its influence was felt in the West during the first half of the 20th century, modernity in the Islamic world began to erode the influence of traditionalism with the emergence into the "public sphere" of an assertive cadre of Muslim women scholars during the last two decades. The voices of modernity in Islam stress the need for changes in family law, providing equality in marriage, divorce, inheritance, and protection from domestic violence; in education; and in the workplace, as well as separation of

mosque from state. Correspondingly, the voices of traditionalism cite the emphasis in Islam on maintaining conventional family roles and dynamics; on resisting corrupt influences from the West; and the growing attraction of Islam among Western women. This workshop will acquaint participants with the case for maintaining the status of Muslim women as the guardians of the family. **Fri, 10/2@2:00pm**

Stress Reduction Through Knowing Yourself. *Dr. Celina Pereira, Physician, Health Services; and Holly Nichols, Clinical Counselor, Counseling Center.* Stress is our body's response to change, pressure or threat to our well-being. This workshop will teach you to use your inner resources to recognize and relieve the causes and symptoms of stress through practical mind and body relaxation techniques, including meditation and breathing to increase mindfulness. Participants will have the opportunity to learn techniques that enable them to decrease their levels of stress, and to experience life more fully. **Wed, 9/30@12:00pm**

"Traces of the Trade": A Story from the Deep North (Video). *Rev. Dr. Jennifer Phillips, Rector, St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, and Episcopal Chaplain; and James DeWolf Perry VI, Graduate Student, Political Science, Harvard University.* Co-sponsored by *Black American Society (BAS)*. Filmmaker Katrina Browne was shocked to find out that her wealthy Rhode Island ancestors had been the largest traders of African captives in American history. For 200 years, the respected public image of her family – the DeWolfs – was that of merchants, legislators, professors, investors, and clerics. U.S. Senator James DeWolf secured the approval of President Thomas Jefferson to continue in the human trafficking industry even after the trade was legally banned. Reportedly, half of the U. S. ships involved in the slave trade emanated from Rhode Island. Prompted by a letter from her grandmother, Browne found corroborating evidence for the hidden family history in ship's logs, ledgers, correspondence, and even a family nursery rhyme. Between 1769 and 1820, the ships owned by the DeWolfs transported rum from their family distilleries in Bristol, Rhode Island to west Africa to be traded for more than 10,000 enslaved Africans. The African captives were then brought across the Atlantic to Caribbean ports for sugar and molasses to be converted into rum, triggering the cycle of trade again. Inviting 200 descendants of the DeWolfs, Browne retraces geographical points in the Triangular Trade cycle with the nine relatives who accepted her invitation. This documentary reveals the "vertically integrated" financial models of corporate capitalism that built growing economies of northern seaports like Bristol and Newport, as well as inland towns throughout New England; and sustained northern industries of the Industrial Revolution, such as shipbuilding, textiles, insurance, warehousing, investing, and banking. While African slavery is generally regarded as a Southern institution, the film exposes the equal complicity and collective amnesia of the North about the past. Finally, the film has been an important successor to President Bill Clinton's call for a National Dialogue on Race by raising topics crucial to the healing of Americans, such as the legacy of slavery, the nature of privilege as unearned advantage and conferred dominance, the relevance of reparations and apology, the meaning of citizenship, and the narration of history. Recently, the film was nominated for an Emmy Award. **Tue 9/29@3:00pm**

A Tribute to the Great Nat King Cole: Jazz Vocalist and Pianist. *Dr. George Willis, Professor, Education.* Nat King Cole has achieved iconic status as one of the most identifiable voices in the history of American music. Born in 1917, he won early recognition for his keyboard technique as a bandleader and pianist of a light swing jazz trio. In the late 1940's and 1950's, he transitioned to more pop balladry, crossing over to a multiethnic audience. His renditions of "For Sentimental Reasons" (1946), "Route 66" (1946), "The Christmas Song" (1946), "Mona Lisa" (1950), "Too Young" (1951), "Darling Je Vous Aime Beaucoup" (1955), "When I Fall in Love" (1957), and "Send For Me" (1957) have become classics in the national American songbook. His "Cole Espanol" (1957), sung in Spanish, and subsequent tours to Havana and Caracas, extended his celebrity status to South America and the Caribbean. His popularity enabled him to transcend some of the segregationist racial barriers of his era. In 1947-48, he was the first black American to have a national radio show. In 1956-57, his television show *The Nat King Cole Show*, the second for an African-American, was cancelled because national advertisers feared a white Southern backlash. In 1956, he was the target of racial violence when he returned to his native Alabama to perform for a desegregated audience. By the end of his career, his records had grossed an estimated \$50 million for Capitol Records. A chain smoker, Nat King Cole died of lung cancer in 1965. **Thur, 10/1@3:30pm**

Abstracts

URI Diversity Week Focus Groups. *URI Diversity Week Planning Committee.* The URI Diversity Week Planning Committee will be conducting moderated group interviews to gather information and explore participant perceptions of URI Diversity Week. Space is limited. To indicate your interest in participating in a focus group, please click [here](#) or e-mail maileekue@uri.edu. **Mon, 10/5@1:00pm**

The URI Multicultural Center Dialogue Project: Deconstructing and Problem-Solving Issues of Diversity on Campus. *Kepler Jeudy, Graduate Student, College Student Personnel.* Co-sponsored by P.I.N.K. Women. Sustained Dialogue (SD) is a semi-structured model of dialogue that challenges participants to rely upon their own resources as they learn and practice skills needed to be effective leaders and citizens in diverse groups. In this workshop, students from multiple primary identity groups will meet to learn the SD model, and to use it to explore differences as well as common ground in personal and group perspectives and experiences on campus and beyond. The workshop will provide a basis for interested students to work through the five stages of the SD model over the course of the semester: (1) understanding the self and the need for dialogue; (2) naming, mapping, and prioritizing key issues; (3) probing problems and relationships to identify why issues matter and how to solve them; (4) designing a scenario for change; and (5) acting together.

“War Child”: A Film About the Life of Emmanuel Jal, a Child Soldier in Africa (Video). *Michaela Cashman, Undergraduate Student, Environmental Science & Management; and David Nelson, Undergraduate Student, Biology.* Co-sponsored by the Student Nonviolence Involvement Committee. The practice of placing children under the age of 18 in combat units is far more widespread than most people realize. Despite the existence of several United Nations pacts, children now serve in 40% of military units, and fight in 75% of the world's wars. Approximately 200,000 of the estimated 300,000 child soldiers fighting in wars around the world serve with government armies, militias, and insurgents in Africa. Peter W. Singer describes this use of children as “probably the worst unrecognized form of child abuse,” burdening them with physical and emotional trauma and undermining family stability for generations. During last February, Emmanuel Jal, a child soldier survivor from Sudan, visited URI to heighten awareness and raise funds for his Foundation to help children and communities heal. Plunged into sudden warfare between black Christian Nuer and Dinkas from the north, and Arab Muslims from the South, around 1983, when he thinks he was three, Jal recalls being shuttled from relative to relative, to evade the violence he witnessed against his mother and suspects against his father. Realizing he is one of the “lost boys”, he arrives at a refugee camp where he is recruited to be a child soldier. Saved from an ultimate harsh fate, he escapes, embraces Christianity, and becomes a star entertainer. This video and discussion encourages participants to develop their own plans for opposing the use of violence. **Tue 9/29@2:00pm**

‘We Will Make Miracles’: A University-Inner City School Peace-In-Action Partnership. *Dr. Susan Trostle Brand, Professor, Elementary Education; and Jane Picciotti, Director, Lower School, Highlander Elementary.* Second grade students from the CVS Highlander Elementary School in Providence share stories, songs, and art that convey the theme of peace and universal harmony. Laying the foundation for multiculturalism and diversity early in life, participants will learn how to establish a curriculum that promotes acceptance and pluralism, teaching that while we are different, we are also very much the same. **Thur, 10/1@11:00am**

A Window to Understand the Cultures of China and the United States: The Work of the Confucius Institute at URI. *Dr. Yan Ma, Director, The Confucius Institute, and Professor, Graduate School of Library and Information Sciences; and Dr. Limeng Qiu, Assistant Professor, Chinese Languages.* During the 21st Century, many predict that the involvement of the United States, the most powerful ‘developed’ nation, with China, the world’s most powerful ‘developing’ nation, will be the most important bilateral relationship in maintaining global peace and prosperity. Economically, China, with the world’s fastest-growing economy, will continue its intricate ties with the United States, owner of the world’s

Largest economy. At least 450 of the top 500 American corporations have significant investments in China. China is the leading lender to the United States government. Since 2004, China has created around the world more than 200 Confucius Institutes, named after the great Chinese philosopher of the 6th century B. C. This workshop introduces the programs of the URI Confucius Institute in teaching Chinese language, and in developing an environment for mutual learning. **Fri, 10/2@10:00am**

Working with Future Generations for a Nonviolent Global Community. *Jonathan Lewis, Director, The Gathering, and URI Alumnus.* Co-sponsored by the URI NAACP. This workshop introduces participants to ongoing initiatives for peacebuilding and conflict resolution currently underway in countries, such as the United States, Colombia, Cuba, Israel, and Puerto Rico, and provides information and advice for those who wish to enlist in and support these international initiatives. **Wed, 9/30@11:00am**

Working to Demobilize Child Soldiers in Liberia: Personal Reflections. *Jones Mallay, Graduate Student, Communication Studies, and former Case Coordinator, Liberian Refugee Camp.* Co-sponsored by Student Alliance for the Welfare of Africa. Ratified by over 160 nations since its signing in 1989, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child established 15 years as the minimum recruitment age for child soldiers. But in the face of armed conflict, both government and rebel troops in Africa have enlisted children below the age of 15, utilizing military force and economic manipulation. Often the United States, other western nations, and the African nations themselves have been motivated by political and economic self-interest, causing them to deemphasize the child abuse child soldiering imposes on children and on the future fabric of society. In Liberia, about 10% of the estimated 60,000 combatants in the country’s civil war since 1989 have been children. In 1997, Charles Taylor, leader of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) overthrew the administration of Samuel Doe. When his rule was subsequently threatened by a new wave of insurgents, Taylor recruited mercenaries from a population of thousands of poor, unemployed youth, forming them into the Small Boys Unit. Even after Taylor was forced into exile in Nigeria in 2003, the Small Boys Unit roamed the borders of the adjacent countries of Liberia, Sierra Leone, Ivory Coast, and Guinea in western Africa, creating regional conflict and destabilization. One effect of child soldiering has been to create a population of children exposed to adult privilege, and unwilling to relinquish it. Another effect of child soldiering has been to burden society with boys and girls, who have had to endure rape, amputation, torture, and other forms of violence. During 2009, Charles Taylor has become the first African leader to be tried in international courts for crimes against humanity, including the deployment of child soldiers, in what amounts to a public test of both the African and the global character. This workshop provides an opportunity to hear observations from a former refugee camp official who worked to demobilize and reintegrate child soldiers and other war-wounded into the fabric of Liberian society. **Thur, 10/1@10:00am**

You Know What Songs You Like, But Do You Know What Songs You Came From? *Dr. Audrey Cardany, Assistant Professor, Music.* Music plays a central role in the process of identity construction, whether we are addressing membership that is based on race, gender, generation, nationality, sexual orientation, disability, socioeconomic class, or religion. Through music, we can establish our own sense of self; engage with our multiple membership groups in delineating, negotiating, and maintaining cultural boundaries; and communicate who we are and who we could be to others so as to redefine community. The global response of youth to the recent death of Michael Jackson illustrates the power of music to shape identity. This workshop helps participants to develop the critical tools to relate their own musical tastes to the larger project of developing identity through music. **Fri, 10/2@10:00am**

About Lifespan

Lifespan is a comprehensive, integrated academic health care system. The mission of Lifespan is to improve the health status of the people it serves in Rhode Island and New England through the provision of customer-friendly, geographically accessible, and high value services.

Lifespan prides itself in their ability to diversify and create an environment of inclusion by respecting and valuing the differences in race, color, gender, sexual orientation, gender identification and expression, genetic information, age, religion, national origin and veteran or disability status of all people.

For more information about Lifespan, visit their website at www.lifespan.org

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