



DIVERSITY NEWSLETTER

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

As Chair of the Committee on Diversity and Inclusion, let me welcome you to our inaugural edition of our newsletter. We plan to publish the newsletter quarterly, and with it we hope to bring everybody up to speed on what we have done, are doing now, and what's on our agenda in the future. For those who are unfamiliar with CDI, let me share our Mission Statement with you:

The mission of the Committee for Diversity and Inclusion at Norwalk Community College is to promote an academically enriching and supportive climate that allows all the diverse members of its community to thrive and succeed. The Committee for Diversity and Inclusion will achieve its mission by collaborating with units on campus to intentionally design a comprehensive, college wide approach to diversity, facilitate equity, access, social justice and inclusion; and empower students, faculty, and staff to build a diverse and inclusive campus community. Through the cultivation of diversity, the Committee for Diversity and Inclusion will lead efforts to institutionalize diversity as a fundamental transformative force that fosters professional growth and academic excellence.

This inaugural issue of the CDI Newsletter is the product of the tremendous effort and dedication of the members of CDI with Pracyla Titus coordinating the effort. Your feedback is always welcome. Comments and ideas regarding the newsletter can be directed to: ptitus@norwalk.edu

- Al Thomas , *CDI Chairman*



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CENTER FOR MULTI-CULTURAL AFFAIRS OPENS



A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on September 15 to announce the opening of the college's Center for Multi-Cultural Affairs, which is located on the East Campus in room E215.

NCC President David L. Levinson Ph.D. welcomed students, faculty and staff to the Center, and encouraged them to tour the space and enjoy cake and refreshments. The Center was established to celebrate diversity and inclusion on campus and provide a place to hold events, share ideas and serve the wide range of interests and needs of NCC students.

"This is a place where people can meet. Where we can discuss issues of importance," said President Levinson. "NCC represents a diverse world and we have a lot to teach, not only to each other but to the community and world."

Throughout the year, the Committee for Diversity and Inclusion will work closely with college administrators, faculty, students and staff to examine multicultural center models, adopt a mission and vision, and design programs and activities.

"We are excited about opening up our Multi-Cultural Center to provide a place for all students, not just those of color and those who are marginalized," said Curtis Antrum, Associate Director of Admissions and a member of the Committee for Diversity and Inclusion. "We want to make this a place where all are welcome, all are comfortable and all are safe."

BLACK LIVES MATTER, A LOVE SUPREME, AND A HEARTY LABYRINTH

NOVEMBER 2016 FASCINATING TIDBITS TO SHARE FROM CHRIS JAPELY:



Jelani Cobb

New Yorker writer and Columbia University professor (recently moved from UConn), came and spoke at NCC a year ago (October 2015) on the importance of the Black Lives Matter movement. Lately he's been involved in writing, filming, and talking about police abuses in Newark, NJ: <http://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/policing-the-police-in-newark>

“Policing the Police” is a documentary by the PBS investigative series *Frontline*. June 2016

Professor Arturo, our own NCC English department adjunct professor and poet, has had a lovely volume of poetry published called *A Love Supreme*: <http://books.nyq.org/title/alovesupreme>

The title honors the fiftieth anniversary of John Coltrane's album masterpiece (recorded: 1964, released: 1965). Professor Arturo's book was published by New York Quarterly Books in August 2016; here is a small sample of work:

Motto

(to Langston Hughes)

If you can dig it
You can dig it

If you cain't
You cain't...

'cuz if you with it
You is with it

If you ain't
You ain't...



BLACK LIVES MATTER, A LOVE SUPREME A HEARTY LABYRINTH (CONT...)

Renae Edge’s Heart-shaped Labyrinth has been particularly enjoyable on some of these glorious fall days. Students are learning about labyrinths and “walking meditation” at the same time, and they have found the experience especially soothing during midterm stress and schedule demands! (It has also been a nice escape from the noise of the roof renovation on East Campus. Here are some Lit and Comp (ENG102 students) with me enjoying the labyrinth and the splendid fall foliage.



(photo by NCC student Lehne Camp)



ence electives. For more information, please contact program coordinator, Andres Aluma—Cazorla at aaluma-cazorla@norwalk.edu.

LAS 201 -Introduction to Latino Studies

Course Description: This class will introduce students to the fields of Latino Studies. Although a broad range of topics will be covered, there will be a focus on certain aspects of history, culture, politics, race, gender and sexuality. Students will be asked to examine how a heterogeneous and changing Latino population both shapes and is shaped by life in the United States, and specifically, in Connecticut and the East Coast. Over the course of the semester, students and instructor will also engage in conversations about the experiences of being Latino in the USA to stimulate discussions of identity, class, race and/or ethnicity, religion, gender and sexuality, migration, language, and popular culture.

LAS 215- 20th Century Latin American Topics

Course Description: This course is an exploration of some of the most important socio-political events in 20th century Latin America and how they were represented in contemporary Latin American literature and visual arts. The dramatizations and representations of the socio-political events in the fiction explore the process of “Coming of Age” of the Latin American countries during these 20th Century historical moments and their aftermath. Class will be conducted in English; readings will be available in translation and in the original language.

LATIN/LATINO STUDIES NEW COURSE OFFERINGS

Norwalk Community College has begun launching the developing Latin/Latino Studies program. Fall 2016 served as the launching of the first course of the program, LAS 201 Introduction to Latino studies. Spring 2017 will also include LAS 201 and a new course LAS 215 (please read course descriptions below. LAS courses count as Liberal Arts and Science electives.



NCC NURSING STUDENT IS RECIPIENT OF CONNECTICUT LEAGUE OF NURSING AWARD

It is with great pleasure to announce that Norwalk Community College, School of Nursing recognizes that senior student nurse, **Keller Roc** has been chosen as one of Connecticut League of Nursing "RN Peer Recognition Award" recipient's. This award was established by the Connecticut League of Nursing to recognize an outstanding senior nursing student from each school in Connecticut who has been selected by his peers. The student must demonstrate compassion, competent care, professionalism, leadership, respect, teamwork, and commitment to the nursing profession.

Keller is a full-time senior student at Norwalk Community College, School of Nursing. While attending nursing school full-time Keller is also currently an emergency room technician at Norwalk Hospital in Norwalk, CT where he has been employed for the past 8.5 years. Keller's passion to become a nurse comes from a family of 5 sisters that are currently registered nurses, his team oriented spirit, compassionate care, hard work ethic, and caring heart. Keller lives and follows verse Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me".

Nursing Faculty describes Keller as a student that demonstrates leadership, compassion, professionalism, teamwork, dedication, and great communicator in theory plus the clinical setting. He possesses all the characteristics of a great nurse!!!

We are proud to have him at NCC, School of Nursing!!!

On Wednesday, November 2, 2016 at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville, CT. Keller was presented with his recognition award with other student nurses and faculty from Norwalk Community College, School of Nursing present to support him in this memorable moment.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

CDI looks forward to providing a spotlight for NCC's amazing students. This issue spotlights Nursing Student Keller Roc, nominated by Nursing Faculty, Tanisha Tyson. If you have a student you would like to spotlight, please contact ptitus@norwalk.edu.

**TO CONTRIBUTE
TO THE
NEWSLETTER
AND IF YOU
HAVE ANY COM-
MENTS AND/OR
CONCERNS**

**PLEASE EMAIL
PRACILYA TITUS**

**PTITUS@NORWALK.
EDU**

THIS IS OUR FIRST ISSUE

This is the first issue of the Diversity Newsletter. The newsletter will serve to promote diversity throughout NCC. It will include everything from student achievement to the works of faculty staff and the greater NCC and global community. It will be a quarterly newsletter so be on the look out for upcoming issues. If you would like to contribute to the Newsletter, please email Pracilya Titus (ptitus@norwalk.edu).

It will include :

- ⇒ **Upcoming Events**
- ⇒ **Student, Faculty and Staff Spotlights**
- ⇒ **Leadership Opportunities**
- ⇒ **NCC News**
- ⇒ **New Course Offerings**
- ⇒ **Diversity in the News**
- ⇒ **And much more.....**

All are invited to Attend CDI Committee Meetings.

Meetings are scheduled for 2:30pm on the 3rd Monday of every Month.

Location: Center for Multi-Cultural Affairs E-215

