



OMA's Community Digest

Office of Multicultural Affairs
A Diverse Community of Scholars Achieving Excellence

January / February 2018
Volume 10, Issue 3

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2018 Rev. Martin Luther King Memorial March

The 2018 MLK March, sponsored by MLK Dayton, Inc. provided participants with an opportunity to learn more about the contributions of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr to the advancement of social justice and inclusion. By joining local community supporters and organizations in a commemorative annual march and rally, UD students joined the greater Dayton area in paying respects to the life and work of Dr. King.

The expectation was for students to become more aware and exposed to the impact of Dr. King's work and our responsibility to fulfilling his mission.

Agenda for the day included meeting in the morning for breakfast and to create posters that were utilized during the march. Transportation was provided from UD to downtown Dayton. Following the march, participants engaged in a closing ceremony and dialogue.

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Editor's Note

Roberto De La Rosa-Finch



Hey! I hope everyone is having a great start to the semester. Black History Month is upon us and I'm exciting for the upcoming events at OMA. A discussion on the effects of hip-hop, a soul food potluck and you can't forget about Black Panther (I'd choose T'Challa over Steve Rodgers any day ... he actually wins the battle in the comics and drags him out of Wakanda when — let me stop being a geek).

Anyway, whether you're only taking three classes and ready to get out of here, or busy every day of the week — I know I am — this semester looks like it's going to be a good one. Remember to stay bundled up with the crazy changing weather. Treat yourself every once in a while. Go get a treat at Duck Donuts. I think I want a maple syrup bacon one ... I'm gonna go get one. See you around!

Save The Date

- ❖ Feb 1st. OMA Day - Black History Month Kick-off (OMA)
- ❖ Feb 6th. African American Women's Support Group (5pm - Counseling Center)
- ❖ Feb 7th. Black History Cookie Facts (12-1:30pm - Marianist Hall)
- ❖ Feb 10th. Black Excellence Ball (8-11:00pm - KU Ballroom)
- ❖ Feb 11th. I know why the caged bird sings - A Celebration of Paul Laurence Dunbar (3pm - Paul Laurence Dunbar House)
- ❖ Feb 11th. Black History Month Mass (6pm - Immaculate Chapel)
- ❖ Feb. 13th. Chats with the Chief Chatman (OMA)
- ❖ Feb 13th. REAL Topics: *Hip Hop: Positive Cultural Staple or a Tool for Destruction* (12:30-2pm - OMA Lounge)
- ❖ Feb 14th. Global Game Night: Africa Night (4-5:30pm - Rike Center 108)
- ❖ Feb 15th. OMA Welcomes the new Associate Dean and Executive Director, Daria Graham
- ❖ Feb 21st. Friends of Africa Reception (3:30-5pm - Torch Lounge)
- ❖ Feb 22nd. Movie Theatre Trip: Black Panther (5pm - Meet in OMA) RSVP
- ❖ Feb 27th. Soul Food Student Potluck (6pm - OMA Lounge)
- ❖ April 7-8th. Multicultural Overnight
- ❖ April 16-20. Colors of Leadership Connections (COLC)
- ❖ March 7th. Self-Defense Workshop

Check OrgSync for additional events and information.

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Shaping Your Future Through Leadership and Service

Merida Allen

Interim Director /Associate Director of Leadership Initiatives



The Office of Multicultural Affairs staff hope that your semester is off to a great start! Students, I hope you are working towards progress on your 2018 goals. The new semester presents opportunities to reflect on the past in order to determine the strategies that you will continue and any new plans you want to implement.

Do you have specific goals in the following areas:

- **academic** - study in advance of due dates, keep momentum to attend all classes,
- **personal** - attend a campus event, join an organization, try employment options, reflect on your experiences,
- **professional** – attend campus events to deepen your understanding of diverse topics, explore graduate school opportunities, or identify full-time employment after graduation?

I provided a few examples of goals that you might be considering. Many of these goals will likely prove enriching on multiple levels. Speak with an OMA staff member, a faculty member, or someone else on campus to learn about additional resources that may assist you in achieving your goals.

In January, the University offered programming in recognition of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The campus community was indeed able to engage in a witnessing history and the call to shape our future. Many exciting events were happening! Next up is Black History Month, where there are many opportunities for everyone to engage with campus. There will also be our standard programs we invite you to -- Study Tables, PEERS First Fridays, REAL Topics session, or the Multicultural Programming Council meeting. Contact oma@udayton.edu for details.

I encourage you to think about how you are shaping your future. Even the smallest task, good habit or new goal is a benefit. Your academic journey will be personally yours. Reflect when it gets hard; then prepare to carry on and give your best to achieve your goals.

OMA has some very strong partnerships and connection to academic units, Campus Ministry, Counseling Center, LGBTQ+ Support Services, Housing and Residence Life, Center for Student Involvement and many others. If you are seeking employment, try looking at Handshake and upload your resume or check out the OMA weekly emails where we always try to keep you informed of opportunities.. If you need assistance with career advising, contact Career Services. We hope you know there are many people able to support you. I leave you with this insightful quote, that resonates with me by Carl Jung, *“I am not what happened to me, I am what I choose to become.”* Remember, your hard work and dedication to your success, is the best gift you can give yourself.

Please contact an OMA staff member, if we can be of assistance.

Hope to see you soon!

Merida Allen
Office of Multicultural Affairs

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Carlos' Corner

Carlos Stewart

Associate Director of Student Services



OMA/MEP Welcomes back the participants of the PEERS Mentoring Program

Fall 2017 was a fantastic semester for the PEERS program and this was due the time and dedication of both the mentors and the mentees. For this, the PEERS program would like to send a heartfelt THANK YOU. We would like to congratulate many of the participants as they have completed their first semester of college. We know that things are not always easy, but hope that the PEERS program - and the relationship with the mentor(s) - have been of benefit to all that have completed this milestone. The PEERS program would also like to acknowledge the dedicated mentors. We really appreciate your time and effort and we know that you have contributed to UD being a more welcoming environment for your mentees. You should all know that you are loved by OMA and the MEP program and we look forward to working with you and assisting you as you take the next steps in navigating the college experience.

If you would like more information about the PEERS Mentoring Program, please contact Carlos Stewart at cstewart1@udayton.edu.

**MEP is the Minority Engineering Program*

Upcoming Events:

First Friday – March 9, 2018 @ 4:30 p.m. in Kettering Labs 221

Black History Month:

The University of Dayton and the Office of Multicultural Affairs is pleased to offer a host of educational opportunities during Black History Month. Thanks to any and all that helped make this year's programming initiatives hugely successful. A list of the BHM programming calendar can be found below by visiting go.udayton.edu/heritagemonths.

Looking ahead, if you are interested in assisting in the planning and implementation of Asian and Pacific American Heritage for the month of April, please contact Carlos Stewart at cstewart1@udayton.edu.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

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Academic Success Corner

Cynthia Payne

Assistant Director for Academic Success



Happy February! You are a solid 3 weeks into the semester! And there are a solid 3 Weeks before Spring Break! Time flies when you are having fun, right?!

In the spirit of 3, here are 3 tips to consider as you are navigating through this Spring 2018 semester.

1 Meet Your Professors Now!! There are so many reasons why it is good to engage with your professors and build relationships with them! Perhaps your classes seem like they will go great for you this semester... you should still get to know your professors!! If you are going to be a star in their class, they can serve as a reference for you when you are applying for scholarships, graduate schools, or any other opportunity! Perhaps there is a course or two that seem like they will be challenging.... even if you don't need their help yet, introduce yourself now! If you get to know them now and show that you are invested in the class, they will know that you care. Don't wait until April to seek them out, now is a great time to talk with your professors.

2 Get Organized!! There are so many different methods, tips, and tools that will help you to succeed in your academics. Being organized is one of those things! Organize your schedule. Know the times of the day that you plan to study. Plan for the times that will be free time to do whatever you want. Take all of your syllabi and your planner (electronic or otherwise) and plot out all of your due dates for papers, projects, quizzes and tests. Knowing what's coming is half the battle. Keep all of your papers, in one space. Organize your electronic documents. Being able to easily seek out what you need when you need it AND knowing what's coming in your day, week, month and the semester will help you to stay on top of everything you need to do.

3 Use Your Resources!! There are so many great resources at your fingertips on this campus that can be instrumental in helping with your success. Don't be afraid to utilize them! In fact, you should utilize them.

Your tuition pays for them! Here are some of the ones you could consider using:

- **Tutoring** – there is walk-in tutoring available in Marianist Hall, Sunday through Thursday. There is also tutoring available by appointments! [Check it out.](#)
- **Academic coaching** – do you feel like you don't truly know how to study? Do you feel like your notes from class aren't helpful? Do you think you aren't a good test taker? [Meet with an academic coach](#) who will help you to improve your learning habits!
- **Supplemental instruction** – does your course have an SI attached to it that you aren't utilizing?? There could be a peer instructor who is attending your class with you and hosting an SI session and will go over the material with you that you aren't easily grasping. [Don't miss out!!](#)
- **Paper writing** – do your classes require you to write paper after paper after paper? Figuring out the best way to craft your papers is a skill to be developed! [The Write Place](#) is there to help.
- **ME!** – I am here to help support you academically in any way that I can! Please come in and let me know how I can help you to succeed at UD! Email me at cpayne2@udayton.edu or stop by room 106 in Alumni Hall. I would love to meet with you.

I challenge you to utilize one of these tips in the next 3 weeks. Invest now in your success! Don't wait until you run into an issue. Investing now will pay off for you later.

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Welcome Home!

Daria Graham

Associate Dean of Students and Executive Director of Multicultural Affairs



Please join us in welcoming our new Associate Dean of Students and Executive Director, Daria Graham. Graham currently is the inaugural director for the Office of Student Leadership Programs and an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work. A Dayton native, Graham has been affiliated with the University for more than 27 years. She graduated in 1994 and returned five years later to work in housing and residence life. She's also held positions in the Center for Student Involvement, the Office of Multicultural Affairs and as adjunct faculty in the Department of Music.

In her current role with the Office of Student Leadership Programs, Graham oversaw the creation of the University's co-curricular transcript, which is distributed annually to more than 2,000 students. She has also designed and executed a yearlong leadership institute for students, co-chairs the Division of Student Development's steering committee for graduate assistant development and serves as a University conduct adviser.

As a faculty member, Graham has taught courses at the graduate and undergraduate levels in the areas of race and ethnicity, leadership, intergroup dialogue, and social justice. Her research interests, including her current doctoral dissertation work, focus on leadership development, racial and ethnic minorities, gender performance and normativity, intersectionality and a critical race analysis of servant leadership. She has presented nationally on social justice, diversity and inclusion, collaborative strategies and initiatives in higher education, and mission-informed practices in higher education.

In all of her positions, she has worked to create sustainable programs to support and engage faculty, staff, students and alumni including the Leadership Consortium, the Black Employee Association, and the Student Development Leadership Institute. She also serves as a convener for the University's black alumni, and is an active member of a number of organizations in the greater Dayton community.

"It really is a coming home of sorts," Graham said about returning to the Office of Multicultural Affairs, where she served as assistant director, associate director and acting director between 2008-14. "As a UD graduate, I've always been connected to the Office of Multicultural Affairs and benefited from its services when I was here as a student. To come back and serve with the current dynamic staff in the Office of Multicultural Affairs while having more opportunities to impact the campus climate and community in this position, are the next steps of a journey for me in a way that makes sense."

Graham earned a bachelor's degree in business administration in 1994, and a master's degree in college student personnel in 2002. She is scheduled to earn a doctorate in educational leadership in May 2018; her dissertation focus is a critical race analysis of servant leadership.

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Student Organization Spotlight **Zeta Phi Beta, Inc.**

Hello everyone!

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. was founded January 16, 1920 at Howard University. Our principles are scholarship, service, sisterhood and Finer Womanhood.

As a new member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, I would like to invite everyone to join us in celebrating Finer Womanhood Week March, 5-9th. Help us celebrate community, scholarship and most importantly Finer Womanhood.

Veronica Halfacre, Vice President of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc.



Department Spotlight **Counseling Center**

The University of Dayton Counseling Center seeks to provide opportunities for students to work towards a more balanced lifestyle. As a result, students are freed to pursue a fuller and richer expression of their educational experience.

The Counseling Center provides:

- Individual Counseling
- Group Counseling
- Career Counseling
- Crisis Intervention
- Psychiatric Services
- Outreach and Consultation
- Emotional Wellness Screening
- Stress Management and Online Resources

Location: Gosiger Hall - first floor
Phone: 937-229-3141
Office hours: M-F, 8:30am - 4:30pm

They have a wonderful, caring, experienced staff who provide services to help students function optimally with regard to emotional, academic, social and psychological issues.

Spring Groups: Anxiety and Stress Management, Men's Group, Women and Relationships, Wise Minds, Survivors of Sexual Assault Support Group, LGBTQ+ Support Group, Eating Disorders/Eating Issues, Mindfulness, and an African-American Women's Group.

It can be intimidating and scary to make that first call to schedule an appointment at the Counseling Center, but at the end it will be totally worth it. Call today!

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MLK Social Justice Plunge and Dialogue

The MLK Plunge is a part of MLK Week at UD and was an opportunity to learn and dialogue about race relations and explore how to advance justice in the spirit of Dr. King. Participants engaged in conversation, activities, and service projects in the city.



Student Engagement Assistants and Graduate Assistants

Veronica Halfacre: Hello everyone! Welcome back! I hope you all had a restful break, and are ready to get back to work! Second semester is all about attitude. In these last few months, a good attitude can carry you a long way! Don't forget to come by OMA encouragement!

Brandyn Hunter: Hello everyone! We have now started the initiative of Brotherly Ties, we recently hosted a Super Bowl party for students to connect. Look out this semester for more events, the next Brother to Brother will focus on stress relief. I hope you all had a wonderful start to your semester.

Gabriela De Leon: New year, new goals. My best advice for those students who really want to do well this semester, would be to study hard, but also leave some room for fun. Find things that can take the stress away, it will help you focus on the task at hand. Good luck, everyone!

Jordyn Mitchell: HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!! Welcome back everyone! This semester, focus on achieving your goals and self care. If you aren't loving yourself like Kanye loves Kanye, then you aren't living your best life. Have fun, good luck, and GO FIGHT WIN!

Joia Mitchell-Holman: Welcome back friends & Happy New Year! I hope your holiday was well! Welcome to spring semester! I'm looking forward to your continued success! Two words of advice: Prepare for your classes and get rest! Please come by OMA and say hi!

Paola Ortiz: Hello, hello & welcome back! I hope you all got some rest during Christmas break and are ready to slay this semester. Many of us have new goals for this new year, get a partner who will help through following these and GET IT! Hope to see you soon! Remember, you can do it!

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OMA STAFF

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(as of 02/15/2018)

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