



BAYLOR

Division of Student Life

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Message from Kevin:



Charting the Pathway Ahead

Last month I described the process through which we have been working to identify and pursue our desired future as a division. The process includes division strategic goals, departmental operation and assessment plans, acts of determination, and the formation of a division advisory committee to study and provide suggestions to me on the best way to align division processes, structures and resources to achieve our mission and vision. Because the work of the advisory committee is so important to the future of the division, I am providing you with additional information on its work, membership, and timeline.

First, the committee is advisory in nature which means it will provide me with ideas and suggestions; and I will prayerfully and thoughtfully decide which strategies we will pursue and the timing we will pursue them within. Second, the committee operates in a manner that:

- Keeps the big picture in mind
- Takes into account external and internal factors within which the division operates
- Utilizes previous input (i.e., strategic plan, acts of determination, retreat discussions, *Pro Futuris*, etc.)
- Addresses resource implications
- Refrains from discussing specific individuals
- Honors the confidentiality of all discussions and materials shared

Third, the committee functions on behalf of the entire division, thus members are asked to bring in the broadest views possible when sharing ideas and suggestions. Members of the committee are: Kevin Jackson (Chair), Lamar Bryant, Ramona Curtis, Jeff Doyle, Elisa Dunman, Dominic Edwards, Becky Kennedy, Jim Marsh, Sandra Northern, Kim Scott, Julie Veselka, and Ashley Thornton (ex officio member). Because of the confidential nature of the committee's work, I would ask that you direct any thoughts or suggestions about the future direction of our division to me.

Finally, the committee is meeting throughout the spring semester with the goal of completing and submitting its work to me by the end of May. At that point, I will review the broader reaching ideas and suggestions with our division leadership team and formulate the pathway ahead.

It is an exciting time for our division and the university as a whole, and I look forward to taking the next step toward shaping a future that will allow us to become even stronger in our ability to be a transformative presence in all our students' lives, equipping them to make a positive impact on society.

Truly,



February 2015
Newsletter



BAYLOR
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SLC shares resources to help meet the community's needs



Campus Recreation, along with the University Chaplain's Office, recently hosted guests from Baylor Scott & White Hospice at Hillcrest for a baptism on Sunday, February 1. Mr. Larry Holden shared about the event, "Thank you for allowing us to use the SLC pool for the baptism of three of our hospice patients. They are still excited and talking about this. The service seemed very inspiring to them. The facilities were wonderful, safe, easy to access. Your lifeguards were singing with us. The up-front attendants were very helpful. A few of the students asked to be a part - very nice time with all."



The Harold & Ann Cunningham Natatorium is the only Zero-access pool in Waco, providing individuals with the ability to enter the pool beginning from a depth of less than an inch via a long entry ramp



2015-16 Peer Leader recruitment is well under way. Over 180 applicants have applied to serve in six diverse programs. We are thrilled with our incredible applicant pool because of the amazing students who are eager to make a difference in our community. Applications are still being accepted with a faculty or staff recommendation. If you know outstanding students who are passionate leaders, contact Lizzy_Davis@baylor.edu.

Community Engagement & Service • Cross-Cultural Engagement • First in Line
Health & Wellness • Mental Health • New Student Experience

Members of the Peer Leader Steering Committee will be presenting a workshop, a poster, and leading a teambuilding activity during the 2015 Rocky Mountain Peer Leadership Conference at the beginning of spring break. Check out next month's newsletter for more information on their presentation!

QPR Training

Dr. Jim Marsh, Director of Counseling Services, is offering a QPR Suicide Prevention training this Friday, February 27, 3-4:30 p.m. in Robinson Tower, Room 200. For additional information and to register for the conference, please go to the following link and select QPR Gatekeeper Training Course:

https://www1.baylor.edu/td_reg/BrowseAll.aspx

Baylor Students and Programs Recognized for Outstanding Community Service



During the recent annual meeting of the Salvation Army, Baylor University was recognized with the 2014 “Be a Shield” Outstanding Community Partnership award. On hand to accept the award was Amanda Le, Vice President of Service in Baylor American Student Dental Association, and Erin Payseur, Associate Director in the Office of Community Engagement & Service.

Amanda says “The opportunity to serve at Salvation Army Soup Kitchen has been more than a blessing to Baylor ASDA. We love the community environment, the welcoming atmosphere, and all of the staff there! Personally, the most rewarding thing for me is being able to bring joy into the lives of those who are not able to see the joy of the world everyday.”

The Salvation Army commended Baylor for the depth of its partnerships naming volunteers, departmental partnerships, and board members from the Baylor community.

Earlier in February, three Baylor students were recognized by Mission Waco at their annual celebration as outstanding student volunteers of the year: Claire Stanley, Trent Sutton, and Olumide Sokunbi. Claire was commended for her work with the children’s program and ballet class; Trent for his work with the Jubilee Theatre and volunteer mobilization; and Olumide, for his work with the youth program and college preparation. Baylor Urban Missions, led by Carole Meriwether, was also recognized as outstanding volunteer group of the year for their ongoing and significant volunteer contributions.

CES Launches CONNECT New Online Service Platform

The Office of Community Engagement & Service is excited to announce CONNECT, a new Org Sync platform for service and volunteer management. This online system makes it much easier for you and your students to connect with community partners and volunteer opportunities.

All Baylor students now have access to CONNECT and will be able to use it to browse service opportunities and locate different ways to engage in the Waco community. Individual students and service chairs will be able to use the system to:

- Search opportunities by agency name or interest category (e.g arts, hunger, education)
- Connect through a student organization in which they are involved
- Access volunteer forms and training requirements
- Register for service opportunities and record their actual service hours



This system provides one central location for individual students and student groups to gather information on different opportunities and to connect with different community agencies. It also enables to track and manage those community partnerships and to collect better institutional data for assessment, grants, and awards. Student Activities is also using CONNECT as a platform for student organization management and student involvement.

Both aspects of the system are now live and operational. Login with your Bear ID and browse around. Contact the CES office for additional information or upcoming training sessions.

Movie Selma Sparks Dialogue Among Student Life Staff



Student Life staff along with faculty member Dr. Jerry Park and Ashley Thornton, Senior Director of Engagement and Continuous Institutional Effectiveness gathered to watch the movie *Selma*. The movie chronicled Dr. Martin Luther King's campaign to secure equal voting rights via an epic march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, in 1965. Later the group met in the Bobo building to reflect upon the movie. The session was facilitated by Ramona Curtis, Director for Civic Engagement and Educational Development. Also in attendance was Dr. Courtney Pace Lyons, whose research background includes the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). SNCC which was founded in April 1960, by young people who had emerged as leaders of the sit-in protest movement. The McLennan County Chapter of the NAACP

will be hosting a march commemorating the 50th Anniversary of "Bloody Sunday" on Sunday, March 8, 3 p.m. For a copy of discussion questions and/or more information regarding the commemoration march, contact Ramona_Curtis@baylor.edu.

Community Health Fellows Assist in Community Based Practice Research



Spencer Anderson, Sherry Williams (Director of Public Health), Nathaly Munoz and Rosibel Juarez.

Community Health Fellows, Spencer Anderson, Nathaly Munoz, and Rosibel Juarez, assisted the Waco-McLennan County Public Health District and Baylor's Master of Public Health Program in conducting focus groups as part of the Healthy Communities grant. The Civic Engagement & Educational Development Community Health Fellow Program is designed for students who are interested in a community-based experience addressing health disparities in local and global communities.

Students served as interpreters for non-English speaking participants and coordinated community partners to gather information on healthy eating and activities in order to take first steps in developing resources in Waco's underserved communities. Dr. Eva Doyle, Director of the Master of Public Health Program and Ramona Curtis, Director for Civic Engagement & Educational Development, facilitated the focus groups along with community partners, Rev. Bryan Delco, pastor of Bracks/Mt. Zion U.M.C. and Rev. Pamela Rivera, pastor of St. Luke A.M.E. Church.



Spencer Anderson pictured with County Commissioner, Lester Gibson

Office of Community Engagement & Service Hosts Undoing Racism Workshop

On December 18, 2014, the Office of Community Engagement & Service partnered with the Waco Foundation and the Community Race Relations Coalition to bring an anti-racist dialogue to campus. Student Life staff from Spiritual Life, Student Government, The Counseling Center, Student Activities, Department of Wellness, Multicultural Affairs, New Student Programs, Student Learning & Engagement, and Community Engagement & Service attended. Also in attendance were community partners including area police chiefs, city managers, elected officials, foundation leaders, non-profit providers, and governmental



agencies. This dialogue challenged participants to analyze the structures of power and privilege that hinder social equity and prepares them to be effective organizers for justice. The Undoing Racism workshop is an initiative of the People's Institute for Survival and Beyond. For additional information, visit www.pisab.org/.



Students are pictured with TACHE president, Mauricio Rodriguez and other TACHE members

TACHE Engages Community Health Fellows

Nathaly Munoz and Rosibel Juarez attended the 2014 Texas Association of Chicanos in Higher Education Conference February 14-16, in El Paso, Texas. TACHE is a professional association committed to the improvement of educational and employment opportunities for Hispanics in higher education. Students enjoyed the fellowship with other students who attended the conference as well as the networking with TACHE members. Since attending the conference students are engaged civic opportunities that seek to close the racial-ethnic gaps in high school graduation rates. The group seeks to engage Baylor University in the Texas Education Consortium for Male Students of Color, a statewide network of school districts, community colleges, and public universities focused on improving educational outcomes for male minority students. For additional information, visit www.tache.org/.



Students are pictured with Ralph Hines, Director Hispanic Serving Institution Division of the Department of Education



BAYLOR

Division of Student Life

Texas Outdoor Leadership Conference (TOLC)

Campus Recreation's Outdoor Adventure program recently embarked upon a developmental quest of sorts as professional staff and student guides attended the Texas Outdoor Leadership Conference (TOLC) the last weekend of January. Sam Houston State University hosted this year's event at the University Camp along the Trinity River near Huntsville, managed by SHSU Outdoors. TOLC is a student-focused/student-led weekend, with the bulk of presentations delivered by undergraduate and graduate student staff of the university outdoor programs around the State of Texas.

Baylor Outdoor Adventure was well represented with four talented students delivering engaging topics relevant to the field and their personal interests. Outdoor Adventure graduate assistant Stephanie Davis (Spring, TX) and graduate apprentice in Spiritual Formation Ray Small (Lake Bluff, IL) presented Life on the Trail-Wilderness Spiritually. They effectively shared their individual passions for using wilderness as a tool for deeper spiritual conversations and reflection through unique personal stories from the trail. Senior Student Guide John Brothers (Tulsa, OK) with his broad resume of backpacking experience led an interactive workshop entitled Blister Boo Boo Care focusing on the prevention and treatment of blisters. Chase Turnbow (Abilene, TX), Senior Student Guide, utilized his background in team-building to facilitate the experiential workshop Facilitator's Bag. Chase focused on his ten essential items every facilitator should carry to be equipped to lead group games and activities anywhere and anytime.

Three student teams represented Baylor in the TOLC Adventure Race. Teams executed as many assignments as possible within the allotted time, an arduous list of ten outdoor challenges including canoe paddling, tarp building, and map navigation. Although we were unsuccessful at defending our title, the leadership of one team scored them a second place recognition. The night ended with a proud "Sic 'em," hands and heads held high.

The highlight of every TOLC is the Saturday night Dutch Oven Cook-Off Smack Down where schools compete for bragging rights and the coveted TOLC Dutch Oven Trophy. This year 20 schools prepared dishes that are a far cry from hotdog roasts and s'mores. This backcountry menu included shrimp stuffed chilli rellenos, wild game stew, mountain man breakfast, mac and trees (broccoli), pesto chicken on a bed of arugula, and other palate-satisfying dishes. Impressive were the offerings, however only one dish could "Be the Standard." Our students confidently prepared and presented our Bacon Wrapped Country Style BBQ Ribs with top-secret rub and sauces. The first judge took a bite, closed her eyes, nodded and smiled; another offered a gratified, "Wow!" And to give a little Texas nod, we served it up with astounding peach cobbler with homemade crust and flawlessly baked golden fluffy cornbread. Our winning BBQ ribs not only upset the reigning two-time champion UTSA, but also proved yet again there can only be "One True Champion".

The conference experience was both memorable and beneficial, adding to their collective knowledge of outdoor adventure and encouraging them to fulfill their purpose with excellence: To utilize the inherent benefits of outdoor adventure pursuits to enhance the college life of the student through opportunities that meet personal recreation needs and interests while enhancing the developmental and educational initiatives of the University.

[The coveted TOLC Dutch Oven trophy is currently on display and the ROCK in the SLC. Come by. Take photos. Handle with care. It's a matter of pride. Sic'em!]

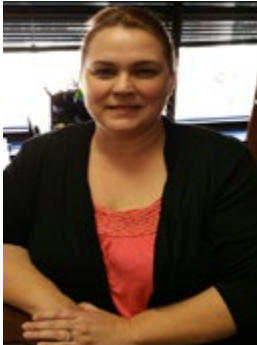


New Staff



Jared Fuller

Campus Living & Learning are excited to welcome Jared Fuller to their office. Jared will be serving as a temporary, full-time front desk receptionist from February 4, through August 31, 2015. He is a December 2014 graduate of Baylor University with degrees in economics and entrepreneurship and has already worked in Baylor's Visitor's Center, University Student Learning & Engagement, and Admissions.



Christy Huntington

Child of God, wife to Andrew Huntington, and mother to Quinn Huntington. Christy received English Honors and Honor Society in 2014 from McLennan Community College. She has called Waco home for the last 21 years and loved every minute of it! "I have never met a stranger and am welcoming to all." Christy started at the Baylor Counseling Center on September 19, 2014 as a temp, and became permanent on December 18.



Lacy Walker

Lacy Walker is the new Medical Assistant to the new psychiatric nurse practitioner. Prior to working at Baylor, Lacy was a unit clerk and certified nurse aid for Providence Health Center. Lacy has a miniature dachshund, named Vienna, who is more like a child than a dog. Lacy recently got engaged to her fiancé, Garrett Rawls, who works for Baylor in the maintenance department at the Clifton Robinson Tower.



Carole Hanks

Carole Hanks, formerly an Associate Nursing Professor at Baylor, is the new Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner in Counseling Services. While working in the Baylor School of Nursing, Dr. Hanks also had permission to work a few hours a week as a Family Nurse Practitioner in Waco schools and neighborhoods. Dr. Hanks found, while working in Waco neighborhoods, that mental health care was often needed, but not available, for people of all ages. Her spouse, Dr. D. Thomas Hanks Jr., Professor in English, and her children, Kirsten and Thomas, supported her when she had chances to learn more about mental health care. She attended Vanderbilt University to earn a second nurse practitioner role in psychiatry. She also worked with colleagues from the University of Rochester in New York State to start a trial of home visiting in Memphis, TN, carried out by nurses. The trial was called the Nurse-Family Partnership. The intervention of nurses in Memphis to improve care for low income families with their first child was successful. The nurses educated and supported families to stimulate their child in many ways, such as talking, singing, playing and reading aloud. Several trials of this program in different places convinced many communities to invest in families and children to have more productive and healthy citizens. Dr. Hanks has a small role collaborating with the Waco Foundation, Baylor Scott and White Hospital, and many other entities to have our own Nurse/Family Partnership Program in Waco.



Division of Student Life

The More Than We Can Bear Conference

More Than We Can Bear (MTWCB) is a conference devoted to increasing awareness of mental health issues in the Black community and implications for improving mental health service for people of color. This forum brings well-known minority experts in the area of mental health to campus to engage and educate students, faculty, staff, and the greater community members.

This year the speaker is Dr. Nancy Boyd Franklin author of *Black Families in Therapy*. This program will provide CEU for psychologist, social workers, community supervision, and corrections department (probation officers).

For additional information or to register, visit www.baylor.edu/engage/.