Aggies Dive into Diversity
by Access and Diversity Center

Welcome back to school fellow Aggies! The Access and Diversity Center is happy to see old and new faces! We are excited to share with you what our office has to offer.

This year we are launching a new program called “Dive Into Diversity.” Join The Aggies Dive Into Diversity Challenge today and start filling up your punch card! For every 20 punches you earn, you will be entered into a drawing to win any of these awesome prizes:

• An iPad Air
• Aggie Swag (beanies, mugs, camelback water bottles, flash drives, and more)
• Free food from local restaurants
• Gift cards from local businesses

The Aggies Dive Into Diversity Challenge is about USU students celebrating their own diversity as well as others’. Aggies come from diverse backgrounds and experiences, BUT we are all united in our Aggie identity and it takes all of us to make USU great!

How Do I join?

You may be thinking, “Hey this sounds awesome! How do I join?” Well it is very simple! Just download the Free App called Flok, and search for Aggies Dive into Diversity to start earning points!

If you do not have a smartphone, do not fret, we got you! Stop by at our office in room TSC 315 to get a paper version of a punch card.

I have joined, now what?

Stop by the check-in station at an Access and Diversity Event to get punched! We also have the following challenges you can complete to earn more punches:

• Deep Sea Diving= 10 Punches
• Lake Diving= 5 Punches
• Pool Party= 2 Punches
• Dip Your Toes In= 1 Punch

For details on how to complete these challenges visit our website:

http://www.usu.edu/accesscenter/divein/punched.cfm

UPCOMING EVENTS

October
15 NTSA’s Family Night (American West Heritage Center)
22 PSU’s Masubi and Otai Sale
19 Corey Ciochetti (Speaker, TSC Auditorium.)
26-30 Diversity Week
27 BSU’s Tasty Wing Tuesday Sale
30 Native Aggie Day

November
2 Dia De Los Muertos, (TSC Lounges/Ballroom)
3 NASC Indian Taco Sale (TSC Patio)
10 LSU Taco Sale (TSC Patio)
11 NTSA’s Grocery Guru (TSC Auditorium)
12 BSU’s Tasty Wing Thursday Sale
14 LIFE’s Gender Blender (Bullen Center)
IFSA goes to World Parliament

While most USU Students enjoyed their Fall Break by visiting family or traveling, the Interfaith Student Association spent their time at this year’s Parliament of World’s Religions Conference. This conference was held in the Salt Palace Convention Center at Salt Lake City, Utah. We were very excited to have students from our office attend this fantastic event! In order to participate at this event at no cost, every student was required to commit to twenty hours of service on her/his own time.

The conference has scheduled over 30 different individuals to speak! The goal of these speakers is to “Reclaim the Heart of Our Humanity and Bring Global Wisdom and Practice to 3 critical issues: Climate Change and Care for Creation; Income Inequity and Wasteful Consumption; and War, Violence, and Hate Speech.” The very famous Dalai Lama was scheduled to speak, but due to health issues, was forced to cancel. Some of the major speakers included Eboo Patel, Jane Goodall, Arnold Thomas, and so many well-known individuals from around the world.

"I am attending the parliament because it is a one in a lifetime opportunity to meet with world religious leaders, with the conference being so close by. I’m really looking forward to meeting and mixing with other interfaith leaders across Utah, since there are several campuses that are sending Parliament Fellows. I also get to help facilitate Speed Faithing in one of the parliament sessions, which is also an incredible once in a lifetime opportunity.

- Erica Hawvermale, IFSA President

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT IFSA
IFSA@usu.edu
FACEBOOK: USU INTERFAITH STUDENT ASSOCIATION
Meetings: Thursdays, 5:30 pm, MSS Lounge

BSU attends Expect the Great

This year, our very own Black Student Union had the opportunity to attend “Expect the Great,” a College and Career Conference and Expo at Weber State University.

“Expect the Great is a college and career awareness conference which targeting members of the African, African-American and black communities,” said Betty Sawyer, the Transition Programs and Partnerships Coordinator. “The conference’s purpose is to provide information, resources and other support to increase college participation, retention and graduation. The theme this year was ‘Your Pathway to Success.’”

Expect the Great has been a part of a Utah System of Higher Education statewide effort for the past four years.

Board of Regents member France A. Davis requested an outreach event to increase college access for African-American and black students.

“What I liked the most about the conference was getting to connect with other Black Student Unions in Utah. Expect the Great was an opportunity to connect with people that we probably never would have crossed paths with and I’m super grateful for that. At Expect the Great, we talked a lot about identity and privilege. My take away was that it doesn’t matter whether you identify most with your race, gender, religion, etc., the most important thing is to own that identity. Don’t see your race or gender as a hurdle and instead let it empower you to do great things.”

-Cadi Sande, BSU Council Member

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT BSU
BSU@usu.edu
FACEBOOK: USU BLACK STUDENT UNION
Meetings: Wednesdays, 5:35pm, MSS Lounge
**Getting in Touch with Tradition**
Local community members volunteered their time and effort this year to teach USU students some traditional Asian dances. How cool is that!

**A Boba-licious Drink**
Stacie Denetsosie, NASC’s Vice President, poses with her purchase of a delicious Boba smoothie. Boba is also seen as a tea or fruit flavored and is also known as Bubble tea and is a Taiwanese tea-based drink invented in the 1980s.

**Peace & Happiness**
Asian Student Association members posing for a picture during the Autumn Festival.

**ASA’s Autumn Festival**
In the past, the Asian Student Association has hosted an event called "Finding Asia", which consists of dinner and a show. This year, the council decided they wanted to try something different and decided to host their first ever Autumn Festival. When asked where the idea came from, ASA’s President, Natalie Norton stated, “We came up with this idea with its roots coming from Asian holidays. The Mid-Autumn festival is a widely popular holiday in East Asia and Southeast Asia. So the theme itself was made, it was just our jobs to bring it to Logan”. It was a risky decision, but overall it turned out to be a tremendous success.

**Together as One**
Every club from the Access and Diversity Center participated by having a booth where they had an activity as well as prizes for those who attended. The Access and Diversity Center also had a photo booth where those who attended were able to use awesome props to take fun and quirky pictures and earn punches through Flok.

The festival also consisted of cultural performances and poetry readings. ASA members worked weeks in advance to create a bandoori aka The Taiko Drum Dance. With the help of members of the community, they were able to teach other and at the event, they taught the attendees. It was a unique and new experience, and the crowd seemed to enjoy it.

**Recap of the Event**
Around 200 people from USU and the Logan community attended. Most USU students reacted positively toward the festival. Many people were having a great time and many compliments were received for the event. This event was very family friendly and there individuals from all age groups. What attracted many people was that they did not have to pay to attend or play the games, only to purchase the food and small items that were being sold. As college students, money can always be an issue, so it was nice to enjoy an event without worrying of having to pay.

The ASA Executive Council would like to thank their sponsors: Noodles & Company, The Italian Place, The Spirit Goat: Goat’s milk soap and lotions, Watkins Party Store, and D.I.Y. DJ by Efrain. We look forward to next year’s Autumn Festival.
On Sunday, October 11th, the 27th National Coming Out Day was celebrated nationwide. This awareness day was founded in 1988 by Robert Eichberg and Jean O’Leary, a psychologist from New Mexico. Eichberg died in 1995 of complications of AIDS. The purpose of this day is to promote awareness of gay, bisexual, lesbian and transgender issues and to celebrate being LGBTQ.

The local LGBT club on campus, LIFE (Love Is For Everyone) celebrated National Coming Out Day on October 7th at Utah State University. LIFE set up a display that had information about what coming out meant for certain individuals. They also celebrating during their club meeting by having a discussion of the different experiences many face when coming out to their friends, family, and community. Coming out is different for every individual. Experiences vary for each person. Some experience a lot of negative reactions while may receive acceptance.

Students at USU were asked why National Coming Out Day was important. An individual stated, "I think it is important because it gives people motivation to come out as who they are to their friends and family". Another individual stated, "I think it is important because it gives people the support system, because they know that there is other people coming out with them. They do not feel alone".
Global Picnic

Every year, the Utah State University Student Association (USUSA) hosts a “Global Picnic.” This event was put on by Luis Armenta, the current Diversity Vice President for USUSA. Clubs from our office and clubs from the International Office were able to participate. The clubs have the opportunity to give USU students a “taste of their own culture.” This year, NASC, LSU, BSU, and PSU from our office were eager to participate. Despite the rain and chilly weather our students had a blast!

The Native American Student Council has fry bread sales throughout the school year to raise money for Pow Wow, a traditional Native American event. This year, the council gave their fry bread a small twist for Global Picnic and made Fry Bread Bites to sell for $1. If you have ever had the opportunity to try Fry Bread, you know that these are a must-have!

The Latino Student Union sold their famous tacos at Global Picnic. The tacos were made with Carne Asada on a corn tortilla and included condiments such as cilantro, onion, and salsa. Tacos were priced at $1 each. The club had such a huge turnout that they sold out despite the gloomy weather. Their success would have not been possible without their members that took time out of their day to help work the taco stand. LSU will be selling tacos throughout the school year to raise money for big events such as Fiesta America, World Cup Soccer Tournament, and their LSU Club Scholarship they award to upcoming freshmen. This school year Fiesta America will be held on January 16th of 2016.

The Polynesian Student Union’s contribution to Global Picnic included Masubi and Watermelon Otai. Masubi is a popular snack and lunch food in Hawaii composed of a slice of grilled Spam on top of a block of rice, wrapped together with nori dried seaweed in the tradition of Japanese omusubi. Otai is a fruit drink which originated in western Polynesia and is usually made as a refreshing accompaniment to large meals. Masubi was priced at $2.50 each and their delicious Otai priced at only $1! PSU hopes to have a few more sales in the upcoming months to raise funds for their big events such as their Island Highlights, Volleyball Tournament, and their annual Luau held in the spring.

The Black Student Union had their very first hot wing sale at Global Picnic and it was a great success. Priced at only 50¢ each, their tasty wings practically flew off the table. They also had ranch and blue cheese available for 25¢. They sold out in less than an hour! BSU plans to have a few more wing sales before fall semester ends to raise funds for big events, such as their Soul Food Dinner. Keep an eye out for BSU’s very own Tasty Wing Tuesdays!

Overall, Global Picnic was a tremendous amount of fun! Our clubs enjoy showcasing part of our ethnic cuisine every year to the USU community. It takes a lot of work, volunteers, and stress to put on such events, but it’s worth it when students gather together to try new foods and learn about different cultures. Keep an eye out for our club food sales!

Dancing in the Rain
We all know that no amount of rain gets in our students’ way of enjoying each other’s company and having a little fun!

The Art of Fry Bites
A close-up picture of NASC’s Fry Bites! These bites were quite convenient and delicious for those students who were stopping by in-between classes.

Working the Wing Shack
BSU Vice President Fallon and BSU member, Melanie working at the Wing Shack.
Meet Luis Hernandez! Luis is a freshman from Sugar City, ID. He decided to come to USU because he was awarded a scholarship and had the opportunity to study computer science. He liked the computer science field offered here because he would be able to be a part of the dual program that allows him to take master course while doing his undergraduate degree.

Q: How has your experience been so far as a freshman?
A: I’m getting involved. I thought school would be a little easier but things are starting to settle down now and I see what I’m supposed to do in order to do well academically.

Q: What’s the one thing that you enjoy most now that you’re in college?
A: I like meeting a lot more people, that’s always nice.

Q: If you could describe yourself in one word what would it be and why?
A: Over-confident, because I feel that it led me to a lot of mistakes already; however, the word I would like to be is prepared.

Q: What’s one of your passions?
A: I like solving problems. I like mathematical problems I enjoy the challenging parts of knowing what needs to be solved and what needs to happen. I like answering questions such as where and why do things function.

Q: What about people problems?
A: I stay away from that.

Q: If you could share a piece of your culture to everyone what would it be?
A: Real tacos. I don't like the ground beef meat, I don't think that is a real taco. A real taco is carne asada chopped up and real hot sauce. My grandma makes the best tacos!

Q: What is something people don't know about you at USU?
A: I have a twin! We always did things together until now. He is studying engineering at ISU and plans to transfer to USU.

Although she is shorter in height, Luis looks up to his older sister Evelyn who is also studying at USU. He enjoys having family support and seeing his sister around campus.

Humans of Diversity

Q: Say what you want but I gotta say I love coding. I love figuring out the stupid mistakes I’m making and feeling better after I figure out what I did wrong. I love seeing and knowing that I coded a certain part right but still not get the results I need only to find out the part that I messed up in somewhere else. Going into college I often have heard that it’s okay to change majors and that always has worried me because I feel like they almost want you to do it but so far I’ve loved all parts of my major. I know it will get more complicated but I don’t mind. I’m up for the challenge and ready to enjoy my journey to my degree!!

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Access and Diversity Center
Weekly Club Meetings

Polynesian Student Union:
Tuesdays 6:30; MSS Lounge

Native American Student Council:
Wednesdays 4:30pm; TSC 316B

Asian Student Association:
Wednesdays 5:00pm; TSC 313

Black Student Union:
Wednesdays 5:35; MSS Lounge

Latino Student Union:
Thursdays 4:30pm; MSS Lounge

Interfaith Student Association:
Thursdays 5:30pm; MSS Lounge

Love is For Everyone (GSA):
Thursdays 6:00pm; TSC 313

Interesting in Joining one of our clubs?

Follow us on Facebook!

USU Access & Diversity Center

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