

MOSAIC AND INTERFAITH CENTER NEWSLETTER

2017-18 THEME

RESILIENCE

Resilience is defined as “the process of adapting well in the face of adversity, trauma, tragedy, threats or significant sources of stress.” (American Psychological Association, 2017).

Student Life’s Mosaic Center is reframing this definition from a reactive noun, into a more proactive verb. Through intersectional programs and initiatives, we aim to build culturally affirming tools that cultivate strategies, relationship building, thoughts and positive social actions to be supportive of ALL the various identities in Retriever faculty, staff and student communities.

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

DACA INFORMATION SESSION

Monday, September 11th, 2017 5:30PM-7PM in the Skylight Room (3rd Floor Commons)

On Tuesday, September 5, 2017, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced in a memorandum that it would immediately stop accepting new applications for Deferred Actions for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), while protections for existing program participants will be phased out over time. This memorandum may leave community members with a bit of uncertainty with what may happen next.

The Mosaic's mission is aligned with supporting all students of all backgrounds and experiences on campus. Please join us and other campus partners for a DACA info session, where all students, staff and faculty are welcome to come in with any questions they may have.

Light refreshments and hors d'oeuvres will be served.

SPECTRUM

Fall Kick-Off

Tuesday, September 12th, 2017 5PM-6PM in the Women’s Center (Commons 004)

Spectrum kick-off programming is for UMBC community members who identify as trans, genderqueer, genderfluid, outside of the gender binary, and/or those who are questioning their gender identity and is sponsored by the Women’s Center and the Mosaic Center. This fall kick-off event is an opportunity for new and returning participants of Spectrum to meet and greet each other, learn about Spectrum opportunities for the fall, and provide your feedback for the programming and events you'd like to see over the year. For further information please contact us at womenscenter@umbc.edu and mosaic@umbc.edu.

MUNDO LINGO

Game Tournament

Creating Resilience with Multicultural Friendships Across Campus

Wednesday, September 20th, 2017 4PM-6PM in the Gameroom (2nd floor in Commons)

Join us for our first Fall 2017 Mundo Lingo! Mundo Lingo encourages you to practice your second (or third) language skills and share your culture with other UMBC community members in various spaces across campus! Come hang out with friends and make brand new connections. This Mundo Lingo will feature a Game Tournament in the Commons Game Room. All levels of proficiency welcome. Questions? Contact mosaic@umbc.edu.

PAWTALKS

Resilience: Telling Our Stories

Speaker: Angy Rivera + Film Screening of *Don't Tell Anyone/No Le Digas a Nadie*

Thursday, September 21st, 2017 5PM-7:30PM in the Skylight Room (3rd Floor Commons)

Join us for a **brand new** Mosaic Center series! PAWTalks highlights the richness of various cultures through speakers from around the country representing diverse backgrounds. Performances films or other engaging activities will proceed the speaker ending with a general open discussion.

Our first PAWTalk will screen the film *Don't Tell Anyone (No Le Digas a Nadie)* featuring Angy Rivera. "Since the age of 4, Angy Rivera has lived in the United States with a secret that threatens to upend her life: She is undocumented. Now 24 and facing an uncertain future, Rivera becomes an activist for undocumented youth with a popular advice blog and a YouTube channel boasting more than 27,000 views. She steps out of the shadows a second time to share her story of sexual abuse, an experience all too common among undocumented women."

For a full film description, please visit:

<http://www.pbs.org/pov/donttellanyone/film-description/>

All are welcome! Open to students, faculty, and staff.

If you have any questions contact the Mosaic Center at mosaic@umbc.edu.

SPECTRUM

Trans In College

Tuesday, September 26th, 2017 5:30PM-7PM in the Skylight Room (3rd floor Commons)

This event is for trans students, staff, and faculty and their cisgender allies. At this panel event, invited guests will talk about their experiences of being trans and/or gender variant in college and provide best practices for navigating the higher education landscape and trans inclusion. Post-panel, UMBC offices will share campus resources as they relate to meeting the needs and experiences of trans community members at UMBC.

A Spectrum reception for UMBC trans and gender variant identified students, faculty, and staff will follow in order to provide time for community members to connect with each other.

This event is sponsored by the Women's Center and The Mosaic Center. Contact either office for further details or questions at mosaic@umbc.edu or womenscenter@umbc.edu.

HOW TO BE A BETTER ALLY SERIES

Featured Population: Indigenous Hispanic/Latinx People

Resilience: Framing our Narratives

Thursday, September 28th, 2017 4-5:30pm in the Mosaic Center (Commons 2B23)

Want to gain the basic tools to become a better ally to different communities? Don't know where to start? How to Be a Better Ally is a co-facilitated workshop series that focuses on various underrepresented and/or marginalized populations. September's session will highlight people who self-identify as Indigenous Hispanic/Latinx.

Come join us for snacks and light refreshments! This event is open to all students, staff, and faculty.



PROGRAMS

UMBC RETRIEVER ESSENTIALS



FALL KICK-OFF

Date/Time/Location: TBD

The mission of UMBC Essentials is to develop a comprehensive program of resources which immediately eliminates the burden of food insecurity for students and connects them to ongoing support networks, in order to enhance students' academic success and retention. This campus wide initiative is launching Fall 2017 and the Mosaic Center is a proud co-sponsor of this program and will serve as a Food Zone Distribution Center. There is a planned Fall Kick-Off currently in the works that will provide UMBC community members more information on this new initiative.

So what exactly is a Food Zone?

Food Zones

The Food Zone initiative creates and delivers bags of food to designated locations around campus. Food Zones are broken down into two categories; Donation Stations and Distribution Centers. Donation Stations are the spaces where community members can drop off food and other essentials and later deliver them to Distribution Centers (e.g. Mosaic Center). Distribution Centers are designated safe spaces for students to obtain the items they need. This initiative will collect donated food from Donation Stations on a weekly basis and contact each Distribution Center Weekly. This is essential considering that each Distribution Center will have two bags of food ready and available to distribute to UMBC community members in need. In addition to the Mosaic Center, the Women's Center, Counseling Center, The Honors College, Off Campus Student Services and Residential Life are some of the confirmed places that currently serve as Campus Distribution Centers.

Foods to consider for donations

The objective is to collect food that is nutritious, pork-free and simple in order to provide food for a variety of diets as we sustain students in their learning. Individual servings that can be eaten on-the-go are most helpful. The following are great foods for you to consider donating: peanut butter, tuna fish, packets of nuts, canned fruits and vegetables, individual oatmeal packets, pasta, spaghetti sauce, jelly, juice, boxed milk, brown rice, quinoa, canned beans, granola bars, cereal, crackers and also toiletries.

If you have any questions about the Fall Kick-Off, how to get involved or are a UMBC community member in need please do not hesitate to contact Katrina Grusell via email at kgrusell@umbc.edu.

MOSAIC DIVERSITY PRESENTERS PROGRAM

Requesting Workshops!

Do you want to help students, staff and/or faculty of all backgrounds thrive, feel visible and get the support they need at UMBC?

Do you want to help the students, staff and/or faculty you serve and supervise learn how to communicate and interact within and across UMBC's diverse community?

Do you wish students, staff and/or faculty would step out of their social comfort zones?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, then visit our myUMBC group page and complete the Diversity Discussion & Workshop Request Form to request a session for your group! Student Life's Mosaic Center Diversity Presenters, trained staff and students from across campus, are eager and able to work with your student staff, student organizations or office staff. Please submit forms at least three weeks in advance.

Interested in becoming a Mosaic Diversity Presenter (MDP)? Please contact us at mosaic@umbc.edu.



WHO WE ARE



(Top left to right: Lisa Gray, Carlos Turcios; Bottom left to right: Becca Mann, Laura Huang, Gerardo Herrera-Cortés)



LISA GRAY (she/her/hers)

Assistant Director of Student Life, Cultural and Spiritual Diversity

Lisa has worked in student affairs, diversity and social justice education, and training for over 15 years. She has been a part of the Office of Student Life as an Assistant Director since 2006. Lisa works with the events, resources, staff and off-campus partners connected to the Office of Student Life's Mosaic: Center for Culture and Diversity and Interfaith Center. Lisa loves dancing, traveling, reading, going to the movies/theatre, and spending time with family and friends - new and not-so-new.

CARLOS TURCIOS (he/him/his)

Program Associate for Diversity and Inclusion

As an undergraduate, Carlos completed two Bachelor degrees in Psychology and Sociology, along with two minors in French and Gender and Women's Studies at UMBC. During this time, he focused primarily on human rights activism and research, specifically with the transgender community. Carlos will receive his Master's in Applied Sociology from UMBC in May 2017. Carlos is also the current staff advisor to the LGBTQ Student Union [LSU]. Carlos enjoys swimming, dancing, kayaking, camping, watching documentaries, and gaming.





BECCA MANN (she/her/hers)

International and Foreign-Born Student Outreach Intern

Becca studies Social Work and is passionate about being an advocate for social justice. She has experience in qualitative research around multiculturalism, immigrant experience and domestic violence. She also enjoys being a volunteer at the English Language Institute as a Conversation Partner where she engages with international students and hear their stories.

What should you know about me?

I'm a foodie so I love trying new foods from all over the place! I like being outside, exploring new places, and sharing a good laugh.

LAURA HUANG (she/her/hers)

Asian and Pacific Islander Student Outreach Intern

Laura is a first-generation college student from a family of Chinese immigrants, studying Sociology. Personal growth is something that she is continuously working on, and is still trying to figure out who she is. Laura wants to help others, in whatever way that she can. She enjoys working with others, which is reflected in the various on campus positions that she holds.

What should you know about me?

I like cats, carbs, and cheesy jokes. My favorite color is blue. I love to read. I really like trying new food (and just eating food in general). Starbucks is my fav, you'll probably see me there a lot.



GERARDO HERRERA-CORTES (they/them/theirs)

Hispanic and Latinx Student Outreach Intern

Gerardo is a genderqueer Mexican immigrant studying Graphic Design. They identify as very queer and super involved on campus so if you see them rushing somewhere - it's normal. They enjoy learning new things and figuring out what it means to be a social justice advocate and a civic agent. They are very active in the SGA as Senate Speaker and co-facilitator for the Retriever Leadership Institute. They love leadership development and is an INFP.

What should you know about me?

I don't mess around when it comes to cute things, my Google Calendar, and respect.



OUR SPACES

Contact Info and Fall Semester Hours Of Operation (Aug 30-Dec 22, 2017)

MOSAIC CENTER

The Commons, 2B23

Monday-Thursday 10AM-7PM

Friday 10AM-5PM

Saturday & Sunday: Closed

mosaic@umbc.edu

(410) 455-2686

<https://my.umbc.edu/groups/themosaic>

<http://osl.umbc.edu/diversity/mosaic>

<https://www.facebook.com/oslmosaic/>

QUEER STUDENT LOUNGE

University Center, 201D

Monday-Friday 7AM-11PM

Saturday & Sunday: Closed

lgbtq@umbc.edu

(410) 455-5724

<http://osl.umbc.edu/lgbtq>

<https://www.facebook.com/lgbtq.umbc/>

INTERFAITH CENTER

Student Development and Success Center

Sunday-Saturday 8AM-11PM

interfaith@umbc.edu

(410) 455-2686

<http://osl.umbc.edu/diversity/interfaith/>



OUR SPACES



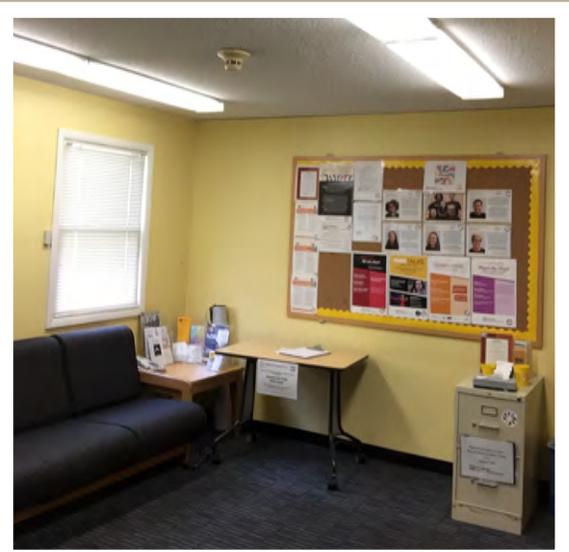
THE MOSAIC: CENTER FOR CULTURE AND DIVERSITY

The Mosaic is dedicated to creating an environment that supports cross-cultural education and collaboration at UMBC. We invite you to join us in our commitment to empowering all UMBC students and staff to be culturally conscious and informed members of our community. A safe and inclusive space for students, faculty, and staff of all backgrounds, the Mosaic strives to develop innovative programs and initiatives that celebrate cultural diversity and social justice. Our Center is located in The Commons second floor, room 2B23 right in between the Gameroom and Flat Tuesdays. For more information please contact us at mosaic@umbc.edu.



QUEER STUDENT LOUNGE

The Queer Student Lounge (QSL) is a lounge and meeting space for LGBTQ+ students. This space serves as a lounge space from 10AM-12PM and 1PM-4PM Monday through Friday. The interior office serves as a place for Student Interns and Staff to hold office hours and as a resource to LGBTQ+ student organizations and individual students. It also serves as a quiet private place for students to talk with the Program Associate for Diversity and Inclusion. The lounge space is decorated in various flags from various LGBTQ+ communities. The QSL is located in the University Center on the second floor in Room 201-D at the end of the hall past the multiple English Learning Institute classrooms. For more information please contact us at lgbtq@umbc.edu.



INTER FAITH CENTER

The Interfaith Center (IFC) is dedicated to creating, fostering, and supporting interfaith collaboration at UMBC. The IFC provides space for students, faculty and staff from all religious and spiritual backgrounds to meet, worship, discuss and celebrate their individual and collaborative faiths and belief systems. The Interfaith Center is located in the Student Development & Success Center on Center Road across from Erickson Field next to Student Judicial Services. For more information please contact us at interfaith@umbc.edu.

 /OSL/MOSAIC



The Mosaic
Center for Culture and Diversity