

Multicultural Connection

Volume 14 Issue 1

August/September 2008



WELCOME NEW STUDENTS

As the academic year begins, it is with great excitement that I welcome you to our campus.

The Multicultural Center is a welcoming place, where our enthusiastic staff awaits you with open arms. It is a place where people gather to explore self identity and to experience the cultures and tradition of others.

We extend a special invitation to you to visit the Center and learn of the many opportunities available to you that promote a positive experience on our campus. We are here for you!

Welcome to our family.

Sincerely,

Pamela F. Hopson

Pamela F. Hopson, director



Things to Know

Bookstore Hours:

Monday– Thursday

8:30am–6:30pm

Friday

8:30am– 3pm

Rice Library Hours:

Monday–Thursday

7:30am–Midnight

Friday

7:30am– 6pm

Saturday

9am– 5pm

Sunday

Noon–Midnight

Multicultural Center Hours

Monday–Friday

8am–4:30pm

MCC KICKS OFF THE YEAR WITH THE CULTURAL DIVERSITY WELCOME RECEPTION

The Multicultural Center will host the annual *Cultural Diversity Welcome Reception* on Thursday, August 28, 2008 from 4pm–5pm in UC 201. This event is opened to new students and their families.

It provides an opportunity for students and their families to mingle with one another, faculty, staff, returning students and alumni. Vice Presidents, Deans and

Presidents, Directors, and Clergy from local churches are also in attendance during the informal gathering.

This event is the first event of the year for the Multicultural Center (MCC) and it is a part of the University's welcome week activities.

Following welcome week, the MCC will have *Cultural Connections Week*, which will involve a variety of activities to assist new students in meeting

assist new students in meeting new friends and learning more about clubs and organizations sponsored by the MCC.

CULTURAL CONNECTIONS WEEK INCLUDES; *New Student Assembly* on Tuesday, September 9th in Carter Hall at 4pm; *Ice Ice Baby*, on Thursday, September 11 at 11am in the MCC, and a *Cookout* on September, 12 at Eicher Barn at 3pm.

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AUGUST 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 New Student Orientation	21 Transfer Student Orientation	22 Open Registration	23
24/31	25	26	27	28 Cultural Diversity Welcome Reception, 4pm UC201	29	30



ACADEMIC SKILLS: THE KEY THAT OPENS THE DOOR TO SUCCESS

As students begin the fall semester, it is important to remember that applying excellent study habits are directly correlated to achieving success in the classroom. Academic Skills is located in the Education Center, room 1111 providing a variety of tutoring services at no additional charge to all enrolled University of Southern Indiana students.

Academic Skills assists students in areas such as reading, outlining chapters, how to take effective class notes, and how to prepare for tests.

Study skills tutors help students improve their performance by approaching course work with study skill strategies such as time management, note taking, textbook reading, test preparation, reading rate and comprehension, memory concentration, and goal setting.

Academic Skills has a writer's room in ED1102 which will assist students with writing assignments. Writing consultants will assist students in brainstorming, focus, thesis development, organization support, audience, clarity, elaboration, editing, and transition.

Math Specialist, Nancy Myers is available to oversee tutoring activities in Math.

There are Videos available in Gens 097, Math 100, Math 111, Math 112, Math 115, and Calculus.

Workshops are also available throughout the semester. Some topics include; "Improving Your Time Management", "Improve Your Reading Speed", "Relax, It's Just Math", and "What Is Your Test Taking I.Q.?" to name a few.

For more information, contact Academic Skills at (812)464-1742. Fall hours are 8am-6pm Mon. -Thurs. and 8am-4:30pm Fridays or visit the website at <http://www.usi.edu/acadskil/>



SEPTEMBER 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Classes begin	2	3	4	5 College Mentors Staff Retreat	6 College Mentors Staff Retreat
7	8 Designed by Grace, 6pm FA1	9 New Student Assembly, 4pm Carter Hall	10 Student Involvement Fair, 11:30,	11 Ice Ice Baby 11am –1pm MCC	12 MCC Cookout, 3pm-5pm Eicher Barn	13
CULTURAL CONNECTIONS WEEK						
14	15 Designed by Grace, 6pm FA1	16	17 BSU 3pm, UC 206	18 EXCEL Mentors , 1:30	19	20
College Mentors Interviews; College Mentors Interviews						
21	22 Designed by Grace, 6pm FA1	23 College Mentors State Training, 3pm Carter Hall	24 BSU 3pm, UC 206	25 EXCEL Mentors, 1:30pm UC214	26 USI Live at the Apollo application deadline	27
28	29 Designed by Grace, 6pm FA1	30 College Mentors, 3pm Carter Hall				

EXCEL MENTORING IS FOR YOU! EXCEL MENTORING IS FOR YOU!

New students, EXCEL Mentoring is a program specifically designed for first year students with the transition from high school to college .

This program contributes to the retention and the graduation of under-represented students by connecting them with peer mentors.

These mentors share their own experiences at USI , encourage the students to develop skills needed to succeed academically and personally in college, and teach participants to seek out the variety of services and programs available at USI students.

Some of the topics covered involve

group activities and discussion on how to get along with roommates, getting the most from your advisor, financial aid, how to register for classes, dealing with stress, how to manage money, learning about the USI code of conduct, and several others. To learn more about the EXCEL mentoring program contact Ms. Pam Hopson at 465-7188.



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We're on the Web!

www.usi.edu/mcc/index.asp

Make your cultural connection!

MCC Mission Statement

The University of Southern Indiana's Multicultural Center enhances the personal and academic success of students by preparing them to be responsible citizens in a multicultural society.

The goals of the center are to:

- Foster and provide a warm, welcoming, supportive, and inclusive environment for diverse populations at USI.
- Encourage, promote, and assist the academic and social integration of under-represented students into the University through programs and services offered by the Center and through partnerships with other campus entities.
- Create opportunities for cultural interaction between students, the campus and the community at large to promote cultural awareness and sensitivity.
- Provide outreach opportunities to under-represented groups and underserved communities to seek higher education.

COLLEGE MENTORS FOR KIDS

College Mentors for Kids! Inc. (CMFK) cultivates ongoing one-on-one relationships between college students and elementary-aged students through shared experiences on campuses and in communities.

For the duration of the school year, college students are paired with elementary students, creating a buddy pair. These buddy pairs meet in groups for weekly activities on campus. Through these activities, children explore new opportunities and begin to develop a larger sense of the world and their place in it.



The University of Southern Indiana CMFK chapter mentors children from Culver Elementary School every Tuesday from 2:45 until 5:00, except for final's weeks and school breaks, during the academic year.

At the weekly meetings, Big Buddies and Little Buddies focus on an activity from one of the following three areas: College, Community Service, and Culture and Diversity.

Currently, the USI CMFK chapter has four families. One consists of first and second graders and their Big Buddies. The other consists of third graders and their Big Buddies.

CMFK is looking for new mentors for the 2008-2009 academic year. The organization accepts and welcomes USI students of all races, cultures, and backgrounds into its membership. If you would like more information about College Mentors For Kids, Inc, contact the MCC office at 812/465-7188.

