

AHANA Hotline

Spring 2006,
Issue 2

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Letter from the Editors

Greetings and welcome to the last issue of the Hotline for this academic year!!! Things are getting crazy and hectic as the year winds down, and finals are here. There are only a couple of days left so make the most of it and finish strong.

It has been a very successful semester with many reasons to celebrate: cultural shows, Black Family Weekend, Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, and many more. We here at the Office of AHANA students programs are extremely proud of all the accomplishments this year.

Spring has definitely arrived as you all can tell with the days being longer and the grass becoming greener. The time has

also come for the class of 2006 to take their last set of finals, say some good-byes and prepare to enter Alumni Stadium for the last time as undergraduates of Boston College. We wish the best of luck to all of you and your future endeavors! We also want to send a special congratulations to the OTE Class of 2002 and to our OASP graduating student workers: Romeo Ymalay, Jenny Suh, Conor Larkin, and Peter Evangelista. The Office of AHANA Student Programs truly appreciates your hard work and most importantly your great company.

As the year comes to a close it is a great time to cele-

brate your accomplishments, reflect on personal growth and prepare to take on all that lies ahead. For those students returning in September we want to remind you that everyone here at the Office of AHANA Student Programs is here for you to provide guidance and support. We look forward to seeing all of you again for another great academic year! Have a safe and enjoyable summer vacation!



Nora and Romeo
the co-editors

Big-Ups

Oscar Romero Scholarship recipient: Nora Frias, A&S '07
Asian American Scholarship recipient: Annie Le, LSOE '07

AHANA Leadership Council 2006-2007

President: Noelle Green, LSOE '07
Vice-President: Akinseye Akinbulumo, A&S, '07

GLBT Leadership Council 2006-2007

President: Veronica Joseph, A&S '07
Vice-President: Christian Cho, A&S '07

- Black Student Forum for a successful Black Family Weekend 2006
- African Student Organization and L'Association Haitienne for their cultural shows
- Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Committee for a great APAHM celebration.
- Hawaii Club for a successful 15th Anniversary Luau
- South East Asian Students' Association celebrating its 15th anniversary with their cultural show: "SEASA-ning: Rice, Spice, and Everything Nice!"
- To the newly elected executive boards of all intercultural organizations.

AHANA Leadership Council 2006-2007 Statement



Noelle Green
President-elect

Since we are both veterans of the Council, keeping its mission and spirit alive is very important. The core purpose of the ALC is to improve all aspects of life for AHANA students, which we will continue to strive towards, through academic, political, and social activities. Right now, we see two aspects of the council to work on seriously improving for next year: family and community. First, we want to infuse a sense of family with the sense of tradition we respect so much. While the council serves as a resource to AHANA students and culture clubs, a family-style organization will make ALC a resource for its own members. Secondly, we can no longer ignore the latent and potential impact we possess as college students. We need to be conscious and learn about our surroundings and work on equitable and purposeful ways to connect our experiences as AHANA students to the experiences of "AHANA citizens" in the greater Boston area.

Looking ahead, the summer will be a welcome break from the chaos of everyday school-life at BC and an excellent chance to establish contacts and develop plots for the academic year. Fall semester is a crucial time when opinions about social issues on campus are molded into ideologies as people meet, re-meet, and get to know one another. The ALC can facilitate some of these discussions and help mobilize people around AHANA issues. We plan on having the AHANA Caucus' annual AHANA Leaders' Retreat in the fall, as well as an on-campus conference about AHANA students and activism on college campuses. Some other goals include re-vamping the ALC newsletter, conducting "quality of life" surveys, and increasing our general outreach through the creation of the ALC Street Team.

As rising seniors, we face the potential transience of the college experience. But like many other weary, slightly disillusioned members of the class of 2007, we are energized by the new sense of urgency the comes with the thought of "just one more year." We are excited to be leading the ALC and hope to influence the organization to expand its role in the greater Boston community and deepen its purpose within the gates of BC.



Akinseye Akinbulumo
Vice-President-elect

AHANA Leadership Council 2006-2007

What's to come for UGBC...



Santiago Bunce, A&S '07 and Justin Nunez, CSOM '07 are the UGBC Present-elect and Vice-President-elect respectively for the 2006-2007 academic year. This is an interview in regards to their future administration.

Santiago Bunce & Justin Nunez

Santiago and Justin: Why did you decide to run for UGBC, and why for your respective positions?

We have talked about running ever since freshman year but never seriously until the beginning of first semester. After talking about it and debating the idea, we realized that we could really do something special for this school. So we took a few weeks to really discern whether this is something we wanted to do personally and also make sure it was for the right reason. And although we spent a lot of time really thinking about it, we knew in our heads and just by the way we talked that this is something we wanted and needed to do. We realized the personal and social sacrifice that it is going to take but it was more important for us to do something positive for the students of Boston College. This university has given us so much over the

Romeo Ymalay, A&S '06 & Nora Frias, A&S '07

past three years and now is the time for us to give something back. As for our respective positions, it was pretty simple to decide. Although we are both pretty similar when it comes to our personalities, hence why we are roommates and best friends, Santi's personality caters to a strong individual who is constantly involved with the students and administrators while Justin enjoys more of the behind-the-scene work that goes into leading UGBC.

Santiago: How do you feel about the AHANA acronym?

Justin and I feel the AHANA acronym creates a strong and sound environment where members of the AHANA community can come together. We see it as a means that allows for empowerment and solidarity while at the same time acting as an invitation for all non-AHANA students to explore, understand and celebrate the diversity on campus. It is important for all students to be respected and feel comfortable. The AHANA acronym is the strongest effort our campus has had thus far, but it can be improved on. That being the case, although students and administrators may find it divisive at times, we must recognize that it is a focal point in which many on campus can unite and draw from.

Justin: What can students, and more specifically AHANA

students, hope to see next year from your administration?

Most importantly AHANA students on campus can expect to see a level of commitment from us that may have been lacking in past years. We intend to bring awareness to this campus about some of the more pressing cultural issues on campus. In addition, we are taking a strong stance by saying that we represent every single student on this campus. It is extremely important for the President and Vice President of both UGBC and ALC to work together towards the same goals. We need our campus to be united and integrated and that can only happen with a strong and united front by our student leaders.

Justin: What type of programming are you planning for the 2006-2007 academic year?

Although larger events like concerts and dances are a fun way to bring together the student body, we want to put on more events that address some of the serious issues on campus. These will involve awareness of the pressing cultural issues at BC as well as many of the domestic and worldly issues that occur outside of Boston College. We are here to represent the students and the issues that they face and therefore awareness and action is going to be a big part of our programming.

Justin: Regarding programming for next year, you state that there needs to be more awareness around cultural issues. What specifically do you want to address and how?

We would love to address the stereotypes that we face each day on campus. Sometimes it is difficult to "force" people to listen and care when they don't think that the issues apply directly to them (regardless of whether they do or not). Events such as the N-word and GLC/ALC/Observer panels are popular and beneficial because they attract students because of their relevancy but also make the audience aware of some of the serious issues that we are facing on campus but also that the world is constantly facing. We would like to have more panels and events which bring both sides of the debate. In addition to this, we want to bring popular speakers to campus that can address some specific issues. These two methods can bring the students together to learn about the issues in a respectful and open environment. We would like to see some of the current issues on campus addressed in the upcoming year (i.e. respectful disagreement from the left and right, pro-choice vs. pro-life, pro-war vs. anti-war).

Santiago: There have been budget concerns regarding the allocation of money to ALC and GLC. How do you plan on addressing these concerns during your term?

Obviously budgets are paramount for all student organizations. The way we plan on allocating money for ALC and GLC is to first sit down with the leaders of each group along with representatives from the Senate and express goals, visions and concerns. We will then go over what staple events succeeded and what is a necessity to continue with. How much they cost and create a solid foundation. Then we continue on with what are the goals and visions of each organization

along with shared vision between all the groups. The important thing is to allow ALC and GLC to breathe financially so as to continue to be the strong and necessary voice for their respective communities and the university as a whole.

Santiago: How do you plan to maintain a good relationship with the administration of ALC as well as with GLC?

Maintaining a good relationship with ALC and GLC will only occur if Justin and I, along with the rest of the Executive team and UGBC, make a constant effort to be in close, direct contact with members of both groups. It means sitting in on meetings, talking outside of the office, enjoying time as friends away from "business," and making sure members in both organizations know that UGBC is always open. Justin and I, especially, we know the importance in being informed and are confident that our relationships will be strong. This school and its students mean way too much for these three organizations not to work as a team. Finally it involves trust, respect and commitment by all members involved for all others.

Santiago: What are the specific goals that you want to work towards in conjunction with ALC and how?

Specifically, and we have mentioned it before, but will do so again, discrimination on campus today is rampant. It is very subversive on the Heights and we must acknowledge this truth in order to combat it. We hope to help create a discrimination survey for the student body to participate in, in order to better understand initial perceptions. As Justin mentioned, offering thought and dialogue provoking panels and lectures are a necessity. The underlying desires for all this are that students who are a part of the AHANA community are given the respect they deserve and that students who are not a part of the AHANA community do not feel unwelcome in regards to ALC-sponsored events and communities. The best way to approach any situation is to be fully informed and when we are fully informed, we will respect and appreciate more greatly the shared commonality we have around us.

Santi: Recently the Howe/Nauman administration denied the Women's Health Initiative official recognition on the BC campus as a student organization. How do you view this decision and what steps will you all take in regards to WHI?

Well, for the record, we would not have vetoed the resolution. We were pleased to see the veto overturned by the Senate the other night. Justin and I believe in having every voice expressed on campus. It is the only way we as individuals and as a community are going to learn and grow fully. If we want to practice our identity as a liberal arts school, focused on Jesuit ideals, we must do nothing less than give the opportunity for all groups to be heard and respected. Number of supporters may be low for certain initiatives or beliefs, but there is not a required number of supporters acting as a prerequisite to have a valid opinion worthy of being expressed. And just because

something is preached does not mean everyone believes.

Justin: In what ways specifically can the Office of AHANA Student Programs, a department of the university, help your administration succeed in accomplishing your goals of raising awareness surrounding AHANA issues?

The OASP is an organization that has more professional and long term experience dealing with students and the everyday issues on campus. Therefore, we hope to work closely with them on planning and organizing events on this campus. As we intend to work closely with ALC, we must also utilize the OASP as a resource. Simply put, we want to work with the OASP for their knowledge of the issues and experience in planning and organizing. Throughout the year, we hope to see UGBC, ALC, OASP and even some other groups team up to put on events on campus.

Santiago and Justin: How do you plan on making UGBC more visible/student friendly?

First of all it starts with us. It is our job to make sure that the student body knows that their President and Vice President are there for them and are just as much apart of the student body as anyone.

We don't want to stay cooped up in our office dealing with administration all day long. If we don't have to be doing those things, we want to be out talking with students because this is why we are here. We are doing this for the students and for the Boston College community because that is what we love. And this goes the same for everyone in UGBC. We are here for the students and we want to be out there showing them what UGBC can and will do. After this, it is our programming and events that will make UGBC more visible. We want to bring UGBC and programs to the students. This means going to the dining halls, residence halls, sporting events, etc. We want to have new and exciting programs that haven't been done before. Next year's UGBC is something to be very excited about because this is a chance for a new life in an organization that has previously been criticized for doing very little for the student body.

*** We at the Office of AHANA Student Programs encourage all students, faculty, staff and administrators to work with the future leaders of the Undergraduate Government of Boston College and the AHANA Leadership Council to create an environment on campus of education, respect, and service to one another.

Personal Views:

Do Students at BC have Academic Freedom?

Reena Parikh, A&S '06

What is academic freedom? At Boston College, faculty, students and administrators have been debating just this. Some believe that academic freedom is reserved only for faculty members; others believe that students should only have academic freedom and free speech rights in the classroom, but not in co-curricular life. I offer a broader definition of academic freedom that includes student's rights to express their opinion publicly at Boston College inside the classroom and in co-curricular life here. However, the trend to censor the speech of students has been present in a few instances this year.

There are a few particular instances on campus from this year alone that display the way in which the University has undermined the principle of academic integrity and imposed censorship on the expression of students based on the content of the ideas being expressed.

In September, members of the Global Justice Project had a protest permit revoked two hours before the scheduled protest against Raytheon (one of the country's leading weapons manufacturing companies) on the grounds that "[we, the members of the Global Justice Project] were not honest about the full content of (GJP's) protest," displaying how the university couched their blatant attempt to censor them by charging the group with deceit and circumventing the issue of censorship.

The most recent act of censorship occurred last month. A panel discussion, sponsored by the Women's Health Initiative (an unrecognized campus group), and the College Democrats of Boston College focusing on the implications of Judge Samuel Alito's confirmation with respect to reproductive health was cancelled by the Office of the Dean for Student Development (ODSD) the day before the event. The grounds for cancellation were that an unrecognized student group could not be the main sponsor, ignoring the fact that two recognized and funded student groups were also sponsors. This reason seemed to be an excuse made to circumvent the real issue the University had which they also alluded to during the cancellation--they did not want to allow student groups of any kind to hold an event through ODSD which would espouse ideas held in contrast to one specific interpretation of BC's "Jesuit and Catholic identity."

I believe that the Jesuit tradition of discernment must be privileged in these discussions. True Discernment requires students to be free from censorship and hear all perspectives on a debate in order to make informed decisions. Furthermore, if the University is not willing to recognize a group like WHI, or allow a group like the Global Justice Project perform its actions, then we are severely limiting discourse on this campus to a one-sided conversation. Boston College is a University, a place where the free exchange of ideas and thoughts is supposed to be a sacred right. Hopefully the University will hear our pleas to respect this, and we can uphold free speech rights and also respect BC's Catholic identity simultaneously.

APAHM 2006: "Piecing Together Our History" Romeo Ymalay, A&S '6 and Ryan Lo, CSOM '07

"Remember." This word echoed many times as Professor Gary Okihiro from Columbia University delivered the keynote address at the opening ceremony for the 2006 Asian Pacific American Heritage Month celebration. The sit-down dinner was held on Friday, March 31, 2006 at Gasson Hall 100. Nationally celebrated in May, APAHM is held in April at Boston College due to the academic calendar. Okihiro shared with the guests stories of some Asian Americans and their American experiences, touching upon the theme of this year's celebration: "Piecing Together Our History." The Asian Americans he mentioned were neither famous nor infamous. They simply were regular Americans to emphasize the purpose of this year's celebration: to show that Asian Americans are no different from other Americans and yet they continually are perceived as foreigners. Asian Americans have had an impact in this society and continue to do so. Their efforts are hardly acknowledged, purposely omitted in many academic curricula, and their history forgotten. This year's celebration brings awareness of Asian Americans and their contributions to American society. Puzzle pieces with information about individual contributions were placed at each plate setting at the opening ceremony for the guests to take home with them. Following the opening ceremony, Asian Caucus along with the seven APA cultural organizations on campus held their annual cultural celebrations with a buffet lunch of Asian cuisine and performances from the cultural organizations.



Ryan Lo and Romeo Ymalay
Student Coordinators,
APAHM 2006



APIE Panelists

On Thursday, April 6, the Asian Pacific Islander Employees of Boston College (APIE) held their inaugural event "Asian Americans in Public Service" at the Murray Function Room. The panelists were Professor Paul Watanabe from UMASS Boston, Rithy Uong former City Councilor of Lowell, MA and the first Cambodian American City Councilor in the United States, and Suzanne Lee, principal of the Josiah Quincy Elementary School. They spoke of the important roles Asian Americans played in shaping public policies. Asian Americans have been involved in public service, according to them, ever since the first time they arrived. They cited the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act and the Japanese Internment and Redress as examples of Asian Americans being an integral part of public policies. And as

Suzanne Lee can attest, their involvement in public education is also an example of how Asian Americans are actively involved in public service.

With the theme in mind, the 2006 APAHM Committee held its first annual Asian Pacific American Festival at O'Neill Plaza. The festival showcased an array of performances from cultural dance to modern and hip hop and a capella. Throughout the



Yuri Kochiyama

plaza, pictures of prominent Asian American figures and their contributions were displayed, such as the Chinese workers who helped build the transcontinental railroad, the late Filipino American author and activist Carlos Bulosan, and activist Yuri Kochiyama, whom the Asian American Scholarship committee wishes to be the namesake of the scholarship. Also present were nine APA cultural and religious organizations/clubs offering activities (balloon animals, Korean calligraphy, etc.) and snacks. The festival attracted many students, staff and faculty members filling up the steps of O'Neill Plaza. Other APAHM 2006 include: Asian Food Nights at the Dining Halls, Hawai'i Club Luau, VSA Fashion Show, CSA Lion Dance Workshop, True Colors Night Café, KSA: Sam Yoon, Boston first Korean American City Councilor At-Large, SEASA Culture Show, and the Asian American Scholarship Banquet.



The Asian Pacific American Heritage Month commemorates and celebrates the experiences of Asian Pacific Americans as they have contributed tremendously to our nation. This month has not only become an educational experience for the college community, but it also represents an ongoing effort of multiculturalism. American history is commonly presented with the European view. Thus, APAHM serves to fill one of the missing perspectives of American history.

For more information about APAHM 2006, please visit www.bc.edu/apahm

Upcoming Events

Commencement

Monday, May 22, 2006

The 130th Commencement of Boston College will be held on Monday, May 22, 2006. The University Commencement which is held in Alumni Stadium (rain: Conte Forum) will begin with the procession at 9:30 a.m. and will take approximately two hours; it will be followed by individual school diploma ceremonies at various sites around noon. All should be completed no later than 2:00 p.m. More information at <http://www.bc.edu/offices/commencement/>

OASP Annual Senior Reception

Monday, May 22, 2006, 1:00PM to 3:00PM

The OASP Annual Senior Reception is our way of congratulating the graduating class. More importantly, it is a chance for the seniors to say farewell to faculty, staff, administrators and their peers.

Benjamin Elijah Mays Anniversary Institute for Mentors

Wednesday and Thursday, June 28 and 29, 2006

The Benjamin Elijah Mays Anniversary Institute for Mentors and Directors of mentoring programs is created to commemorate the Program's 15th anniversary. The Institute serves as a forum to identify best practices and research in mentoring and to focus on issues related to mentoring undergraduate students of color.

Registration deadline is May 29, 2006.

For more information, visit www.bc.edu/oasp or contact Ms. Katiria Adorno at 617-552-3359 or adornok@bc.edu.

Halftime

Who is eligible for Halftime:

- All current students are eligible for Halftime.
- Intersections especially encourages male and AHANA students to participate, as both groups are continually under-represented in Halftime attendance.
- Please note that we now offer a special Halftime exclusively for seniors each August.
- Halftime is a terrific complement for study abroad. Students who attend Halftime before going abroad report that the trip helped them prepare and think about what they wanted to get out of the experience. Those students who go to Halftime upon their return find that Halftime offers a gentle way to re-adjust to BC life, and process their international experience. If we have enough students on a particular Halftime who are participating in study abroad, we will try to put them in the same small discussion group.
- Transfer students find in Halftime a welcoming, no-pressure environment in which to meet their new peers as well as faculty and staff.
- Each Halftime trip has a finite number of male spots and female spots; registration, especially for females, fills up quickly. Please encourage your students to sign up early.

Upcoming Halftime 2006/2007 dates and locations:

- Halftime 27: May 18-20, (Thurs-Sat) 2006 at Snowy Owl Inn, NH
- Halftime 28: June 16-18, (Fri-Sun) 2006 at Cortina Inn, VT
- Halftime 29: Aug. 30-Sept.1, (Wed-Fri) 2006 at Snowy Owl Inn, NH (**Seniors Only**)
- Halftime 30: August 30-September 1, (Wed-Fri) 2006 at Connors Retreat Center, MA
- Halftime 31: October 7-9, (Sat-Mon) 2006 at Connors Retreat Center, MA
- Halftime 32: January 10-12, (Wed-Fri) 2007 at Snowy Owl Inn, NH
- Halftime 33: February 16-18, (Fri-Sun) 2007 at Connors Retreat Center, MA

How students sign up for Halftime:

Register online at bc.edu/halftime.

Drop off a \$50 *refundable* check, payable to Boston College, to the Service Building (behind Cushing, next to Campion) Room 108.

***Waivers are available for those in need. Please have students contact Marlon Cummings at 2-6140 or cumminmk@bc.edu.

Service Opportunities

Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center (BCNC)

BCNC's Youth Center is looking for volunteers to serve as academic tutors for inner-city middle or high school students, and mentors for middle school students. Requirements include: experience in working with youth, effective leadership skills, passion for community service. For more information, please call Fu Mei Cheng or Jenny Dang at 617-635-5129. To learn about the agency, please visit their web site (www.bcnc.net).

Extra Hands for ALS

Extra Hands for ALS exists to assist people with ALS and their families, raise public awareness of the disease, energize the ALS community, and introduce young adults to community service. Through Extra Hands for ALS, high school and college students volunteer to help people with ALS and their families by doing chores and errands or just providing company for the homebound. Students also organize and participate in ALS public awareness events designed to teach their peers and communities about the disease.

If you are interested, please email or call **Kati Cawley**, Program Manager, at kati@extrahands.org or 617-331-3014.

Catholic Charities

The Catholic Charities Teen Center at St. Peter's Elementary School in Dorchester is seeking volunteers to tutor middle and high school students in basic reading, math, as well as provide homework help, Monday-Friday 5-7pm. We ask a commitment of only one day a week from our tutors. As a part of the Catholic Charities of Greater Boston, the Teen Center at St. Peter's serves youth 14-18 in Dorchester by giving both academic and social support. We serve mainly the Cape Verdean youth that live in the neighboring area, but all are welcome. Therefore, knowledge of Cape Verdean Creole or Portuguese is a plus, but by no means a requirement for volunteering. Please contact **Paulo de Barros** at Paul_debarros@ccab.org and 617-287-1150 x106.

Other Opportunities

MATCH

Through the MATCH Corps program, 45 recent college graduates make a one-year commitment to work full-time as members of our close-knit tutoring team at the MATCH School, a public, inner-city high school in Boston, MA. The goal of the MATCH Corps is to **er**ase, not narrow, the Achievement Gap between minority students and their non-minority peers. The MATCH Corps gives you **the chance to truly make a difference** in the lives of four urban teens who are working to gain acceptance into college. You can help them get there, and more importantly, stay there, achieving success in college and beyond.

If you are interested in applying through our rolling admission process, you can email your resume and a cover letter explaining your interest in our program to recruiting@matchschol.org. In your resume or cover letter please include your undergraduate GPA plus your SAT or ACT scores and any available AP scores.

Post Baccalaureate Premedical Program at Wake Forest University

Wake Forest University and Wake Forest University School of Medicine have developed a program to facilitate the entry of students underrepresented in medicine into medical school. The curriculum focuses on science and communication skills.

For more information, visit:

<http://www1.wfubmc.edu/MDProgram/Student+Services/Minority+Programs/Post+Graduate+Students/Post+Bac.Premedical.htm>

Co-op/Internship Opportunities for 2006 for Pre-Medical Studies Students

For detailed information, visit: <http://www.rit.edu/~gtfsbi/Symp/premed.htm>

The Summer Program at the Institute for the Study and Promotion of Race and Culture

The summer training program provides two and one-half days of comprehensive training in the areas of race, culture, and the integration of these concepts into research methods and professional practice. The programs consists of both didactic and experimental exercises that are intended to assist participants in integrating racial and cultural constructs in their research and practice.

For further information, please contact:

The institute for the Study of Race and Culture (ISPRC)

Tel: (617) 552-2482 Visit ISPRC at www.bc.edu/isprc

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We're on the Web!
www.bc.edu/oasp

*Enhance Learning Through
Diversity*

Mission Statement

The mission of the Office of AHANA Student Programs is to model servant leadership to students of AHANA descent and to provide a broad array of services that nurture their academic, social, cultural and spiritual development. While the traditional target group of the office is students who enter Boston College through the office's six week summer Options Through Education Program, the office's vision is to reach out and embrace all AHANA students in an attempt to help them actualize their dreams, fulfill their potential and become servant-leaders. The Office of AHANA Student Programs provides quality programs and services aimed at responding to the continuum of needs of students.

Programs and Services

- Comprehensive Academic Advisement Program
 - Performance Monitoring
- Options Through Education—Transitional Summer Program
- Benjamin Elijah Mays Mentoring Program
- Jaime Escalante Tutorial Program
- Father Ellacuría AHANA Resource Center
- Ladies Let's Talk
- AHANA Hotline
- Sister Thea Bowman AHANA Scholars Program
- Gospel Caravan