December 2016

Professional Staff Spotlight

Event Recaps

Calendar of Events

AAARCC Spring 2017 Academic Course List

Coming Soon: Year of the Rooster

Purdue Bulletin Board

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Dead Week Relief!
The campus cultural centers are hosting Dead Week Activities to help you de-stress and unwind!

Come into the AAARCC all day (8:00-5:00) from Tues Dec 6 - Thurs Dec 8 and kick back with one of our many board games, card games, retro arcade games on Xbox 360, or DVDs!

We will also have free snacks and pizza starting every day at 12:00! And it's a great time to pick up your limited edition AAARCC t-shirt if you haven't done so already!

Please check our Facebook for the latest information on these activities.

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Professional Staff Spotlight

RJ Eisma

Hello! My name is RJ Eisma. Since January of this year, I have served as STEM Program Specialist at Horizons Student Support Services. Horizons is a federally funded TRIO program within the Department of Education and housed in Purdue Student Success Programs.

I am proud to serve our campus and our Horizons student body, which consists primarily of first generation college students. Our staff members are specialized to provide a holistic set of services aimed at helping students successfully transition into college and providing continued support as they pursue their degrees. As STEM Program Specialist, I provide math and science advising and
Allegiance at Goodrich Wabash Landing

Tuesday December 13th at 7:30pm, join us to watch this ground-breaking musical! Allegiance highlights the important historical moment of Japanese Internment in America during WWII, and is inspired by George Takei's childhood.

Tickets will be available from the AAARCC for $10... which is a $7 discount from the regular price!! We accept cash or check payments during our regular business hours.

Click here to read a review for Allegiance.

Holiday Hours
Dec 19-22, 8:00am-2:30pm
Dec 23-Jan 2, CLOSED
Jan 3-6, 8:00am-2:30pm
Jan 9, Regular hours resume (8a-5p)

Looking for another class?

The AAARCC's Academic Course Guide lists out all of the Spring 2017 courses that contain Asian, Asian American, and diversity-related content.

Check it out at this link!

2017 is the Year of the Rooster!

STEM content reinforcement. I also manage the Horizons tutoring program, which consists of one-on-one, small group, and recitation-style tutoring. In the fall semester, I teach sections of our Horizons Study Skills course which is designed to prepare incoming freshmen for their college career.

I truly enjoy working with our students on a daily basis, but I will be the first to admit that my path to this point was anything but direct. I am the son of Asian-immigrant parents and the eldest of three, and growing up I bore the responsibilities of fulfilling the premise of a "better life" that my parents worked tirelessly to provide. The values they instilled in me solidified my ability to dedicate myself to whatever I pursue. However, I also faced pressure to succeed in a lucrative field of study, since I felt the need to compensate for the hardships my parents endured to ensure my education. I soon realized I had a knack for math and science and a penchant for thinking creatively, and chose to study engineering.

I studied Civil Engineering at Michigan State University, completed numerous engineering internships and even held a full-time position immediately after my undergraduate career. Seeking advancement, I returned to Michigan State and obtained a Masters' Degree in the same field. One look at my career trajectory hardly suggested a career in higher education access programs, and yet, here I am. To make a long story short, I deviated from the plan. The plan was to enter a high-paying job in the field of math or science. However, despite my affinity for the subject, the pressure that I placed on myself to succeed "just because" blinded me. I realized, better late than never, that career pursuits should not be motivated solely due to a sense of obligation or aptitude. The single most important element paramount to any pursuit is passion.

The pursuit of passion is what brought me to where I am today. I have the unique opportunity to employ my abilities in math and science to help students succeed. I am fortunate to have met Xavier Hernandez early in his tenure at Purdue's AAARCC so that I may share my story with all students, especially Asian Americans, who may be facing the very same academic and personal pressures that I once did. This is my testimony to deviate from a predetermined path if it means finding fulfillment. Pursue a career that fulfills you, and do not heed comments telling you otherwise. Your pursuit of passion may break the norm, but there is no feeling comparable to the gratification you are bound to feel when you finally obtain it.

Event Recaps

Thanks for an unforgettable November!

"How to Become an Asian SJW"
Social Media Workshop & Public Lecture
with Ranier Maningding

Photos: Nadia Arzberger & Eliana Yu

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**November Lunch Series**
with Civic Engagement & Leadership Development

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Community Posts
Dead week "DE-STRESS" activities @ the Cultural Centers

**Native American Educational & Cultural Center I 913 5th Street**

Everyday: Make holiday cards
Tuesday 12/6: Sock snowmen & snowflakes, all day
Wednesday 12/7: Pancake breakfast, 9-11am
Thursday 12/8: Holiday movie marathon
Friday 12/9: Therapy dog

**Latino Cultural Center I 600 North Russell Street**

Everyday: Color, play board/card games, play-doh, Wii, snacks, coffee & tea
Tuesday 12/6: Decorate ornaments, 12-5pm, Comida para estudiar (homecooked meal) 6-8pm, churros, hot chocolate/coffee all day
Wednesday 12/7: Chair massage 12-2pm, Comida para estudiar 6-8pm, churros, hot chocolate/coffee all day.
Thursday 12/8: Comida para estudiar, 6-8pm

**LGBTQ Center**

Monday-Thursday 12/5-9: Shrinky dinks and perler beads
Friday 12/10: Fabulous Friday, Ornament making
Hot chocolate, popcorn, games, movies and coloring all week long

**Black Cultural Center I 1100 3rd Street**

Tuesday 12/6: Meditation to re-energize, 3-4pm
Wednesday/Thursday 12/7-8: Popcorn and card games

**PSUB EVENTS**

12/7: "Holidays Around The World", PMU Memorial Room 268, 7-10pm
[Link for more information]

**COMMUNITY EVENTS**

[Link to events in December]

To send in your announcements, click here