I am pleased to introduce the second issue of the Office of Global Diversity and Inclusive Excellence (OGDIE) newsletter. The goal for this bi-annual newsletter is to recognize and celebrate diversity efforts across campus that advance a culture and climate that is inclusive, welcoming, respectful, and fosters engaging dialogue. The newsletter also serves as a catalyst for featuring noteworthy programs and events that give voice to the total Lamar University experience.

As the new executive director of the Office of Global Diversity and Inclusive Excellence I want to take this opportunity to welcome all our new faculty, staff and students and give them a big high five for choosing Lamar University to pursue your education and/or as your employer of choice. I also want to welcome back our current Lamar University community. I look forward to working with all of you in advancing a culture of inclusive excellence at Lamar University.

Respectfully,

Imelda Wicks
Executive Director of Diversity, Inclusive Excellence & Training

A Message from the Executive Director of Diversity, Inclusive Excellence & Training

IMELDA WICKS

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Office hours
Monday – Friday
8 A.M. – 5 P.M.

Follow us:
Twitter: @LU_ODI
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MISSION OF THE OFFICE OF GLOBAL DIVERSITY & INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE

To provide university-wide leadership in developing, implementing, and advancing initiatives that promote global diversity and inclusive excellence, by fostering a welcoming and conducive campus community. This community will recognize the immeasurable benefits of diversity and inclusion, while celebrating the rich diverse multicultural backgrounds of students, faculty and staff at Lamar University.
CHINESE NEW YEAR
Lamar University invites everyone to its first Chinese New Year Festival

Sunday, February 10, 2019
The Event Center
700 Crockett St. Beaumont, TX 77701
5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Enjoy a host of performances and experience Asian food tasting.

Must RSVP to attend at www.lamar.edu/chinesenewyear

Lamar University recognizes and celebrates the contribution of our Black/African American students by honoring those who excel academically at this reception:

Celebrating Academic Excellence Reception
MCM Elegante Hotel
2355 I-10 South Beaumont, TX
Friday, February 22, 2019
7:00 p.m.
Must RSVP to attend at www.lamar.edu/bhmreception

SAFE ZONE
The LU Safe Zone Ally Training program is a campus-wide initiative designated to increase understanding, awareness, exploring of, and sensitivity on the issues the LGBTQ person faces, in order to make our LU community safe and supportive. Become an ally!

Faculty & Staff Safe Zone 1.0 Training
Thursday, April 4th @ 10 a.m.
Monday, April 15th @ 4 p.m.

Students Safe Zone 1.0 Training
Thursday, April 11th @10:00 a.m.
Monday, April 22nd @ 4:00 p.m.
All training will be delivered in the Wimberly Bldg. 115C

For more information visit: www.lamar.edu/lgbtsafezone

INSPIRATIONAL WOMAN AWARD
At Lamar University we recognize the important contribution women have in our institution and invite you to nominate a student, faculty or staff who puts into practice LU’s core values and has contributed to the growth and success of women at Lamar University.

Deadline to nominate an inspirational LU woman
March 22, 2019
www.lamar.edu/inspirationalwomanaward

*The winner(s) will be recognized at a formal reception on March 28, 2019 at 11:30 a.m.

Any individual who needs to request a disability accommodation for any program or event should contact the LU Disability Resource Center at e-mail DRC@lamar.edu, call 409-880-8347 or visit their website at https://www.lamar.edu/disability-resource-center/index.html at least a week prior to the start of the program/event.
HIGHLIGHTS OF FALL 2018

2018 Inspirational Woman Award

Celebrating Hispanic Excellence

Veterans Day Luncheon

Day of the Dead

Outdoor Movie Night “Coco”
CULTURAL COMPETENCY TRAINING

Students, Faculty & Staff

Learn ways you can better Lamar University thru diversity & inclusion by requesting a training for your student organization, department or group. At this training, you will learn about the power and influence of culture, the different dimensions of diversity, and acquire the necessary intercultural encounter to become a more culturally competent student, faculty or staff of Lamar University.

To request training please complete a request form at:
http://www.lamar.edu/forms/diversity/speaker-request-form.html

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Community Service Scholarship

The Office of Global Diversity and Inclusive Excellence will be offering for the first time a scholarship to a Lamar University student(s) who continues to carry Dr. King’s dream through inclusiveness and service to the University and the greater community.

The nominee should be:
- An active part-time or full-time Lamar University graduate or undergraduate student,
- In good academic and judicial standing with LU
- Able to demonstrate a record of community service at LU and/or local community organization(s).
- Able to demonstrate a longstanding commitment to Dr. King’s ideals and further the University’s commitment to diversity.
- Able to demonstrate the virtues and skills of civic engagement and social responsibility.
- Act as a champion for cultural diversity, inclusion, and community partnership.

*The winner(s) will receive a one-time monetary award.

Deadline to submit application: February 22 at www.lamar.edu/myscholarships

Note: Complete the general application; then search under “opportunities” for the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Service Scholarship and submit your application.

NEXT SEMESTER:

“SHADOW DAY” FOR FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS

Shadow Day is a program in which first-generation college students from Lamar University will be paired with professionals from the Beaumont-Houston area to visit a worksite and “shadow” the participating professional for several hours, observing and assisting them with their work.

Participants will:
  a) Gain an awareness of the variety of skills needed for the profession they are majoring in,
  b) Develop an understanding of the connection between school and work,
  c) Learn how to transition from college to professional life,
  d) Be mentored by a professional in their field during the shadowing experience.

Who can participate?

Any junior or senior college student who is the first one in his/her family to attend college.

Follow us on www.lamar.edu/diversity for more information on present, past, and future programs & event or email us at GlobalDiversity@lamar.edu or 409-880-1732