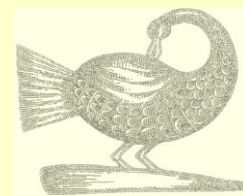


THE MULTICULTURAL FACULTY COMMISSION

NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, Issue 1
Spring 2010



The Sankofa bird means to “return, fetch, and move forward.” This embodies the charge of the MFC, which is to take responsibly the lessons from the past, apply and utilize the lessons today, and strategize a viable vision for tomorrow.

A Message From the Editor:



Karyn M. Usher
Assistant Professor of Chemistry

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While working on this newsletter I tried to think about what to include in my “message from the editor”. I thought about several topics, including the start of a new decade, a review of an article I read recently that states that it is only a myth that there are not enough qualified minority scientists applying for faculty positions, and what multiculturalism means today. However, every time I started writing I stopped and thought “I would really like to write about Dr. Naseer Ahmad, a colleague in my department at WCU who passed away last year.” I wondered if it was fair to write about him when there are others who have passed away who also made large contributions to the university that I don’t know. In the end I decided that I would dedicate this issue of the newsletter to the memory of Dr. Ahmad and in memory of all those who have contributed to the university.

Dr Ahmad was born on January 15, 1935 in Bulandshahr, in the state of Uttar Pradesh in India. Naseer earned a D.Sc. and a Ph.D. in Chemistry from Aligarh Muslim University and was a faculty member there for 22 years before moving to the US. He conducted research at U Penn with Dr. MacDiarmid (Noble Laureate) for two years before taking a faculty position at WCU in 1988. During his career he published over 150 scientific papers in peer reviewed journals. Naseer also gave back to the community through service as a board member of the Islamic Society of Chester County and as the faculty mentor for the Muslim Student Association. He also recently travelled to Deoband, India, to help educate poor Muslims.

Naseer passed away on June 24, 2009. That day he had taught a chemistry class at WCU, finished up his grades and had prepared them for submission. His family had previously suggested that he retire, but he loved WCU and loved teaching, and he said that a life without these things would not be fulfilling. I spoke with him in the chemistry copy room on June 22, and he told me that he was enjoying his summer class, and looked forward to

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Special Recognition:

Thank you to Dr. Mahrukh Azam and Ayesha Begum for sharing some facts about Dr. Ahmad’s life.

For more information on the MFC, visit us at: www.wcupa.edu/mfc

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP IN SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION

From the WCU News and Events Website (<http://www.wcupa.edu/information/events/>)



People who make an impact often take leadership roles and have scholarships named after them – like Mildred “Mit” C. Joyner, chair of West Chester University’s undergraduate social work department. She recently added to her accolades the title president-elect of the Council on Social Work Education, the national accrediting body for graduate and undergraduate schools of social work in the United States, Guam, and the Caribbean.

Joyner is one of seven new members on the CSWE’s board of directors, for which she is completing her term as vice president/secretary.

A full professor, she is also co-author of *Critical Multicultural Social Work* (2008), and is recognized nationally for her leadership, especially in gerontology social work education. In honor of her leadership and vision, the Association for Gerontology Education in Social Work created a scholarship – the Mit Joyner Gerontology Leadership Award – in 2005 for undergraduate social work faculty and students to promote

leadership in gerontological social work practice through scholarship, best practices and/or community connections.

Joyner currently serves on CSWE’s budget and finance committee, strategic issues committee, and is chair of the ad hoc strategic planning task force. She is also an advisory board member of the Gero-Ed Center (gerontological education) and a member of the National Association of Social Workers. She is the former president of the Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors and a site selector for the Association of Baccalaureate Social Workers; executive committee and treasurer of the Institute for the Advancement of Social Work Research; and previous board member of the Institute for Geriatric Social Work.

In the community, she has been on the board of directors for DNB First (previously known as Downingtown National Bank) since 2005. She is also the current chair of Living Beyond Breast Cancer, a national education and support organization whose goal is to improve the quality of life and help all women affected by breast cancer to take an active role in their ongoing recovery or management of the disease.

In the field of social work, her research interests include child abuse and diversity issues as well as gerontology. A member of the WCU faculty since 1981, she has chaired the undergraduate social work program for more than 25 years.

CHINESE MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL CONCERT

By: Naijian Zhang and Karyn Usher

The Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival Concert was held in the Emilie Asplundh Concert Hall on September 19, 2009. Dr. Naijian Zhang, the Producer Director of the concert organized this spectacular multicultural event that was well attended and extremely entertaining and educational. Over 800 people attended the event, including West Chester University administration, faculty, staff, students and also many people from the surrounding community.

Thirteen musicians from China and the United States were invited to perform at the concert which included traditional Chinese instruments that are not commonly used in the United States. These performers included Hongmei Yu, a renowned Chinese Erhu player; Xiaohong Zhang, who played the Guzheng; Hai-Ye Ni, First Cellist in the Philadelphia Orchestra; Jian Bao, a Guanzi Player; Jianbing Hu, who played the Sheng; Xiao-Fu Zhou, a Violinist; May Zhang & Siyu Huang, both Sopranos; Zhengping Liang, a Baritone and four pianists, Judy Pang, Jenny Chai, Jianming Xu, and Xiaoman Zhang. These musicians performed eighteen musical pieces in total. Some of these were traditional Chinese music and others were Western selections. These selections included the following: *Sunshine on Taxkorgan*, *Romance of*

"Last night's event was incredible!!! The performances were some of the best that I have ever heard; the audience was one of the largest I have seen in Asplundh, and it was simply outstanding. The Governor's citation was unexpected, but well deserved. Your collaboration with Fengling Culture Center made it a very memorable event and brought people to WCU who had never been on campus previously. Your efforts strengthened the relationship between WCU and local communities, promoted better understanding among peoples of different racial, ethnic and cultural backgrounds, and enhanced multicultural understanding and appreciation." - Linda L. Lamwers (Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost)

"I can't say enough about the wonderful concert that you planned and for which you secured funds and promoted. The performers were marvelous and the audience incredibly large. You pulled off this event in record time. Personally, I was exposed to instruments that I did not know and had not seen performed. I had a very enjoyable evening. Congratulations on a wonderful event." Joe Malak (Dean, College of Education)

Hsiao and Ch'in, Nostalgic Melody, Chasing the Moon, Song of the Yangtze River, Mountains and Streams, Song to the Moon, and Largo al factotum. The performances were excellent and the entire program was enjoyed by both the West Chester
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MULTICULTURAL FACULTY COMMISSION NEWSLETTER

Chinese Mid-Autum Festival Concert continued

University community members and members of the off campus community.

West Chester's newly elected mayor, Mrs. Carolyn Comitta, and the Deputy Director of the Governor's Advisory Commission on Asian American Affairs, Mr. Pan, both spoke before the concert. Mr. Pan also presented a letter from the Governor offering congratulations about the cultural event. There were three major objectives when this event was planned: 1) to strengthen the bridge between West

Chester University and the local communities, 2) to promote multicultural awareness and diversity among citizens on and off campus, and 3) to promote better understanding among people from different racial/ethnic and cultural backgrounds. With the generous support of many groups and individuals, this event became a great success. Following the event, many that were in attendance shared that this was a wonderful experience and extremely enjoyable.

Multicultural Faculty Accomplishments

Teaching:

Gopal Sankaran

- Will begin teaching a new course, *Strategic Leadership in Healthcare*, a core course for the Master of Public Health degree program (Health Care Administration track) in spring 2010.

Naijian Zhang

- Received the Global Development Collaboratives (GDC) Grant (\$2,630) to conduct the "Counseling Psychological Training Workshop at Jiangxi Normal University" in China. With this grant, Dr. Naijian Zhang implemented the workshop with an attendance of more than one thousand professionals and students in May 2009.

Scholarship:

Timothy Brown

- Brown, T.J. (2008). "I am who I am": Black masculinity and the interpretation of individualism in the film *Barbershop*. *Qualitative Research Reports in Communication*, 9(1), 46-61
- Brown, T.J. (2009, November 15). Black like me: Obama, black masculinity, and reinventing the cool pose. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Communication Association, Chicago.

Tim Brown Continued

- Brown, T.J. (2009, November 12). Navigating stability and change: Reflections of a new generation of Africana administrators in the academy (Panelist) Panel presentation at the annual conference of the National Communication Association, Chicago.
- Brown, T.J. (2009, April 24). The revolution will be televised: Commodifying the Black athlete Paper presented at the annual conference of the Eastern Communication Association, Philadelphia

Angela T. Clarke:

- \$597,880 5-year NIH grant for a project entitled "*Application of Action Research to Develop an After-school Preventive Intervention*." This study extends Dr. Clarke's previous pilot work supported through a 2008 CASSDA grant and evaluates an adapted evidence-based coping with stress program for African American adolescents exposed to the chronic stress of urban poverty. The intervention has the potential to reduce the impact of poverty on child and adolescent mental health and to inform the design of interventions for other highly stressed, underserved populations. Dr. Clarke will present preliminary research findings at the 2010 national conference of the Society for Research on Adolescence.

Scholarship Continued

Kim Doan

- Doan, K. (2009). Addressing the Seven-Year Itch in the Teacher Career Cycle. *Principal*, 89(1), 18-22.
- Doan, K. (2009). Review of the book *Mama PhD* (Elrena Evans & Caroline Grant) Education Review Database, <http://edrev.asu.edu/brief/feb09.html>
- [Discussant]. Reading between the lines: Reading their own writing helps middle school students become better learners. Philadelphia, PA: National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), November 2009.
- [Revising curriculum for the Millennials in our classrooms](#). Charlotte, NC: The National Teacher Education Division (TED) conference of the Council for Exceptional Children, Nov. 2009.
- Changes to meet the learning needs of millennials. West Chester, PA: PASSHE Women's Consortium, November 2009.
- Enhancing educational opportunities for Latino youth: Local responses to national trends. West Chester, PA: Latin American & Latino Studies Conference, Sept. 2009. (Dr. Coutu, dept of Geography & Planning).
- Millennials + YouTube=Curriculum revisions. Harrisburg, PA: Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) Diversity Summit, April 2009.
- How teachers can help minority adolescents take the stigma out of counseling and Postsecondary education isn't always college (poster session). Seattle, WA: Council for Exceptional Children, April 2009.

Gwenelle O'Neal

- O'Neal, GS (2009). Book Review: A Life less Ordinary, by Baby Halder, Wasafiri: *International Journal of Contemporary Writing*, Spring, 57, 85-86.
- O'Neal, GS, (in press). "Criteria for selecting a theory", in Abbott, A.A. (Ed), *Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs*. Washington, DC: NASW Press

Gwenelle O'Neal continued

- Blankertz, L & O'Neal, GS, (in press). "Co-occurring Disorders", in Abbott, A.A. (Ed), *Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs*. Washington, DC: NASW Press
- Paper accepted, Multicultural Resource Use (MRU) Model for Teaching and Practice: A Transactional Approach, Lily Conference on College and University Teaching, Greensboro, NC, February 2010

Katherine Norris

- Norris, Katherine (October 2009). Bermuda International Reading Association's Annual Conference. *Critical Literacy: Using Picture Books to Begin Conversations of Social Justice*. Hamilton, Bermuda.
- Norris, Katherine (February 2009). National Black Child Development Institute. *Building Partnerships with Diverse Families*. Atlanta, Georgia.

Gopal Sankaran

- Contributed two chapters "From Alma-Ata to Millennium Development Goals: Status of Women's Health in the 21st Century" and "Cardiovascular Disease in Women: Risk Factors and Risk Reduction" with Brinton & Hopkins to the book, *Women's Global Health and Human Rights* (2009).
- "Human capacity building for global public health: Role of public-private partnerships" at the 12th World Congress on Public Health at Istanbul, Turkey in April
- "Women and water resource management: Addressing gender inequity to realize Millennium Development Goals"
- "Commoditization and commercialization of water: Is it the new oil?" at the 137th Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association in November.

Scholarship Continued

Karyn Usher

- Usher, K.M. and Majors, R.M. "Analysis of Pesticide Residues in Apple by GC/MS using Agilent SampliQ QuEChERS Kits for Pre-injection Clean-up" Agilent Application Note 5990-4468EN, Oct. 29, 2009
- Gonzalez, C. A.; Usher, K. M. Majors, R.M. "Determination of Sulfonamides in Milk Using Solid-Phase Extraction and Liquid Chromatography-Tandem Mass Spectrometry" Agilent Application Note 5990-3713EN, March 11, 2009
- Karyn M. Usher, Anna Glinko, Michael J. Bozym, Michelle L. Owens "Separation, Identification, and Quantitation of Water-Soluble Vitamins by HPLC" LCGC North America, 2009 27(3), 258-263

Jerry Williams

- Published a new book entitled Eighteenth-Century Oratory and Poetic Contests in Peru (Newark: Juan de la Cuesta Hispanic Monographs 2009, 385pp.)
- Published an essay entitled "The Repression of Crypto-Jews in Lima: The Sacrifice of Ana de Castro" (Shippensburg Journal of Modern Languages, Fall 2009, pp. 55-70)
- Published an essay entitled "Popularizing the Ethic of Conquest: Peralta Barnuevo's Historia de España vindicada" in Creole Subjects in the Colonial Americas: Empires, Texts, Identities. Eds. Ralph Bauer and José Antonio Mazzotti, Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, Williamsburg, VA. Univ. of North Carolina Press, 2009, 412-41.

Naijian Zhang

- Zhang, N., & McCoy, V. (2009). Discussion of racial difference in cross cultural counseling: A counselor's perspective. *J. of College Student Psychotherapy*, 23 (1), 3-15.
- Chamberlin, C. M., & Zhang, N. (2009). Workaholism, health, and self-acceptance. *J. of Counseling and Development*, 87(2), 159-169.

Naijian Zhang Continued

- Zhang, N. (Ed.). (2009). *Psychology- Series on Western Research on the Humanities and Social Sciences*. Beijing: China Renmin University Press .
- Zhang, N., & He, Y. (2009). Counseling psychology. In N. Zhang (Ed.), *Psychology*. Beijing: China Renmin University Press.
- Parsons, R., & Zhang, N. (2009). Introduction to western psychology. In N. Zhang (Ed.), *Psychology- Series on Western Research on the Humanities and Social Sciences*. Beijing: China Renmin University Press.
- Parsons, R., & Zhang, N. (2009). The future of psychology. In N. Zhang (Ed.), *Psychology- Series on Western Research on the Humanities and Social Sciences*. Beijing: China Renmin University Press.

Linda (Xiaowei) Zhu

- Received Gregory C. and Paula K. Chow Fellowships of year 2008-2009 from the Overseas Young Chinese Forum (OYCF).
- She was invited to teach a seminar of Operation Management and Supply Chain Management at [Southwestern University of Finance and Economics](#) in Chengdu, China, from June to July, 2009.

Service

Tim Brown

- Council of Chairs: Vice-Chair
- Middle States – Working Group 6 – Faculty
- CAPC – Undergraduate Programs Committee
- Brother to Brother Steering Committee Member
- COMPACT for Faculty Diversity Conference – WCU Recruitment team, Fall 2008

Kim Doan

- Diversity Lecture Series: Student Roundtable Discussion: Are You Ready for a Global Job Market? November 2009.
- Panelist for the Frederick Douglas Institute, West Chester University. Topic: Diverse Family structures, October 2009.

Service Continued

Gopal Sankaran

- Serves on the Governing Council of the American Public Health Association representing the International Health Section
- Community Advisory Board of WHYYY
- Board of Chester County Disability Services
- Served on the WCU Presidential Search Committee and the Inauguration Committee of President Greg Weisenstein.
- Currently serves on the Middle States Steering Committee, MSCHE Standard 7 Workgroup, Institutional Review Board, Human Subjects Committee, MFC Advisory Board, Service Learning Work Group, Global Development Collaborative, Institute for International Development, Asia Think Tank, Global Education Institute, and MS (Applied Statistics) Advisory Board.

Karyn Usher

- WCU Minority Faculty Recruiter at the COMPACT Diversity Institute Conference Fall 2009
- Elected to the executive Board of the Chromatography Forum of Delaware Valley for a three year term.

Naijian Zhang

- Elected as Acting Chair of the Department of Counselor Education for Spring 2010
- Chair of Student Research and Creative Activities Award Committee WCU and Co-Chair of Evaluation Policy and Training Committee WCU in the academic year of 2008-2009
- As the Producer, Dr. Naijian Zhang organized and implemented the Chinese Middle Autumn Festival Concert, a multicultural event, with an attendance of about 800 people. During this event Dr. Naijian Zhang with the help of the local community raised more than \$10,000 for WCU Foundation.

Recognition:

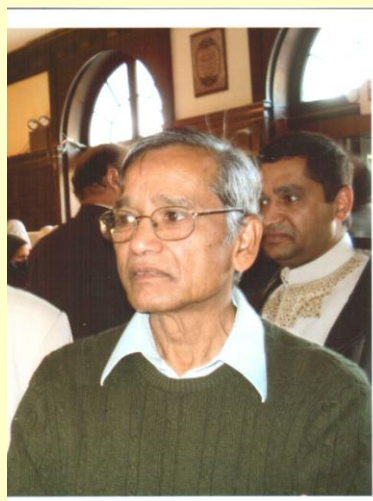
Timothy Brown

- Received the Eastern Communication Association's (ECA) **Past President's Award** in recognition of my scholarship and service to the organization. It is the highest award given by ECA (April 25, 2009).

Gwenelle O'Neal

- Selected to attend Leadership Institute for Faculty Women - Pennsylvania Association of State Schools of Higher Education, August, 2009

Message from the Editor continued



Naseer Ahmad 1935-2009

teaching in the next six week session that was about to start. It was clear that Naseer was happy to be back teaching after being on leave for the spring semester. He embodied the teacher/scholar model, and worked hard to help students, other faculty members, and the community while still making sure to have time for his family (wife: Noor, children: Javed, Naheed, Humayoon and Shabnam and four grandchildren). He is remembered by those who knew him for his patience, his independence, and his quest for knowledge & tireless support of education. With support from his family, the chemistry department is planning on starting a student scholarship in his honor.

MULTICULTURAL

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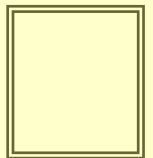
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