

# MSS Flash

Volume 1, Issue 3

December 2005/January 2006

## Multicultural Student Services

## 2006-2007 Student Leader Selection

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It is that time of year again when the Department of Campus & Residence Life, Dean of Students, Office of International Student Services, and Office of Multicultural Student Services team together to provide a comprehensive student leadership selection process. With over 120 positions available there are many opportunities for you to get involved and gain leadership experience in the 2006-07 school year.

Please visit [www.stthomas.edu/campuslife](http://www.stthomas.edu/campuslife) to learn more about the positions and how to apply. Feel free to stop by any of the above offices as well and speak with a staff member about these great opportunities. The application process opens November 10 and closes February 14 (December 6 for students studying abroad in Spring 2006).

Following are the positions and contact information for 2006 Summer Positions 2006 – 2007 Positions:

- Summer Conference Staff Member
- Transfer Orientation Leader (OL)
- REAL Project/Summer Academy Peer Advisor
- Commuter Advisor (CA)
- Summer Resident Advisor International

Student Mentor (ISM) Summer Orientation Leader (OL)

- St. Thomas Activities and Recreation (STAR)
- Resident Advisor (RA)
- Apartment Coordinator (AC)

If you have any questions regarding a position or the timeline of events, please contact the staff member responsible for the position:

- Orientation or Commuter Positions, Tori Svoboda, (651) 962-6052 or [vasvoboda@stthomas.edu](mailto:vasvoboda@stthomas.edu)
- International Student Mentor, Pahoua Hoffman, (651) 962-6650 or [pyhoffman@stthomas.edu](mailto:pyhoffman@stthomas.edu)
- REAL Project/Summer Academy Peer Advisor, Lisa Mueller, (651) 962-6461 or [lcmueller1@stthomas.edu](mailto:lcmueller1@stthomas.edu)
- STAR Interns, Amy Graff, (651) 962-6134 or [ajgraff@stthomas.edu](mailto:ajgraff@stthomas.edu); or Aaron Macke, (651)962-6140 or [am-macke@stthomas.edu](mailto:am-macke@stthomas.edu)
- All Residence Life positions, Cari Fealy, (651) 962-6476 or [cafealy@stthomas.edu](mailto:cafealy@stthomas.edu)

### Did You Know?

Did you know there are many holidays celebrated in December? Christmas, Hanukkah, St. Lucia Day, Kwanzaa, Omisoka, Las Posada, and Ramadan are just a few of the many celebrations. Anyone for Christmahanukwanzakah?

## Gospel Choir

By Alisha Gray



The St. Thomas Gospel Choir is a new club on campus started by Alisha Gray. The director of the choir is a music major by the name of Sam Johnson. So far this year, the choir has performed the National Anthem at the football game against Gustavus and also sang a few songs in the Leather Room at the O'Shaughnessy-Frey Library. The Gospel Choir also performed on November 29th at the

Tree Lighting Ceremony at 4:45 pm. Then they performed the next day at the women's home opener basketball game, singing the National Anthem.

Their last performances of the year will be on the 12th of December, Study Monday, at 12 noon. On this day the choir will be Christmas caroling around campus. So be on the look out and enjoy the holidays!

## Redefine the Rainbow at Augsburg College

Beyond the Rainbow  
College GLBTQA Spirituality & Sexuality Conference  
January 20-22, 2006  
Augsburg College, Minneapolis, MN

Redefine the Rainbow is to be held January 20-22, 2006 at Augsburg College in Minneapolis. Redefine the Rainbow is the first-known conference to connect spirituality and sexuality on a college-age level. Registration is open to college and university students and those who work with college students or college-aged young adults.

The purpose of the conference is two-fold. First, to let college students, young adults, and those who work with college students find a way to explore the relationship between their faith life and their sexual orientation/gender identity. Redefine

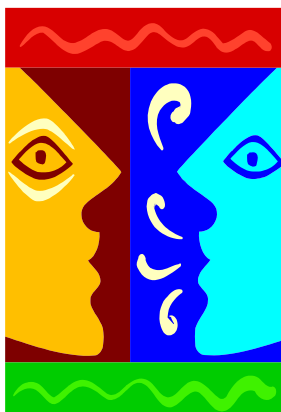
the Rainbow will give these students a voice to articulate what they believe to be true about themselves, God, and their call in the world.

Secondly, Redefine the Rainbow will make/strengthen connections between these emerging leaders and the advocacy organizations within faith traditions. This conference will show students the variety of resources available to explore spirituality and sexuality.

For more information, please visit <http://www.augsburg.edu/gsu/redefinetherainbow>. Questions may also be directed to Ross Murray, conference administrator at 612-330-1151 or [murray@augsb.org](mailto:murray@augsb.org).



## Community Dialogues



*Community Dialogues will return Spring Semester.*

The next series of dialogues will focus on race and racism. This series will provide an opportunity for meaningful dialogue in our community with the ultimate goal of eliminating barriers that foster racism. These conversations move beyond the superficial, by inviting people of every ethnicity to par-

ticipate in seeking deeper understanding and friendship that will affirm the stronger and healthier community that comes from increased participation by all people.

We're looking for students/ staff/ faculty who are interested in facilitating a dialogue on race and racism. For more information or to sign up please visit Multicultural Student Services in MHC 106.

Facilitators must be able to commit to an 8 hour training held January 25th and 26th, 2006.

## Public Policy for Women

The Leaders of Today and Tomorrow are presenting a public policy seminar encouraging the participation of college women in public policy and service. This seminar will include, but are not limited to, a mentorship lunch with women in public policy, panel discussions with women in public policy, and a skill-building workshop. This seminar will be held on Jan. 12-14 in Plymouth and St. Paul. For more information, please visit their website: [www.lwvnmn.org/LOTT](http://www.lwvnmn.org/LOTT) or call 651-224-5445.



## The Rockettes

Tickets to the Radio City Christmas Spectacular starring the Rockettes are available from STAR. Take a trip to the Orpheum to see the amazing Rockettes. Tickets are available in the Box Office for \$25. One student ticket is allowed per ID, and each student may bring 1 guest for \$40. A bus will leave the Arches at 7 p.m. on December 11th. You MUST ride the bus! You will not receive your ticket until you get on the bus. For more STAR events, visit their website: [www.stthomas.edu/star](http://www.stthomas.edu/star).

## Finals Meltdown

### Monday, December 12

The Wellness Center is putting on a **Wellness Stress Spa** in Koch Fireside from Noon to 2 p.m.

**Finals Feed**, which begins at 10 p.m., is put by STAR who will be providing FREE subs, cookies, pop and hot cider to students up late studying! Finals Feed is held in the Grill. Please enter on east end (by dish room). Hurry... the food goes fast!

### Tuesday, December 13

**Muffins from MSS** will be providing free continental breakfast in the Commuter Center and Off Campus Services from 7:45 am.-10 a.m.

### Wednesday, December 14

It's **Bagel Wednesday!** The Commuter Center and Off Campus

Services will be hosting a free bagel breakfast from 8-10 a.m.

### Thursday, December 15

There is a **graduation celebration** in the Commuter Center from 12:30- 1:30 p.m.

### Friday, December 16

Undergraduate Commencement 3:00 p.m. Fieldhouse.



Finals meltdown is sponsored by the Dean of Students Office, Commuter Center & Off Campus Services, Multicultural Student Services and the Wellness Center

## MSS FLASH CASH

### Ain't No Valley Essay Contest

The Ripe Harvest Foundation and Bethany House Publishers announce the Ain't No Valley Essay Contest. Contestants must read the newly published novel, Ain't No Valley by award-winning author Sharon Ewell Foster, and submit a essay (maximum of 1,000 words). To celebrate Ain't No Valley's release, The Ripe Harvest and Bethany House will award four \$1,000 scholarships and one \$1,500 award to essay winners. Scholarships will be awarded in two age groups, 16-21 years and over 21 years of age. To learn where to send the essay and for more information, visit the Bethany House Publishers' web site, [www.bethanyhouse.com/ME2/Audiences/](http://www.bethanyhouse.com/ME2/Audiences/).

### Norm Mineta Internship Immersion Program

The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars, a non-partisan, non-profit, educational organization based in Washington, D.C., is pleased to announce the new Norm Mineta Internship Immersion Program that will provide fully-funded internship opportunities in the U.S. Department of Defense for a total of 150 Asian American and Pacific Islander undergraduate students. Participating students, who must be financial aid eligible (or receiving a form of financial assistance/scholarships) and US citizens, will receive a full scholarship covering The Washington Center's program fee, fully-furnished housing in the Washington, D.C. metro area, a weekly stipend of \$250, and roundtrip travel to and from Washington, D.C. The program is funded by the Congress and will be offered in the summer term of 2006 (application deadline: February 3, 2006). For more information on this exciting opportunity, please visit our website: [http://www.twc.edu/students/financial\\_federal.shtml#mineta](http://www.twc.edu/students/financial_federal.shtml#mineta).

### American Bar Foundation

The American Bar Foundation sponsors a program of summer research fellowship to interest undergraduate students from diverse backgrounds in pursuing graduate study in the social sciences. The summer program is designed to introduce students to the rewards and demands of a research-oriented career in the field of law and social science. The only applications considered must be from sophomores and juniors with a grade point average of at least 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale). There are four fellowships available, in which students will work at the American Bar Foundation's offices in Chicago, Illinois for 35 hours a week for a period of 8 weeks; Students will also receive a stipend of \$3,600. For more information, please visit the website: [www.abf-sociolegal.org](http://www.abf-sociolegal.org).

### Phillips Family Foundation Scholarship

The Phillips Scholars Program supports potential leaders with outstanding academic credentials who intend to dedicate a portion of their lives to community service. Six competitively-selected Phillips Scholars are eligible to receive \$14,000: a \$5,000 junior-year scholarship; a \$4,000 summer award to support the development and implementation of a self-designed service project to address unmet needs in Minnesota communities; and a \$5,000 senior year scholarship contingent on the successful completion of the summer project. Applicants must be a junior during the 2006-2007 academic year, have a GPA of 2.75 or higher, and an aspiration to serve disadvantaged people. For more information on this scholarship, visit <http://www.mnprivatecolleges.org/fund/phillips.php>.

For more information regarding scholarship and grant opportunities for this month please visit UST Student Financial Services at: [www.stthomas.edu/financialservices/](http://www.stthomas.edu/financialservices/).

## Nightmare Final Questions from Jokes2go.com

### We hope you never have to answer any of these questions!

1. Computer Science: Write a fifth-generation computer language. Using this language, write a computer program to finish the rest of this exam for you.
2. History: Describe the history of the papacy from its origins to the present day, concentrating on its social, political, economic, religious, and philosophical impact on Europe, America, Asia, and Africa. Be brief and concise, yet specific.
3. Electrical Engineering: You will be placed in a nuclear reactor and given a partial copy of the electrical layout. The electrical system has been tampered with. You have seventeen minutes to find the problem and correct it before the reactor melts down.
4. Pre-Med: You will be provided with a rusty razor blade, a piece of gauze, and a full bottle of Scotch. Remove your appendix. Don't suture until your work has been inspected. You have 15 minutes.
5. Public Speaking: Twenty-five hundred riot-crazed aboriginals are storming the classroom. Calm them. You may use any ancient language except Latin, Hebrew, or Greek.
6. Biology: Create life. Estimate the differences in subsequent

- human culture if this life form had developed 500,000 years earlier, with special attention to the probable effect, if any, on the English parliamentary system circa 1750. Prove your thesis.
8. Music: Write a full piano concerto. Orchestrate and perform it with a clarinet and drum. You will find a piano under your seat.
9. Psychology: Based on your knowledge of their early works, evaluate the emotional stability, degree of adjustment, and repressed frustrations of each of the following: Alexander of Aphrodisias, Ramses II, and Gregory of Nicea. Support your evaluation with quotations from each man's work, making appropriate references. It is not necessary to translate.
10. Chemistry: You must identify a poison sample which you will find at our lab table. All necessary equipment has been provided. There are two beakers at your desk, one of which holds the antidote. If the wrong substance is used, it causes instant death. You may begin as soon as the professor injects you with a sample of the poison. (We feel this will give you an incentive to find the correct answer.)

## 12 Interesting Ways to Write a Paper...A Little Finals Humor



1. Write a paper discussing why Michelangelo got to be a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle, but Van Gogh didn't. Discuss whether Van Gogh would have used nunchakus or katanas.
2. Write your paper by cutting out words from magazines and sticking them on the page, ransom-note style.
3. Type in gibberish. When you hand it in, claim that your computer crashed while you were printing it, and you couldn't retrieve the original.
4. If assigned a 2000-word paper, draw two pictures of what the paper was supposed to be about. After all, a picture is worth 1000 words, right?
5. Turn in a letter you wrote to your cousin. When the teacher confronts you about it, say that you must have gotten the letter and paper mixed up. Say that you'll turn it in as soon as you get it back, but your cousin lives in Siberia, so it might be a little late.
6. Make your paper one long, never-ending sentence that goes on for pages and pages and pages; use a lot of semi-colons, commas, and other interesting rarely-used punctuation marks [(for example), and interesting one: the colon\_] but never ever end the sentence...
7. Print all the pages on one sheet of paper, with the text overlapping. Say that was all the paper you had.
8. Refuse to do the paper on account of the fact that you are a member of Greenpeace and strongly object to the gratuitous slaughter of trees caused by the massive amounts of paper used in writing assignments.
9. TTyypeee eeveerry lleetteerr ttwwiiccee...
10. Refer to all prominent historical figures by nicknames. For example, call George Washington "Georgie" and Ben Franklin "Sparky".
11. OI, switch aloud arr the l's and r's in youl papel, rike Monty Python did in Queen Erizabeth the Thild.
12. Put nonsense words down as quotes. Say that you are quoting the words of a well-known Zen master who was speaking in tongues at the time.

## The Night Before Finals

'Twas the night before finals,  
And all through the college,  
The students were praying  
For last minute knowledge.

Most were quite sleepy,  
But non touched their beds,  
While visions of essays  
Danced in their heads.

Out in the taverns,  
A few were still drinking,  
And hoping that liquor  
would loosen up their think-  
ing.

In my own apartment,  
I had been pacing,  
And dreading exams  
I soon would be facing.

My roommate was speech-  
less,  
His nose in his books,  
And my comments to him  
Drew unfriendly looks.

I drained all the coffee,  
And brewed a new pot,  
No longer caring  
That my nerves were shot.

I stared at my notes,  
But my thoughts were muddy,  
My eyes went a blur,  
I just couldn't study.



"Some pizza might help,"  
I said with a shiver,  
But each place I called  
Refused to deliver.

I'd nearly concluded  
That life was too cruel,  
With futures depending  
On grades had in school.

When all of a sudden,  
Our door opened wide,  
And Patron Saint Put It Off  
Ambled inside.

His spirit was careless,  
His manner was mellow,  
He started to bellow:

"What kind of student  
Would make such a fuss,  
To toss back at teachers  
What they tossed at us?"

"On Cliff Notes! On Crib Notes!  
On Last Year's Exams!  
On Wingit and Slingit,  
And Last Minute Crams!"

His message delivered,  
He vanished from sight,  
But we heard him laughing  
Outside in the night.

"Your teachers have pegged you,  
So just do your best.  
Happy Finals to ALL,  
And to ALL, a good test."

## Our Winter Wish to You

On behalf of Multicultural Student Services

We wish you the best on your final exams and semester wrap up!  
We wish you a wonderful Winter Break and we will see you in January!



**A special Congratulations to our December Graduates!**  
This outstanding accomplishment is a result of years of dedication.  
We wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors and  
we hope you will stay in touch!

We will truly miss you but are excited for your adventure ahead!



CHALLENGE YOURSELF  
CHANGE OUR WORLD



## Multicultural Student Services

Mailbox # 5006  
2115 Summit Avenue  
St. Paul, MN, 55105  
Office Hours: M-F 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Phone: 651-962-6460  
Fax: 651-962-6655  
Website: [http://www.stthomas.edu/  
multiculturalservices/](http://www.stthomas.edu/multiculturalservices/)

Dear Reader:

Multicultural Student Services would like to encourage you to take full advantage of the many opportunities available to you as a UST student. Our staff members provide personal attention and opportunities for students to foster their personal growth while gaining cultural awareness. We are available to assist with questions or concerns about diversity, personal identity and academic support or provide any other assistance that you may need. You are encouraged to attend our programs and training events emphasizing multicultural education and awareness. We also serve as a liaison and referral for many Services at 106 Murray-Herrick Campus Center to meet us and see what we have to offer. Our office hours are 8:00 am - 4:30 pm Monday through Friday. We can't wait to meet you!

Sincerely,

*Multicultural Student Services*

We welcome comments, suggestions, and submissions to the MSS Flash.  
Submission deadline is the 20th of each month and can be sent to [multicultural@stthomas.edu](mailto:multicultural@stthomas.edu)

## Days to Remember

Multicultural Monday  
Monday, Dec. 5 from Noon-2 p.m.  
MHC Commuter Center  
Visit with Commuter Center and MSS, as well as enjoy tasty treats.

Fruity Tuesday  
Tuesday, Dec. 6 from 10 a.m.-noon  
Wellness Center

Dean of Students' Holiday Reception  
Thursday, Dec. 8 from 11:30 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.  
MHC Campus Center (1st floor)  
This event is open to everyone!

Study Abroad First Steps Information Session  
Thursday, Dec. 8 at 12:15 p.m.  
International Education Center

Globally Minded Student Association (GMSA)  
Thursday, Dec. 8 from Noon-1 p.m.  
MHC 160

Campus Ministry  
Thursday, Dec. 8 from 1-3 p.m.  
Commuter Center

Job and Internship Fair Information Session  
Monday, Dec. 12 from 3-3:30 p.m.  
MHC 155

Fruity Tuesday  
Tuesday, Dec. 12 from 10 a.m.-noon  
Wellness Center

Bagel Wednesday  
Wednesday, Dec. 14 from 8-10 a.m.  
Commuter Center

Free Legal Advice  
Wednesday, Dec. 14 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Commuter Center

Karaoke with GMSA members  
Friday, Dec. 16

Cooking with GMSA  
Saturday, Dec. 17

Women Making a Difference in Public Policy  
Jan 12-14, 2006  
Plymouth and St. Paul, MN