Greetings from the Multicultural Center

The semester is almost over, but before we wish you good luck with exams and the end-of-term rush, we want to bring to your attention a few announcements.

First, I am pleased to say that Ray Baker's lunch forum presentation on the Gulf Crisis was a great success. He discussed the possibility of war in the Gulf with a large group of people from both the campus and the community. A week later, Eqbal Ahmad lectured on the Gulf Crisis and was equally comprehensive and provocative. The MCC will continue programming events on this issue offering the campus more opportunities to discuss the current crisis. Early next year we will sponsor a round-table discussion led by a faculty panel. The panel will represent a number of different perspectives so watch out for more information. If you have a speaker in mind, please call me at ext. 3340 and I will follow up on your ideas.

Second, we want to remind any faculty and students who are planning events for winter study and spring semester to let MCC staff know of your event so we can include it in the SPECTRUM.

Last, we invite the entire community to stop and see our newly renovated space. Our a.v. room, library and classroom space is attractive and inviting, thanks to the hard work of Cheryl Myers and B&G staff. The MCC open house is on Saturday, January 5th, 11:00 am. Check out the beautiful premises. Faculty and student organizations are encouraged to use the MCC as a site for future events.

- Nura Dualeh, MCC Director

Open House at the Multicultural Center: Sam Gafsi Memorial Library Dedication: January 5th, 11:00 am. The campus community is invited to the dedication ceremony of the Salem Samir Gafsi Memorial Library. Housed in the Multicultural Center, the library honors the memory of Sam Gafsi, Class of 1992, and includes a growing collection of books, journals and videotapes dealing with the experiences of minority groups in the United States. We also have on display a collection of artwork from various parts of the world collected by the Gafsi family. The library also contains the personal books of Professor Carlos Egan who taught in the Political Science dept. He died in Honduras last fall and his books were given to the College by his family.

African American Dance Ensemble Residency: January 8-12. As part of the Dr. Martin Luther King Day (Jan. 15) celebrations, the Williams College Dance Society and the Multicultural Center are sponsoring a 5 day residency of the Chuck Davis African American Dance Ensemble. A team of 8 artists have been invited to give a series of campus lecture demonstrations and workshops on African and African-American dance and music. The artists will also go into the community to give workshops in various schools in Williamstown, North Adams, Pittsfield, and upstate New York. The ensemble will end their residency with a concert on Jan. 12. Students interested in working with the artists, and in volunteering as hosts, student drivers, tech crew and workshop participants should contact the MCC, ext. 3340 or the Dance Studio, ext. 2410.
You Can Make a Difference: Be a Junior Advisor

On December 6 and 7, general information meetings will be held in Lawrence 231 for sophomores interested in becoming JA's. We encourage you, even if you are ambivalent, to attend the meeting to hear the experiences of former juniors who have studied abroad, remained on campus or become JA's. It's an opportunity to be informed of the process and to begin considering the possibility of applying. The Selection Committee is seeking ways to select a group of JA's who will most represent the incoming class. In order to ensure the quality of the system, it is important to expand the applicant pool to include students of all talents and interests, from every background. Even if you are not sure, please go to the meeting and get on the list for an application -- you will have plenty of time to think about it. If you have questions, please contact Steve Martin '91 (SU 1830, 458-2782) or Sara Dubow '91 (SU 1671, ext. 6673).

Race, Identity, and Community

The Multicultural Center, the Dean's Office, and SOAR will continue programming events that focus on building our sense of community. Upcoming lectures, videotapes, and films sponsored by the MCC will highlight the experiences of minority groups in this country. Our intention is to provide the campus with information on the African-American, Hispanic, Asian-American, and Native-American experience so that all students have a chance to educate themselves on the diversity of the American experience. Take the opportunity to attend the many events planned for Winter Study and spring semester.

Prejudice Reduction Workshops

ATTENTION HOUSE PRESIDENTS: The MCC sponsored a series of prejudice-reduction workshops in the freshmen dorms this fall. The workshops were 3-4 hours long and took place on weekends. They were facilitated by students trained in the NCBI prejudice reduction model. The purpose of the workshops is to clarify misinformation we have about "other" groups and to remove the feelings which keep racism, sexism, anti-Semitism and other forms of prejudice in place. The workshops are available to upperclass houses this Winter Study and spring. If you are interested in a workshop, or if you would want your house to participate in one, contact the MCC, ext. 3340, to make arrangements.

Office of Career Counseling

OCC provides career information and guidance to all students. The OCC library has material on summer jobs and internships as well as information on graduate schools and careers after college. OCC is located in the lower level of Stetson Hall. Make sure you stop by, meet the staff and advantage of their wonderful resources.

LSAT's: Thursday, December 16: OCC will host a preview of the Stanley Kaplan LSAT preparation course. 3 pm, OCC.

INTERNSHIPS: The Metropolitan Museum of Art has two internships for Black and Hispanic students interested in museum careers. Applicants must be graduating college seniors. Contact OCC for further information.

SUMMER JOB INFORMATION: Monday, December 3rd: Wediko Children's Services have summer jobs for students interested in working with emotionally disturbed children in N.H. - 7 pm, OCC.

STEP-BY-STEP: are information sessions for seniors to explain the on-campus interviewing process. 3 sessions will be held Tuesday, December 4, 10 am; Wednesday, December 5, 2 pm; Friday, December 7, 2 pm.