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***BUILDING A CULTURE OF BELONGING***

***ONE IDEA AT A TIME!***

**DIIF Prior Winning Innovators**

**Fall 2017-Spring 2023**

**2022-2023 year:**

**Diversity in the Humanities**

**Gary Bouchard, English Department**

**David Quinn, Library Services**

The initiative was a campus-wide book distribution and discussion focused on the book *Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates and issues of race and racial justice more broadly. The Grappone Humanities Institute, the Geisel Library, and the Conversatio Program teamed up to sponsor the effort, with additional support from the Meelia Center and Peace and Justice Studies. The idea for the initiative grew out of informal discussions by some participants of the white affinity group that was part of the Anselmian Network for Racial Justice’s ongoing group dialogue effort and as an extension of the college’s summer read program that has been sponsored by Conversatio and the Humanities Institute.

**Stronger Together: Celebrating and Supporting Linguistic Diversity through the Writing Center**

**Jenne Powers, Director, Academic Resource Center**

**Jacob Akey ‘24**

**Ann-Maria Contarino, Coordinator, Writing Center**

This project celebrates and promotes the untapped beauty and potential of multilingualism already existing on campus, and second, to better prepare the College to empower multilingual and ELL students via the Academic Resource Center. Through celebration of and education on linguistic diversity, the hope is to address the very real needs of our students. While all students whose first language is not English demonstrate proficiency to be admitted, there remains, for some, a gap where nuances of meaning and tone can be a challenge. At the same time, multilingual writers bring distinct voices to their work and may experience a loss of voice and agency when working with readers who are not prepared to recognize that strength. By working within the ARC and with our collaborators across campus to address these communication needs, we can grow professionally as we become more trained and sensitive readers and support ELL students in reaching their academic goals.

**World Vision Song Contest 2023**

**Justin Mohler, Modern Languages and Literatures**

**Jaime Orrego, Modern Languages and Literatures**

The Worldvision Song Contest is a multi-lingual performance celebrating the linguistic and cultural diversity of the language programs at Saint Anselm College. Faculty and students from across the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures will collaborate to form performance groups and compete for prizes at a live event. The contest is intended to foster interest in foreign-language study at the college, as well as to enhance participants' knowledge and appreciation of music in their chosen language.

**Rania Matar Middle Eastern Photobook Club**

**Laura Shea, Department of Fine Arts**

**Emilie Talpin, Modern Languages and Literatures**

Rania Matar is a Lebanese/Palestinian/American photographer who makes images of women and girls in both the United States and the Middle East. Her work speaks to individuality and identity, but also to the universality in our lived experiences – including gendered and ethnic prejudices. Our project establishes a student/faculty/staff/monastic photobook club to discuss her work ahead of a lunchtime Q and A with Matar, open to the entire campus community, but facilitated by the book group.

**DEI Initiative Panel: Diverse Individuals in Leadership Positions**

**Justin Villanueva ‘23**

**Kim Tran ‘24**

**Wayne Currie, Director, Intercultural Center**

This project aims to bring forth a panel of diverse individuals in leadership positions to come discuss topics such as the hardships of getting a foot into the industry and the discriminations they face on a daily basis. The intent is to emphasize the importance of bringing panelists in the business industry of all backgrounds to reflect and inspire our student body. The goal is to encourage and increase the pipeline into various business industries to change the current DEI issues. For example, only 14% of accountants are minorities and 2% are of African American descent.

**Leveraging Teaching, Teacher Preparation and Higher Education to Disrupt Injustice**

**Diana Sherman, Education Department**

**Olivia Ridge ‘23**

Education and political scholar, Dr. Deborah Loewenberg Ball, presents a public lecture for the Saint Anselm Community, with additional small group discussion sessions focused on how teaching, teacher preparation, and higher education can be leveraged to disrupt systemic injustice.

**To be a man: Masculinity, Race, and Gender**

**David Banach, Philosophy Department**

**Christian Gregory, Education Department**

Toxic masculinity and its associated views of maleness are behind much of White Supremacy, Sexism, and Homophobia as well a driving force behind sexual violence. This project looks at our conceptions of masculinity in photography, graphic novels, hip hop music, and trans poetry with hands-on activities in each of these areas to explore with students the linkages between how we think of masculinity and our attitudes towards race, queerness, femininity, and sexuality.

**Learning from/with the Spanish Speaking Community of NH**

**Inés Vañó García, Modern Languages and Literatures**

**Stefan “Steve” Koppi, Director, Career Development**

This project focuses on providing students with the possibility to cooperate and collaborate with multiple organizations that closely work with the Spanish-speaking community in our area. By experiencing the diversity from a local perspective, these opportunities will enrich students' experiential learning beyond the classroom. They will practice their linguistic skills, and actively engage with/along the Latinx population and their daily experiences. This pilot will build capacity for sustainable future Spanish majors/minors internships.

**Promoting Equity and Inclusion in the Classroom**

**Dianna Terrell, Education Department and CTE Director**

**Gilberto Ruiz, Theology Department**

The Center for Teaching Excellence proposed to host University of North Carolina professors Dr. Kelly Hogan and Dr. Viji Sathy to campus in spring 2023 to offer their 90-minute workshop, "Introduction to Inclusive Teaching." Hogan and Sathy will ask participants to “reflect on inequities and diversity in their classrooms. After providing a framework for inclusive design, Hogan and Sathy will lead participants in exploring inclusive techniques readily implemented with any discipline.

**Faculty Development Workshop on Dialogue**

Sara Smits Keeney, Sociology Department

Nicole Lora, Director, Meelia Center

This project will consist of a 1-2 day faculty and staff development workshop/laboratory on dialogue teaching and learning methodologies. Dialogue is happening across campus and the intent is to bring together key stakeholders to understand better the different models being utilized, share dialogue research and resources, and strategize on how to institutionalize dialogue at Saint Anselm College. The workshop will be attended by 6-8 faculty and staff members and we will invite a larger audience to the luncheon with the keynote speaker.

2021/2022 year:

**Anselmian B.R.E.A.K:**

**Saylor Garcia, Class of ‘24**

**Riley Casey, Campus Ministry**

This project focuses on providing students with education about Indigenous populations, opportunities for cultural immersion, and a platform for students to engage in post experience advocacy upon return to campus. This program will educate students to learn beyond the limits of the classroom, provide an integrative opportunity for local and global diversity, and create dialogue for social equity to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of community collaboration and inclusion.

**Dawnland: Indigenous NE**

**Jennifer Thorn, English**

**Dianna Terrell, Education**

In response to recent legislation and the recent discovery of the graves of indigenous children who died in Canadian boarding schools, we will increase awareness of the removal of indigenous children from their families and homes in North American history. This two part program begins with the screening of "Dawnland: Erasure and Unerasure of U.S. History” and a public talk by Mishy Lesser of the Upstander Project about the work of Maine's Truth and Reconciliation Committee to address the deep and lingering effects of the state policy of removing children from their homes into the 1970s. The second part is a workshop for NH teachers/educators to confer in practical terms about how to include indigenous New England in their lesson plans/curriculum, K through 12.

**Francophonie Month**

**Emilie Talpin, Modern Languages & Literatures**

**Ellery Kraus, Class of 2022**

The French program and the French Student Club will bring the Seacoast West African Dance and Drum to do a small concert and teach our community and local high school students about West African drumming and dancing. A community meal will showcase various Francophone foods, and performers from Francophone countries will share their stories.

**Overlooked Scientists**

**Nicole Eyet, Chemistry**

Often stories are publicized about those who have received accolades for work that was at least partially carried out by others. Countless stories have gone ‘untold’ by the greater scientific community. Faculty will be encouraged to choose a topic associated with an overlooked or uncredited scientist. The Chemistry department will purposefully integrate the diversity of scientific achievements into a CH 401 Special Topics course through intentional activities and discussion.

**Promoting Awareness of Harmful Stereotypes of Asian American Women in Hollywood**

**Jennifer Thorn, English**

**Yihe (Chloe) Peng, Class of 2023**

Violence against Asian Americans continues to rise. This event is designed to raise awareness of stereotypes of Asian American women, some of which seem to have shaped the Atlanta spa shootings. Two short films, “Slaying the Dragon” and “Slaying the Dragon. Reloaded", present Hollywood stereotypes in relation to Asian American history (the Chinese Exclusion Act. etc.). The event will focus on what we can do differently in our daily lives. Audience will consist of students in Access Academy classes (i.e., Manchester high school students), as well as SAC students with a tie-in exhibit at Geisel Library.

**2020/2021 year:**

**Black Speculative Fiction Reading Group**

**Joshua Tepley, Philosophy**

**Meoghan Cronin, English**

The purpose of this reading group is to expose students, faculty, and staff at Saint Anselm College to a number of contemporary black writers of speculative fiction. Stories will be chosen based on a combination of literary merit and philosophical content. Preference will be given to stories that deal with issues of diversity, equality, inclusiveness, otherness, and social justice. The group invites students, faculty, and staff together to discuss race and justice; such focus demonstrates the type of deliberate attention to issues of diversity that is essential to creating an authentically inclusive community. Finally, the group’s year-long conversation will directly influence the professors’ future course content and, in the case of Prof. Tepley, research projects.

**Speaker/Presentation Series for Staff on Implicit Bias, Racial Micro Aggressions and LBGTQ+ Issues to Promote Dialogue and Civil Discourse for Social Equity on Campus**

**Jacques Plante, Chair, Staff Council**

The goal of this initiative is to help better inform staff in their interactions with coworkers and students and to imbue a knowledge of and greater sensitivity towards others who are not in their usual ethnic, social, or cultural primary group. This program is a speaker/presentation series on topics such as Implicit Bias, Racial Micro aggressions and LBGTQ+ issues to help promote positive dialogue and social discourse for social equity on campus.

**Global Laboratories: Redefining Cultural Skills-Based Learning, Exploration and Research through Virtual Modalities**

**Jane Bjerklie-Barry, International Programs**

The coronavirus pandemic has caused a crucible moment in international education, forcing a much-needed re-imagining of critical global experiences and student mobility. Higher education is re-evaluating delivery modalities of vital global and cultural programs. Simultaneously, schools around the country are engaging in self-reflection regarding existing DIE efforts and gaps. Saint Anselm is currently engaged in both endeavors. Thus, this is the time to consider innovative programming allowing students to engage more fully in experiential and intentional reflective learning, to tell their stories, gain a stronger sense of who they are and how they fit in the world, and continue building 21st century workplace competencies. As global education and high impact practices continue to be a critical piece of Saint Anselm’s academic mission, this grant project focuses on the integration of global fluency, student access, and high impact learning practices. The project will partner with the Office of International Programs, Modern Languages and *API Abroad* (one of Saint Anselm’s strategic study abroad partners).

**Picturing Identity and Differences: A Student Photography Contest**

**Bryan Picciotto, English**

**Laura Shea, Fine Arts**

This student photography contest opens conversation about the relationship between identity, difference, and photography. Students are invited to submit original photos based on three categories: culture, social justice, and Saint Anselm College. All submissions will be featured in an online album, with special spotlight on the winners and honorable mentions for each category. This contest also involves a workshop that explores photography theories and techniques and an awards ceremony that celebrates student accomplishments. By focusing on identity and difference, this photo contest will help the college community actively and intentionally engage with student understandings of diversity and inclusion.

**Reimagining Justice – Increasing Awareness of the Need for Greater Racial Justice and Social Equity in the Criminal Justice System**

**Liana Pennington, Criminal Justice**

We are in a time of a national reckoning concerning racial disparities and issues of unequal treatment of people of different groups in the U.S. social systems. There has been increased attention towards the role of policing and the sustained inequities that pervade our criminal justice system. Grounded in our mission of fostering intellectual, moral and spiritual growth, it is critically important to participate in these dialogues and create opportunities for civil discourse so that we can learn and grow as a community. This initiative will bring together faculty, staff, students, members of the monastic community, and alumni to work on the difficult, but crucial, issue of systemic racism and pervasive injustice in the criminal justice system.

**United Nations Interfaith Harmony Week 10th Anniversary Celebration**

**Bede Bidlack, Theology**

**Rileigh Armstrong, Class of 2021**

February 1-7, 2021 will mark the 10th Anniversary of the United Nations Interfaith Harmony Week. To celebrate this week we will be sponsoring a series of events demonstrating interfaith cooperation, dialogue, and diversity on our campus. This initiative is not only consistent with our Catholic mission, but is demanded by it. The mission of Christ in the world through the Church begins with listening. Moreover, Benedictines have played a leading role in interreligious dialogue, perhaps because of the directive to listen, the first word of the Rule. The events will span the semester, not just February 1-7.

**The Amigo Project: Facilitating Culture and Language Across the Curriculum**

**Elizabeth Fouts, Modern Languages**

**Marigen Tapia Learnard, Modern Languages**

The Amigo Project is a student-to-student initiative designed to bring culture and language across many disciplines at the College. Leveraging the experiential, linguistic and cultural legacy of Spanish heritage speakers, the Amigo project will train student facilitators to carry out workshops and trainings for students in Spanish classes, students carrying out Service Learning or working on community projects with Spanish speakers, and those preparing to study abroad in Spanish speaking countries.

**Empathy Café**

**Kathy Flannery, Psychology**

**Rong Huang, Economics & Business**

**Grace Wirein ‘21**

Our Social Innovation Initiative is about creating opportunities for students to gain experience for tackling wicked problems. Solution finding starts with empathy. We will launch Empathy Café, i.e., where events will be offered to engage in hands-on activities and discussions with a focus on empathy: (1) Workshop: Analogous Research to Build Empathy and Unlock Problems, (2) TED Talk/Discussion: How Empathy Fuels the Creative Process, Seung Chan Lim (author, *Realizing Empathy*), and (3) Roundtable: Empathy and Change (including, community partners for homelessness).

**Disparities in Healthcare Movie and Discussion Series**

**Pamela Preston, Nursing**

**Elizabeth Fouts, Modern Languages**

**Sarah Maynard, Sociology & Social Work**

Health disparities are preventable differences in health, disease, injury, violence, or access to care experienced by socially disadvantaged populations. This series features movies about 3 of the most affected populations in the US. *Clinica de Migrantes: Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness*: a look into the only health clinic that serves undocumented immigrants. *The Skin You’re In*: a film exploring why African Americans live sicker and die younger. *Don’t Get Sick After June*: a film about health care in the Native American population.

**Listen to Black Women**

**Loretta L. C. Brady, Psychology**

Despite significant social, political, economic, health, and legal contributions from Black woman thinkers and writers, there is little reflected in our everyday campus experience that highlights these. This project entails engaging students and campus members in reading groups, films, plays, and panels centered on black women writers. Our work will explore the implication and impact of their contributions to current events and the curriculum they engage as part of Saint Anselm College. Participants are invited to use these experiences in constructing scholarly presentations suitable for conferences such as Mind Over Major or for their own professional development.

**2019/2020 year:**

**Neurodiversity and Lifelong Learning**

**Kenneth Walker, Academic Resource Center Director**

This project will provide a collaborative opportunity for Saint Anselm students, visiting learners with intellectual disabilities, and retired senior members of the local community to apply a liberal arts framework toward diverse learning and a lifelong appreciation for intellectual pursuits.

**Cultural and Linguistic Competence Training**

**Associate Professor Elizabeth Fouts, Modern Languages and Literature**

**Assistant Professor Pamela Preston, Nursing**

This project will bring Dr. Mercedes Avila, Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Director of the Vermont Leadership Education in Neurodevelopment Disabilities Program and adjunct faculty member in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences and the Health Equity Inclusive Excellence Liaison at the College of Medicine at the University of Vermont, to campus for cultural and linguistic competency training focused on health disparities, but open to all students, faculty and staff.

**Foundations of Health Care Training Program for Visiting Students with Intellectual Disabilities**

**Kenneth Walker, Academic Resource Center Director**

This project will pilot a limited post-secondary educational opportunity at Saint Anselm College for young adults with intellectual disabilities to come to campus and receive basic training in skills fundamental to employment within healthcare environments. Saint Anselm nursing faculty and students, after receiving training from the Moore Center in Manchester, will provide classroom teaching, simulation lab training, and hands-on experience to a small group of local students with ID, giving them the opportunity to successfully earn a certificate of completion.

**Hands Together: Visualizing Diversity and Inclusion with a Juried Student Art Exhibit & Award**

**Hannah (Lindquist) Cabullo, Geisel Library Reference & Instructional Services**

**Associate Professor Kimberly Kersey-Asbury, Fine Arts**

**Richard Cabrera ’20 / Isabella Brogna Daly ‘22**

This project will visually explore themes of diversity and inclusion, engage students curricularly and extracurricularly with these themes, and recognize and celebrate student artwork on campus. Exploration of diversity and inclusion through visual arts will be encouraged both in and out of the classroom, and showcased by a juried art exhibition in Geisel Library. One or more students will be awarded a monetary award to acquire their work(s) to permanently display in the Library.

**LGBT SportSafe**

**Coach Carolyn King-Robitaille, Athletics**

**Matthew Solomon ’20**

LGBT SportSafe is an organization which was developed to create an infrastructure for athletic administrators, coaches and recreational sports leaders to support LGBTQ inclusion in college, high school and professional sports. This initiative is designed to provide members of the LGBTQ community a sense of safety and inclusion on the Saint Anselm campus, as well as to provide opportunities for members of the college community to educate themselves about the LGBTQ community. Administrators and coaches will undergo inclusion training to earn the SportSafe medallion; an LGBT inclusion statement and policy for dissemination to prospective student-athletes as well as current campus community members will also be created.

**Latinx in New York City**

**Associate Professor Jaime A. Orrego, Modern Languages and Literature**

**Professor Beth Salerno, History**

This project will be part of the Latinx History and Literature in the U.S. class offered in fall 2019, which enables students to see U.S. history and culture in a new way. Hispanic Americans have been central to the founding, expansion, growth and culture of the U.S., and this field trip will provide students with an educational forum that not only promotes an appreciation and understanding of Caribbean and Latin American art and culture and their rich contributions to North America, but also allows them correlate this experience to the academic material in class related to history, identity and experience including immigration, migration, and segregation. The trip will visit different sites important to the Latinx community in New York City, including Spanish Harlem, El Museo del Barrio, and La Marqueta.

**2018/2019 Year:**

**Empowering SAC Women in Computer Science**

**Professor Jennifer Thorn, English; Gender Studies**

**Pauline Yates '19 / Sneha Hoda '20**

A women's group modeled on the long-running group Women in Electrical and Computer Engineering, at Georgia Tech. The Women's Discussion Group will meet biweekly to discuss readings, provide mutual support and acquire skills necessary to applying for internships, jobs, conferences, and grad school, go on trips to MIT and elsewhere. The group will host a film and panel on Women in Computing for the campus community.

**Dialogue & Diversity Across Generations**

**Megan Miller '19 / Grace D’Antuono ‘19**

**Dan Forbes, Director, Meelia Center**

An event inviting adult ELL students to campus for a presentation given by Access Academy students, followed by an intergenerational dialogue between the guests and SAC students to foster intercultural learning.

**Indian Lives in NE Today: Awareness & Activism**

**Professor Jennifer Thorn, English; Gender Studies**

Three events that raise awareness of the present-day realities of Native life in New England today will take place in fall 2018: a film with discussants on the recent reclamation of the Wampanoag language on Cape Cod, led by Jessie Little Doe; a talk and classroom visit by Rae Gould (Chippewa) on her work as a tribal liaison for U Mass Amherst; and a talk and classroom visit by Siobhan Senier (UNH), creator of the ongoing digital compendium Writings of Indigenous New England.

**Design Thinking Skills for Social Innovation Workshop**

**Professor Dina Frutos-Bencze, Economics and Business**

**Professor Kathleen Flannery, Psychology**

The Social Innovation Initiative is about creating new opportunities for faculty and students to apply their research to solve real-world problems. This spring semester had a very successful “first” Social Innovation Pitch Competition. From this experience, it was found that students are interested in more opportunities to learn and practice design-thinking skills. A half-day workshop, focusing on design thinking skills and mind set will be offered in fall 2018.

**Clinica de Migrantes: An Evening with Dr. Maxim Pozdorovkin & Founding Director of Puentes de Salud, Dr. Steve Larson Associate Professor Elizabeth Fouts, Modern Languages & Literature Assistant**

**Professor Ann Fournier, Nursing**

The Spanish minor for nursing majors was created to help prepare nursing students to provide holistic, person centered care to an increasingly diverse populations.

**2017/2018 Year:**

**Pop up Democracy**

**Professor David Banach, Philosophy**

**Professor Sara Kallock, Conversatio**

A series of direct-democracy art events that will be generated by students for the community at large via pop-up art stations on campus. At these spontaneous venues, community members will be invited to create images about major themes pertinent to diversity and inclusion. In collaboration with several student groups and the Fine Arts department.

**Social Innovation Pitch Competition**

**Professor Dina Frutos-Bencze, Economics and Business**

**Professor Kathleen Flannery, Psychology**

Using design thinking methodology, on January 27 student teams will identify a real-world social challenge at the local, national, or global level and compete “Shark Tank” style to pitch their solutions. In collaboration with the Center for Ethics in Business and Governance and the Career Development Center.

**Other Voices: Words Building Bridges**

**Professor David Banach, Philosophy**

This initiative will bring a poet who expresses an "othered" (e. g., Black, immigrant, LGBTQ) identity to campus for a reading, workshop with students, and dinner with students from various student groups. Its purpose is to bring students face to face with the other in creativity, in conversation, and over food, the basic activities that make us all human. In collaboration several student groups, Conversatio and the Multicultural Center.

**Sincerely, Saint A’s**

**Professor Michael New, English**

**Kelsey Johansen, Student Activities & Leadership Programs**

**Emmanuel Akinlosotu ’19**

Inspired by the "Dear World" Project Photo Series, this project will capture student, faculty, and staff in their honest and human reactions to tough questions surrounding issues of civility, social change, and advocacy. This photo campaign will culminate in an exhibit and discussion during the Martin Luther King celebration. In collaboration with the Multicultural Center.

**What’s at Stake in Women Making Art?**

**Professor Jennifer Thorn, English; Gender Studies**

**Margaret Dimock, Curator, Chapel Art Center**

A series of events in honor of Linda Nochlin, author of the paradigm-shifting Why Have There Been No Great Women Artists? As well as Women, Art, and Power and Representing Women, who died in October. Following a kick-off event in January, these will include a February trip to see Judy Chicago's The Dinner Party at the Brooklyn Museum, as well as a March outing to see two exhibits at the Peabody Essex Museum--Georgia O'Keefe and Pakistani-American artist Anila Quayyum Agha. In collaboration with the Multicultural Center and various academic departments.

**Inclusivity in Physics & Astrophysics**

**Professor Nicole Gugliucci, Physics**

**Professor Ian Durham, Physics**

**Professor Jennifer Thorn, English; Gender Studies**

**Wayne Currie, Intercultural Center**

A semester-long reading and discussion group including physics majors, gender studies minors, and other interested students to empower student Iearning and support of diversity and inclusion in physics, astronomy, chemistry, and engineering. In collaboration with the department of Physics, Gender Studies program and the Multicultural Center.

**The Hate U Give: Angie Thomas & Tupac Shakur in Search of Beloved Community**

**Professor Michael New, English**

**Michael Akinlosotu, ‘18**

A series of reading, writing, and discussion sessions focused around Angie Thomas’s recent Young Adult novel, The Hate U Give, which deals with issues of policing and racialized communities. In collaboration with various academic and administrative departments and student