

# MULTICULTURAL STUDENT NEWS

CALIFORNIA  
LUTHERAN  
UNIVERSITY'S  
MULTICULTURAL  
STUDENT  
NEWSLETTER  
FALL 2009 ISSUE



## International Peer Mentors



Shirley Wang, Kelly How Tam Fat, Caryl Schmidt, Khoa Nguyen, Cameron Letz, and Caitlyn Melillo. We thank them for their service!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- October 9 Southern California Touring Club San Diego Overnight
- October 24 Diversity Leadership Retreat Saturday, Soliand Rec Center, 10am-2pm
- October 29 Dia De Los Muertos SUB, 7pm-9pm
- November 2 International Student Graduation and OPT Interest Meeting Nelson Room, 10am
- November 6 International Diners Club-Indian Café India Restaurant Leave from the UB at 5pm. Cost: \$25
- November 18 International Chapel Service 10:10am, Samuelson Chapel
- November 18 World Fair Pavilion, 7pm-9pm

For further information and updates see the Multicultural & International Programs office website.

[callutheran.edu/multicultural](http://callutheran.edu/multicultural)

## MORE INFO

- You can contact Linda Boberg through our web-site or by phone.

[callutheran.edu/multicultural](http://callutheran.edu/multicultural)

(805) 493-3323

Welcome to our new students and welcome back to those of you who are returning. Briefly, I want to express my hopes that you will have a successful school year. For each of you, success must entail academic success followed by on-campus involvement. Success in these areas often means keeping your scholarship, admission into graduate school, and a good paying job.

But beyond making the high grades and getting involved, I hope you take up the challenge to grow as a person this year. Take every opportunity to get to know more about your own cultural heritage and the cultural heritage of others. Only when we spend time with others can we truly enjoy our multicultural society. We are the same, but we are also different. The excitement is in the exploration. Joining a multicultural club is a good place to start. Each of our clubs is open to everyone interested in learning about that particular culture or group identity.

On another note, I know there are some of you who know very little about your own cultural heritage. You may even feel intimidated by those who seem so connected to that heritage. Perhaps you grew up in an area where there were few people like you. As a result, you've grown more accustomed to the culture of the majority culture around you than to the culture of people who share your cultural heritage. That's okay.

Others of you may have grown up where most people looked like you and now you find yourself surrounded by people who are different and maybe you're a little put off by those who look like you, but seem culturally different. This is understandably a bit confusing and maybe even frustrating.

Whichever the case may be, there exists an opportunity to grow and to learn from each other. I hope each of you will have the personal courage to reach out and to be accepting of others right where they are. I'm not suggesting that you give up who you have become so far, but I am asking that you add insight to the person you are still becoming. This is your college and your college education. You have the opportunity to add to your life experience by deepening your understanding of your own culture and the culture of others. So, make the most of it. Have an incredible year!

Dr. Juanita Hall  
Senior Director, Multicultural Programs

## BOOK AND VIDEO LIBRARY

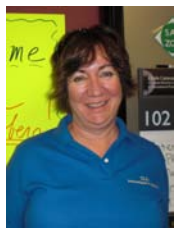
The Multicultural and International Programs office has a large collection of books and videos available for all students to check out. All you need to do is sign them out, and we ask that the items you check out are returned within a week. There is a complete list of books and videos available on our website.

[callutheran.edu/multicultural/](http://callutheran.edu/multicultural/)

# STAFF



**Dr. Juanita A. Hall**  
Director of Multicultural and International Programs  
Assistant to the President for Diversity



**Linda C. Boberg, M. S.**  
Assistant Director of Multicultural and International Programs



**Darryl Carter**  
Programming, Multicultural Newsletter Editor



**Chase Hamano**  
Marketing assistant

**Mari Stromsvag**  
Programming, International Globe Newsletter Editor

**Lucy Cancino**  
Programming



# CLUBS

Please see our website for information about activities for each club.

## Asian Club and Friends

President: Brad Yujima  
Advisor: Dr. Penny Cefola

## Latin American Student Organization

President: Yeraldly Torres  
Advisor: Venus Tomayo

## Black Student Union

President: Robert Amey  
Advisor: Dr. Juanita Hall

## Chinese Student Association

President: Zigu Zhang  
Advisor: Dr. Peng

## Gay Straight Alliance

President: Sophia Namayo  
Advisor: Chris Paul

## India Club

Alisha Mota  
Dr. Somnath Basu

## Hip-Hop Organization

President: Elsa Perez  
Advisor: Dr. Juanita Hall

## United Students of the World

President: Shirley Wang  
Advisor: Linda Boberg

## Hawaiian Club

President: Natasha Bunin

## Action Abroad Alliance

President: Melissa Harbibon  
President: Grant Berg  
Advisor: Jamshid Damooei

## Hip Hop Organization

President: Elsa Perez  
Advisor: Juanita Hall

## Middle Eastern Connection

President: Christina Esper

## Secular Student Alliance

President: Evan Clark  
Advisor: William Bersley



## VISION STATEMENT

A fully inclusive campus community where campus members feel they belong and are valued and where diversity is treated as an educational and social necessity.

## MISSION STATEMENT

To provide the CLU learning community with educational opportunities that foster an appreciation for diversity, enhance a cross-cultural competency among campus members, increase in student commitment to social justice, and encourages underrepresented student reception.

## ABOUT OUR OFFICE

We are located in the Student Union Building and are part of the Division of Student Affairs. We're open from 9 AM - 5 PM on Monday - Friday.

## ADDITIONAL SERVICES

FOCUS Mentoring Program  
Diversity Training  
Multicultural Magazines  
Leadership Training

## INVOLVEMENT

- Evidence suggests that students who are involved gain the greatest benefits from their college education and the enjoy it a whole lot more!
- International Peer Mentors
- Multicultural Overnight Hosts
- Multicultural Program Volunteers
- Deep Diversity Dialogue Groups
- International Diners Club



# Multicultural Office shaping people's hearts and minds

## Shirley Wang

**How has being a part of Multicultural events or Clubs affected your Cal Lutheran experience?**

Overall it has made it a really positive one. Being from a different part of California and not really knowing anyone, it really helped me with my transition here as a student.

**If you weren't a part of a club or organization do you think you would have as much fun?**

No, because if I didn't have a group that I was a part of here at Cal Lutheran the school wouldn't be as fun. A major part of the Cal Lutheran experience is getting out and being a part of something. Clubs and organizations gave me that. I was able to be myself and just have a good time which allowed me to just have fun here on campus.

**What's one thing you could tell new Cal Lutheran Students?**

More students should go out and get involved period. Just go out and try everything because in the long run it will really help your experience here at the school. Step out of your bubble and just try something new.



## Natasha Bunin President of Hawaii Club

**How has being a part of Multicultural events or Clubs affected your Cal Lutheran experience?**

For me, it has allowed me to show people and express more about Hawaii. It lets me show people that Hawaii is not just a vacation destination but an actual culture.

**If you weren't a part of a club or organization do you think you would have as much fun?**

I would really be bored here at school. You need to get involved in activities so you can really open up your fun here at school. When you are in clubs, you get to meet so many cool people that will be your friends for life. It is also a really good way to network.

**What's one thing you could tell new Cal Lutheran Students?**

Being in a club, you get a more genuine feel of who people really are. When you go out to parties, there is no telling who that person really is. But when you go to a club and people come week in and week out, you create this bond with them and that is something really special.



## Melissa Harbison Co-President of Action Abroad Alliance

**How has being a part of Multicultural Events or Clubs affected your Cal Lutheran experience?**

In a big time way it has helped me become a better person overall. It has allowed me to reach out to people in more ways than ever before. It has made my experience here at Cal Lutheran a more memorable one as well.

**If you weren't a part of club or organization do you think you would have as much fun?**

No because the clubs give me an added fun here at school. If I wasn't in this club I don't think I would have as much fun. Multicultural clubs has been a great way for me to network and get to know a lot of people.





## Multicultural Office shaping people's hearts and minds

**Tiffani Sarmineto, H2O Member**

**How was being apart of Multicultural Events or Clubs affected your Cal Lutheran experience?**

It has really affected it in a really positive way. When I first got to campus I was really shy and wasn't as outgoing, but being a part of the club has really allowed me to open up and given me this family bond. It has given me a better look to the diversity of the school as well and I have gotten a chance to experience different cultures and become more well-rounded in all aspects of life.



**If you weren't a part of a Multicultural Club or organization would you have as much fun?**

No, I think the campus would be so dull and boring. It wouldn't be as much fun; the experience here at CLU would be pretty bad. The school by itself is really cool, but the clubs and organizations really make it what it is.

**How has being a part of a multicultural club or organization shaped your life?**

It has just made me accept people for who they are and realize that everyone is different and that's what makes us all so special. And it has also helped me stay true to myself and just be who you are at all times and change for nobody.

Molly Clancy (Action Abroad, Hip Hop Club, Secular Student Alliance)

**How has being a part of Multicultural Events or Clubs affected your Cal Lutheran experience?**

The experience here would be nothing. I know people who don't live on campus and aren't involved in school organizations or clubs and they are getting two totally different experiences. When you join a club or group you become a part of this tight family community that you don't get anywhere else and I love it!

**If you weren't a part of a Multicultural Club or organization would you have as much fun?**

No it would be a horrible experience. Just being here at school you won't be exposed to the different parts of campus life that are crucial to your Cal Lutheran experience. Not being involved in events and clubs is ok, but I'm sure you would get a lot more if you were in a club.

**What's one thing you could tell a new Cal Lutheran Student?**

Get involved! At first its going to seem like a lot but if you just jump in your going to enjoy your time here a lot more then if you just sat in your room. Go out and be active within the CLU community because in the end it will benefit you in the long run.