

Martin Luther King Jr. Program Spring Newsletter

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

WEDNESDAY MAY 2, 2007

University of Minnesota

Spring Flowers Bring May Graduations!

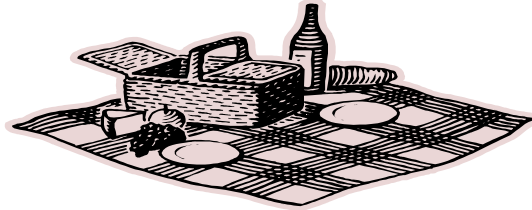
Special points of interest:

- *Friday May 4th: Last day of instruction and last day to drop courses using OTO*
- *Finals begin Monday May 7th and end Saturday May 12*
- *Spring 2007 in Northrop Auditorium Graduation May 13 (its also Mothers Day!)*

Spring has arrived and the weather is warming up very nicely. As we close out our 2006-2007 academic year we are gearing up towards orientation this summer.

But before we get knee deep into graduation clearance and new students, we should take the time to recognize some of the students in our office

who graciously answered the Senior Recognition Questions.



We also have a brief article from one of the winners of the Tate Awards, CLA's very own Ted Fitch. Ted's article focuses on the second language requirement and what you have to do to complete it!

So without further ado we'll get into this years Spring MLK

Newsletter!

**Gold Pass: Your Opportunity to Network!

For years students in the various University of Minnesota colleges have utilized their career services offices to search for jobs for after graduation. But the problem is that someone in CLA (College of Liberal Arts) was not able to find out about some of the same jobs that someone in CBS (College of Biological Sciences) could see.

Well now the University has created GoldPASS. GoldPASS is "a sophisticated new online job a

resume database". Through GoldPASS you can find jobs, internships and volunteer positions. You can also "post resumes, and network with peers and employers." GoldPASS has replaced CLA Link.

Are you interested in using GoldPASS? Well, check it out:

1) Got to gold-pass.umn.edu

- 3) Set up your personal profile
- 4) Begin searching for jobs, internships, etc.
- 5) Upload up to 5 resumes (your first resume must be approved by CCLC before it goes live. The approval process may take 2-3 business days)

That's it! Its easy and fun! Check it out soon!!

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What you need to know about the Second Language requirement!

All students seeking a B.A. or a B.I.S. degree, or a B.F.A. degree in Art, must satisfy the CLA Second Language degree requirement. There are two ways to satisfy this requirement:

1) pass a fourth semester language skills course of at least four credits, with a grade of [C-] or higher (or S, if you take the course S/N);

OR

2) pass the Language Proficiency Exam in a language. The Language Proficiency Exam (LPE) consists of four separate tests: listening, reading, writing and speaking.

The University of Minnesota offers at least four semesters of instruction in over 25 languages from all over the world, both modern and classical; at least 17 of these languages also have an approved LPE. The University plans to add more languages to this list in the near future, and LPEs for more languages are in development.

Many students have questions about satisfying the second language requirement. Some of questions that are asked most often are:

Do I have to take four semesters of a language to satisfy the requirement?

That depends. The requirement (if satisfied by courses) is that you must pass a *fourth-semester level* course in a language (with a grade of C- or higher, or S).

If you want to study a language in which you have no previous instruction—an entirely new language for you—you would begin with the first-

semester level course (usually numbered 1001); so taking courses through the fourth-semester level would require a total of four semesters of language skills courses in sequence (e.g., 1001, 1002, 1003 and 1004).

If you have had some previous instruction in a language (e.g., in high school), it might be possible for you to start at a level higher than the first-semester level. If you do, you only need to take the language until you complete (and pass) the fourth-semester level.

So, for example, if you had two years of high school Spanish, and want to continue taking Spanish, the department asks that you start with Span 1022 (“Alternative Second Semester”). From there, you would proceed to Span 1003 (third semester level), and then complete the requirement by passing Span 1004 (fourth semester level); so you would have satisfied the requirement after taking only three semesters of classes.

If you want to take French, German, or Spanish, and have had at least three years of high school instruction in the language, it might be possible for you to begin at the second-year level (third or fourth semester level). However, you must take the Entrance Proficiency Test (EPT) for that language, in order to determine proper placement. You can find more information www.entranceproficiencytest.com (and the first semester level course) online at

entrance.langtest.umn.edu.

For other languages, placement above the first semester level is determined by the department. Please talk to your College advisor for a referral to an appropriate person in the department.

Do I have to take the Entrance Proficiency Test (EPT) in order to take a second year French, German or Spanish course?

If you have not taken a second semester French, German or Spanish course at the University of Minnesota (Twin Cities), you *must* take (and pass) the EPT in order to start at the third semester level in any of those languages. The test is specially designed to determine your current proficiency in the language according to the U of MN sequence.

If you have not taken (or are not currently enrolled in) a second semester Spanish course at the U of MN (Twin Cities), and have not passed the EPT, you will not be able to register for the third semester course (Span 1003).

In French and German, registering for the third semester course is possible without first passing the EPT (or the second semester course). However, at the beginning of the semester, the instructor will check to make sure you have passed the EPT or second semester, and if you have not, you will be required to withdraw from the course.

You must receive a High Pass on the EPT (or pass 1003) in order to register for the fourth semester-level course (1004) in French, Ger-



What you need to know about second language con't...

Con't from page 2

I am seeking a B.S. degree, or a B.F.A. degree in Dance or Acting. Do I need to satisfy the second language requirement?

No, you do not have to satisfy the CLA Second Language *degree* requirement. However, you must still satisfy the University of Minnesota's second language entrance requirement ("high school preparation" requirement).

If you took at least two (2) years of classes in a language in high school, you have already met the "high school preparation" requirement.

If you did not have at least two years of high school instruction in a language, however, you must take two semesters of college-level courses in a language.

(Students who are missing the "high school preparation requirement" for second language, and are seeking a B.A. or B.I.S. degree, or a B.F.A. degree in Art, will satisfy the "high school preparation requirement" by satisfying the CLA Second Language *degree* requirement.)

Can I satisfy the Second Language requirement by taking four semesters of courses in more than one language (e.g., two semesters each of two different languages)?

No. The requirement is that you must pass a *fourth-semester level* lan-

guage skills course (with a grade of C- or higher, or S), not just that

you take four semesters of language courses. Although you may certainly take courses in more than one language, you must pass the fourth-semester level

course in one language (or pass the LPE in one language) in order to satisfy the requirement.

I am proficient in another language because of my family heritage. Do I have to satisfy the CLA Second Language requirement?

It is possible that you would be exempt. Exemption is not granted automatically, however; you must demonstrate that you are proficient in listening, reading, writing and speaking the language. In cases where the University offers an LPE in your second language, it is preferred that you simply take and pass the LPE to demonstrate this. If the University does not offer in LPE in the language, you may submit a detailed evaluation by a qualified person to your College advising office for a decision. Please talk to your College advisor for more information. For what to do, contact a qualified evaluator

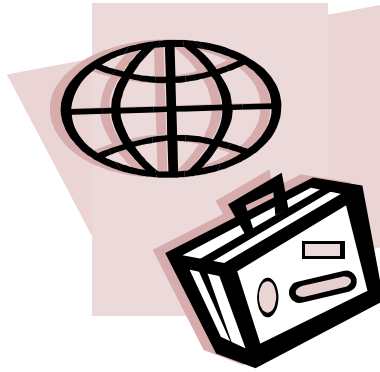
ciency).

Students who are exempt from the second language requirement because they are proficient in a second language may not receive credit for language skills courses in that language.

If you speak a second language, but do not read or write it (or don't read and write it very much), you would probably not qualify for exemption. The University offers courses for heritage-speakers in a few languages, and these courses might be for you. Currently, the University offers heritage-speaker courses or sequences in Chinese, Hmong, Spanish and Vietnamese. Students may satisfy the CLA Second Language Requirement by completing the second semester heritage speaker course in Chinese or Hmong (Chn 1016, Hmng 1016) or the heritage-speaker

course in Spanish (Span 1054). For information about satisfying the requirement with the Vietnamese heritage-speaker course, please see your College advisor.

For more information, and for answers to other frequently asked questions, please see the CLA Language Testing Center website, <langtest.umn.edu>.



Senior Recognition: Liz Alabi

Name : Liz Alabi

Major: Physiology

Hometown: Brooklyn Park, MN.

Career Goal: To become an obstetrician and open hospitals in Nigeria

What was the most challenging aspect of being at the University of Minnesota? How did you overcome the challenge?

I was not prepared for college by my high school. The most challenging aspect was balancing school and track, while trying to catch up in areas that I should have already been exposed to before I got here.

What was the most valuable advice that you received in your time here at U of M?

Take advantage of all the opportunities presented to you.

Have you studied abroad: No, But I would like to go somewhere in Africa because it is a place that has a rich cultural heritage and a lot of tradition, none of which is ever shown on TV.

What was your most rewarding experience here at the U of M?

Knowing that I will graduate and being successful at what I do in track and field.

What types of activities/clubs/organizations have you been involved in as a student?

The IMPACT Movement, MAPS, Track & Field. I also volunteer at Abbott Northwestern Hospital and I participate in the Gopher Reading Campaign.

Have you had any internships and/or volunteer opportunities while at the U? If yes, did it integrate with your coursework? Did it support or negate your career choice? Will it lead to employment after graduation?

Yes, I have had some internship opportunities and although they did not integrate into my coursework they did support my ultimate career choice.

Who were your role models throughout your academic career?

My parents are my role models. They had to travel to another country and work 2-3 jobs to get

their college educations.

What resources/services do you think were the most helpful to you as a student?

Tutoring, especially because my practice schedule interfered with many of the TA's and professors office hours. So I counted on tutoring to help me through my classes.

What is the best advice you would give an incoming freshman?

Don't allow yourself to fall behind! Always stay on top of your academics!

Give your "shout outs" who would you like to personally thank?

First I'd like to shout out my parents—Sunday and Victoria. Then of course my coaches—Lynne, Bingle, and Wilson. Finally, my MLK advisor Ellen who was always so cheerful and very supportive!



Community Placement Service: Open for Volunteers!

Many students are interested in doing volunteer work but aren't sure how to go about it. Well, the Community Placement Service is possibly the place you are looking for.

According to their website the Community Placement service is a program that cultivates relationships with community organizations in the Twin Cities to create meaningful volunteer oppor-

tunities for students. Through these opportunities, students have hands-on experiences that compliment their academic career and personal goals while addressing urgent community needs and creating social change. By participating in CPS you work with a peer advisor to find a community organization that matches your

serve as a resource for you throughout your service experience.

The Community Placement service representatives will be in our office again in Fall 2005 but for immediate info:

Find out more @ <http://>



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Senior Recognition: L. Tatiana Ormanza

Name : L. Tatiana Ormanza

Majors: Sociology

Hometown: Minneapolis, MN.

Career Goal: Law School or PhD in Social Work

What was the most challenging aspect of being at the University of Minnesota? How did you overcome the challenge?

Being a non traditional student at a university that is primarily filled with much younger students. Also, the great lack of diversity on campus (in my opinion) was always a challenge for me in every class. I overcame this by simply accepting it and reaching out to campus resources so that I could network with like-minded individuals.

What was the most valuable advice that you received in your time here at U of M?

Make use of the resources available to me as a student.

Have you studied abroad: No, while I have not been there to officially study abroad, I did go to Columbia this past summer. I would love to go back for a longer stay. My family is there and I would love to see more of the country.

What was your most rewarding experience here at the U of M?

Interning at The Aurora Center for Advocacy and Education. My time there allowed me to work with many students/clients in their healing. Also, in recognizing a great lack of outreach, I initiated a project to develop materials specifically for students of

color and international students. It will be great to leave knowing that I increased awareness about the unique issues involving domestic violence and sexual assault in communities of color.

What types of activities/clubs/organizations have you been involved in as a student?

I was a peer-educator for SHADE, an intern for The Aurora Center, and a guest speaker in several classes where I performed spoken word and discussed political activism and the arts.

Have you had any internships and/or volunteer opportunities while at the U? If yes, did it integrate with your coursework? Did it support or negate your career choice? Will it lead to employment after graduation?

In addition to my internship at The Aurora Center, I am also an intern at the Battered Women's Legal Advocacy Project. With my Sociology LCD major, I intend on applying to both law school and a PhD program in Social Work.

My internships solidified my interest in working with victim-survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence. And allowed me to focus my research on the lack of services and support afforded to victims of color.

Who were your role models throughout your academic career?

Eden Torres, in the GWSS department, is a great role model not only as a Latin

one who returned to school as an adult and is now a respected professor. Also, I greatly respect Susan Craddock who is in the GWSS department as well. Her personality as a whole inspires me and helps me stay determined.

What resources/services do you think were the most helpful to you as a student?

Ellen @ MLK!!!!!! And UCCS, when stress got a little too high.

What is the best advice you would give an incoming freshman?

Make use of your advisor at MLK, they are a great resource! Familiarize yourself with the campus resources available to you (MLK, Disability Services, UCCS, Aurora Center etc.) and don't hesitate to use them throughout your academic career.

Give your "shout outs" who would you like to personally thank?

I want to thank Ellen Sunshine! Ellen continues to be such a great resource to me and constant support at MLK. Also, The Aurora Center, Susan Craddock, Eden Torres, Sara Hegge (!!), Amy Kaminsky, Megan Alama, and the Office for University Women.



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Senior Recognition: Xiaomi Qu

Name : Xiaomi Qu

Majors: Journalism—Strategic Communication

Hometown: Arlington Heights, IL

Career Goal: To have a job that lets me travel the world!

What was the most challenging aspect of being at the University of Minnesota?

How did you overcome the challenge?

Coming to a school without any of my friends from high school was rather daunting. But it forced me to be a lot more outgoing!

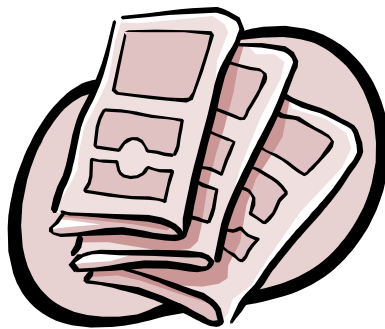
What was your most rewarding experience here at the U of M?

Working at The Minnesota Daily I've learned so many practical skills and have made an amazing group of friends. The experiences I've had and the knowledge I've gained have definitely supplemented my education and helped me reach my career goals.

What types of activities/clubs/organizations have you been involved in as a student?

The Minnesota Daily and Advertising Club

Have you had any internships and/or volunteer opportunities while at the U? If yes, did it integrate with your coursework? Did it support or negate your career choice? Will it lead to employment after graduation?



Yes, I interned last summer in the creative department at Draft FCB Group in Chicago. That internship taught me a lot about the advertising industry that can't really be

learned in a classroom setting.

It further verified that advertising is the right route for me, and perhaps more importantly, gave me a look at another aspect of advertising I hadn't considered before.

Now I have an internship at another agency in a different department lined up for the summer so I can explore that direction.

Who were your role models throughout your academic career?

I always looked up to my peers who were great at balancing their

academic and social lives. Also, the peers who worked very hard to land their dream jobs and were excited and passionate about life.

What resources/services do you think were the most helpful to you as a student?

Specific to my career path, working at The Minnesota Daily, events like the Student Advertising Summit, and definitely SJMC! Being on SJMC's listserve and applying for a mentor through their program was very beneficial.

What is the best advice you would give an incoming freshman?

Definitely don't be afraid to go after your dreams and take advantage of everything this school and city have to offer. Don't stress out too much, these four years fly by, so you have to make the most of every moment! I know, terribly cliché, but so true!

Give your "shout outs" who would you like to personally thank?

My fantastic professors in the J-School: Jisu Huh, Jennifer Johnson, David Kistle, John Purdy and especially Sarah Shaw.



Happy Graduation!



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Senior Recognition: Carolina Reyes

Name : Carolina Reyes

Majors: Journalism—Strategic Communication—Advertising

Hometown: Inver Grove Heights, MN.

Career Goal: Become President of a company

What was the most challenging aspect of being at the University of Minnesota? How did you overcome the challenge?

Juggling work, school, and my personal life has been a struggle at times. But having the support of my family and telling myself that graduating college is a MUST for me, has gotten me through it all.

What was the most valuable advice that you received in your time here at U of M?

To take advantage of this time and every opportunity that I come into contact with. And that you are the only one who has the power to take your life to where you want it to be.

Have you studied abroad: Yes, I studied abroad in Sydney, Australia. The most valuable thing that I took out of it was learning that I have the ability to adapt to a very unfamiliar situation. Having this quality is important and you will never know you have it until you get into that kind of situation.

What was your most rewarding experience here at the U of M?

I participated in the National Student Advertising Competition that led to a number of open doors.

One of which is an internship that I am doing this summer in Detroit with a high profile ad agency.

What types of activities/clubs/organizations have you been involved in as a student?

I was in AdClub and NSAC. I was also promotions volunteer for the Gopher wrestling team.

Have you had any internships and/or volunteer opportunities while at the U? If yes, did it integrate with your coursework? Did it support or negate your career choice? Will it lead to employment after graduation?

I had a marketing internship while in Australia, and I am currently the manager of the Advertising Production/Creative department at The Minnesota Daily.

These experiences have definitely supported my career choice. Advertising is an exciting field filled with many interesting and intelligent people. I believe that these have helped lead to the internship that I landed with J. Walter Thompson. I am fully confident that I will have a job waiting for me wherever I choose to go.

Who were your role models throughout your career?

My mom is a truly wonderful role model who has taught me to push through things, even when it was difficult.

Also, meeting successful professionals such as John Eighmey and Howard Listz who are an inspiration and are examples of what I would aspire to become within my career. They have all helped me get where I am right now and I owe them much thanks!

What resources/services do you think were the most helpful to you as a student?

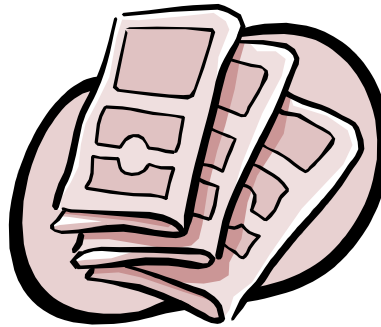
The MLK office has been a tremendous help as a resource, as well as my advisor, Ellen Sunshine!

What is the best advice you would give an incoming freshman?

Take it all in because it is going to fly by fast! Also, take advantage of everything you can while you are here at the U of M because the people, resources, and services are invaluable.

Give your “shout outs” who would you like to personally thank?

Ellen Sunshine, John Eighmey, Howard Listz, Marty Morgan, John Purdy, and The Minnesota Daily.



Senior Recognition: TuAnh Le, Peer Advisor

Name : TuAnh Le

Majors: Physiology & Genetics

Hometown: Brooklyn Park, MN.

Career Goal: Medicine

What was the most challenging aspect of being at the University of Minnesota? How did you overcome the challenge?

The most challenging aspect would be to let go of the high school mindset. It was difficult to accept the fact that I struggled in classes that I used to excel in high school. All of my studying techniques from high school did not apply anymore when I got to college. As an “over-achiever,” I expected A’s but receiving B’s after all the hard work I have put into made me frustrated.

Over the years, I have developed new ways for different courses and learned to apply these studying techniques. Basically, instead of taking on all of the challenges all at once, I took one step at a time—I would list these assignments according to priority/deadline conquered each assignment one at a time. That was how I kept my sanity!

What was the most valuable advice that you received in your time here at U of M?

The most valuable advice given to me was to “calm down and take some time off.” I learned from my advisor that a competitive applicant wasn’t just about the grades and MCAT scores but about being well-rounded.

She advised me to do non-academic activities (i.e. join an organization, volunteer, etc.).

I have volunteered for many organizations such as the Catalyst Culture Camp. Not only did it steer my mind away from school but a fun way to meet and interact with children by teaching them about the Vietnamese culture.

Have you studied abroad: No, but if I had I would have wanted to go to Australia. I have heard from several people that there are some great learning abroad science programs but I think the country screams out—adventure!

I would really want to go scuba diving, camping, and surfing!

What was your most rewarding experience here at the U of M?

The most rewarding experience has been meeting the people at the U of M. I have met many people who taught me a lot about my strengths and weaknesses.

What types of activities/clubs/organizations have you been involved in as a student?

I have been mainly involved in the Vietnamese Student Association of Minnesota. Most of the volunteer activities, such as being a peer counselor for

tion Culture Camp, were through VSAM.

I have also been involved in the Empowerment Seminar for multicultural pre-med students. It was a wonderful program that helped encourage me to work towards being a doctor.

Have you had any internships and/or volunteer opportunities while at the U? If yes, did it integrate with your coursework? Did it support or negate your career choice? Will it lead to employment after graduation?

I have volunteered at Fairview Hospital consistently as an undergrad. Volunteering there only confirmed my dream to be a doctor.

I was also a MLK Mentor as well as the Student Coordinator for the program.

Who were your role models throughout your academic career?

My parents are my role models. They have always been there to support my endeavors!

Sometimes when I feel like I disappointed them they reassure me that they are still proud no matter what and they encourage me to continue working towards becoming a physician.

They have sacrificed a lot so that I



University of Minnesota

Martin Luther King Program
College of Liberal Arts
19 Johnston Hall
101 Pleasant St. SE
Phone: 612-625-2300

We're on the Web!
<http://mlk.class.umn.edu/index.html>

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Program is one of 9 student communities within the College of Liberal Arts, and is available to any CLA student who appreciates an environment that embraces and fosters multiculturalism. MLK provides advising services that encompass every CLA major. Want more information concerning the MLK Program? Please see us on the web! Or meet with your advisor!

Con't Senior Recognition: TuAnh Le

Con't from page 8

What resources/services do you think were the most helpful to you as a student?

Toughie...I would have to say my #1 resource would be my advisor. She kept me sane and she was able to help me plan alternative routes in case I don't get into med school right after graduation. Because of her I applied to the School of Public Health.

Also the MLK Program was another helpful resource. The people there are like family to me. Everyone is so caring and fun. I met most of my friends there and besides printing for free is sweet (even if it is only up to 7 pages!)

What is the best advice you would give an incoming freshman?

The best advice that I would give to an incoming freshman would be

to choose a major they have a passion for.

Not only will they enjoy the FOUR long years of school but they will excel in it with flying colors!

And for those student who are undecided no worries! Take classes that count for liberal education requirements and in the process they will discover their major!

Give your "shout outs" who would you like to personally thank?

Here's the best part:

1) Mommy supporter

2) TuVan Le: my sister who always makes me laugh no matter how down I am.

3) ThuyVy Nguyen: my best friend who always kept me on track with my medical pursuits and life in general.

4) Stephanie Chrismon: my advisor that keeps me sane.

5) MLK Advisors & Staff: my family at school who are so fun to be with.

6) Liz Hruska: my CCLC advisor who spiced up my resume.

7) JP Pham: my pre med mentor who encouraged me to never give up on medicine!



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