



The Mentor

Office of Mentoring Services & Leadership Development

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Upcoming Events & News:

- **Toast Master's Club— Meeting** on Mondays April 7th and 14th at IMU—Sassafras Room 7PM.
- **Women of Color Leadership Conference**, Sat. April 5. Neal-Marshall Black Cultural Center. 9AM-5PM. Email omsld@indiana.edu today to Register.
- **Spring Recognition Reception** April 17 Forest Greenleaf dinning hall. 6-8PM Please RSVP by April 4, 2008 at omsld@indiana.edu or at 812-855-3540
- **Last Day of Spring Classes—** April 26, 2008.
- **FINALS WEEK:** April 28— May 2, 2008
- **2008 Spring Commencement:** May 3, 2008
- **Congratulations to all 2008 Graduating Seniors!** Good Luck with all your future plans and careers!

OMSLD Toastmaster's Club

The Emerging Leaders Toastmaster's Club and the Office of Mentoring Services and Leadership Development have teamed up this semester to establish our own Toastmaster's Club. Toastmaster's club is a terrific organization that will help you enhance and improve your listening, public speaking skills, speech delivery and leadership development. There is no instructor; instead, each speech and meeting is critiqued by a member of the group in a positive manner, focusing on what was done right and what could be improved. Our toastmaster's club meets twice a month on Monday at 7PM in the Sassafras Room in the Indiana Memorial Union. The next meetings will be on April 7th and 14th. Commit to your future success today by joining this great group. Contact omsld@indiana.edu for more information on how you can involved today!



Members of the newly established OMSLD Toastmaster's Club stopped to pose for a group photo after a meeting. The next Toastmaster's meetings are April 7th and 14th. It's never too late to develop skills that will have you succeed in the future!

Women of Color Leadership Conference

Empowering Women One Day at a Time



Dr. Audrey T. McCluskey, Associate Professor in the African-American and African Diaspora Studies, will be one of the Keynote speakers.

The Office of Mentoring Services and Leadership Development proudly presents the first annual Women of Color Leadership Conference. This conference will be held on March 4th and 5th at the Neal- Marshall Black Culture Center. The theme "Empowering Women One Day at a Time" will incorporate both discussion about issues facing young women of color and ideas about rectifying the problems being addressed. The four main issues that will be addressed will be Finance, Politics, Health and Education.

Friday, April 4th will kick off the beginning of the conference with a portion that is primarily

dedicated to High School Students from around the Bloomington area. This portion of the conference will feature a college panel and option to attend one of two afternoon workshops about setting goals and the representation of women of color in Disney Movies. Saturday's activities will begin at 8am with registration and a continental breakfast. The opening Session will begin at 9:30am with Dr. Audrey McCluskey as the keynote speaker. The keynote speaker for the afternoon session will be Dr. Valerie Grim. Students will have 3 sessions full with workshops to attend throughout the day. Workshops will feature a variety of topics from career and marriage to ending sexual violence against women.



Dr. Valerie Grim, Associate Professor and Chair of the African-American & African Diaspora Studies Program, will be one of the Keynote speakers.



Mentee Spotlight



Freshman OMSLD Mentee Shalisa Smith, a native of Fort Wayne, Indiana, is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Apparel Merchandising. Since her arrival on the IUB campus through the Groups Program, she has been a positive and contributive member of several student organizations. Currently, Shalisa serves as a Peer Advisor for the Groups Program, funding Board Member of RHA, member of RHA/GA Delegate Board, member of Emerging Leader Program Member, and Forest Student Government Vice President of Finance. Just recently, Shalisa was elected President for Forest Dormitory for the 2008-2009 school year. On top of all her activities, Shalisa finds time to volunteer at the local Boys & Girls Club in Bloomington, where she serves as the Newsletter editor and producer. Although Shalisa has a very busy schedule, she understands that her primary objective is her education. She has said "My overall objective is to contribute to IU's campus, both academically and through various leadership roles."

Freshman OMSLD Mentee Michael Anthony Coleman, Jr., a native of Indianapolis, Indiana, is pursuing Bachelors of Arts Degrees in both Political Science and History. As a student at IU, Michael has been highly active in various organizations and has obtained several leadership roles. On top of serving as president for the 2007 IU Groups Program, Michael is currently the vice-president of programming for Teter Quad and was just recently elected to be president for the 2008-2009 school year. In his free time, Michael find time to work at the Boys & Girls Club and volunteer for the Students for Barack Obama Organization on campus. Michael was one of the fortunate few to travel to Iowa and St. Louis, amongst other cities to campaign for Barack Obama's presidency. His favorite quote "Failing is a natural part of fate, but ultimately getting back up is what makes people great," has given Michael the desire to continue his studies in a top ranked Law School upon graduation from IU. After law school, he would like to work in the Indianapolis community for a number of years and later run for a political office.



Black History Month Art Fair

The Office of Mentoring Services & Leadership Development successfully hosted the Black History Month Art Fair on February 27. This program aimed to celebrate the history and struggle of African-Americans through the expression of art and music. Artists submitted various pieces of paintings, bead-making, drawings, graphic T-Shirts, and photography to the art fair exhibit. This event also featured live performances of poetry, singing, and stepping from members of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. The overall winner of the 2008 Black History Month History Fair was Jennifer French for her pieces called "Frances" and "Power of the Black Areda." Special Thanks goes out to all the staff and participants who help make this event possible.



(Left) Chinyere Cheryl Nwokah sings a song during the Fair's closing ceremony.



(Right) Jennifer French stands in between her two winning pieces at the Art Fair. The one on the left of her was entitled "Power of the Black Areda," while the one on her right was called "Frances." Both of these pieces were charcoal drawings.

The Office of Mentoring Services & Leadership Development teamed up with La Casa, Latino Cultural Center to provide a day long Cultural Trip to Chicago on February 23. Students got the opportunity to visit the Mexican Art Museum (the largest Latino Arts institution in the nation) and also the Du-Sable Museum of African-American History (the only major independent institution in Chicago established to preserve and interpret the historical experiences and achievements of African-American.)



Paintings shown above and to the Left were taken from the Mexican Art Museum in Chicago, IL

The end of semester social event was held on March 27 in the Indiana Memorial Union in Back Alley Bowling. Students enjoyed a night full of free bowling, pizza, and pool. Top scoring bowlers received a special prize from the Office of Mentoring Services & Leadership Development. This event was co-sponsored by the 21st Century Scholars Program.



(Left) 21st Century Scholar, Lakyrha Pharms, picks out a ball. She was one of the night's top bowlers.



(Above) OMSLD & 21st CS students rest in between games of bowling to socialize. (Left) OMSLD Assistant director, Bob Vantine, also enjoyed a night of bowling.