

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE UNIVERSITY

THE LAKE FRONT

News for the students. By the students.

Volume 59, Issue 1 SEPTEMBER 2014



CHANGE

Increase in Enrollment

More new students than expected calls for campus-wide adjustments.

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Elliott House improved

The Elliott House received new flooring during the summer.

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Mexican American Studies

The Center for Mexican American Studies and the MAS program are under revitalization.

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THE LAKE FRONT
Our Lady of the Lake University

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Many changes have taken place on campus since last semester.

Editorial: Out with the old and in with the new

By Gianna Rendon
Managing Editor

Over the summer there have been many new changes, and this Lake Front issue is only one of many. We have new faculty, new renovations and a new sports team. Although change often comes with a negative connotation, these changes are bringing new life to the university. Each school

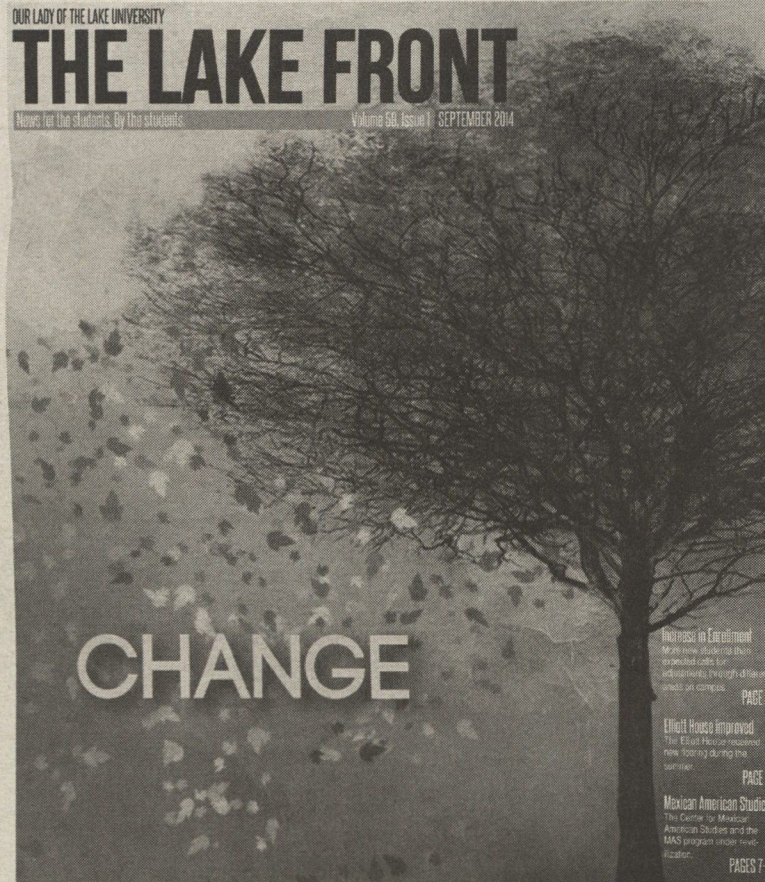
year is the perfect time to begin with a clean slate (and other such clichés).

Our newspaper is starting off with a super awesome staff and supportive new advisor. We also have new events planned for this year like a journalism workshop for high school students and "An Evening with Humans of San Antonio."

We have also changed our front cover to include

more graphic art created by student designers. This year we hope to bring you stories about new occurrences as well as a fresh takes on continuing events such as the search for a new university president. At The Lake Front, we welcome change as we welcome all new faculty staff and students to OLLU.

Cheers!
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The Lake Front's cover carries with the theme of change within the university. By Hannah Disspain

The opinions published in The Lake Front are not necessarily those of its staff or the faculty, staff, administration or student body of Our Lady of the Lake University. The Lake Front publication strives to inform, entertain and communicate with OLLU and its surrounding communities. Advertisement information is available upon request.

Submission requirements:

The Lake Front accepts letters to the editor for publication on the Opinion page of this newspaper. Letters should have the author's printed name and contact information. Anonymous letters will not be published. Letters can be submitted in person, electronically or by mail and become the property of The Lake Front upon receipt. The editor reserves the right to edit letters for libelous material, grammatical errors, space constraints and/or offensive language. The Lake Front does not discriminate because of age, gender, ethnicity, national origin, disability or sexual orientation. "Letters to the Editor" is intended to serve as a public forum for issues related to the OLLU community.

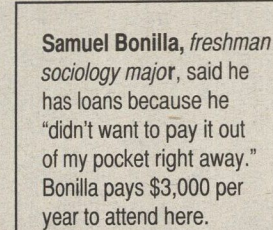
What do you say?

According to initial findings of a government study, student-loan debt has reached a record \$1 trillion

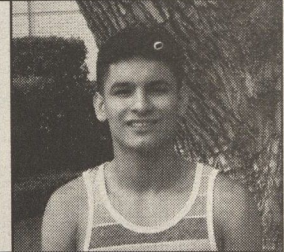
HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT STUDENT LOANS? HOW DO THEY AFFECT YOU?



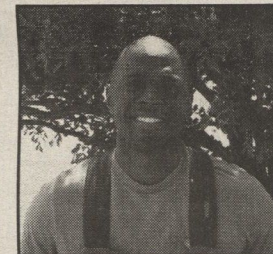
Victoria Torres, freshman kinesiology major, said she plans to take out a student loan next year because she currently has to pay \$1,500 out of pocket.



Samuel Bonilla, freshman sociology major, said he has loans because he "didn't want to pay it out of my pocket right away." Bonilla pays \$3,000 per year to attend here.



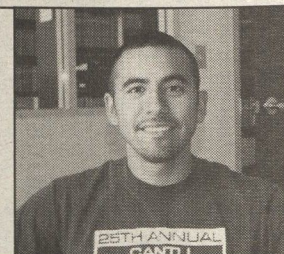
Kotia Whitaker, senior art major, said prisons are filled with offenders for selling or taking drugs and that is ridiculous. "If marijuana was legal, we could imprison more dangerous people."



Arturo Mendiola Jr., junior sociology major, said it's good to make small payments while in school to decrease loan debt. He expects to owe \$10,000 after graduating.



Jonathan Yanez, junior kinesiology major, advises students to make paying back loans a priority. "Good grades allow for more academic scholarships to pay for school."



IT'S COMPLICATED Freshman Survival 101

What upperclassmen wish they would have been told

By Gianna Rendon
Managing Editor

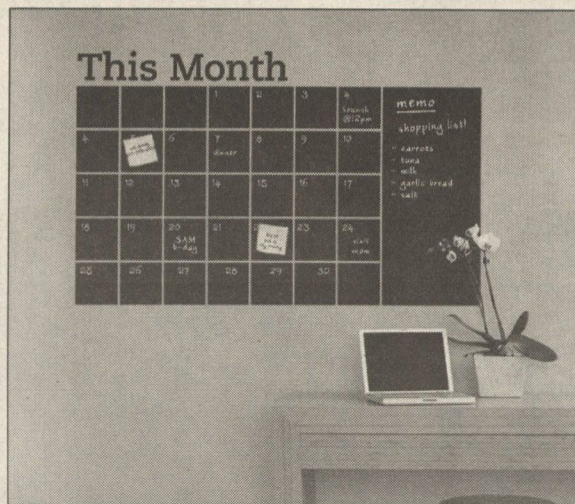
Since the first month of classes has already gone by, you might have started to develop a routine. But here are some tips to make the transition to your new home smoother.

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1. Take care of your body The Freshmen 15 is very real. Although it is hard to eat healthy on campus, the UWAC provides free work out sessions so you can stay fit. Yoga is a great way to relieve stress and it is offered free at 6 p.m. Tuesdays at the UWAC Aerobics Room. Circuit Training is also available Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9 a.m. in the UWAC Aerobics Room. Water Aerobics are available in the IFCC pool Wednesdays at noon.

2. Read your textbooks When I was a tutor on campus, one of my main frustrations were students not reading their books. They would have a question about an assignment and the concept they were looking for was in the books. I have had many professors that spend lectures expanding on concepts from the books but not actually cover the book material that you have to know for a text. So take time now to read your class materials so you won't get overwhelmed during midterms. If you need help understanding what you read go to the Tutoring Center at Moyer Garden Level.

3. Make a Wall Calendar and then Use it Getting organized is a very good life skill and it will help keep you from forgetting important homework deadlines or campus activities. Although I



Use or make a wall calendar like this one to keep yourself organized and not miss homework deadlines. *Courtesy photo*

have two planners I never look at either of them. So if you are like me and need extra sticky notes on everything to remind you, then maybe you should either buy a wall calendar or make one out of sticky notes. There is no possible way you can forget about that important thing if it is literally staring you in the face when you wake up.

4. Sleep Please sleep. At night. Don't stay up all night studying or watching Netflix or talking to your roommate. You'll end up falling asleep in class, and you'll sleep all day and miss out on fun events and memory making opportunities. Although now you feel invincible, it catches up to you quickly. You can have long lasting health side effects and it can affect your GPA.

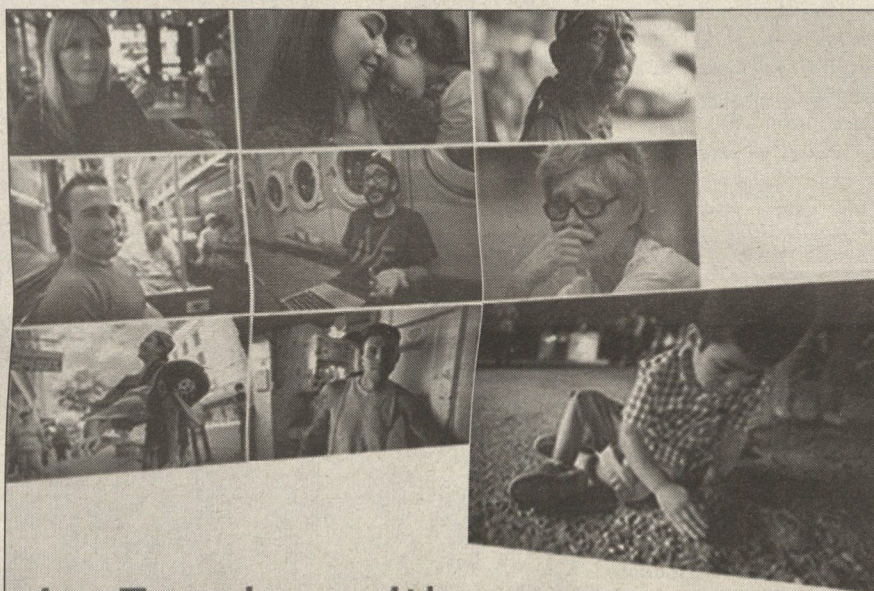
5. Every Opportunity is a great Opportunity to make friends Get out of your room, even if you think that because it's a Friday afternoon no one is on campus or that there's nothing to do. My freshman year I made good friends by just hanging

around campus. This led to impromptu movie nights, snack sessions and tons of laughter. Never be afraid to go to an event that maybe you aren't interested in because you most likely will come out with new friends and memories. I didn't want to go to Spirit Day my first semester, but it was so worth it because I made new friends that I still have today.

6. Get in touch with your spiritual side If you grew up religious, don't let college interfere with your relationship with God. Here at OLLU, we believe that God brought you here for a reason. If you aren't religious there are many ministries available that you can just visit to get a taste. Email ministry@ollusa.edu for more information about various ministries on campus. On Friday Sept. 26 from 4-9 p.m., Providential Discerners is hosting a free retreat on campus just for freshman. It's a perfect way to start off your school year right! If you need more information contact me (I'm also in charge of the retreat) at gerendon@ollusa.edu.

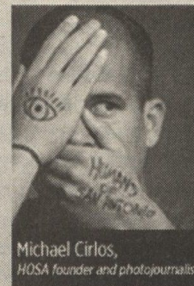
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Enrollment increase visible through many areas on campus

By Astrid Villegas
Reporter

A new track team, a new baseball team, very strong retention numbers, and new recruitment methods have all contributed to the all time high enrollment level. It has affected almost every area of Our Lady of the Lake University, including Resident Life, Admissions Office, and Food Services.

The Residence Life office is "rocking and rolling" this 2014 fall semester according to Director of Residence Life Mark Center.

"It has brought more life, activity, and energy to the residential campus, and we're loving it," Center said.

Res Life hired a full staff of residence assistants to cope with the 12 percent increase in occupancy rate. Last year's occupancy numbers were at 90 percent; this year they are at 102 percent.

"We had to break down our show rooms, take storage rooms and consolidate them, and purchase bunk beds so that we could have additional rooms for residents," Center said.

Bunk beds were even placed in Providence Hall dorms, which are meant to be single rooms. Resident assistants, who are usually placed in single rooms, initially had to pair up with other RAs and room together as a result of this overflow. Some have now received their individual rooms as student room cancellations have occurred.

Returning RA Kendrah Jowers says some policies have changed.

"Higher monitoring actions have been taken because of overflow and especially because of a lot of new freshman," Jowers



Longer lunch lines are only one of many areas affected by this year's enrollment increase. Dewey Johnson, general manager of campus dining, said the separation of the lunch lines by food station has helped this situation. *Photo by Astrid Villegas*

said.

Admission's Office Advisor Shannon Tijerina said better and more organized recruitment techniques contributed to the increase in enrollment.

"(It was a) combination of having a good team and being fully staffed," Tijerina said.

The recruitment staff expanded their reach to high school students by assigning advisors to a spe-

cific region. This allowed them to concentrate on that one area of the state rather than all advisors traveling everywhere like in past years.

"We did a lot more as far as being visible in school hosting events, a lot of on the spot admissions, and not to mention our very competitive academic scholarships that range from \$4,000 to \$16,500," Tijerina said.

But an increase in enrollment and residents means increases in other aspects as well.

The number of inspections in the dormitories has increased and the housekeeping staff also has more work to do. One housekeeper who has been at the university since 2005 noted that she has seen a lot of students but never like this semester.

Sister Annie B's Caf-

eteria has also seen longer lunch lines.

"It has been kind of overwhelming, but we are rocking it," said Dewey "DJ" Johnson, general manager of campus dining.

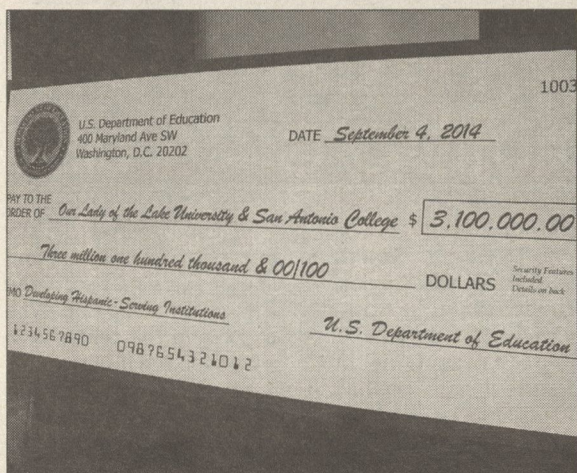
Johnson said the purchasing has "gone through the roofs" and that the kitchen team is "gracefully going through the long lines." The separation of lines according to different food stations has helped

students and his team cope a little better with the change, he said.

Many areas of the university seem to be coping with the increase in enrollment in their own way, but most, if not all, describe this change as a "good one."

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OLLU awarded \$3.1 million grant to help SAC transfer students



The \$3.1 million grant awarded to the university will go towards helping students transferring here from San Antonio College, more online courses, expanding tutor availability and new technology.

Photo by Astrid Villegas

By Desirae Martinez
Reporter

The U.S. Department of Education awarded Our Lady of the Lake University and San Antonio College a \$3.1 million Title V cooperative grant, Rep. Lloyd Doggett announced last month.

The grant will fund "Camino Hacia el Éxito," a project that will assist at least 1,000 students as they transition from SAC to OLLU.

"Exito" project was designed to improve graduation rates for Hispanic, first-generation and/or low-income college students. At least half of SAC students and 75 percent of OLLU students meet those criteria.

"OLLU and San Antonio College have a shared mission of serving first-generation college students," said OLLU Presi-

dent Sister Jane Ann Slater in a press release. "This grant will allow our institutions to work together to forge a better and wider path so that more students can complete a college degree."

Funds will be used to hire a transfer coordinator, an admission processor and Ellucian software to help SAC students transfer to OLLU to complete a four-year degree. Funds will also be used to enhance student performance by providing more online courses, expanding tutoring availability, and obtaining new technology to improve student engagement. In addition, there are funds in the grant for course development in education and Computer Information Security Systems, along with new programs such as chemical biology and biomathematics.

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Elliott House interior receives free facelift

By Cristian Ortiz-Salas
Reporter

Students got a taste of Elliott House's new and improved interior design at their ropen house, where they also focused attention on their purpose at Our Lady of the Lake University.

The Elliott House, located on the west wing of the university on Providence Rd., is home to University Ministry and the Center for Women in Church and Society.

Director of Mission of Ministry Mario Serrano explained that the Elliott House has been renewed several times and has held many different identities.

"The Catholic Church is always calling us to renew ourselves, in this sense we are continually on a journey," Serrano said. "Just like us, this building is [being] transformed."

Serrano also believes that students should come into a place where not only spirituality is vibrant, but that also reflects who we are and what we value.

The Elliott House was built in 1939 and held the name "Home Management House." It then housed classes for the Home Economics major. In 1963, the name was changed to its current name in honor of Katherine Elliott, who served as the second House Mother of the Department of Home Economics from 1939-1961. In 1970 the house served as a counseling and guidance facility. In 1983, it became the house of the Center for Women in Church and Society and four years ago, it became the house for the Division of Mission and Ministry.



The Elliott House now has wooden flooring thanks to the help of university community members who gathered this summer to renovate the building. Photo by Astrid Villegas

"The Elliott House has been used for many purposes," Serrano said. "[However], it has always focused on the students and the need to be hospitable."

Renovations began during the summer but they were put to a hold because of the beginning of the academic year.

The renovations include new paint coats and a wooden floor, which replaced the old carpet. Replacements and renovations were done at no cost.

The supplies used were already available on campus and the university community got together

during the summer to do the labor itself.

"We got our hands dirty! We aren't afraid to get work done," Serrano said.

Jeffrey Huber, alum, helped with repainting the office for the Director of the Center for Women in Church and Society.

"I helped with the Elliott House renovation this summer because OLLU is my home, and anything I can do to help serve the OLLU community is a blessed opportunity to me." Huber said, "The CWCS, along with University Ministry and the other staff of the Elliott House, truly work to bring

the community together by nurturing the community's faith, advocating for a more just community on- and off-campus, and bringing together people around something as simple as free food!"

The building still needs some refurbishing and the new wooden floors still need to be stained, but it is open for business.

Serrano reminds the community of the building's open door policy.

"All are welcome to come to the Elliott House," Serrano said. "An event doesn't have to be happening to come."

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Mexican American Studies program, CMASR undergo change

By Angelica Casas
Editor-In-Chief

Earlier this year in April, the University of Texas at Austin (UT) established a Mexican American and Latino/a Studies Department, an interdisciplinary program to educate on the Hispanic culture and prepare "young people to be Latino-serving professionals," reported the Daily Texan.

At around the same time, Our Lady of the Lake University received 55 applications from candidates all over the nation interested in filling the position of assistant professor and program director for the Mexican American Studies

major, a program almost phased out two years ago under Tessa Pollack, former university president.

For Dean Michael Laney, Ph.D., of the College of Arts and Sciences, this means one of two things - either there is a lack of Mexican American Studies jobs that provide tenure across the country, which would account for the great number of applicants, or the name the university has created for itself as a Hispanic Serving Institute (HSI) is attracting academics far and wide.

"It depends on what filter you are looking through," Laney said.

Ezequiel Peña, new director of the Center for

Mexican American Studies and Research (CMASR), headed the search committee. Applicants were from all over the country including California, New Mexico, Arizona and Texas. Aimee Villarreal, Ph.D., the candidate chosen after three selection rounds, is the new associate professor and program director for Mexican American Studies.

Both the CMASR and Mexican American Studies program are undergoing transformations this year through their respective new directors.

"To me, this is the year of growing," Peña said. The idea of growth inspired him to make the Center's

theme this year "*La Cosecha*: Sowing strains of Sustainability."

Peña makes a connection with the metaphor of harvest and agriculture to part of the history of Mexican Americans in the United States and a huge part of the Chicano Movement. *La Cosecha's* initiatives are three - cultural programming, course work that leads to greater cultural understanding, and research.

The Center offers seed grants, or "*cosecha*" grants, for students and faculty conducting research in areas specifically related to Mexican American studies, the Spanish language or either of these themes mixed with another discipline or department on campus. For a project to be funded, it must incorporate all aspects of a tripartite model that include service to the community, faculty engagement in community-based research, and faculty mentoring of student(s) through the project.

Peña said the purpose of the grants is to help the students and faculty fund smaller projects, so they may test something out on a small scale and use the data they find to apply for a larger grant and fund a larger project.

Peña will forgo the CMASR Conference this year, but some of the Center's planned programming for the year includes a lecture series and a student symposium.

Students also play a vital role in the Mexican American Studies program.

"In the discipline we always need to be reflective and responsive to student needs, and know what's going on in the world," Villarreal aid.

Catering to student needs and expectations is important to Laney.

"Texas legislature is expanding Mexican American Studies into school

curriculums," Laney said. "We'll be well-positioned for students coming out of high school. Students who have been exposed to Mexican American Studies might come here and say they want to pursue it."

Contrary from Texas, last year in Arizona, a law was passed banning Mexican American Studies curriculum in Tucson. Villarreal understands the difficulties faced by the discipline and wants to use them in favor of and as inspiration for the students.

"Mexican American Studies, African Studies, all ethnic studies are always having to struggle to survive at university systems," Villarreal said. "We had to struggle to even be in the university system. This is a discipline that was created out of struggle and you're expected to always be in struggle."

She said that as students learn about the struggles, they will be motivated to seek social justice and act towards it. That is why Villarreal will add to the program through its revitalization a focus on policy making and policy enforcement.

"I hope we will be infusing more policy-oriented and more interdisciplinary practice, while continuing on the social justice aspect," Villarreal said.

For both directors, this is a time to work united as a community.

The psychology program recently worked with the Spanish department to create a new focus on Spanish psychology services. Through it, non-Hispanics and non-Spanish speakers learn Spanish as they learn about the psychology, so they may later serve the Spanish-speaking population.

This type of interdisciplinary work is what the center and program want to mirror.

"Every discipline

should always draw from other disciplines," Peña said, pointing out that work in Mexican American Studies could integrate themes and theories from disciplines like public history, health and wellness, education equity and public policy. "This is a chance for is to build bridges between other disciplines."

The Center is separate from the Mexican American Studies major but collaboration between both exists.

"The Center really supports the program and sees it as a vital part of the university," Peña said. "The success of the center is in part from the program."

Villarreal invites students - in the program and not - to visit her, especially this year as she creates its revitalization plan, and tell her their ideas for the program.

"It's not about me and it's not about a person; It's about the students," Villarreal said. "It's not only my job to be an expert in Mexican American Studies, but for me to make other experts. But it's your program ultimately, what do you want? And I'm serious, please come see me."

Laney, Peña and Villarreal all envision a CMASR and program that can meet and serve the needs of the West Side community, predominantly the Mexican American population.

"We want to support students and the community," Peña emphasized. "We're right in the middle of the West Side and sometimes people ask why we don't do more. We want to look at Mexican American culture specifically in relation to the local and global, not just internally."

This is only the first year of many changes to come.

"We're just beginning," Peña said. "Maybe in the end we can continue to say, 'Si se puede y sí se pudo.'"

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Letras en la Frontera en
Friday, September 26th
Viernes, 26 de Septiembre
6:00PM, Main 311



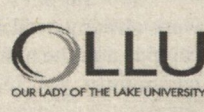
Questions/Preguntas: Dr. Lárraga at mlarraga@ollusa.edu

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Ministry Council connects, promotes community



Campus Ministry leaders and student ministers attend a leadership institute. *Courtesy photo*

By Kimberly Yosko
Reporter

The Bible promotes and encourages working together for a common good and extending open hands to all in a spirit of community. A new Ministry Council on campus wants to do just that.

The Ministry Council was established during the summer and is made up of student representatives from different ministries on campus.

"There is a need for [all of the ministries on campus] to be on the same page," said Mara Rodriguez, University Minister. "We can be more effective in our outreach [with] our ministries."

Rodriguez said that this is a way for numerous ministries and Bible study groups to collaborate.

"The council will bring together the different ministries in hopes of addressing the needs on campus [and] involving the greater part of the [OLLU] community," Rodriguez said.

Rodriguez also said that this could help take

care of any scheduling conflicts between groups.

"[Groups] were scheduling things on the same night," Rodriguez said. "[They could not] support each other. Now we are increasing collaboration of ministerial leadership."

Mel Rivera, one of this semester's leaders of the Awakening Retreat, said she became involved for many of the reasons Rodriguez stated.

"It is a good idea for ministries to work together and give advice and support each other," Rivera said. "This is also a way for us to promote ministries to students."

Kevin Castaneda, leader and founder of the Ignite Bible Study Group on campus, agrees with Rivera.

"It is important for religious life to be part of a community," Castaneda said. "This is our way to unite different religious organizations on campus."

Rodriguez gave an example about how the different ministries can collaborate.

"Say that Ignite [Bible study on campus] is going to be focusing on the

Gospel of John," Rodriguez said. "Now, because of the Ministry Council, everyone knows that Ignite is focusing on the Gospel of John. Then, maybe Entrusted [Women's Bible study on campus], is going to start trying to use more verses from John so that it is actually emphasizing [what Ignite is doing] versus being so disjointed."

Rodriguez said that she hopes that all of the ministries will be able to work together toward a common goal instead of having individual goals for each group.

The hope is that [we will] all be more in sync, and we will be able to complement each other better, so that if one group is hitting one need, we already got that," Rodriguez said. "Now, [it is] a matter of [figuring out] other needs that there are [in the OLLU community], and how [are we] going to address [those needs]."

For more information on the Ministry Council, contact University Ministry at ministry@ollusa.edu.

keynosko@ollusa.edu

Ice Bucket Challenge held in honor of English professor



English Professor David Sanor (middle), was recently diagnosed with ALS. *Courtesy photo*

By Jennifer Marroquin
Reporter

David Sanor, Ph.D., has been a professor of English at Our Lady of the Lake University for almost 40 years. Of the decades he has taught here, this year may be the most different.

Sanor was recently diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS).

"I've had the symptoms for quite a while, but I wasn't diagnosed until the end of June," Sanor said.

He has lost the use of his hands and can scarcely lift his arms.

"My hands are completely paralyzed, and I need help doing most things like eating, and driving," Sanor said. "It's frustrating not being able to take care of yourself."

When Sanor shared the news with his colleagues in the English Department, they found different ways to support their team member.

English Professor Yvette Benavidez volunteered to help co-teach with Sanor in class. English Professor Wallis Sanborn, Ph.D., and the English Department organized the

"ALS Ice Bucket Challenge" held September 3 during Club Rush in honor of Sanor. Sanborn also challenged every other school in the surrounding San Antonio area to do it as well.

The Ice Bucket Challenge has been trending on social media recently. The Challenge calls for dumping a bucket of ice water on yourself and donating money to the ALS Foundation, or declining the challenge and donating a larger amount to the cause.

Two key university leaders - Dean Michael Laney and Vice President Marcheta Evans - helped lead the effort.

The Challenge had approximately 40 volunteers and raised over \$500 to benefit the John Paul II Medical Research Institute.

Sanor was in attendance watching the event take place.

"It made me feel good that so many people were willing to help me, and to have such a supportive community," Sanor said.

Sanor plans to retire after this academic year. He planned his retirement before being diagnosed, and didn't want to his diagnoses to keep him from teaching.

"Retiring early due to this diagnoses never entered my mind," Sanor said. "I want to continue to teach as long as I can."

Sanor teaches linguistics, which has been a passion of his since his young teen years.

"My mother was from Panama. When I was 14, I was put in charge of teaching my mother how to speak English," Sanor said. "I became very interested in how different words translated and changed meaning from one language to another, and decided to study that."

After earning his degree in Linguistics in 1974, he found a teaching job in Iran, where he taught English for 2 years. In 1977 he decided to return to the states and found a job as an ESL and English teacher here at the university.

"The mission is what really attracted me to the Lake," Sanor said. "Once I came here, I saw that the campus was beautiful. There was a lot of energy and dedication from the faculty and staff. I knew I didn't want to work or live anywhere else."

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MAS program director revitalizes influenced by *renovación*



New Mexico native Aimee Villarreal, Ph.D., is a professor of Mexican American Studies and the new program director. *Photo by Angelica Casas*

By Angelica Casas
Editor-In-Chief

The tone of Aimee Villarreal's voice changes as she recalls moments spent with the *Chihuahuenses* of New Mexico that introduced her to la "*Renovación Carismática*," the "Charismatic Renewal."

She describes their spirit as one without borders that connects to their family members back in Chihuahua, Mexico.

"You get connected with the spirituality of faith and the idea of praise and worship through dance, song and performance," Villarreal said. "They call it 'el postre,' your dessert."

Villarreal, Ph.D., is the new assistant professor and program director of Mexican American Studies. She currently works on the

revitalization plan for the major, which was nearly phased out two years ago.

Villarreal is a native of Santa Fe, New Mexico but has always had a "Tejano" connection through her grandparents, who live in Mission, Texas, and who she would visit often.

She received her bachelor's in Spanish and Psychology from New Mexico State University on a track scholarship, and then moved in with her grandparents to work with public schools of the Valley.

"I have a lot of sympathy and empathy for athletes because I would have never gone to college if not for that scholarship," Villarreal said. "My father told me I better run, and I better run fast."

Her first job as a physical education teacher was not the most ideal, but through it she realized the

needs of Mexicans living in the area and the hardships faced by the young students.

"There was no school if busses could not run," Villarreal said. "There were 150 kids at PE with only five basketballs. Migrants would leave me halfway through the year and I always wondered how I'd keep them up on their studies."

She wanted to help the disadvantaged Mexican communities here in Texas, but first went on to receive her master's in Bicultural Bilingual Studies from the University of Texas at San Antonio and then started working at Palo Alto College, where she taught students with limited English proficiency through English as a Second Language (ESL). She taught in Dallas for some time and then moved to Colorado, where

she earned a degree in Anthropology from Colorado Springs University.

She earned her doctorate degree from the University of California at Santa Cruz. It took her 10 years because she was a single mother, but she was determined, she said. Villarreal said she is indebted to the *Chihuahuense* communities and Somos un Pueblo Unido, an organization she was involved with that works to build a community that does not discriminate against people based on nationality, institutes humane migration policies and protects everyone's human rights.

"You don't have to be smart or talented to get a Ph.D.," Villarreal said. "You just have to be tenacious. I couldn't have gotten my dissertation done without them. I'm their Ph.D."

Villarreal first inter-

acted with the *Chihuahuenses* when she returned to New Mexico to focus on her dissertation and later on her post doc at the Southwest Hispanic Research Institute. She investigated Mexican migration to northern New Mexico and the relationship between the immigration movement and the *renovación carismática*.

She visited the families of the immigrants in Chihuahua, but was not able to stay long because of cartel danger, the same reason why most immigrants had left.

"It's one movement," Villarreal said. "The ties between people across borders stay in place. Even the evangelization movements were the same."

Villarreal remembers how the community in New Mexico would receive texts from relatives

and friends in Chihuahua asking for prayer, and vice versa. In 2003 when the State of New Mexico was voting to pass a law allowing illegal immigrants to have driver's license, those in New Mexico requested prayer from those back home.

Her research and experiences with the *Chihuahuenses* has shaped her goals here at the university, especially through the revitalization of Mexican American Studies. One of these goals is centered on policy making and social justice.

"It's about living out the social justice and spiritual foundations of (the Sisters of the Congregation of Divine Providence), and creating social change," Villarreal said. "It is not always about religion, it's about change. We want everyone to have the knowledge no matter what major."

On the side, Villarreal also helps independent and Chicano filmmakers as an actress or consultant. She recently produced an animated documentary of the Pueblo Revolt, the 1680 Pan Indian Revolution. She calls the documentary collaboration a "School House Rock" version of history. It is being showed at various indie film festivals around the country and can be watched on www.vimeo.com/m/75840615.

She wants to involve students in some of her outside projects and inspire them to be advocates of social justice.

"I hope I can develop a program with the interest and passion of students here and that will be meaningful for the people on the West Side," Villarreal said. "This is such an amazing opportunity for me. I'm very happy to be here."

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Peña's interests inspired by dad



Ezequiel Peña, Ph.D., is a professor of Psychology and the new director for the Center for Mexican American Studies and Research (CMASR). *Photo by Angelica Casas*

By Angelica Casas
Editor-In-Chief

A borderland experience was symbolically present in the childhood home of Ezequiel Peña, the son of a Mexican immigrant and a "little Tejana cowgirl" living 25 miles from the border.

When his family would gather at his grandmother's house, they would have fried chicken, *frijoles*,

fideo and flour tortillas. It was a hybrid, he said.

But his appreciation for Mexican culture did not rise from the food he ate or the Pedro Infante and Cantinflas movies he would watch at home.

"My appreciation for Mexican culture I got from my dad," Peña said. "My first trip to Mexico City in the 80s after graduation was big for me. I grew a great appreciation."

Peña is a professor of Psychology and the new director of the Center for Mexican American Studies and Research (CMASR). He replaces Teresita Aguilar, Ph.D., who left last year for a provost position at New Mexico Highlands University.

Peña is the oldest of seven siblings. He is from Weslaco but grew up in

PEÑA continued on page 11

New assistant VP for Student Life dedicated to help others



Rosalinda Garcia is the new Assistant Vice President for Student Life. Her career in education was inspired by accounts she heard and witnessed of parental negligence. *Photo by Astrid Villegas*

By Alejandra Guzman
Reporter

Having witnessed a lack of parental guidance in some homes while working at Big Brothers Big Sisters, Rosalinda Garcia now feels a sense of responsibility to help others.

Garcia, the new Assistant Vice President of Student Life, was born and raised in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico until age 9 when her parents brought her to Laredo, Texas. Her desire was to continue school in Nuevo Laredo. One day her mother took her on a campus visit to what should have been her school in Laredo and she saw the commodities not present in Mexican schools.

"I remember I made my choice to continue my education based on the pancakes the children were having for breakfast

and the clean restroom stalls," Garcia said.

Garcia said her life would have been different if she would have continued attending school in Nuevo Laredo. Garcia lived in Laredo throughout her high school years only to move to San Antonio to attend the University of Incarnate Word (UIW) for her undergraduate career in Communications.

After graduating, Garcia worked at Big Brothers Big Sisters for two years improving publicity and decreasing the waiting list for the amount of kids who needed a mentor.

However, during her position with Big Brother Big Sisters she got the opportunity to expand her horizons while interacting with children.

"My job was to get the student from school and pick them up so we could

do a whole day of taping," Garcia said. "I got to go into the homes of a lot of people and see the lives of people that I normally wouldn't have."

Garcia expressed that most of the time when she was taking the child back home some parents were not aware the child was taken out of school nor did they ask them how their day was or if they had finished their homework.

"I was naive back then to think everyone had parents like (mine) who cared about their school," Garcia said.

After observing repetitive cycles in some homes Garcia knew some of the cycles would never end. She needed to do more. But the primary outcome was the motivation to keep striving to help children.

GARCIA continued on page 11

New faculty members from different backgrounds, interests

By Kimberly Yosko and Gianna Rendon
Reporter and Managing Editor

This academic year, many are the new professors on campus. Learn about the backgrounds and interests of some of them.

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DEBORAH HEALY

Alumna Deborah Healy, Psy.D. graduated from OLLU in 2000 with a Psy.D. and became a licensed psychologist in 2001. She is the new Psy.D. training instructor.

"The wonderful people and the excellence of the training here at The Lake brought me back," Healy said.

Healy was a K-12 teacher, reading specialist, school counselor and District Counseling Director.

She is originally from Utica, New York. Her dad was the Superintendent of the city's school district, and she said they encouraged her to become a teacher.

"My advice to students is to enjoy the journey, be kind to yourself and others, work hard, stay focused and in motion, celebrate your successes, tap into social support and leisure activities that enhance your well-being!" Healy said.

AIMEE VILLARREAL

Department: Assistant Professor and Program Director, Mexican-American Studies

What made you want to go into teaching? "For me, teaching is both a calling and a practice. I enjoy the performance, but it takes practice to engage students in a transformational exchange of knowledge that moves us to higher ground and inspires us to make positive changes in ourselves and in the world. The practice part is a lifelong endeavor."

Do you have a favorite food? "My favorite food is enchiladas suizas. I love green tomatillo salsa!"

Fun Facts: "I went to college at New Mexico State University on a track and field scholarship. I ran the 400 hurdles and the 800 meters."

KRISTAN McALEXANDER

Kristen McAlexander, Ph.D., CPT never planned on entering the field of Kinesiology. She was a chemical engineering major in college, but always enjoyed sports.

She became a certified personal trainer and eventually decided to get her master's degree. She taught and did research to pay for her schooling, and though that she said she found her purpose in life.

She is a new assistant professor of Kinesiology and is currently teaching motor devel-

opment, nutrition and analysis of human motion.

McAlexander said that her most memorable moments of teaching are when students pass the national certification examinations for personal training or exercise clinicians or succeed in any way.

"Pursue your purposes and passions. What really fuels you? Are you living the life someone else planned for you? Get to know yourself and experience new things."

KRISTINA TERKUN CASTRO

Department: Assistant Professor of Economics

Where are you from? "I am from Virginia."

What is your favorite dessert? "Raspberries."

Fun facts: "I enjoy dancing, walking my dogs, and riding motorcycles."

MAUREEN CUEVAS,

Department: Worden School of Social Service

Where are you from? "Recently from Amarillo Texas, but born in Brooklyn, NY."

Do you have any pets? "No, my kids always ask for them and don't take responsibility for them so we don't do pets anymore."

Where is the best place that you visited/traveled to? "[I went to] New Zealand on a Social Work study abroad trip from West Texas A&M University."

CODY FERGUSON

Department: Assistant Professor of History

Where are you from? "I grew up in southeastern Washington State. By 2007, I migrated south to the Phoenix Valley and received my Ph.D. in history from Arizona State University. I continued to work at ASU as a postdoctoral fellow in environmental and public humanities before coming to OLLU."

Do you have any hobbies/interests? "I love the outdoors and especially rock climbing. I try to get outside as often as possible including biking, running, hiking and backpacking, and running rivers. I am especially excited to explore Texas and climb in Mexico."

LAURIE LOPEZ CHARLES

Although Laurie Lopez Charles, Ph.D. is from San Antonio she hasn't lived in the city for 20 years.

She has performed trainings and consultation as a family therapist in Libya, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kosovo, Burundi, Egypt, Lebanon, Cameroon, and Sri Lanka.

"I came to OLLU because of the opportunity to use my experiences as family therapy in different parts of the globe with family therapy and psychology students in our department, which is very focused on working and training professionals to work across linguistic and country boundaries in efficient and competent ways," Charles said.

Charles received her B.S. from St. Mary's University, her M.S. from Our Lady of the Lake University, and a Ph.D. in Fam-

ily Therapy from Nova Southeastern University. Charles is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist.

She now is now a faculty member in the graduate psychology program at OLLU. She currently teaches the Introduction to Systemic Therapy and Family Therapy Practicum.

One of her research interests is training family therapists to work competently and productively in low resource settings and with vulnerable, marginalized communities. Charles speaks French and was in the Peace Corps and served in Doctors Without Borders.

Charles advises students to stay hydrated, exercise, and learn effective time management skills. Since classes can be a lot of work, putting aside time for having fun and relaxing makes your day run more smoothly.

W. PAUL HARDEE

Department: Communication Disorders Program

What are your goals? "My broadest goal is to have a sense of purpose in my life. I found over time that I fulfill that sense of purpose by doing things that benefit others. My secondary goal is to understand human social interaction and communication as best I can. I've still got a long way to go."

What made you want to teach? "When I was a Master's level student, I had the opportunity to teach some lab classes for undergraduate students and I found that I really enjoyed the process of making complex ideas understandable and the give and take with students. I'm glad I've done that because I feel like it's helped me to stay grounded."

XIANG GUO

Department: Assistant Professor of Computer Information Systems and Security

Do you have a favorite place to travel? "My favorite place to travel is all around the coast (no particular places)."

Fun Facts: "I play volleyball and basketball and enjoy reading and photographing in my free time."

ANJELITA CADENA

Department: Assistant Professor of Finance

Favorite Dessert: "[New York] style cheesecake"

Fun facts: "I kayak and love the outdoors."

What compelled you to teach? "[When] I turned 17, [I went] to Texas A&I University in Kingsville for a BS in Mathematics/Computer Science. I taught throughout my 20-year career in IT and enjoyed it even more at the college level after earning my MBA, so much so that I returned to school when my youngest completed HS and just earned my PhD this past December."

KARINA GIL

Department: Assistant Professor, Worden School of Social Services

Do you have a favorite animal? "I love cats."

Do you have a favorite dessert? "Difficult question to answer, I have a sweet tooth so I love everything!"

Where are you from? "I am originally from Chile and grew up in Africa, The Middle East and other parts of Latin America."

MEREDITH HOMINICK

Department: Biology

Where are you from? "[I am] from Fort Worth."

Do you have any pets? "I have a corgi. His name is Pancho."

What is your favorite dessert? "I like cherry pie with whipped cream."

BETSY WISNERA

Betsy Wisner MA, LMSW, PhD has 25 years experience in the mental health field working with children and adolescents and their families. Wisner has been a family therapist, a school counselor, and school social worker.

She is now an assistant professor in the Worden School of Social Service.

"I like to impress upon students that being a social worker is extremely challenging but also extremely meaningful," Wisner said. "Therefore, self-care is a necessary component to a successful social work career."

One way Wisner takes care of herself is through meditation and practicing Tai Chi Chuan. She also enjoys spending time with her husband, family and pets including a horse, two Cavalier King Charles Spaniels,

and lots of rescued cats.

Wisner has two master's degrees which are in social work and psychology

She received her doctorate in Social Work from the University of Texas at Austin. She currently likes to incorporate meditation in social work practice and education.

She is teaches SOWK 7338 Theories and Perspectives: Hispanic Children and Families both online and on-campus.

Wisner said that her most memorable moments happen in the classroom "when students discuss their own knowledge and how what they are learning will make them better social workers."

"I want to empower students to be the best social workers they can be," Wisner said.

PEÑA

continued from page 9

Harlingen. He calls himself Mejicano instead of Mexican. Although he acknowledges he is American, he has never referred to himself that way.

His mother's goal was for her children to graduate high school because she only went up to the 6th grade. This motivated Peña to do more and pursue higher education. He is the only one in his family with a graduate degree.

"I've always seen my mother as champion of my education," Peña said. "I attribute to her all academic kind of successes I've had."

But it wasn't easy to fund his education. Peña did not ask his parents for

financial help to pay what in a way was a luxury.

"It was not about putting food on the table," he said.

He graduated with a bachelor's in Psychology from Trinity University. Things did not get easier once in graduate school.

At the University of Texas at Austin (UT), where at the time the Latino population was relatively small, there was no significant support for culture, Peña said. He was the only Latino out of 12 in his cohort and often suffered from racially disempowering experiences caused by his colleagues.

"I couldn't buy into the individualistic psychology idea that (doesn't consider) culture, community or family systems," Peña said. "I was always bringing cul-

ture into the picture and it wasn't always welcomed."

Despite difficulties, Peña received his doctorate degree in Counseling Psychology from UT Austin in 2005.

Peña taught at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh and then returned to Texas. Attracted to the focus of psychology services for Spanish-speaking populations and the bilingual doctorate program in graduate psychology, he came to Our Lady of the Lake University as a professor of Graduate Psychology. This is the first year Peña teaches at the undergraduate level.

Peña said being director of the Center is like a return to his dissertation, in which he examined Chicano political identity, which combined cultural

studies, the time period and Chicano movement, anthropology, history and psychology.

"It was a processing of my own identity," Peña said. "It changed my life."

Peña's research interests are now rooted in an interdisciplinary frame of mind, but always in relation to the Mexican American culture and the Spanish language.

His goal as director of the CMASR is for the West Side community to say the university is doing their work through research that affects them. He also hopes to help increase the retention rate of first generation Latino students.

"I'm hopeful and hope we have a collaborative spirit in all we do."

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GARCIA

continued from page 9

Knowing she helped changed someone's life is a blessing for Garcia.

Garcia wanted to go into education but didn't want to be a teacher.

After establishing what her goal was Garcia spoke to a dean at UIW to learn how she could become a dean herself.

She quickly learned she needed either a master's or doctorate degree. Garcia received her Master's in Bicultural Studies from the University of Texas at San Antonio. Garcia then moved to New York to attend Columbia University.

Her stay in New York was cut short after the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center.

"It was very scary because we had students working at the World Trade Center," Garcia said. "I thought it was a clip of a movie."

Garcia could not leave New York because she was to ensure the safety of the

Columbia student residents. Even after a couple of days and even three months, things did not go back to normal.

"You could have been having dinner and in the middle of your salad everyone was asked to evacuate the restaurant," Garcia said. "You were never at peace."

Garcia left Columbia for Yale and became the assistant dean of students and the director of the Latino Cultural Center. Her wish to return to Texas was delayed because she stayed 12 years instead of the four years she had planned.

At Yale, Garcia worked with students who were first generation, homeless at one point of their lives, or who had been in gangs.

"It was super inspiring," Garcia said. "Those kids beat every odd."

Now Garcia is back not only in Texas, but in San Antonio.

Garcia knew it would be a challenge because she said positions like hers here at the university are rare. Her first day on the job was August 1.

"I wanted to come back because I've done and seen a lot of amazing things but I felt that I got things by chance," Garcia said. "I wish someone would've told me a lot of things when I was younger and that's why I'm here."

Through her new position, Garcia will work with the Student Leadership and Development office, specifically with the Student Government Association. She will also be responsible for Title IX, which covers regulations set by the government. Garcia's focus is specifically on sexual harassment for this project. Garcia said she hopes to help increase graduations and retention rates in the long run.

"I chose to come here because people are not just accepting the problem (of low retention and graduation rates) but they are looking for a solutions and I want to be a part of that," Garcia said.

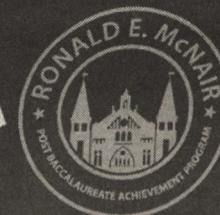
Garcia welcomes everyone into her office at Providence 100. She can be contacted via email at rgarcia3@ollusa.edu.

apguzman@ollusa.edu

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19th Annual
McNair Scholars
Research
Symposium



OUR LADY OF THE LAKE
UNIVERSITY

The McNair Scholars Program cordially invites you in recognizing the academic achievements of the Summer 2014 Research Cohort on Sunday, September 21, 2014. Our Scholars have spent countless hours in the lab, library, and with their mentors working on their Summer Research Projects.

SUMMER 2014 RESEARCH COHORT

OLLU: Gianna Rendon, Angelica Casas, Wednesday Casanova, Laura Genovesi, Lauren Heare, Amanda Chaparro, Pablo Ortiz, Alyssa Gutierrez, James Laney, Jordan Thomas, and Mateo Montez.

UTSA: Samantha Saldana, Victoria Olivo, and Brianna Vick.

SAC Upwardbound Math/Science: Christopher Arguello and Delia Diaz.

SCHEDULE

9:00am- 10:00am
Continental Breakfast and Welcome in the PWSR
10:00am- 12:00pm
Presentations in the Blue Room
12:00pm- 1:00pm
Lunch and Keynote Speaker in the PWSR
1:00pm- 5:00pm
Presentations in the Blue Room

HALO
High Achievement through Leadership Opportunities

SOMEWHERE IN SAN ANTONIO*Your guide to great events during study breaks***Cultural events that will ease your mind, semester****By Alejandra Guzman**
Reporter

If you're already stressed out this semester, relax. Perhaps you are fed up because your eyes have not been lifted from your 20-pound book, and your fingers have not freed themselves from that pencil you're still holding. Take some time to connect culturally to the world through music, festivals and performances.

We've rounded up the best events this month just for you.

apguzman@ollusa.edu

9/17 The Charlie Daniels Band 7:30 pm

Tobin Center for the Performing Arts, 100 Auditorium Circle
Tickets: \$34.50-59.50

Country music fans get ready for a night with Charlie Daniels, a Grammy Award winner and multi-platinum career artist. There's still time to buy your ticket today.

9/19 Bill Cosby - Far From Finished 8 p.m.

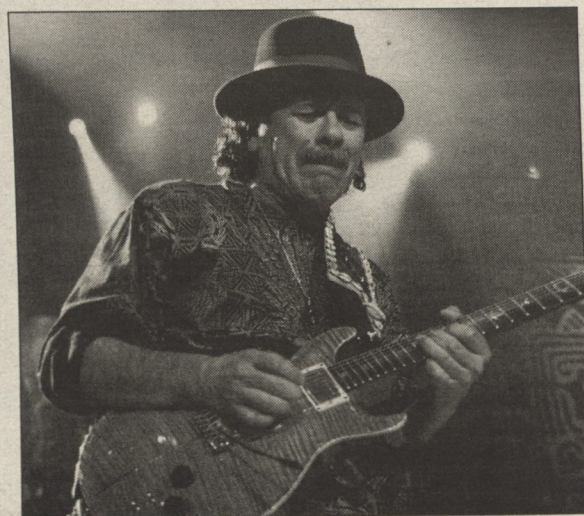
Tobin Center for the Performing Arts, 100 Auditorium Circle
Tickets: \$39.50-74.50
Come out and enjoy a night of family with one of America's national treasures of entertainment, Bill Cosby is bound to make you laugh as he relates to parents, men, women and even children. His humor is perfect for the entire family.

9/20 Cigar, Cognac And Chocolate

Sunset Station, 1174 E. Commerce
Tickets: \$50
Sunday best is an understatement for this 21+ over event full of cigars, cognac and chocolates delicately combined with a 1930's fashion show. Music by DJ Adolfo prepares the guest for the unveiling of 2015's Founder's Day Gala.



Tamela Mann will be at the newly revamped Tobin Center for the Performing Arts on September 21. *Courtesy photo*



Carlos Santana will perform at the Tobin Center for the Performing Arts on September 30. *Courtesy photo*

9/20-21 Jazz'SALive 11:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Travis Park
Tickets: Free
Enjoy a two-day festival with the best local, regional, national and international Jazz musicians in this outdoor festival

at one of San Antonio's parks! Enjoy music by Eddie Palmieri, Malena Shaw and The Yellowjackets.

9/21 Tamela Mann 6 p.m.
Tobin Center for the Performing Arts, 100 Auditorium Circle

Tickets: \$25 - \$65

Love drama? Acclaimed actress, wife and mother, Tamela Mann is sure to put you on your feet with her sensational voice. Don't know who she is? Use this opportunity to escape from books and experience some culture shock.

9/26 - 9/28 Alamo City Comic Con

Henry B Gonzalez Convention Center, 200 E. Market St.
Tickets: \$25-275

Get your tickets to one of the biggest cons in San Antonio! Guest appearances from Lori Petty, Ron Marz, Kevin Eastman and many more. An event featuring comic books, video games and costumes.

9/27 River City Run - 5K Running Tour Of San Antonio 8 a.m.

Alamo Plaza, 300 Alamo Plaza
Tickets: \$30
Meet in front of the Alamo

Are you training for a marathon? What to get in shape? Or do you just simply enjoy nature? Run a 5K course through some of San Antonio's highlights (downtown/Riverwalk) tour guide gives you the inside scoop with only 15 stopping points.

9/27 San Antonio Music Awards Showcase 8 p.m.

Tickets: \$5.00
10 Various Venues
Come out and support San Antonio's local talent. A chance to see 40 different bands perform at 10 different venues in just one night. Don't think you'll find what you like? Genres range from alternative rock to indie, to jazz and hip hop. Looking for a specific band visit their website for the lineup www.sanantonio-musicawards.com.

9/30 Santana 7:30 p.m.
Tobin Center for the Performing Arts, 100 Auditorium Circle
Tickets: \$59.50-430.00

Not into today's twerking beat? It's ok. Santana brings a variety of sounds as he modernizes blues, rock and soul into one sound. His tour is sure to inspire you as his four decade career has classified him as the best guitarist ever, yes—ever!

10/1 Come And Taste It 5-8 p.m.

The Grapevine in Gruene Historic District, 1612 Hunter Road, New Braunfels, TX

Tickets: Free

If you're 21+ take a quick road trip to Gruene, TX and taste some of the newest released, top-selling and hardest to find wines along with beer samples from several wineries along with good food and music. Get a quick taste but most importantly remember not to drink and drive!

10/3-10/11 Oktoberfest San Antonio 5 p.m. - 12 a.m.

Beethoven Maennerchor Halle und Garten, 422 Perieda Street
Tickets: \$5

Whether you speak German or not, music and fun is a must this weekend. This event helps preserve the German music and language. Come get a taste of Germany and enjoy good music. Suggested donation is \$5 (free for members & active duty military).

10/7 Phillip Phillips In Concert 7:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$39.50-49.50
Majestic Theatre, 224 E. Houston St.
You saw him on American Idol. This fall, take a trip to downtown San Antonio and experience Phillip Phillips live as he performs his biggest singles. Treat yourself to a pre-midterm present and prepare for the week to come. Good luck!

CINEMANIACS

Cristian Ortiz-Salas and Desirae Martinez are both juniors who met their freshman year at Brackenridge High School. Both have a passion for movies. They have seen many movies together and enjoy commenting about them. Martinez enjoys the storyline of films, while Ortiz-Salas is drawn to the cinematography of films.



Enjoy a movie for every major

By Desirae Martinez
Reporter

Whether your major is business, biology, social work or psychology, Netflix has a movie for you to watch instantly.

demartinez@olusa.edu

Art

Exit Through the Gift Shop

This documentary follows French immigrant Thierry Guetta, whose obsession with filming street art eventually leads to his own successful street art career. The film was directed by the famous and faceless street artist, Banksy, who admits via voiceover to hating Guetta's work. The movie gives a history of street art and debates what constitutes good art.

Accounting/Business

Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room

This documentary examines the 2001 collapse of the Enron Corporation, which resulted in criminal trials for several of the top Enron executives. The film is a study of one of the biggest business scandals in American history. It is much easier to follow if you know all the business terminology.

Biology

Fantastic Voyage

In this 1966 sci-fi classic, a submarine crew is shrunk to microscopic size and inserted into a diplomat in order to remove the blood clot in his brain. The effects look campy, but the journey through the human body is delightfully entertaining and educational.



End of Watch follows the life of two police officers in Los Angeles who are at odds with the cartel, but whose friendship and comradery come out victorious. This will surely entertain any Criminal Justice major *Courtesy photo*

Chemistry

Flubber

This Robin Williams classic tells the story of Phillip Brainard, a scientist who invents a green flying rubber substance he christens "Flubber." Brainard uses Flubber to help out his college career and his relationship, but another scientist plots to steal Flubber for his own profit. There are other wacky inventions throughout the film, but the show is stolen by Flubber doing the mambo.

CISS

Terminator 2: Judgment Day

Arnold Schwarzenegger returns as the Terminator but in the movie he's sent back in time to protect John Connor. The film also digs deeper into Skynet, the artificial intelligence that will initiate a nuclear war and create the machines that exterminate humanity in the future. Aside from scaring people about the threat of advancing technology, the film was a ma-

ior breakthrough for computer-generated imagery.

Criminal Justice

End of Watch

This action thriller follows the day-to-day police work of two police officers working in South Central Los Angeles. After busting a few drug dealers, the officers land in hot water with the cartel which leads to some intense action sequences. Where the movie really thrives is the portrayal of the comradery amongst the officers in that line of duty.

History

Russian Ark

The film follows an unnamed narrator as he wanders through the Winter Palace in Saint Petersburg and encounters historical figures from the past 300 years. The film makes its own history by being the first film to be shot in one continuous take and to use film uses 33 rooms and 2,000 actors.



The indie drama *Short Term 12* follows a young supervisor for a group home for troubled teens and her close relationship with one of the teens. Social Work majors, this one is for you. *Courtesy photo*

Mass Communication

Page One: Inside the New York Times

This documentary gives an inside look at one of the largest newspapers in the United States. The film explores the changes in the industry and how the death of print news is even affecting the most popular newspapers.

Mathematics

Pi

The film follows a paranoid mathematician who believes everything in nature can be understood through numbers. The film includes mathematical references such as the golden spiral, chaos theory and the game

of Go, but that doesn't stop the movie from having surreal moments. Let's just say you won't look at a power drill from now on, without getting a headache.

Psychology

The Silence of the Lambs

This thriller follows FBI agent Clarice Starling as she tracks down one serial killer with the guidance of another. Either killer would make an excellent case study. Hannibal Lector is a former psychiatrist who ate his victims while Buffalo Bill skins his victims' corpses.

Religious Studies

Passion of the Christ

Mel Gibson directed this Biblical

drama which depicts the final hours of Jesus' life beginning with the Agony in the Garden of Gethsemane and ending with a brief depiction of His resurrection. Whether you love or hate the film, it makes for a good debate about historical accuracy.

Social Work

Short Term 12

This indie drama follows Grace, a young supervisor for a group home for troubled teens. Grace forms a close bond with one of the troubled teens who shares a similar history of abuse. The film also raises the concern about what happens to these teens when they reach 18 and can no longer be in the system.

New baseball team prepares for first season in spring

By Ruben Renteria
Reporter

This 2014 fall semester the University welcomes a new department to athletics, the inaugural Men's Baseball team.

As a start-up program in its first semester, the university is already shaping up for its first season ever with the recent hiring of Freddy Rodriguez as head coach and Jeremy Flores as assistant head coach for the team.

Rodriguez comes to the university with eight years' experience in the NAIA/Red River Athletic Conference, where he coached for Texas College. During his time there, he helped the team compete for the conference tournament since 2009 and the team earned the highest GPA average among all other athletic departments at TC for three seasons.

Flores just recently finished the previous season as an assistant coach for the Victoria Generals of the Texas Collegiate League where they appeared in their second TCL championship appearance in a season that saw them achieve thirty-seven wins.

Coaches Rodriguez and Flores said they could not pass up the opportunity to be the first two men's baseball coaches in the history of the university.

"When you can start something from the ground up, it's special," Rodriguez said. "You can really set the foundation down of all your philosophies, your expectations, your standards, everything you want to put in place in a program, you get to start from day one."

Tyler Davis, a junior transfer from Eastfield College, is excited for the programs current try-out

process.

"Coach Rodriguez is a competitor," Davis said. "He wants the best out of us and he holds us all accountable."

Despite being a first year program, Rodriguez is confident in the team's ability to come right out the gate and compete immediately.

"Realistic expectations, we are going to compete year one," Rodriguez said. "We are going to set obtainable goals, goals we can reach."

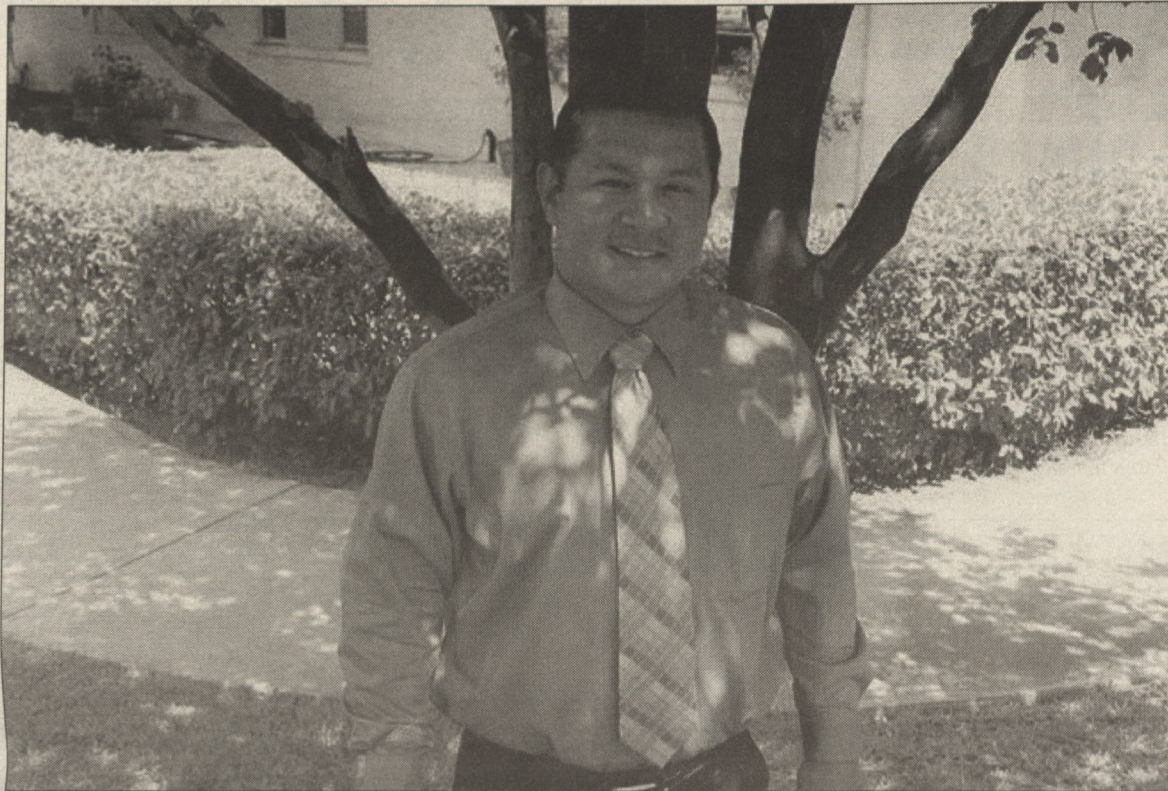
Some of the goals Rodriguez sees possible for his team are a 30 win season, making the conference tournament, winning their first post-season game and competing for a conference championship.

Currently there are 45 students who are competing with one another for a final spot in the team. Towards the end of the off-season coach Flores and myself will conduct player evaluations and trim the team down to 35 official roster players, Rodriguez said.

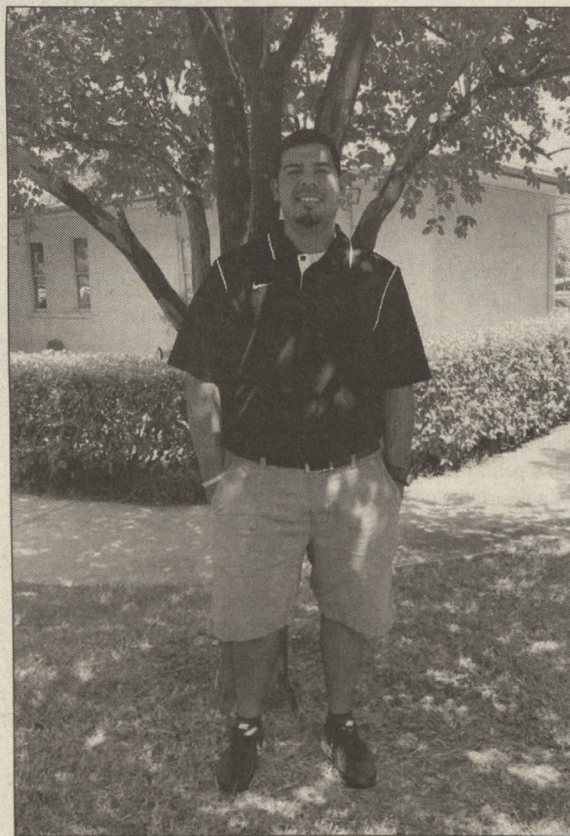
Since there are so many students looking to make the team, both coaches note that students will have to do their best to earn their spot in it.

"Every day you're going to have to come in and outwork somebody, out shine somebody to ultimately win a spot. You get out what you put in to it," Flores said. "I'm a firm believer that hard work pays off."

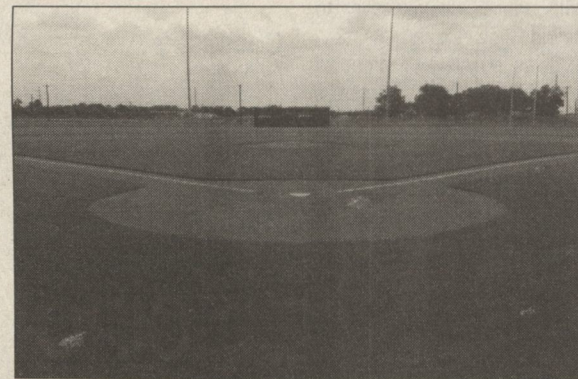
The Men's Baseball season begins next spring semester and their home games will be hosted at the Mission's Baseball Academy at 5707 State Highway 151 (Callaghan Rd. exit). Admission for students, faculty and staff will be free. Visitor ticket



Freddy Rodriguez is the baseball team's inaugural coach. *Photo by Astrid Villegas*



Jeremy Flores is the baseball team assistant head coach. *Photo by Astrid Villegas*



The Baseball team's home games will be held at the Mission's Baseball Academy. *Courtesy photo*

prices range from \$3-5. The games will also be streamed live through the OLLU Athletics website under the Baseball Team tab.

Since some of the players competing for a roster spot on the team are not from San Antonio, Rodriguez admitted that live streaming the games was a huge benefit when recruiting the out-of-town players

"That was a selling

point for us," Rodriguez said. "Being able to get some of these out of state, out of town kids to come to school here, knowing their parents can see them play online."

For more information about the Men's Baseball Team, contact Coach Rodriguez at frodriguez@lake.ollusa.edu or Assistant Coach Flores at jflores3@ollusa.edu.

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Coach and captain speak of volleyball season underway

By Danny Lopez
Reporter

The Volleyball Team's season started with non-conference games and preparations for conference plays, which begin September 19 against Bacone College. Getting a conference ring is the team's priority; they have put a lot of work over the summer by playing volleyball and staying active lifting weights as well.

Head Coach Mark Lee heads the team for an eighth season. The team overall has transformed since his first year coaching it, Lee said.

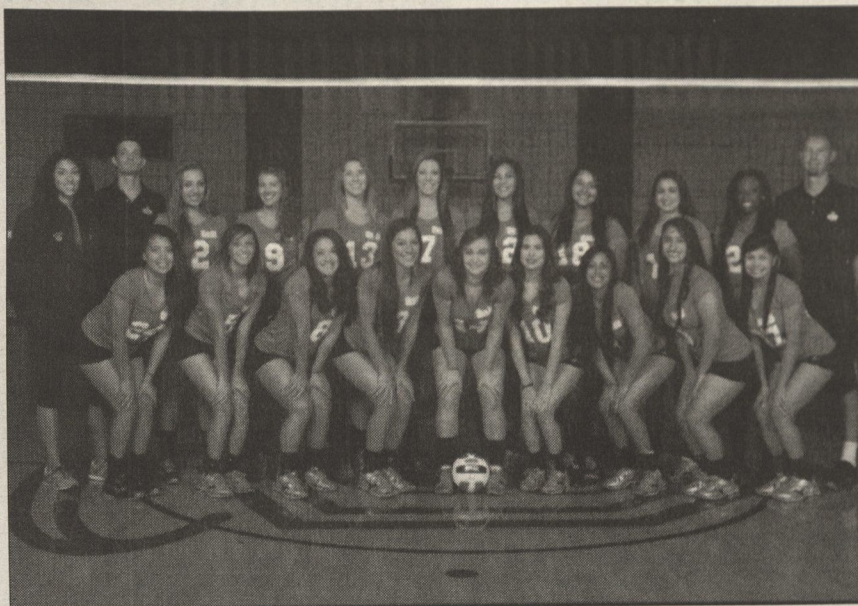
"I think each year returners have gotten bet-

ter, and the recruits have been improved," Lee said. "When you combine together the returners with new recruits, it's made our team better each year. This year will be the best we've ever been."

Lee encourages players to do their best each day.

"Becoming better every day, every week, every month until the season is over," Lee said.

One of the goals Coach Lee and the team has is to be able to compete for the conference championship this year. Last year the team lost to UT-Brownsville in the Red River Athletic Conference Tournament, finishing with a 15-12 overall



This academic year's volleyball team. The team's season has started. Catch them at their first conference game on September 19. *Courtesy photo*

record, and 9-4 within the conference. Last year's record landed them with being a fourth-seed in the tournament, where they played UT-Brownsville.

"I think if we work hard we can get that W," said Suzette Pena, team captain. "I want all my team to get together and get that accomplished. I want that ring."

But she recognizes the feat won't be an easy one.

"It'll be a challenge until the very end," Pena said. "This team is very capable of accomplishing what they have set out (to do)."

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Baseball coach ready, excited for inaugural season

By Alejandra Guzman
Reporter

Athletic Director, eight-year college coach and seventeen year player is newly named Head Baseball Coach Freddy Rodriguez.

Rodriguez is the new Baseball Team head coach.

Rodriguez, born and raised in Germany to Mexican and Korean parents, feels no pressure to head the inaugural baseball team.

Rodriguez has played a number of sports since the age of 5 including karate, baseball, football, basketball and even soccer. However, Rodriguez said baseball took over his life his sophomore year of high school.

He graduated from Ellison High School in Killeen, TX and then went on to play baseball for Baylor University. But Rodriguez sprained his ankle during off-season, causing him to not earn a spot on

the team.

Rodriguez took a two-year break to focus on his academics and moved to Tyler, TX, where he attended Texas College. He pursued baseball through a summer league that awarded him scholarship to attend Ranger College. He played for a year while again focusing on his education.

Rodriguez earned associate's degree in General Studies from Tyler College, a bachelor's in Kinesiology with a minor in Education from the University of Texas at Tyler (UTT) and a master's in Coaching and Athletic Administration from Concordia University.

But through his academic journeys, Rodriguez never forgot baseball.

"I've always been in the game because I've loved and enjoyed baseball," Rodriguez said.

Rodriguez said he was blessed and fortunate to become a volunteer assistant for the team in the spring of 2006 for Texas

College. Simultaneously Rodriguez strived to complete the state tests and teaching certifications. It was after the completion of his certifications that Rodriguez interviewed for the head coach position at Texas College. He was named head coach in August.

"Right out of college and being at the college level was real big," Rodriguez said. "I thank Texas College for giving me the opportunity to coach at this level."

Rodriguez began teaching physical education courses his third year at Texas College and continued to teach for five more years. In 2013 Rodriguez became the athletic director of the college.

"On the administrative side, I focused on nine programs and all the coaches under me," Rodriguez said. "It's prepared me for where I am today."

His position here officially began June 2.

"I was speechless

when I got the call, I even stuttered a little," Rodriguez said. "I want to thank the university for giving me this opportunity."

Rodriguez's motivation is derived from the want to win, the fear of failing and loving what he does.

"The players motivate me more than anything," Rodriguez said. "It's an honor, a big honor. It humbles me and I don't want to take anything for granted."

Academics also motivated Rodriguez to apply for the position. He noticed the achievements the entire athletic program has accomplished in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Conference (NAIA). He also admired how the entire university emphasized graduation rates and not just championships.

"I think it's going to be an exciting year," Rodriguez said. "I wish we could play tomorrow but I have to wait and get the team ready."



Freddy Rodriguez, inaugural baseball coach, has played baseball since he was 5. He last coached at Texas College. *Photo by Astrid Villegas*

Rodriguez said he is a strict coach because his expectations are high.

"I'm a firm believer that players win games

and coaches lose them," Rodriguez said.

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International soccer players speak of American experience

By Astrid Villegas
Reporter

This year, the Men's Soccer Team counts with the help of four new international assets on their team. With different positions and playing styles, these players are bound to create a more diverse team and maybe even increase the standards of the team itself.

Take a look at the team's four international soccer players - one player from Germany, two from Finland and one from England - and what they have to say about the American and Texan cultures, and even the Texas heat.

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AKSELI EKLUND



SEBASTIAN LUEHR



MAX O'SHEA



ELIAS TAMBURINI



All photos by Astrid Villegas



The 2014-2015 Men's Soccer Team.
Courtesy photo



Finland



Germany



England



Finland

Classification: Freshman
Position: Goalkeeper

Classification: Junior
Position: Midfielder

Classification: Junior
Position: Forward

Classification: Freshman
Position: Defender

WHAT IS YOUR HIDDEN TALENT?

I speak four languages fluently.

I know how to play the piano, and I am a fast learner.

Cooking. I'm a chef.

I give good massages.

WHAT IS YOUR DREAM JOB?

Professional soccer player coach.

To be a psychologist.

Earning money by playing soccer a lot.

A professional soccer player.

WHO OR WHAT INSPIRES YOU AND WHY?

My parents, they were never afraid of taking risks. They lived abroad and that gave me the opportunity to experience different cultures.

My dad. We are really similar. We have similar gifts and ways of thinking. We are both very self-confident.

My dad. He has inspired me, because I am a lot like him.

Tony Montana (Scarface). He doesn't care what anyone else thinks about him. He's the boss.

WHAT TO YOU IS AN UNUSUAL AMERICAN CULTURE OR TRADITION?

Labor Day.

I find it odd that American families have like five or six cars. Americans drive everywhere.

Thanksgiving. We don't have Thanksgiving.

Eating fast food.

NAME A MUSIC GENRE YOU WERE EXPOSED TO FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE U.S.

Country music. It's boring.

Country music. I dislike it.

Bachata. I have danced it a few times.

Country music. It's weird.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN OLLU AND OTHER UNIVERSITIES YOU'VE ATTENDED?

The buildings. They are religious.

I am a transfer student. My previous schools were way more international.

I am a transfer student. My old school did not have as many Hispanics. And it's cool, I like it.

So many people live on campus. The dorm life is totally different back home - no one lives on campus. There is no dorm life.

WHAT IS A SAYING OR PHRASE YOU HAVE ADOPTED SINCE YOU'VE BEEN HERE?

"What up, cuz?"

"Real talk."

"That's what's up."

"For realz." With a "z."

HOW DO YOU COPE WITH THE TEXAS HEAT?

We don't. We just suffer. We survive.

I can deal with it better than I expected. My body is like a machine. I go 0 to 100 real quick.

Not very well. It's overwhelming sometimes, but you get used to it.

Every day is survival. I hate it.