



Center for Multicultural Education

SPRING 2017 ISSUE

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STAFF:

Latoya Fitzpatrick
Director

Alexis Williams
Program Assistant

Dianah Hidzir
Program Assistant

Dana Heldenbrand
Administrative Coordinator

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Center for
Multicultural Education
Nelle Blum Student Union 207

(816) 271-4150
cme@missouriwestern.edu

www.facebook.com/cme.mwsu
Twitter: @mwsu_cme
Instagram: @mwsu_cme

Dakota Access Pipeline Protests

The Dakota Access Pipeline protests, are grassroots movements that began in early 2016 in reaction to the approved construction of Energy Transfer Partners' Dakota Access Pipeline in the northern United States. The pipeline was projected to run from the Bakken oil fields in western North Dakota to southern Illinois, crossing beneath the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers, as well as under part of Lake Oahe near the Standing Rock Indian Reservation. Many in the Standing Rock tribe consider the pipeline and its intended crossing of the Missouri River to constitute a threat to the region's clean water and to ancient burial grounds. In April, Standing Rock Sioux elder LaDonna Brave Bull Allard established a camp as a center for cultural preservation and spiritual resistance to the pipeline.

Much of the pipeline has been completed as of late 2016, so the Missouri crossing has been an increasingly controversial topic. In March and April 2016 the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Interior, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation asked the Army Corps of Engineers to conduct a formal Environmental Impact Assessment and issue an Environmental Impact Statement. The Standing Rock Sioux



Tribe filed suit against the Corps of Engineers in July, but the motion was denied in September 2016.

The protests have been said to be "reshaping the national conversation for any environmental project that would cross the Native American land." On September 3 construction workers bulldozed a section of land the tribe had identified as sacred ground in an amendment to the federal injunction a day earlier. When protesters entered the area, security workers used attack dogs, which bit at least six of the protesters and one horse. The incident was filmed and viewed by several million people on YouTube and other social media. On December 4 under President Barack Obama's administration the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers denied an easement for construction of the pipeline under the Missouri River.

Adapted from: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dakota_Access_Pipeline_protests



Spring 2017 Upcoming Events

- Jan. 17: MLK Pledge Day, 11am,
Blum Union Lobby
- Jan. 18: MLK Banquet, 6pm,
Enright 214-216
- Jan. 20: "Selma" Movie Night, 6pm
Blum 222-223
- Feb. 8: Culture Shock, 7pm, Spratt 101
- Feb. 14: Charles Drew Blood Drive,
10am-3pm, Blum 218-219
- Feb. 15: Classism Presentation, 6pm,
Commons Conference Room
- Feb. 22: Soul Food Lunch, 11am-1pm,
Dining Hall
- Feb. 22: "Race" Movie Night, 6pm,
Blum 218
- Feb. 28: Tour of Black Archives, 3pm,
Blum 207
- Mar. 7: An Evening w/Natasha El-Scari,
7pm, Enright 214-216
- Mar. 21: "The Time is Now" Movie Night,
6pm, Blum 218
- Mar. 23: "Speaker" Stacey Lannert, 7pm,
Spratt 101
- Mar. 29: Religious Oppression Presenta-
tion, 6pm, Commons Conference
Room
- Apr. 3: Cultural Competency Training,
8am-11am & 1pm-4pm, Blum 218
- Apr. 3: Cultural Competency Training,
8am-11am & 1pm-4pm, Blum 218
- Apr. 6: Speaker: Nikki Giovanni, 7pm,
Potter Theatre
- Apr. 12: "Loving" Movie Night, 6pm,
Blum 218
- May 4: Multicultural Graduate Dinner,
5pm, Blum 218

Black History Month Icon: President Barack Obama

Born in Honolulu in 1961, Barack Obama went on to become President of the Harvard Law Review and a U.S. senator representing Illinois. In 2008, he was elected President of the United States, becoming the first African-American



commander-in-chief. He served two terms as the 44 president of the United States.

In the second part of his first term as president, Obama faced a number of obstacles and scored some victories as well. In spite of opposition from Congressional Republicans and the populist Tea Party movement, Obama signed his health care reform plan, known as the Affordable Care Act, into law in March 2010. The new law prohibited the denial of coverage based on pre-existing conditions, allowed citizens under 26 years old to be insured under parental plans, provided for free health screenings for certain citizens and expanded insurance coverage and access to medical care to millions of Americans. Opponents of the Affordable Care Act, asserted that it added new costs to the country's overblown budget, violated the Constitution with its requirement for individuals to obtain insurance and amounted to a "government takeover" of health care

In economics, Obama worked to steer the country through difficult financial times. After drawn-out negotiations with Republicans who gained control of the U.S. House of Representatives in the 2010 mid-term elections, he signed the Budget Control Act

of 2011 in an effort to rein in government spending and prevent the government from defaulting on its financial obligations. The act also called for the creation of a bipartisan committee to seek solutions to the country's fiscal issues, but the group failed to reach any agreement on how to solve these problems.

Also in 2011, Obama signed a repeal of the military policy known as "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," which prevented openly gay troops from serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. In March 2011, he approved U.S. participation in NATO airstrikes to support rebels fighting against the forces of Libyan dictator Muammar al-Qaddafi, and in May he also gave the green light to a covert operation in Pakistan that led to the killing of infamous al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden by a team of U.S. Navy SEALs.

Adapted from: <http://www.biography.com/people/barack-obama-12782369#video-gallery>

2017 Religious & Cultural Calendar

Jan. 1: Kwanzaa (Cultural Celebration)
Jan. 1: Hanukkah (Jewish)
Jan. 1: New Year's Day (Holiday)
Jan. 5: Birth of Guru Gobind Singh (Sikh)
Jan. 6: Epiphany (Christian)
Jan. 8: Baptism of the Lord (Christian)
Jan. 12-15: Mahayana New Year (Buddhist)
Jan. 14: Makar Sankranti (Hindu)
Jan. 15: World Religion Day (Celebration)
Jan. 16: Religious Liberty Day (Celebration)
Jan. 16: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Celebration)
Jan. 24-25: Tu B'Shvat (Jewish)
Jan. 28: Lunar New Year (Cultural Celebration)
Jan. 31: Chinese New Year (Buddhist)
All February: Black History Month (Cultural Celebration)
Feb. 2: Candlemas (Christian)
Feb. 10: Ash Wednesday (Christian)
Feb. 11: Tu'BiShvat (Jewish)
Feb. 15: Parinirvana/Nirvana Day (Buddhist)
Feb. 25: Mana Shivaratri (Hindu)
Feb. 25-28: Carnival (Cultural Celebration)
Feb. 10: Ash Wednesday (Christian)
Feb. 28: Shrove Tuesday (Christian)
All March: Women's History Month (Cultural Celebration)
Mar. 1: Ash Wednesday (Christian)
Mar. 9: Ta'anit Esther/Fast of Esther (Jewish)
Mar. 12: Magha Puja/Sangha Day (Buddhist)
Mar. 13: Holi (Hindu)
Mar. 13: Hola Mohalla (Sikh)
Mar. 17: St. Patrick's Day (Cultural Celebration)
Mar. 18: Ugadi/Yugadi (Hindu)
Mar. 22: Purim (Jewish)
Mar. 24: Maundy Thursday (Christian)
Mar. 25: Annunciation (Christian)
Mar. 25: Good Friday (Christian)
Apr. 2: Palm Sunday (Christian)
Apr. 5: Rama Navami (Hindu)
Apr. 8: Hana Matsuri (Buddhist)
Apr. 8: Hindu New Year (Hindu)
Apr. 8-15: Ramayana (Hindu)
Apr. 9: Easter (Christian)
Apr. 10: Fast of the Firstborn (Jewish)
Apr. 11-18: Pesach/Passover (Jewish)
Apr. 13: Baisakhi/Vaisakhi (Sikh)
Apr. 15: Ramanavami (Hindu)
Apr. 22: Hanuman Jayanti (Hindu)
Apr. 22-23: Theravada New Year (Buddhist)
Apr. 23: Yom Hashoah (Jewish)
May 1: Yom Ha'Atzmaut (Jewish)
May 5: Cinco de Mayo (Cultural Celebration)
May 10: Visakha Puja (Buddhist)
May 10: Lailat al Bara'ah (Muslim)
May 14: Mother's Day (Cultural Celebration)
May 14: Lag B'Omer (Jewish)
May 25: Ascension Day (Christian)

Women's History Month Icon: Katherine G. Johnson

Born in 1918 in West Virginia, Katherine G. Johnson made the most of limited educational opportunities for African Americans, graduating from college at age 18. In 1958, after NACA was reformulated into the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), Johnson was among the people charged with determining how to get a human into space and back. The following year she remarried, to decorated Navy and Army officer James A. Johnson.

For Johnson, calculating space flight came down to the basics of geometry: "The early trajectory was a parabola, and it was easy to predict where it would be at any point," she said. "Early on, when they said they wanted the capsule to come down at a certain place, they were trying to compute when it should start. I said, 'Let me do it. You tell me when you want it and where you want it to land, and I'll do it backwards and tell you when to take off.'" As a result, the task of plotting the path for Alan Shepard's 1961 journey to space, the first in American history, fell on her shoulders.



The next challenge was to send a man in orbit around Earth. This involved far more difficult calculations, to account for the gravitational pulls of celestial bodies, and by then NASA had begun using electronic computers. Yet, the job wasn't

considered complete until Johnson checked the work of the machines, providing the go-ahead to propel John Glenn into successful orbit in 1962.

While the work of electronic computers took on increased importance at NASA, Johnson remained highly valuable for her unwavering accuracy. She performed calculations for the historic 1969 Apollo 11 trip to the moon, and the following year, when Apollo 13 experienced a malfunction in space, her contributions to contingency procedures helped ensure its safe return.

Johnson continued to serve as an asset for NASA, helping to develop its Space Shuttle program and Earth Resources Satellite, until her retirement in 1986.

Adapted from: <http://www.biography.com/people/katherine-g-johnson-101016>



2017 Campus Dates

- Jan 3: Campus Re-opens
- Jan 10: Walk-In Registration
- Jan 16: Martin Luther King Day (no classes/campus closed)
- Jan 17: Classes Begin
- Jan 20: Federal Work-Study Disbursement
- Jan 27: 1st Financial Aid Disbursement
- Feb 3: 1st Business Office Disbursement (Refund Check)
- Feb 20: President's Day (classes in session/campus open)
- Feb 17: 1st Time Freshman Borrower 30 Day Delay Financial Aid Disbursement
- Feb 20: Federal Work Study Disbursement
- Feb 20: President's Day (classes in session/campus open)
- Feb 24: 1st Time Freshman Borrower 30 Day Delay Business Office Disbursement (Refund Check)
- Feb. 27: Registration Begins for Summer/Fall
- Mar 12-19: Spring Break (no classes/campus open)
- Mar 20: Federal Work Study Disbursement
- Mar 22: Mid-Term Grades Due
- Mar 24: 2nd Financial Aid Disbursement
- Mar 31: Last Day to Withdraw
- Mar 31: 2nd Business Office Disbursement (Refund Check)
- Apr 20: Federal Work Study Disbursement
- Apr 28: Last Day of Classes
- Apr 29-May 5: Final Exams
- May 6: Commencement
- May 9: Final Grades Due
- May 20: Federal Work Study Disbursement

Asian/Pacific Islander Icon: Apolo Anton Ohno

Born on May 22, 1982, in Seattle, Washington, Apolo Anton Ohno started training at age fourteen. He also competed and won on the fourth season of "Dancing with the Stars."



Already an experienced swimmer and in-line skater, Apolo Anton Ohno was inspired to take up speedskating after watching the 1994 Winter Olympics with his father Yuki. He quickly emerged as a leading short-track skater. When Ohno was only 14, he trained with U.S. national speedskating coach Pat Wentland in Lake Placid, New York. In 1997, Ohno scored his first major victory, winning the U.S. short-track championship.

Many believed Ohno would be a shoo-in for the 1998 U.S. Olympic team, but he made a disappointing showing at the Olympic trials. Only 15 years old, Ohno faced a difficult decision regarding whether to continue competing. During his week of solitude, he decided to become more disciplined, and to train harder to excel at his sport.

With his newly found dedication, Ohno went to become the overall champion at the 1999 Junior World Championships and at the 2000-2001 World Cup. Making the 2002 Olympic team, he scored silver and gold at the Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City, Utah.

In the 1,000-meter event, Ohno was injured when several skaters crashed, but he was able to complete the race to win a silver medal. A disqualification led to his first gold medal, when a South Korean skater was found to have illegally blocked Ohno from passing him.

Continuing his career as a superior skater, Ohno earned the title of overall champion at the 2002-2003 and 2004-2005 World Cup events. He also won gold for the 1,000-meter and 3,000-meter events at the 2005 World Championships. Returning to Olympic competition in 2006, Ohno won gold in the 500-meter event. He scored two bronze medals for the 1,000-meter and 5,000-meter relay competitions.

Adapted from: <http://www.biography.com/people/apolo-anton-ohno-226021#synopsis>