

In The Mix



ALABAMA A&M UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
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Director's Message

Greetings and Happy New Year from the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA)!!

We are excited to share with you our quarterly newsletter which highlights the efforts of OMA through programming, engagements, and initiatives. The Office of Multicultural Affairs was established September 1, 2023 to promote access and equity across the University, to welcome and celebrate the experiences of all students, regardless of background, through intentional programming, and to improve campus climate that builds a more welcoming and inclusive community.

The staff of the Multicultural Affairs Office has accepted the charge to endeavor towards creating an inclusive campus, and is off to a running start. Since its inception, OMA has hosted and sponsored many programs, engagements, and launched initiatives that strive to create an environment that fosters full participation and belonging for all. I am most proud of our Inaugural F1rst Bulldog Celebration. This is an annual opportunity to raise awareness of the first-generation college student identity by advancing an asset-based, national narrative of these students' experiences and outcomes. According to data received from AAMU Office of Institutional Planning, Research and Effectiveness, we enrolled 1,852 (27.9%) first generation students for Fall 2023. First generation is defined as neither parent/guardian completed a four-year degree. The participation and support from the campus community for the F1rst Bulldog Celebration was phenomenal.

We look forward to the continued support of the campus community as we strive to infuse diversity into the AAMU campus culture and establish a reputation of inclusive excellence, regionally, nationally, and globally. No unit or department can achieve this alone; fostering inclusion, belonging, and participation requires consistent and intentional efforts from all of us.

Thank you,

Pamela H. Little





Bulldog Parent University is a webinar series intended to help first year parents and families understand how they can best support their student(s) while attending Alabama A&M University. Webinars held during the months of October and November covered topics around academic resources, registration, financial aid, and housing.



The Inaugural **F1rst Bulldog celebration** was held Oct 30th - Nov 3rd to raise awareness of the first-generation college student identity by advancing an asset-based, national narrative of these students' experiences and outcomes. The week of events included a National Signing Day, Voter Registration Drive, F1rst Bulldog Mixer, and Pep Rally. All first generation students received t-shirts. A huge thank you is extended to all of the first generation faculty and staff members who supported this week and are serving as advocates for our first generation bulldogs.



The Office of Multicultural Affairs and the Counseling Center collaborated to present the **3rd Annual Coming Out Day** on October 11th in support of the LGBTQIA community. The day consisted of food, drinks, music, goodies, and testing. Local community agencies support this event by sharing resources and ways to become allies.



International Education Week was held Nov 6th – 9th as an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange. The Office of Multicultural Affairs joined forces with several campus departments and the International Student Association, to host events and activities that enhanced international awareness and recognized the value of international students, faculty, and staff at AAMU. Events and activities included a food demonstration on how to make Mooncakes; a Diversity Talks panel discussion; Native Day Party; Becoming a Global Citizen discussion; Cultural Mixer; International Coffee; and Diwali on the Hill. A table tennis tournament was held and the first place winners won a trip to China for Summer 2024. We especially thank our campus partners Global Initiatives, Department of Social Work, COBPA International Programs, and CETPS Department of Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematics for sponsoring events during International Education Week.



Nov 13th – 16th was designated as **National Transfer Student Week** on The Hill as a means to celebrate transfer students and the professionals who support them. The theme of the week was Full Steam Ahead with events and activities intended to challenge assumptions, build empathy, and instill transfer pride on our campus were held. Events included a game night and social hour, FundAmental Discussion, and panel discussion on Being a Transfer Student. Our sincere appreciation to the Health and Counseling Center and our community partners for their support and time spent with our transfer students.

Upcoming Events

JANUARY

- 8th Spring Classes Begin
- 19th First Generation Friday Event
- 22nd Bulldogs Parent University: "Securing the Bag"
- 25th Virtual Orientation for International Students

FEBRUARY

- 7th International Student Social Hour
- 12th Bulldog Parent University - "What's On Your Mind"
- 16th First Generation Friday Event
- 26th-Mar 1st Mid-Terms Begin

MARCH

- 1st Understanding Pronouns Workshop
- 5th -6th United Against Hate Symposium
- 8th International Women's Day Celebration
- 11th -15th Spring Break
- 18th Bulldog Parent University - "Academic Support"

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