By Eunice Gambrah

Martin Luther King, one of the nation’s main civil rights leaders in the 1960’s, was born on January 15, 1929. King’s revolutionary non-violent resistance to racism, inequality, and injustice impacted the racial relations in the United States. He led the Montgomery Bus Boycott, and helped found the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in 1957. In 1964, King became the youngest person to receive the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to end segregation and racial discrimination through civil disobedience and other non-violent means. King’s life came to an abrupt end when he was assassinated on April 4, 1968 in Memphis, Tennessee while addressing the issues of the Poor People’s Campaign. This year marked the 40th anniversary of his death; therefore it was a special remembrance of his life.

Our Martin Luther King Jr. Annual Beloved Dinner celebrated the life and legacy of King. Bucknell’s active role in fighting against inequality and oppression was highlighted in President Mitchell’s remarks. Staying on the course to fight for something we believe in even when in danger, is another valuable message the President gave us. This has been the way of Bucknell students, and can be seen in the percentage of our Peace Corps volunteers. The Keynote speaker for the night was Professor Shara McCallum. She talked about Black Poetry and the Civil Rights Legacy. Professor McCallum reminded us of the beautiful poetry of African Americans; and how some of these poems never made it to the mainstream America, due to inequalities, prejudices, and injustices that still remain with us today.

The significance of events at Bucknell such as the Martin Luther King Jr. Annual Beloved Dinner, and other events held to commemorate the life of a great man lay emphasis on the importance of educating ourselves more about the inequalities that surround us.

Students at the MLK dinner—Enche Tjin

The Rooke Chapel Choir singing at the dinner—Enche Tjin
**MLK: Service Week**

*By Erica Lopatofsky*

Martin Luther King Jr. Service Week took place from January 22 through January 25, 2008. The service week seeks to further celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. by taking his message and his life’s work into the Lewisburg community. Martin Luther King believed that if people came together peacefully, they could accomplish great things. Service week attempts to do just that, by bringing together members of the Bucknell community and the Lewisburg community to learn about the life of a great man.

Following the celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. on January 21st, over twenty students, faculty, and staff took part in Martin Luther King Jr. Service Week from January 22nd through January 25th. The students taught lessons and coordinated activities about Martin Luther King Jr., diversity, and cultural differences at area preschools and after school programs. Our volunteers worked with a wide range of ages, from preschool to high school students. Service events took place at Essex Place, Meadow View, Kids of the Kingdom Preschool, the Listening Post, and the Milton YMCA. The Office of Multicultural Student Services would like to thank all of those who volunteered for these events. The week was a great success!

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**An IOA Experience**

*By Fazil Habibullah ’08*

Nervous. There is no other word to describe what I was feeling that afternoon as I waited outside the Vedder Conference Room to be called in. I was interviewing for a position of an IOA, or International Orientation Assistant, for the summer of 2007. With my heart racing a million miles an hour, I found myself thinking if I was slightly mental. Sure, I had been born in India, but I had lived the majority of my young life in the States. I was about as Indian as Barack Obama. Soon, Naomi, a veteran IOA, came out and called me into the interview. That next half an hour was a blur in time—a whirlwind of words during which I ended up disclosing some of my most transcendental thoughts of the interaction between culture and society.

In retrospect, I realize that something happened in that room; in that half-hour span of time during which I had discussed my views on cultural adaptation versus assimilation. In discussing some of my most personal thoughts, I had re-discovered my own culture. I stumbled upon the reason I had originally agreed to apply for the position. I had once again realized how exciting the prospect of an exchange of cultural ideas could be. Combine that with the prospect of making new friends, I had hit upon a great opportunity. I had once again realized how exciting the prospect of an exchange of cultural ideas could be. Combine that with the prospect of making new friends, I had hit upon a great opportunity. I found myself eagerly, almost fanatically, awaiting a positive result.

When the chance came, I jumped on it. August of 2007 arrived, and with it, about a week of IOA training, during which I formed a sort of brotherhood with a host of fellow students—IOC, IOLs, and other IOAs. The term ‘training’ should be used loosely here; after all, it included playing on the climbing course at Cowan and participating in teambuilding games, etc.

Finally, the students arrived and they brought with them a new definition of the word, “exhilaration.” From playing Guitar hero and cards to visiting the Chaplain’s house to bowling, spending time with the students was just pure, unadulterated fun. Sure, as IOAs, we worked nearly 20 hour days sometimes, but as far as I can recall, never once did I feel tired or drained when the students were around—they’re energy and enthusiasm instantly recharged ours. As an IOA, I had one of the most blessed and overall delightful experiences of my life.
LGBT: Freedom To Marry Week

By, Alex Madsen '08

Freedom to Marry is a national non-profit organization founded in New York City in 2002. Its stated mission is "working to win marriage equality nationwide." It works through litigation, legislation, and community education. The organization sponsors Freedom to Marry Week, a weeklong national event from the 11th to the 15th of February, celebrating same-sex partnerships and the importance of marriage equality. Among other topics, they discuss the strength of the same-sex family and why marriage equality matters. Bucknell’s Office of LGBT Awareness continues in 2008 to celebrate this important week. We will have a table in the LC Mall to give out gay marriage ribbons, equality buttons and have students sign letters to congressional representatives regarding marriage equality. We also have a wide variety of panels and discussions during the week, including, “Campus Speak: Dialogue on What Marriage Means to You”, an informal dialogue on what marriage means to you, a video screening of “One Wedding and a Revolution,” with discussion to follow; a video about the first same-sex couple married by U.S. government officials, “Talk It Out Dialogue: Gay Marriage, Civil Unions and Why?,” presenting the differences between gay marriage, civil unions, legal partnerships and marriage as an institution in an educational and academic setting, and finally, a video screening of “Daddy and Papa” with discussion to follow; a video on LGBT parenting; its challenges and joys. Below is a list of our event schedule:

- **Campus Speak: Dialogue on What Marriage Means to You**
  (Informal dialogue on what marriage means to you. Do you believe in gay marriage, straight marriage, no marriage and why?)
  Monday February 11
  Arches Lounge, LC
  12-1 pm

- **“One Wedding and a Revolution” Video and Discussion**
  (A video about the first same-sex couple married by U.S. government officials)
  Tuesday February 12
  Gallery Theatre, LC
  7-9 pm

- **“Daddy and Papa” Video and Discussion**
  (A video on gay parenting; the challenges and joys)
  Thursday February 14
  Gallery Theatre, LC
  7-9 pm

CDC Internship Panel

By, Silvia Mocanu ’08

The Internship Panel, which will take place on February 7th, is a great way for students who are looking to pursue summer opportunities to obtain more information and to become directly connected to other students who have successfully completed summer employment. The panel is featuring seniors from a variety of majors and who have interned in a wide range of fields: Jason Suway, Management major, who interned with the Red Cross in South Africa, Megan Malloy, Art History and English major, who worked at Sotheby’s auction house, Christina Sullivan, accounting major, who interned at Price Waterhouse Coopers, Katie Leinen, Economics and Political Science major, who pursued a summer opportunity with ESPN, Jayne Kubat, Chemistry and Classics major, who interned with a local Animal Emergency Center, Matt Kaminski, Computer Science and Engineering major, who worked with General Electric, and Lauren Kushner, Anthropology and Sociology, who interned with Giorgio Armani.

The panel will provide a brief overview of the many opportunities available, as well as an opportunity for current sophomores and juniors to ask any questions and to learn more either about specific fields or about the internship search and interviewing process in general.

In addition, the CDC will also organize an International Student Panel during this upcoming spring, which will also offer a chance for international students specifically to clarify some of their questions with regard to the internship search process. This is also an excellent opportunity for U.S. students interested in employment opportunities abroad to participate and to obtain information on how to pursue summer opportunities abroad.
Mark Your Calendar!

- Feb 8: Puerto Rican Coffee Hour, Vedder Lounge, 4pm
- Feb 15: 10A Application due, Vedder Hall
- Feb 20: Wacky Wednesday, Vedder Lounge, 7-10pm
- Feb 22: Career Networking Event, Larrison Dining Hall, 3-5pm
- March 2: BU After Dark, Gerhard Fieldhouse 11pm