International Women’s Day Luncheon

International Women’s Day (“IWD”) falls annually on the 8th of March, and marks a major day in the struggle for the empowerment of, and justice and equality for, women.

It evolved in the early 1900’s out of the rise of what were at that time considered radical ideologies, caused by the rapid growth of the industrialized world. The day’s significance has grown extensively since then, from the UN holding an annual IWD conference to it being a public holiday in China, Vietnam, some of Eastern Europe, and most of Central Asia. The day is also officially observed by many other nations.

This year, IWD was celebrated on campus on the 18th of March. Since this year marks 125 years of coeducation at Bucknell, it was decided that we should commemorate it by focusing on the history of international women at Bucknell. Befitting this theme, the luncheon featured food from around the world, and the venue was arranged with displays featuring photographs and newspaper clippings showing international women on campus since the 1960’s.

But the highlight of the afternoon were unquestionably the five inspirational women on the panel – Doris Dysinger, retired curator of the library archives; Meenakshi Ponnuswami, a Delhi-born associate professor of English; Tejal Raichura, a Kenyan-born Tanzanian of Indian origin, senior; Anne Pusey, Chinese associate professor in the East Asian Studies department; and Sithanda Ntuka, a freshman from Botswana. A recurring theme in the discussion was this notion of “reinvention” that women from overseas undergo when they move to the US and the means with which they eventually adapt to a culture almost completely alien to them while still managing to maintain a bond with their roots.

Since I come from India—a country where women’s rights is a pressing issue, I can stress that a day like this is imperative to bringing women of all socioeconomic and political backgrounds together to understand, fight for, and embrace what should be seen as basic human rights: empowerment, justice and equality.
POSSE Plus Retreat ‘09

“Is education a right or a privilege?” was one of the questions among many others during the fourth Posse Plus retreat organized by Bucknell University. This year’s theme was Education.

We do not think about the importance of education. Most of us take it for granted and forget about this important issue. We forget that not everyone has the option to get an education.

During the retreat Bucknell Posse scholars, their guests, as well as Bucknell faculty and staff joined together to share and enrich their knowledge about this topic. The atmosphere at the retreat seemed to be very open and respectful. If someone raised their voice to say something, others felt encouraged to listen and speak up themselves. There was a sense of safety space during the workshops where every individual felt accepted and welcomed.

The activities invited the participants for discussions and debates. People were divided into little groups to address the issues of today’s education system and talk about the solutions. One of my favorite activities was to decide on an initiative that would be most useful and important for the future generations in terms of improving the accessibility of education.

Apart from the workshops, students were given downtime to relax and get to know each other better. A No-Talent Talent show gave opportunities for people to introduce others with their talents. Another way to express an appreciation and affection was to write “warm and fuzzy” notes to the retreat participants and stick them to an assigned wall. It was very pleasing to see that the notes filled the wall very quickly.

The retreat turned out to be very successful. There was no one who left the retreat without gaining anything. Even if it was a new friend, a broader perspective, or at least a relaxing weekend.

Civil Rights Spring Break Trip

BY, LANGSTON TINGLING -CLEMONS ’10

Often when we think about Spring Break, we might envision a Cancun filled beach with under aged drinkers, trust fund babies, waiting to see our favorite artist and make some decisions we might soon regret.

Yet many students at Bucknell make the decision to spend their time enriching themselves with lessons that one could not learn on a beach filled with scantily clad women. Bucknell Posse scholars, their guests, as well as Bucknell faculty and staff joined together to share and enrich their knowledge about this topic. The atmosphere at the retreat seemed to be very open and respectful. If someone raised their voice to say something, others felt encouraged to listen and speak up themselves. There was a sense of safety space during the workshops where every individual felt accepted and welcomed.

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As the trip progressed so did our daily dialogues about our perceived successes and shortcomings of the contemporary movement. We pondered whether we could see diversity on Bucknell’s campus or whether the campus will continue to support these activities. Was the purpose of the movement to obtain diversity? What does this history mean in our hope for racial reconciliation?

These questions we argued, struggled, considered, and cried over during that great week. Maybe next year more courageous individuals will take up this challenge, and from my experience, I’m sure they won’t be let down.
CDC Challenges Alums to Sponsor

Internships are the single most important way for employers to identify future employees and for students to explore the world of work. In this difficult economic time, an internship gives Bucknellians a leg up in competing for their first job. So far alums, parents and friends have answered the call and we have secured over 400 internships and are over 80% towards meeting our goal. As a student it is now your turn to take on the challenge! Log on to the BRIDGE today and see what wonderful opportunities have been posted for you to apply for.

Simply put, in a tough economic time, an internship gives Bucknellians a leg up in competing for their first job. Knowing this, Alumni Relations/Career Services, 80% towards meeting our goal. As a student it is now your turn to take on the challenge! Log on to the BRIDGE today and see where they can make the Challenge aims to secure 500 what wonderful opportunities have been posted for you to apply for.

Dinner with Alumna Carolyn Miles ‘83
Doing What You Love While Making A Difference
April 16, 5:30 – 7:00 pm, Refectory
Register on the BRIDGE

Save the Children®

From Cultural Center Staff....

Please keep the Vedder Cultural Lounge in mind for a unique place to hold your weekly office staff meetings, club meetings, or just a quiet place to study.

In order to reserve the space, you may contact the RICS office to schedule your meeting or luncheon. You can also reserve it by logging in to mybucknell, click on Schedule an Event and fill out the form. If the space is available, we'd love to have you join the many organizations that have already made use of our wonderful lounge.
International Student Services
Multicultural Student Services
Vedder 125
Bucknell University
Lewisburg, PA 17837
ph: 570.577.3794
fax: 570.577.3163

Cultural Center Lounge Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30-4:30
Monday-Thursday, 7pm-10pm

Mark Your Calendar!!
Apr 1, 09: Blood Drive, Larrison Dining Hall, 10am-4pm
Apr 1, 09 Artistic Expressions (Poetry Night), Uptown, 9-11pm
Apr 4, 09: Beyond Unison Concert, Bucknell Hall, 3-4pm
Apr 4, 09 Choreographers’ Showcase, Harvey Powers Theater, 8-10pm
Apr 12, 09: Annual Student Art show, Samek Art Gallery LC, 1-5pm
Apr 24, 09: Chrysalis, Gerhard Fieldhouse, 9-11pm