Rotaract Club aims to “do good in the world.”

By Caesar Vulley ‘15

Five Bucknell students committed to “doing good in the world” established the Bucknell Rotaract Club in February 2014. Since then, the club has grown and now consists of 18 active members who have worked together on a variety of service projects.

This year, in celebration of World Polio Day, the Bucknell Rotaract Club hosted a three-day coin drive on campus from October 22nd – 24th. During the three days, students from the club raised awareness about the need to eradicate polio and about Rotary’s Global Polio Eradication Initiative. The students passed out free lemonade outside the school cafeteria each day as they engaged people in conversation and encouraged them to donate. At the end of the drive, the club raised a total of $414.59. With a 2:1 match by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the total rose to $1,243.77. The coin drive was an extension of a long-term project called Change for Change. Through this project, the Bucknell Rotaract Club has partnered with over 20 small businesses in Lewisburg and has set up donation jars near the cash registers of these businesses. The total amount raised from the coin drive initiative to date is $530.59. With the match of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the total rose to $1,591.77.

“It is our hope that this project runs for a long time and raises significant funds to help relegate polio to the history books,” club president Vulley said.

Other initiatives the club has taken include partnerships with various a cappella groups on campus to perform concerts at local retirement homes and participation in the annual Lewisburg Rail Trail Cleanup and other community events.
The MSS Ambassador Program

By Carolina Cormack ‘15

My first year at Bucknell, I was trying to figure out what special way I could contribute to the Bucknell community for the next four years. It was early into my time here, and I was really starting to feel the pressures and constrictions of the “Bucknell Bubble.” When I stumbled upon an advertisement for a new program to organize a group of diverse student leaders into a group of representatives for the office of Multicultural Student Services, known as the “MSS Ambassadors,” I applied enthusiastically and hoped for the best. I was accepted into the inaugural group of Ambassadors and met some really amazing people. Four years later, I have had the pleasure of watching the program grow as well as experiencing my own personal growth from participating as an Ambassador.

The MSS Ambassadors are student volunteers who work as leaders in diversity in various capacities of their lives and come together to represent the department at different events. In 2011 when the program began, these events were mainly Admissions events at which the Ambassadors talked to prospective students in order to attract more underrepresented students to the university. Since then, we have represented the office of MSS in many different ways. Ambassadors have spoken in panels to professors about their Bucknell experience as an underrepresented student, helped set up, support, and clean up after cultural dinners and speakers, hosted prospective students on campus visits, and even emceed events themselves. We have really moved forward and matured as a group and an organization. I am currently serving as Senior Ambassador, a new paid position that was created for the purposes of making the program more student-led. I am responsible for planning and organizing our meetings and completing various other tasks that keep the organization running smoothly. It is both demanding and rewarding, and the fact that it exists attests to the program’s expansion and influence on campus.

At the moment the Ambassador Recruitment Team is hard at work selecting our new members for the 2014-2015 school year. The Recruitment Team is a group of current Ambassadors who wanted to volunteer their time advertising applications, interviewing, and helping select a new group of capable leaders. They did a fantastic job and our applicant pool is five times larger than it was last fall. Aside from this hectic process, we have done a couple of other exciting things this semester. In September, we hosted an event aimed at first years for FYIS credit called “Who, What, and Where is MSS?”. In this session, planned and led by a group of Ambassadors, we introduced first years to the office of Multicultural Student Services and discussed how MSS can be a great resource for students through their four years at Bucknell over coffee and pastries. We have also done our usual duties of volunteering to help at events around campus, such as Admissions open houses and Call-A-Thons, and cultural dinners. We look forward to the rest of the semester which involves welcoming and training a new class of Ambassadors, and continuing to make our mark at Bucknell one step at a time.
My name is Diva Shrestha. I am originally from Nepal and I first came to the US as an international student. This puts me in a fitting position to be recruiting international students to Bucknell as the Associate Director of Admissions for International Recruitment at Bucknell.

I am charged with the task of recruiting talented students from all over the world. Aside from traveling to certain countries, I work closely with prospective international students to enroll a wonderful group of international students to Bucknell every year. Additionally, I also support the admissions team in various diversity initiatives targeted towards domestic multicultural students and international students.

Through my current position, I get to interact with students from different countries, regions, nationalities and backgrounds. I am yet to complete my first year at Bucknell, but I have already begun to work with some international students who love their Bucknell experience and are willing to share it with the next generation of students. After working with prospective students and applicants, finally meeting them for the first time during orientation is probably my most favorite part of working in Admissions.

With that picture in mind, my goals are to welcome students from all over the world to Bucknell and increase the number of countries that are currently represented at Bucknell. In the Freas lounge, where we host thousands of visitors to the admissions office every year, we display flags of all the countries that are currently represented by Bucknell students. It would be a pleasure to work towards increasing the number of countries that are now displayed on the wall.

With the President’s 2014-2019 Diversity Plan in place, it becomes even more important for us to focus our attention on not only recruiting but also retaining a diverse lot of students that will most definitely create an environment on our campus that will allow for an enriched experience for all of our students, domestic as well as international.

Wouldn’t it be amazing if we could bring the world to our beautiful campus in Central PA? I am excited about the task and look forward to the support of everyone on our campus to help me realize my goals.
Ebola is a fatal disease caused by the Ebolavirus. The virus implied in the current outbreak belongs to the Zaire species which is one of five Ebolavirus species. Ebola was discovered in 1976, in what is now the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Since then, there have been sporadic outbreaks in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda and what is now South Sudan, as well as isolated cases in a small number of other African countries. The current outbreak is affecting Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia. Nigeria has successfully contained the virus, and Senegal treated one case. The virus has since been imported into the United States, Spain, Britain, the Netherlands and Norway, where a small number of patients have been treated in specially-designed isolation units.

How does the virus work?
The virus enters the human body through mucus membranes, cuts or wounds, and attacks the immune system. Ebola replicates within cells and confuses the immune system which either starts to recover or initiates a misguided move that attacks the body’s own organs and circulatory system. This may result in internal or external bleeding, organ failure and death.

What are the symptoms?
Early symptoms resemble flu or malaria, and include fever, fatigue, muscle pain, headache and a very sore throat. This is then followed by vomiting, diarrhea, a rash, hiccups, symptoms of impaired kidney, spleen and liver function and in some cases, internal and external bleeding.

Why has Ebola spread so fast in West Africa?
The several factors that have contributed to the spread include: weakened healthcare systems, limited resources and medical staff, high illiteracy rates, lack of trust in governments and official warnings, overcrowding, and a humid, tropical climate which promotes sweating.

How do you catch it?
Ebola is present in body fluids - blood, sweat, vomit, urine, feces, tears, saliva, mucus or semen - but is not airborne, waterborne or spread by vectors such as mosquitoes. Ebola can only currently be transmitted from a patient who is sick with symptoms of the disease; non-symptomatic patients do not carry enough of the virus in their bloodstream to transmit it to others. The disease is hard to catch; measles is about seven times more contagious than Ebola, and the HIV virus is about twice as contagious.

Is it safe to travel to West Africa?
The Centers for Disease Control has issued a Level 3 Warning for travel to Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, advising against any non-essential travel to these countries. A Level 2 Alert is currently in place for Nigeria and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, urging any travelers to take extra precautions during their stay and avoid contact with bodily fluids from infected persons. Infection is highly unlikely for those who do not come into contact with the bodily fluids of an Ebola patient.

Is there a cure?
There is no known cure for the disease although several potential vaccines are in development and undergoing test trials.


Information gathered from www.eboladeeply.org
What is a Man?

By Padma Ravichandran

In November, there will be a series of events focusing on men and masculinity. The series of events called ‘What is a man?’ will provide programming specifically targeted toward Bucknell men, ranging in topic from men’s health and sexuality to how men are socialized. The ‘What is a man?’ programming coincides with Men’s Health Month, which is observed nationally in November. Please join us for the following events:

- **What is a man? Table event**  
  November 3-5, 11am-1pm, ELC Mall

- **Sexploration with Tristan Taormino (hosted by GSA)**  
  November 3, 7pm, ELC Forum

- **IFC Golf Tournament**  
  November 8, Bucknell Golf Course, $30 per person

- **The Man Box (hosted by Speak UP Bucknell)**  
  November 12, 6pm, Coleman 150

- **Physical Health: Nutrition and Cooking Seminar**  
  November 13, 5:30pm, Craft Center

- **Kye Allums: Gender, Race & Basketball**  
  November 18, 7pm, ELC Forum

- **Financial Health**  
  November 20, 7pm, Rooke Chemistry 116

The ‘What is a man?’ series is a partnership between Fraternity Affairs, LGBTQ Resources, Multicultural Student Services, Speak UP Bucknell, and the Women’s Resource Center.

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