Application for Student-Led Diversity Initiative Grants
Grants To be Completed by the End of Spring Quarter 2008

Grant Proposals are Due on October 30, 2007

Title of Project: 1st Annual Izcalli Calmecac Student Conference

Name of Project Lead: Maria I. Morales

Student led projects are strongly encouraged to have an affiliation with a department, club or campus or student-run organization. Does this project have an affiliation to help support and administer the project? Yes No

Name of affiliated department, club or organization (as appropriate):
Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano/a de Aztlan (M.E.Ch.A) (ASEWU Recognized Organization)

Campus Contact Information:
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Telephone: (509)359-2404 FAX: (509)359-2310
Mailing Address: 203 Monroe Hall
Cheney, WA 99004

Names and Affiliations of Project Partners/Co-Participants (as appropriate):
- Dr. Carlos Maldonado: Chicano Education Program/CAMP
- EWU Admissions
- Sally Winkle: Women’s and Gender Studies
- Aaron Brown: Academic Support Center

Type of Grant (check all that apply):
- Curriculum (ex. Projects that develop material(s) that can be used in university courses.)
  \textbf{X} -Student Recruitment & Retention (ex. Projects that would encourage a more diverse student body at EWU and/or address barriers in recruiting and retaining students.)
- Faculty and Staff Recruitment (ex. Projects that focus on encouraging diverse faculty to come to Eastern.)
- Community Engagement (ex. Projects that would involve various members of the local or regional community.)
Which of the Following Priorities Does the Project Meet? (check all that apply)

X Project is collaborative, interdisciplinary, and/or interdepartmental Project helps to further EWU's mission (http://www.ewu.edu/x17909.xml) and the EWU Board of Trustees Diversity Initiative Plan (http://www.ewu.edu/x1904.xml)
X Project will have long-term impact and positive and lasting change
X Project improves understanding of the diverse groups represented on EWU’s campus
X Project uses innovative and unique approaches to helping EWU become a diverse institution

1. Provide a summary of your project. This should be a brief but descriptive 1-2 paragraph statement that identifies what type of grant it is and explains your project including who will benefit from it.

M.E.Ch.A will be staging the 1st Annual Calmecac Izcalli Student Conference on May 16, 2007 on campus. The conference will be a weekend long event and will have two main components: the postsecondary informational and the cultural awareness component. The conference’s theme is “Poder, Respeto e Igualidad a las Voces Silenciadas” (Power, Respect and Equality for the Voiceless). More than one hundred high school students from across Washington State will attend the conference. The participating students will attend various educational sessions as well as be exposed to educational opportunities at Eastern Washington University. The educational sessions will be presented by EWU students and staff as well as M.E.Ch.A college students from other chapters in the state. The conference will mainly be focused on addressing our theme, nonetheless there will be other cultural and educational topics covered. The event will also include motivational guest speakers, a talent show, Mexica (Aztec) dancers, and musical performances. In part, the conference will serve as an outreach effort beneficial to Eastern Washington University’s academic programs to recruit prospective Latino/a students. Thus, this project compliments the student Recruitment and Retention Grant Category.

Participating high school students will benefit from the conference in several ways. First of all, they will be attending educational sessions in which they will learn about higher education, culture, and community issues. We hope that the cultural sessions will help affirm a strong self-identity, one which will aid in their later success. Also, during the conference students will have the opportunity to meet individuals with similar life experiences that may answer their questions concerning postsecondary education. Overall, high school students will have a taste of the college experience and be given the opportunity to network for future reference. The conference will also include informational sessions open to Eastern students. This will provide both the high school participants and Eastern students with information on available contact resources at EWU (i.e. Chicano Education Program, Academic Support Center and Admissions). The conference process (planning and execution) will help enhance our members’ planning, leadership, and communication skills. We will be responsible in developing proposals (budget, grant, contractual, etc), as well as organizing conference sessions and coordinating supportive committees. We will also be promoting the conference and obtaining support from departments on campus.
2. State the issue or problem your project will address. This should be a brief but descriptive 1-2 paragraph statement that explains why this is an important issue or problem by providing a short summary of evidence based on experience, testimonials, and/or background research.

Latino/as are the largest minority in Washington State, comprising 8.5% (517,055) of the population. This is a growing group and it is estimated that by 2010 there will be 626,349 Latino/as residing in Washington State. Latino/as student enrollment in Washington state schools has increased greatly as well: 250% percent in the past twenty years. Latino/as comprise 12% percent of the Washington state student body. However, only 54% of these Latino/as students graduate on time – the average percentage of completion rate was 70% among students. From these statistics we can see that Latino/as are suffering in high school completion, preventing this group from continuing to post secondary education.

Only a select few of Latino/as high school graduates continue their education to a four-year university. In 2004, only 15% of Washington’s Latinos continued their education to the post secondary education level. Finally, Latino/a student’s only represented 3.6% of the Washington undergraduate student enrollment in Fall 2004. This post secondary education enrollment level among Latino/a students has remained relatively constant within the past years. EWU M.E.Ch.A. would like to help raise the enrollment number of Latino/a students in four year universities, specially EWU. We hope that the ideas and resources presented will aid Latino/a students in continuing their education to the university level. Increasing this group’s enrollment in higher education, is the first step in developing successful Latino/a professional’s in Washington State.

(2006 Washington State Latino/Hispanic Assessment, State of Washington Commission on Hispanic Affairs)

3. List the desired results for your project around diversity at EWU. Explain what will change or improve because of your project or how the project participants will benefit. Each result should be specific and measurable (i.e., there should be a way to determine if you achieved the result or not).

Our conference will help break down potential barriers which are preventing Latino/a high school students from pursuing higher education. Through the educational sessions, college fair, speakers, and the personal interaction with other college students, we hope to provide the students with the motivation to not only graduate from high school but to also further their education. Current college students, guest speakers, and/or faculty and staff will serve as role models to which the participating students can look up to.

- 150 high school Latino/a students will register and participate in the conference
- 65% of the conference participants will attend the college information fair. To keep track of the numbers, we will be registering them in the entrance of the event location (possibly the Multi-Purpose Room).
• 150 conference participants will attend “college going” informational sessions. In order to make sure that all the students attend “college going” sessions, we will have one common theme for each hour of sessions.

• At least 40% of the students will apply to EWU. We will emphasize a session in which the students will be walked through the EWU Admissions application process. The students will leave the session with a completed first portion of the EWU application (the transcripts and personal statement will be sent at a later time).

4. Does your project involve a diversity professional or expert from outside the university?
   Yes  No

   If yes, attach after the budget pages a brief resume or biographic sketch of any professionals or experts involved in your project. (Diversity speakers/presenters are available through various speakers’ bureaus. Stephanie Ennis in the Office of the Dean of Students [359-7919 and sennis@mail.ewu.edu] maintains this information.)

5. Based on the Diversity Grant guidelines provide a preliminary budget. (Note: With the exception of serving as a research assistant on the curriculum grants submitted by faculty, student wages are not allowed under this program.)

GOODS AND SERVICES (list expendable supplies, printing, copying costs, etc.)

• Printing of registration packets and postage costs.
• Cost of binders and name tags for student and leaders.
• Workshop based posters and handouts.
• T-Shirts for registered students

   Total G&S $1,000

TRAVEL (list destinations, air fare, mileage, per diem, etc.)

• Per-diems to cover gas and lodging for performers and speakers.
• Air Fare for keynote speaker

   Total Travel $2,500
**CONTRACTUAL** (list contracts with consultants, speakers, experts from off campus. Include in the contract amounts any travel costs as appropriate).
- Patricia Gonsales.............................................$2,000
- Mexica Tiahui Aztec Danzers ..............................$1,000
- Live Band..........................................................$1,000
- DJ............................................................................$500
- Hip-Hop artist.........................................................$1,000

Total Contractual  $5,500

**OTHER COSTS** (list)
- Meals for high school attendees (2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, and 2 dinners)
- Possibly food handler’s permits if food will be prepared in house

Total Other  $2,000

**TOTAL EVENT COST: $11,000**

Total Amount Requested under the Diversity Grants Program $ 5,000

If applicable, include a statement about any other funding applied for or received for the same project.

Other funding:
- Chicano Education Program.....$500
- Women’s Studies......................$100
- Informational table charges......$300 (with the ones we have so far)
- Alumni Student mini grant.......$500
Gonzales earned a bachelor of journalism degree from the University of Texas in Austin in 1981. She also attended the Maynard Institute for Journalism Education. Gonzales has been a reporter for the Philadelphia Inquirer, the Tucson Citizen, and the Corpus Christi Caller. She was a fellow at the Center for International Journalism at the University of Southern California in 1990. Gonzales has also taught journalism at the University of New Mexico. In 1992 she married fellow journalist Roberto Rodriguez. Since 1994 Gonzales and Rodriguez, have written a syndicated column, Column of the Americas, for the Universal Press Syndicate. A collection of their columns, Gonzales & Rodriguez: Uncut and Uncensored, was published in 1997. The following year the couple served as lecturers at the University of California in San Diego. Also in 1998, the human rights office of Albuquerque, N.M., gave Gonzales and Rodriguez its annual human rights award.

Gonzales, who is of mixed Mexican-American, Kickapoo, and Comanche Indian heritage, has made ethnicity and healing the central themes in her work. She has long been interested in Native American cultures. In 1998, she and Rodriguez discovered a series of maps indicating the ancient Aztec homeland in what is apparently present-day Utah. Gonzalez has examined the physical, spiritual, and community aspects of traditional healing in South Africa, Northern Ireland, and Hawaii as a Kellogg National Leadership Program Fellow. Her book on social movements in Mexico, The Mud People: Anonymous Heroes of Mexico's Emerging Human Rights Movement, was published 2002. Gonzales is a founding member of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists and belongs to the Native American Journalists Association. She also conducts writing circles using journal writing and natural medicine to promote self-healing.
Mexica Tiahui Aztec Dancers

Mexica Tiahui means "Aztecs United". The dance group is made up twelve members from the Skagit Valley area and Portland, Oregon. For the past five years, Mexica Tiahui has shared the Mexica (Aztec) traditional way of ceremony in Washington and Oregon.

The chants and movements are strung together with the sound of the beating of drums made of wood and gourds tensed with animal skins, or the tongued hollow log drum, the "tepontzle", with its rich, spirit touching vibrations.

Mandolin-like instruments, made of "conchas de armadillo" or armadillo shells, are also played along with reed and clay flutes, tambourines and rattles made of shells and seeds.

Seed pods and metal bells are also worn around the ankles of the dancers and serve both as instruments, sounding with every step of their dance, and as visual adornment.