

3rd Annual DIVERSITY CONFERENCE

California State University, Fresno

Friday, April 25, 2008

NO COST TO ATTEND

"Cultivating Community"

Registration
8:30 - 9

Morning Sessions
ROOM: ED 140



9 - 9:50

"The Importance and Process of Cultivating Community" - **Matthew Jendian, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Sociology, Director of the American Humanities Nonprofit Administration Program at California State University, Fresno, and author of *Becoming American, Remaining Ethnic: Armenian-Americans in Central California*.

10 - 10:50

"Creating Diversity in Our Community by First Awakening Ourselves" - **Maria Rodriguez**, owner and operator of a group home for at-risk youth and a private holistic healer. Maria is Puerto Rican, raised in New York. She reverted to Islam in 1974.



11 - 12:30

Film and Discussion with **Carissa Phelps, JD/MBA**: *Carissa*, a documentary about Carissa Phelps, a former Fresno State student and graduate of UCLA with a JD/MBA who was abandoned by her mother at age 12. Homeless and alone, she was kidnapped—lured in by people she trusted and given to a pimp. Eventually, Carissa was taken to "Motel Drive," a street in Fresno known for prostitution and forced to sell herself. Today she is a national spokesperson on the issue of youth homelessness for Virgin Mobile's RE*Generation campaign. She is also starting a non-profit foundation and developing a fund for community economic development in Fresno.

Afternoon Sessions
ROOM: USU 312



1 - 1:50

"The Invisible Ones: Where's Our Chair at the Table?" - **Melissa Knight, MOB**, Instructor California State University, Fresno and Fresno City College. Areas of expertise Women and Gender Studies, Africana Studies, Queer Studies, Organizational Behaviour.



2 - 3:00

"Banana or Twinkie: Am I Asian Enough Yet?" - **Sharon Chun Wettarau, LCSW**, instructor in the Department of Social Work Education and field liaison for the Title IV-E Child Welfare Program at California State University, Fresno. A native of Los Angeles and a sixth generation Chinese American, she has served on the social work faculty at UCLA and the Ohio State University.

Late Afternoon Sessions
ROOM: ED 140



3:30 - 4:20

"Touch My Hair and I'll Beat You Up": My Hair Identity as Black and Woman - **Marnel Niles, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Communication at California State University, Fresno with research interests in group decision making, Black women identity, friendship groups, and gender and communication.



4:30 - 5:45

"The 'S' Word: Action For Racial Insults, Stereotypical Epithets, Unkind Words, And Name-Calling On College Campuses And Schools" - **Cornel Pewewardy, D.Ed.**, is Comanche-Kiowa and a member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma. Dr. Pewewardy is currently an Educational Consultant and adjunct instructor in American Indian Studies. He is the former Dean of Academic Instruction at the Comanche Nation College and a former Associate Professor at the University of Kansas. Dr. Pewewardy has eight professional music CD recordings on southern plains music and ten CDs with combined, various artists.

Evening Session
ROOM: MCLANE 121



6 - 7:30

Film and Discussion with Film Director, **Federico Velasco**: *Fuerza y Coraje* (Strength and Courage) (2003) is the inspiring story of five physically disabled Mexican swimmers' quest for gold at the Sidney 2000 Paralympics. A closer look at these athletes' everyday lives, dreams, and achievements, change our perception of people with physical disabilities, and give us a new perspective of our own potential. 52 min. Spanish w/English subtitles. A Cineculture presentation.



Fresno State Students
Attend for a chance to win!

GRAND PRIZE
\$200 gift certificate to the Kennel Bookstore!

1 of 8 \$25 Gas Cards to ARCO

Fresno State students receive a raffle ticket for each session they attend and an additional raffle ticket for pre-registering. They need not be present to win the grand prize, but must have attended at least one session. One drawing for a gas card will be held at each session. Participants must be present to win a gas card.

To register or for more information call the Central Valley Cultural Heritage Institute at 278-6946.

First Nations Pow Wow
Saturday, April 26th
11 a.m. - 10 p.m.
on the Lawn West of SSU

Major funding provided by:

