

Office of Diversity Programs

Volume 1, Issue 4 – Term D

March 13, 2009

Together we can make a
difference!

Black History Month: A Great Success!



This year, like every other year, January 20th came after January 19th. Unlike any other year however, January 20th following January 19th marked a special historic symbol. On a national scale, January 19th was the celebration and honoring of the life of Martin Luther King Jr., an advocate and leader in black equality. Fittingly, January 20th 2009 will be forever engraved in history as the inauguration of the first black president of the United States of America. This was the significance on a national level.

Let us now scale down to the WPI campus. Like the rest of the country, January 19th preceding January 20th set a notable national symbol. However, January 19th, 2009 also marked an important date in WPI history. For the first time ever, Worcester Polytechnic Institute celebrated Martin Luther King's Day, perhaps foreshadowing the

success of the Black History Month to come.

Black History Month drum-rolled to a great start with its kickoff celebration with the African Percussion performance in the campus center. Much like the beat of the drum, the rhythm of this historic month of February was felt throughout the campus. The weekly Wednesday soul-food luncheons quickly became the talk of the campus as performances by the dance team, step team, Koliba Jazz Ensemble & Spirit of Africa, and tasty soul foods attracted students and faculty alike.

The lunch and learn series were also a great success with speakers such as Dexter Bailey, vice-president of Development and Alumni relations, and talks like "Until You've Walked a Mile in my Shoes." Movie Fridays were also something to look forward to, as SocComm sponsored

movies such as "A Raisin in the Sun" and "Dream Girls."

The biggest event of Black History month however was the Black History Month dinner which depicted and summarized the reason for recognizing black history. The center pieces that decorated the tables demonstrated reason enough to commemorate, dedicate, and discover.

For the first time in US history, we celebrated the election of a black president. For the first time in WPI history, we celebrated Martin Luther King's Day. For the first time in the Odeum of the campus center, on the campus center stage, and throughout the WPI campus, a unique group of people gather together to honor, celebrate, and learn about Black History. It was certainly a February to remember.

For additional information please contact:

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Office of Diversity Programs Events:

**WPI Kids 2 College Day
March 13, 2009**

**Office of Diversity Programs Advisory Board Meeting
March 27, 2009**

**WPI LSAMP Graduate Bridge Preview Day
March 31– April 1, 2009**

**DINE-OUT Event
April, 2009
(see website for more details)**

**Wewecus Elementary School Visit
June 2009
(see website for more details)**

**Visit our office on the web at:
www.wpi.edu/Admin/Diversity/**

EMSEP SPRING RETREAT!!!



Do you like:

FREE Food?

FREE Activities?

FREE Trips?

FREE FUN?

Then you should come to the EMSEP SPRING RETREAT!

Friday, March 27, 2009 – Saturday, March 28, 2009

EMSEP Campus Center Lock In Begins at 8:00 pm. on Friday, March 27, 2009

Day Trip for an Awesome Rock Climbing Experience on March 28, 2009 bus will depart at 6:00 a.m.

Email Dr. Bradford to RSVP for this event by Wednesday, March 18, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

☺☺Everyone is Encouraged to Attend☺☺

Oasis Tutoring

Need HELP in your Introductory Math, Chemistry, Biology or Physics courses???

**Help is right next door!
Oasis tutors are available this term**

*For tutoring hours, emails will be sent to the EMSEP mailing list