



Cultural Diversity Office

Edition 1

August 2009

Important Dates

August 28th:

Last Day To Drop Classes
Last Day to Drop
with Refund

**August 20th to
August 23rd**
New Student
Orientation

**August 24th to
August 28th**
Multicultural Student
Orientation
Can Be Applied Toward Passport

Holidays

August 4th -
Pakistan's Independence
Day

August 15th -
India's Independence Day

August 15th -
Liberation Day
(Korea, South Korea)

**August 21st -
September 19th**
Ramadan
(Islamic, Muslim, Moslem)



Welcome Back!!

Hi, my name is JP Morman, and I am the Director of the Cultural Diversity here at SMSU. I hope everyone had a wonderful summer!! We here in the Cultural Diversity Office are excited about the New Year!! I have decided to do a monthly newsletter to keep the SMSU community informed on different cultural activities and events that will be held throughout the year. For those of you who are not aware of our services. The Cultural Diversity Office has a targeted responsibility to students of color. Our Office works

with the entire campus to promote multiculturalism. We work to provide students the academic and social support to help with issues relating to the university experience, their initial adjustment and their ongoing student development. The Cultural Diversity Office provides multicultural educational and social programming. Our office has four student organizations which offer students opportunities to develop leadership skills and offer learning and social activities for the campus and surrounding communities. These organizations include: The Black Student Union, Hmong Student Organization, Oyate Club and The Latino Club.

Ramadan

Ramadan is an Islamic religious observance that takes place during the ninth month of the Islamic calendar; the month in which the Qur'an, according to tradition, was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad. It is the Islamic month of fasting, in which participating Muslims refrain from eating, drinking, and smoking from sunrise until sunset. Fasting is meant to teach the person patience, modesty and spirituality. Ramadan is a time to fast for the sake of Allah, and to offer more prayer than usual. Muslims



also believed through good actions, they get rewarded twice than they normally can achieve. During Ramadan, Muslims ask forgiveness for past sins, pray for guidance and help in refraining from everyday evils, and try to purify themselves through self-restraint and good deeds.