

The Student Affairs Diversity Council (SADC) strives to cultivate an environment that embraces and promotes the broad scope of diversity within the division.

Reflection

By Kirstin Maanum,
Women's Education Specialist

¿Que Miedo? What am I afraid of, what are you afraid of? That was one pressing question that Maria Hinojosa asked the audience attending KUER's Realities of Diversity series. Having long been a subscriber to the podcast Latino USA, there was no way I wanted to miss hearing live the foundress of Futuro Media, a media group she started due to the lack of representation of people who looked like her, talked like her, or spoke about her experiences. As she reflected on her early years living in Chicago, she recalls conversations with her friends about race and strategizing whose house was the most safe for them to hide out in, should someone come looking for them. This is a question that hasn't gone away for immigrants and refugees, and many other groups who hold marginalized identities.

¿Entonces, que miedo? What am I afraid of?

I know what I am NOT afraid of: I am not living in the same fear that so many immigrants are living in within our country. Whether it is having plain clothed ICE agents knocking on my door, or being a child ware-housed in a tent city in Tornillo, Texas, or as Maria asserted "held hostage/kidnapped/trafficked from their parents," or even those camped out on our southern border connected with Mexico, waiting to ask for political asylum and being told they can't, none of these are my reality. As much as I don't have those fears because of my race, nationality, and the privileges that come with those and other identities I hold, I do have other



fears. I have the fear that many people living in what is often referred to as middle America are easily dismissing the real stories of immigrants who have come or are coming to our country. Some of these people I am connected to on social media. They are old high school classmates, college acquaintances, and cousins whom I have rarely talked politics with, and disappointingly, some of them are afraid. They are scared of being replaced and or seem to approach social justice as a zero sum situation as if someone else gaining rights might mean they lose theirs. This false narrative might make people uncomfortable or uneasy. America has changed for many of them and Maria suggests it is important to ask what makes people most fearful of these changes. White Americans are not being replaced, they are being joined, supported, loved, cared for, energized by, employed by, operated on, taught by immigrants and that is a wonderful thing.

Maria reassured the audience that these are NOT normal times we are living in. I say reassure because, even though

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these are troubling times, it is reassuring to know that many people, including my peers in the audience were nodding their heads, so it is the collective consciousness of wanting something different, something better, that gives me hope. Working at an institution that not only hosted this conversation but has a SADC and provides professional development opportunities where we can prioritize not only the discussions but also the actions we commit to gives me hope and energy. It excites me to be able to talk about relevant issues that come up for students and staff and individually challenge myself and my role in the systems that either continue to perpetuate fears or uphold white supremacy.

So for me this is the challenge as a student affairs professional, I want to and need to continue engaging in

conversations that ask what makes people afraid, uncomfortable, or unwilling to change. As a relatively new staff member at the U, I have inherited a culture of values, and an institution that is trying to do a lot for the growing number of students, staff, and faculty and the evolving and complex needs of students especially. My role as a staff member needs to be to listen a lot more, ask the questions that need to be asked of myself and my peers, and of course try to understand when I don't see eye to eye with colleagues or students. At the base of all of our work are students; they want to succeed and we want them to succeed, but how we do that might look different because of the fears or experiences we have had. In this 'hella long journey' on the arc of moral universe that needs to bend (Maria's words, not mine), I will remind myself that if I listen to you, maybe I will understand you. If I understand you, I will be more likely to advocate for you and include you.

Recently On NPR



[Is Beauty In The Eyes Of The Colonizer?](#)

There are a million different reasons we find certain people beautiful. But there's no denying that a lot of current beauty standards in the U.S. are based on a particular type of beauty — one that centers a type of white femininity that's only accessible to a select few.

[Listen Online>>](#)



[The Fight For Native Voices To Be Heard](#)

Nathan Phillips and Nick Sandmann sparked a nationwide debate after video surfaced of their confrontation on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. There are myriad perspectives on the event, and reporter Jacqueline Keeler writes that this video "reveals the triumvirate of experiences that largely define American history."

Keeler is a citizen of the Navajo Nation and a descendant of the Yankton Sioux Tribe. Audie Cornish of NPR's All Things Considered sat down with her to discuss her reporting following the events.

[Listen Online>>](#)

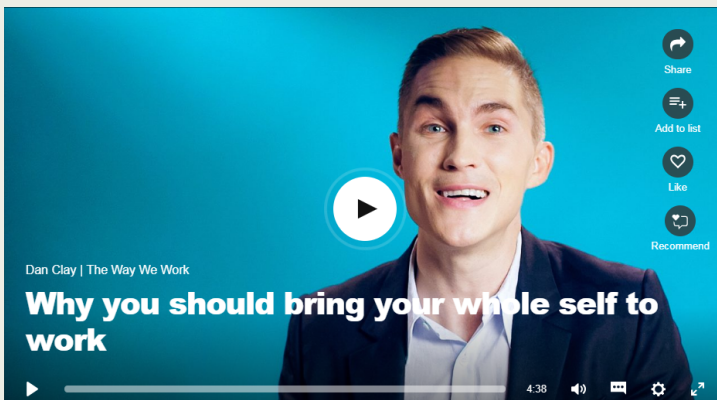
Upcoming Training Modules

Are you interested in learning about issues around diversity? Attend our training modules to learn more about issues of diversity in a safe environment, which will be essential to better serve our ever changing student population. Please note, the modules must be taken sequentially.

Date	Module	Location	Time
Tue., Apr 2	Module 1 - Exploring Self & Others	Union Pano East	1-3pm
Wed., Apr 24	Module 2 - Exploring Power, Bias, & Values	CPDC Library in 350 SSB	10am-12pm
Wed., Apr 24	Module 3 - Putting it all Together: Dialoging About Social Justice	CPDC Library in 350 SSB	1-3pm

To register for these upcoming modules, please visit: <http://sadc.utah.edu>.

TED Talks



[Why you should bring your whole self to work](#)

Dan Clay was worried about being dismissed as "too gay" at work, so he dialed down his personality. But then his alter ego, Carrie Dragshaw, went viral online. Here's what happened next.



[The disarming case to act right now on climate change](#)

In this passionate call to action, 16-year-old climate activist Greta Thunberg explains why, in August 2018, she walked out of school and organized a strike to raise awareness of global warming, protesting outside the Swedish parliament and grabbing the world's attention. "The climate crisis has already been solved. We already have all the facts and solutions," Thunberg says. "All we have to do is to wake up and change."

The Eric Moerer Memorial Lecture Series presents

Anxiety & Depression across the Lifespan

TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2019 | 6:00-7:30 PM
GARDNER COMMONS | SICILIANO AUDITORIUM



MODERATOR:

Mary Nickles | News Anchor, KUTV Channel 2 News

GUEST PANELISTS:

Elisabeth Conradt | Assistant Professor, Psychology

Rep. Steve Eliason | Utah House of Representatives, District 45

Christina Lecluyse | Clinical Social Worker, University Counseling Center

Philip Osteen | Associate Professor, Social Work

Perry Renshaw | Professor, Psychiatry

Sonia Salari | Associate Professor, Family and Consumer Studies



Upcoming Events

Mar 5 @ 9am-12pm

Empower U Symposium

HSEB Alumni Hall & Classrooms [[more info](#)]

Mar 5 @ 1-6pm

Women's Leadership Summit

Union Ballroom [[more info](#)]

Mar 29 @ 5-7pm

50 Years Of Ethnic Studies

Alumni House, Henriksen Conf Rm [[more info](#)]

Mar 30 @ 8am-4pm

4th Annual Breaking The Pipeline Symposium

S.J. Quinney College of Law [[more info](#)]

Spring 2019—Tuesdays, 10:00-11:30am

Limitless U: A therapy group for students along the autism spectrum

426 SSB [[more info about this and other groups](#)]

Every Friday @ Noon

Stress Support Group

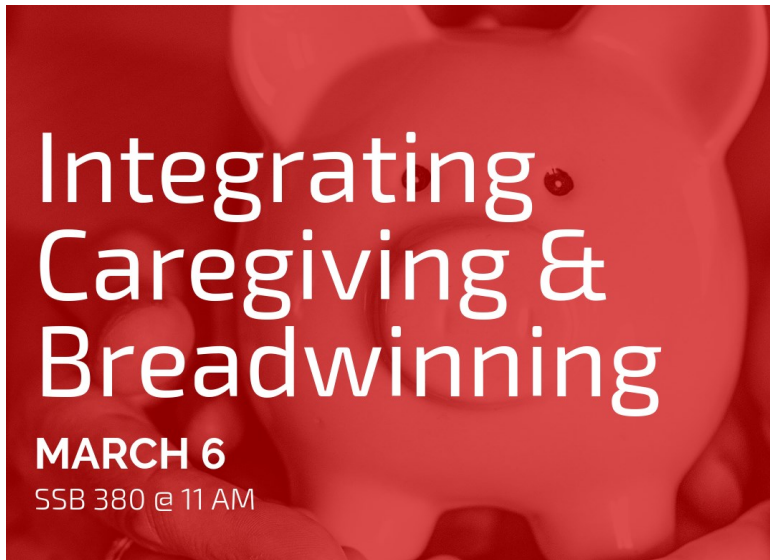
CESA, Union Rm 235 [[more info](#)]

Every Friday @ 3-5pm

Fabulous Fridays, LGBT Resource Center Room 409

Find More Events at:

- <http://diversity.utah.edu/events/>
- <https://www.utah.edu/events/>



Mar 6 @ 11:00am-12:00pm

Career Catalyst: Where Women Recharge To Take Charge, 350 SSB [[more info](#)]



Mar 16 @ 1-4pm

Third Saturday For Families: Design Your Own Poster, UMFA [[more info](#)]

Mar 19 @ 4-5:30pm

Professional Panel Session: Graduate Student Panel, TBA [[more info](#)]

Upcoming Seminar

Body Image

Jerilyn Hassell Pool
Community Member

Wednesday, March 20
12:00-1:30pm
Pano East, Union
[[more information](#)]



Debra Daniels (Co-chair), Women's Resource Center
Kari Ellingson (Co-chair), Student Development
michael bard, Registrar's Office
Gabiella Blanchard, LGBT Resource Center
Neelam Chand, Office of Equity & Diversity
Branden Dalley, Union Administration
Tim Davis, Housing & Residential Education
Elizabeth Duszac, Assessment, Evaluation, & Research
Kyle Ethelbah, TRIO Programs
Carmen Gold-Johnson, Career & Professional Development
Charity Harding, Disability & Access
Bobbio Kanter, Bennion Community Service Center

Ryan Kirchner, Campus Recreation Services
Roberto Martinez, Counseling Center
Jenna Matsumura, Women's Enrollment Initiative
Madalena McNeil, Office of Admissions
Matthew Plooster, Scholarships & Financial Aid
Nomani Satuala, Office of Orientation & Transition
Jenni Schreiner, Housing & Residential Education
Jenna Templeton, Center for Student Wellness
Ulysses Tongaonevai, Office of the Dean of Students
Jess Turuc, Fraternity & Sorority Life
Olivia Harker, Student Development (Committee Support)

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