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### Diversity Center

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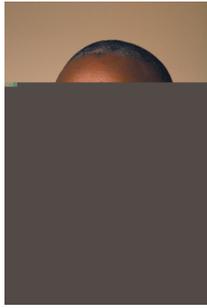
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**GUSTAVUS**   
GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS COLLEGE

## at the center

with Virgil Jones



Virgil Jones

The Diversity Leadership Council and the Diversity Center would like to salute the graduating seniors of 2009 who have given a great deal of time and energy to the Diversity Center and the greater campus community at Gustavus Adolphus College. We applaud students who made films and documentaries, championed multicultural sororities, and participated in the execution of "Diversity Week," and others who contributed by waking up the sleeping social activist in all of us. Because these contributions came in the form of self-sacrifice, new programs, challenging policy, class discussions and mentoring others in the community, we are a better community. We value the gifts that you gave to the campus community.

Each of the following students have created a new level of consciousness on our campus and will receive, as part of our recent tradition, the "Diversity Stole" to be worn at commencement. The Diversity Leadership Council and the Diversity Center would like to say thank you and recognize these students for their distinguished contributions:

Angela A. Allen  
Paula E. Arciga  
Jessica A. Bates  
Gregory M. Boone  
Raelene E. Caswell  
Abby G. Chapman  
Shana P. Clarke  
Amanda J. Dillenburg  
Andrew J. Evenson  
Christine E. Grotjohn  
Sara L. Halberg  
Nathan M. Heggem  
Angela Hernandez  
Sonia M. Hernandez  
Evan J. Hilsabeck  
Laine M. Hudak  
Asitha D. Jayawardena  
Erin M. Koppang  
Gretchen N. Libbey  
Alexandra R. Linn  
Laura A. Luce  
Leanna M. Marking  
Katherine A. Mason  
Ryan C. Mather  
Mikka S. McCracken

Mai Nhia Moua  
Rhea Muchalla  
Emily E. Nelson  
Maria L. Niemuth  
Vwaire J. Orhurhu  
Emily A. Pickford  
Heather B. Rusk  
Marissa R. Schon  
Marlinda V. Sherbert  
Carla M. Shutrop  
Anthony M. Spain  
Rita I. Stevermer  
Nicholas R. Stamp  
Jessica L. Sussman  
Jill O. Suurmeyer  
Donovan J. Thorgrimson  
Anna E. Tibstra  
Lindsey J. Van Hoven  
Mai Lee Vang  
Mayci X. Yang  
Nathan R. VanVleet  
Jessica E. Wegner  
Andrew J. Winn  
Kacy L. Wothe

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diversity center newsletter

# HIGHER Ground

### Asian Cultures Club

Asian Cultures Club promotes the unity, culture, and heritage of Asian students. The club also participates in the wider effort to encourage and promote multicultural awareness. Through campuswide events, ACC serves as a social network to help Asian students acclimate to the Gustavus community and welcomes all members of the Gustavus community who wish to participate both in the student organization and in the cultural events. These activities help staff, students, and community members develop relationships with Asian students to further cross-cultural understanding.

For more information, contact Cheng Lee.

### 2009–10 Student Organization Recognition Process Underway

by Andrea Junso

The Student Activities Office is kicking off April and May with student organization recognition for the 2009–10 academic year. The recognition process is collaboration between the Student Activities Office and Student Senate. Each year student organizations are required to fulfill 3 requirements:

**Step One:** All organizations requesting funds through Student Senate must attend an informational meeting (held week of April 6–10).

**Step Two:** At the meeting, groups will receive information regarding online student organization recognition forms and guidelines for writing a budget proposal. All organizations must log in and re-apply for recognition status at [www.gustavus.edu/organize](http://www.gustavus.edu/organize).

**Step Three:** The final recognition requirement for all student clubs and organizations is the attendance of one member from each organization at the Fall Student Leadership Orientation Training (SLOT) on Monday, September 7, 2009. Students attending the orientation will arrive to campus early to participate in a half day of workshops and resource training. One student can represent up to two clubs/organizations and will be paid for by the Student Activities Office. Clubs/Organizations are welcome to send more than one member; however, there will be a charge of \$30 to be paid for by the club/organization. Students registering for the training will be permitted to move in to their on-campus rooms one day early. **Make sure to pre-register at the Student Activities Office before you leave for the summer!**

At the SLOT session, student organizations will receive information on:

- What it means to be a student organization at Gustavus
  - Requirements of organizations
  - Jackson Campus Center Policies
  - Student Activities Office Utilization by organizations
- Strategic Planning for your organizations
- Finance Basics – Rotating sessions
  - Finance Office Basics
  - Working with Senate
- Break Out Sessions
  - EMS
  - Organize
- Student Leadership Development Series

# Jessica Bates

## *student profile*



**Hello**, my name is Jessica Bates and I am a senior English major from Kansas City, Missouri. Go Chiefs! My experiences at Gustavus have been interesting, long, educational, and in some ways wonderful. But I honestly cannot say that I love everything about Gustavus because I don't! In my opinion, many people choose to remain ignorant and stay in their own little bubbles. I believe things need to change! But this short section about me is not meant to be a negative one, it is meant to be a positive one. And there are many positive things to say about Gustavus.

Some of the organizations in which I have participated at Gustavus have been crucial in me developing into an adult. One of the most significant and meaningful organizations that I have participated in is Zeta Chi Phi Multicultural Sorority, Inc. I am almost positive that you have seen the Zetas around campus, we are that amazing! My sorority sisters are wonderful, loving, intelligent women. I will always value the friendships that I have gained because of this sorority. We pride ourselves in promoting our six pillars; multiculturalism, education, democracy, loveliness, integrity, and community service. Being a Zeta has given me so, so, so, so, so much, and I will never forget everything that I have gained from joining this sorority.

Another aspect of Gustavus that has been crucial in me developing as an adult is the Diversity Center. The Diversity Center has always been a place where I can go anytime I need it—I always feel comfortable there. I feel like the D-Center is the one place on campus that always has an open door for everyone on campus. You can be yourself in the D-Center and people accept you and help you grow into a better person. So I want to say thank you to everyone who is connected to the D-Center. You have helped me be me, and you have accepted me for all the many things that I am.

So, you might be wondering what I am actually going to do with my English major. I have exciting news for you and me: I just accepted a job to teach English in Korea for a year! I am ecstatic about this decision and I cannot wait!

I think it is time for me to stop talking about myself. So, thanks for listening to me, and I hope you have learned a little about my experiences at Gustavus. I also hope that YOU have a great rest of the semester!

Peace! ■

*“You must understand one thing. We own nothing except ourselves. This world and its laws, allows us nothing, except ourselves. There in nothing we can leave behind when we die, except the memory of ourselves.”*

— Athol Fugard

## Diversity Center Calendar

**May 2** | 10 a.m. | Christ Chapel  
Honors Day

**May 2** | 6:30 p.m. | Shoreland Country Club  
Diversity Awards Banquet

**May 4-15**  
Faces of Feminism Display: *sponsored by WAC*

**May 5, 12, 19** | 7-8 p.m. | Linner Lounge  
Meditation: the perfect study break and  
time to wind down

**May 7** | 7 p.m. | Confer 128  
Q&A Banquet

**May 7** | 7:30 p.m. | Courtyard Cafe  
Pizza and Politics

**May 8** | 5-7 p.m. | Heritage Banquet Room  
Cinco de Mayo

**May 13**  
Spring Banquet: *sponsored by ACC*

**May 14**  
Pre-Finals Bash: *sponsored by ACC*

## College Calendar

**May 1-2, 8** | 8-10:30 p.m. | Anderson Theatre  
*The Impresario from Smyrna*

**May 3 & 9** | 2-4:30 p.m. | Anderson Theatre  
*The Impresario from Smyrna*

**May 6, 13, 20** | 9-11 p.m. | Alumni Hall  
Swing Night

**May 26**  
Spring Semester Ends

**May 31** | 2-5 p.m. | Hollingsworth Field  
Commencement

**World Watch** and **Cultural Connections** are brought to you by the Crossroads Program. Through their shared interest in world cultures, languages, and contemporary global issues, members work to develop a broader understanding of the world in which they live and contribute to the education of the College community as a whole. Think Globally, Act Locally—The Crossroads Program.

## World Watch

**Global** — New cases of the deadly swine flu virus have been confirmed as far afield as New Zealand and Israel, as the UN warns it cannot be contained. Mexico has raised the number of probable deaths to 152, with 1,614 suspected sufferers under observation. UN inspectors are to examine reports pig farms may have spread the virus. WHO chief Dr. Keiji Fukuda said it was not inevitable that the outbreak would develop into a global epidemic—or pandemic—but countries should “take the opportunity to prepare”.

**Thailand** — Attacks by suspected Islamic militants continue, as do retaliation attacks from the Thai government. The militants kill individuals whom they suspect to be working with the government and seek to drive out Buddhist residents from the southern part of Thailand.

**United Kingdom** — A jury Tuesday acquitted three men of charges that they helped the bombers who carried out the July 7, 2005, attacks on the London transportation system. The four bombers died; however, others were accused of conducted reconnaissance.

**Africa** — The captain of an Italian cruise ship foiled an attack by pirates off the coast of Somalia on Saturday by ordering his security crew to fire back. Six armed pirates in a speedboat attacked the ship, which had about 1,500 people onboard. The pirates fled after being fired upon.

## Cultural Connection

**May – National Asian/Pacific Heritage Month:** Honors the achievements of Asian/Pacific Americans and recognizes their contributions to the United States.

**May 1 – Beltane (Ireland, Isle of Man and Scotland):** Gaelic holiday also known as May Day, marking the beginning of the pastoral summer.

**May 5 – Cinco de Mayo (Mexico and United States):** Commemorates a victory of Mexican forces over French forces in the Battle of Puebla on May 5, 1862.

**May 9 – Wesak (Buddhist, East Asia, India, Japan):** The most important Buddhist festival celebrates the birth, enlightenment, and death of Gautama Buddha.

**May 10 – Mother’s Day (Australia, Canada, Italy, Mexico, New Zealand, USA, Denmark)**

**May 29 – Shavuot (Jewish):** Celebrates the time when the Ten Commandments were given to Moses on Mount Sinai and is celebrated on the day following the 7-week Counting of the Omer (50 days from the second day of Passover).