

Minority organizations: To be or not to be?

by Adejoke Adenle

It is being argued on various campuses that minority organizations encourage separatism. The singling out of a particular people is seen as a deliberate action that leads to racial separatism. The argument is that minority centers or organizations do more harm than good.

The organizations, however, may be formed to bring people with similar interests together.

"The Accounting Students' Association is formed for students interested in accounting ... (similarly) these organizations are for students interested in blacks, Hispanics, Filipinos, etc." said Wayne Nunnely, president of minority affairs at UNLV.

UNLV has a number of minority organizations that include: Black Students Association, Filipino-American Students Association,

Hawaii Club, Korean-American Students Association, Native American Association, The University of Nevada Hispanic Association and the Ethnic Council, which is a council for all the organizations.

Several social fraternities and sororities are all African-American. These are Alpha Phi Alpha, Kappa Alpha Psi, Omega Psi Phi, Phi Beta Sigma, Alpha Kappa Alpha and Delta Sigma Theta.

The main purpose of these organizations is to have a place where members can get together because they have things in common.

"We, as a minority, need to get together to discuss ways to better ourselves," said Roderick Colebrook, president of the Black Students Association.

The Filipino Association gives members what they have lost culturally.

"A lot of us have become Americanized so we try to learn more about our culture through the organization," said Dino Bagaporo, vice president of the association. The association is also involved in community activities such as youth support programs.

The Hispanic Association acts as a support group by providing students with an awareness of culture. They have several programs designed to advance its members. There are study nights and also a new program called MANO (Mentoring to Attain New Opportunities). This program brings students and professionals together for students to contemplate future careers.

The social fraternity Alpha Phi Alpha has the motto "Serve All"; helping out in the community is a goal, in addition to providing a brotherhood for members. During

Halloween they provided food and blankets for the homeless.

These organizations all have similar goals: to educate, serve the community and provide companionship. These goals could belong to any organization on campus.

There is the need for gathering so that each member can relate to the other through cultural background. Terence Capers, president of one of the social fraternities said that "white organizations cannot relate to our social background."

Ignatio Aviles, former president of the Hispanic Association said, "There has been oppression in history of minorities; if it hadn't taken place there would be no minority organizations."

Many students interviewed voiced the necessity of having the organizations. These organiza-

tions said they don't encourage separatism. According to one student, they are present because of a cause/effect situation; the organizations are the effect of what happened in the past.

Those who felt that the organizations encourage separatism argued that because minorities are a minority they want to be treated specially.

UNLV hasn't experienced open questioning of the legitimacy of minority organizations. According to Nunnely, there has not been reason for questioning. However, he said, "it could happen tomorrow or any time—it depends on what the situations are."

Similarly, Colebrook said, "It's hard to predict. Perhaps an outside interference could cause it, but it's a big maybe."

Cultural Diversity Workshop offers awareness

by Christy McDonald

UNLV's Multi-cultural Student Employment Council, with the help of Career Planning and Placement, will be sponsoring "Cultural Diversity in the Workplace" on Feb. 12 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in MSU 201 and 203 to educate and raise employers' awareness of the needs and concerns of multi-cultural populations.

"Because of the changes in demographics, and so many international students from multi-cultural populations here at UNLV, we need to ... address the concerns they have about getting employment after graduation,"

said Cristine Padro, Career Planning and Placement graduate assistant.

"Cultural Diversity in the Workplace" will consist of a panel discussion with five employers and

"We need to address the concerns about getting employment after graduation."

five students from different multi-cultural populations. Employers such as Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and Bally's Hotel will be on the panel. Each student panelist will be assigned

an employer panelist.

Padro said the employers will give a three- to five-minute presentation on areas such as interviewing and the hiring process. Students can ask employers questions about employment issues.

"They might ask ... if someone has a master's degree from Mexico City and they move to the United States, can they use that degree to get a job here in the U.S.? Is the degree valid here in the United States as much as it is in Mexico?" Padro said.

The event is open to the public, faculty/staff, all UNLV students and employers who recruit on UNLV's campus.

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cruiters to be warm, friendly, and eager to answer questions.

Career Planning and Placement will also be sponsoring a booth.

"We will have a table set up to help students through the process," McGarry said. The office will provide brochures and handouts that may help students prepare for their job search.

According to McGarry, seniors should get involved in a serious job search a year before they graduate. Students should originate a placement file with Career Planning and Placement at the end of their junior or beginning of their senior year. Also, she advises graduating seniors to register early for Spring recruitment interviews.

Although Career Day is sponsored only once a year, Career Planning and Placement will be offering seminars on interviewing, job searches and resume writing throughout the semester.

Money ranks highest in seeking a job

by Bonar Tucker

Most collegians put money first on the list when seeking a job according to recent surveys.

A majority of students at five out of six colleges said salary was their number one priority when choosing a job.

According to the Coors Light College Survey released Jan. 10, 63 percent of those asked said the most important factor in deciding whether or not to take a job was salary.

Last year, however, in the same survey, students ranked the potential for advancement and responsibility as more important than salary.

This year's survey also revealed that 74 percent of the students expect to make between \$20,000 and \$50,000 per year in their first job out of college.

"I think the first big problem will be in finding a job," said Cindee Simpson, a UNLV student majoring in Finance. "It may be that there's plenty of them available but probably not so many that pay what I'm expecting."

"I need to make big bucks in order to pay back all the loans I'll

need just to graduate," said Scott Henderson, also a student at UNLV.

"Given today's economic outlook, students may feel that salary is now a more important consideration," speculated Bob McBride, Coors Light brand director in a recent article from



College Press.

"Everyone I've even known says money" is the most important consideration, agreed Jennifer Karas, a student at Colorado State University.

Colorado State, however, was the only school surveyed where a majority of students didn't choose salary as a top priority. Instead 63 percent chose geographic location

as their top consideration.

"It must be Colorado," Karas said of her schoolmates' choice. "Everyone chooses to stay (in the

state.)"

"I may try to stay in Nevada but only if the job will pay me to do so," said Bill Handelson, a freshman at UNLV. "I think

I may be happier with a little less money if there were some nice scenery to go with it."

According to College Press, among all students who responded, "potential for advancement" was the second most-important job consideration, followed by geographic location, benefits, flexibility, responsibility and getting a "foot in the door."

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