

# *Diversity Matters!*

A Quarterly Newsletter



Produced by:  
The Diversity Committee (DC)  
The Multicultural Interest Group

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Authors:

Rachel Miller  
Aleja Parsons

## **A Letter from Your Editors:**



Welcome back! We hope you all have had a productive and enjoyable summer. We are excited to start the year with the first issue of the second volume of Diversity Matters! This abbreviated issue is dedicated to updating the department on changes to the student group previously known as The Multi Cultural Reading Group (MCRG). Throughout the years, MCRG has been a platform for students to obtain support, read about and discuss multicultural issues, and organize workshops presented at the Diversity Summit. Over the summer, students have worked to build on this existing platform to create The Multicultural Interest Group (MIG). MIG strives to offer resources for addressing multicultural issues through various avenues including those previously offered by MCRG. Please read on to learn about the exciting new direction in which we are headed. We look forward to you all being involved!

Aleja Parsons, Child Clinical Psychology Graduate Student  
Rachel Miller, Child Clinical Psychology Graduate Student

## Multicultural Interest Group Moving Forward

Written by Rachel Miller and Aleja Parsons

As you all may know, MCRG (Multi-Cultural Reading Group) has been a platform for readings and discussion about multicultural issues as well as for workshops presented at the Diversity Summit. Over the summer, we have been working on expanding the offerings of MCRG to enhance the multicultural resources available to faculty, staff, and students in our department. In the process of this expansion, the name of the group has been changed to MIG (Multicultural Interest Group) to reflect the additional offerings. In an effort to formalize the purpose of MIG, we have created a mission statement and a list of goals for the upcoming year. We hope that as leadership is passed down, the mission statement and goals can be a starting point to guide the evolving purpose and structure of the group.

### Mission:

The mission of the Multicultural Interest Group is to enhance awareness of and competency in social dimensions to inform our research, teaching, and clinical work in psychology. These dimensions include but are not limited to race/ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, religion, nationality, age and disability.

### Goals:

The Multicultural Interest Group aims to add value to the experiences of faculty, staff and students in the Department of Psychology by:

1. Broadening awareness of multicultural issues.
2. Building competency in multicultural issues that enhance treatment of and service to diverse communities.
3. Providing a venue for an open critique and dialogue of the current status of multicultural competency within the department and the field.
4. Offering tools, resources and support for navigating multicultural issues in professional programs, systems and environments.
5. Generating awareness of local diversity events.

To accomplish these goals for the 2012—2013 academic year, MIG will be fulfilling a few new roles in our department.

1. An appointed MIG member will regularly attend Diversity Committee and PACE meetings in an effort to consolidate efforts and improve execution of ideas related to multicultural issues.
2. MIG will continue to provide multicultural awareness enhancing opportunities by organizing a reading group, volunteer day and speaker or training workshop throughout the year.
3. MIG will organize and distribute the Diversity Matters! Newsletter.
4. To maintain communication about the details of events, we have set up a Event Board (located in the first floor lobby) and an MIG Facebook page. These tools will be used to communicate updates about MIG events, DU and local colloquia and trainings, as well as national training opportunities.
5. MIG also has a Public Dropbox to allow members to share articles of interest.

As always, MIG is open to anyone interested in participating. A few students have volunteered to help in the expansion of MIG's offerings, but we still need help! Please come out to our next meeting **Friday, September 14 at 3:30 pm** in Frontier room 158. We look forward to seeing you there!

## Upcoming Events @ DU or Denver:

Check out the Multicultural Interest Facebook page and the MIG Board for more events throughout the year!

<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location/More Details</u>
Fall	Reading Group and Volunteer Day	TBA
Winter	Speaker or Training Workshop	TBA
Spring	Diversity Summit Preparation and Volunteer Day	TBA

If you have any upcoming events you would like to share please contact Lisa McFadyen-Ketchum (lisa.mcfadyen.ketchum@gmail.com)

### Current MIG Roles:

Rachel Miller- Group leader

Aleja Parsons- Assistant group leader, Diversity Committee student representative

Lisa McFadyen-Ketchum- Communications

Hannah Bianco- Senior Advisor

Ann Chu- Senior Faculty Advisor

If you are interested in participating in MIG in any capacity please contact Rachel Miller (rachellynnmiller@gmail.com)

### Next Issue!

We will produce the next issue (Vol. 2, No. 2, Winter Quarter 2012) of *Diversity Matters!* in the next few months. If you are interested in serving as an editor or contributing in any way, please contact Aleja Parsons (amp1406@comcast.net) as soon as possible. Have a great quarter!