IMPORTANT DATES

Sept. 30: Last day to drop fall semester classes

Oct. 1: Immunization Records Deadline
Submit your records to Student Health Services to avoid late fees.

Oct. 1-31: Breast Cancer Awareness Month / HIV/AIDS Awareness Month

Until Oct. 15: Hispanic Heritage Month

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCHEDULE YOUR SECOND ADVISING APPOINTMENT
Both ACCESS & BRIDGE students can begin making 30-minute appointments between Oct. 3-30 with their Student Success Advisor. Talk to your transition course instructor to find out which week to sign up. Create an appointment at http://cisa.mywconline.com

ACCESS MAPWorks
ASSESSMENT DUE FRIDAY
Be sure to get your points!

HAVE ANNOUNCEMENTS?
Students, faculty & staff should submit any items for the next CISA Chronicle by Wednesday, Oct. 5. Please email cisa@gmu.edu

CISA & LLC EVENTS

LLC COFFEE HOUR: CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES
Thursday, Sept. 29, at 5-7 p.m. in Hampton Roads, Floor 1 multipurpose room
Come join the ACCESS LCC in a group discussion on a global affairs topic. Here’s your chance to share your thoughts and opinions and hear from your peers. Come and relax with coffee and refreshments!

STUDENT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, Oct. 5 at 4:30 p.m. in Mason Hall, Room D217
We want to hear from you! Join the CISA Student Leadership Council (SLC) for our first meeting. For more info, email cisa@gmu.edu. WHAT WE DO:
- Plan group activities
- Create content in The CISA Chronicle newsletter
- Write and/or take photos for the CISA Memory Book
- Help you to get more involved in your first-year experience

NEW YORK CITY DAY TRIP FOR UNIV 100
Friday, Oct. 14, 5:30 a.m. to midnight
The ACCESS UNIV 100 classes are going to New York City! We will be visiting the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island Immigration Museum, Times Square, and an attraction of your choice (choose from Empire State Building, the Shopping District, or China Town/Little Italy). Questions? Email cisa@gmu.edu

*All interested students must sign up for the trip by Friday, Sept. 30*
If you have not RSVP’d by this time, there will not be a spot for you on the bus. TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT BY OCT. 4, ACCESS STUDENTS MUST PAY $20 IN MASON MONEY AT THE CISA OFFICE IN MASON HALL, ROOM D217.
GETTING TO KNOW...
Alain-Patrick Habimana

By the time Patrick Habimana graduated from high school, he had lived in four different countries. Originally from Rwanda, he also lived in Sierra Leone, Senegal, and the United States before coming to Mason. “I’m used to things constantly changing,” he said.

Starting his freshman year as an ACCESS student was another change he readily accepted. Patrick was also recruited by the Mason track & field team as a sprinter, after only joining his high school team during his senior year. That year, he also ran in the Pennsylvania State Championships.

Recently, he and his classmates have been working on note-taking strategies. “I’m not used to taking notes in the lectures, but [my professors] show us tricks on how to do that…. I see every day I’m improving.”

Patrick would like to study accounting and finance after he completes the ACCESS Program, and would ultimately like to work for the World Bank.

ABOUT THE RWANDAN FLAG:
The blue represents happiness and peace, the yellow symbolizes economic development, and the green symbolizes the hope of prosperity. The sun represents enlightenment. This flag was adopted on October 25, 2001.

The “Getting to know...” column will appear in each bi-weekly newsletter, featuring an ACCESS or BRIDGE student from different countries represented this year by the Center for International Student Access. If you would like to be featured, please email cisa@gmu.edu.

ACADEMIC LECTURES

Focus Group Sessions for International Grad Students
Date: Wednesday, Sept. 28 at 5-7 p.m.
Location: Student Union I, room 3011
The Office of the Provost, the Division of University Life, and the Graduate and Professional Student Association are collaborating to build a Web site for Mason graduate students. To attend, go to http://gradfocusgrp3.eventbrite.com/ to reserve a “ticket” for the focus group session. Food and refreshments will be provided, and all participants will be entered into a raffle for an IPad. Questions may be directed to pcarrett@gmu.edu.

Faculty Artist Series
Sept. 29 at 8:00 p.m.: Ken Law, playing the cello; location: deLaski Performing Arts Building, Room 3001
Oct. 4 at 8 p.m.: Kelly Ker-Hackelman & Rochelle Oedemann, singing; location: deLaski Performing Arts Building, Room 3001

2011 Moments of Truth Lecture: Dr. Chris Myers Asch
Dr. Chris Myers Asch is a history professor at the University of District Columbia and author of The Senator and the Sharecropper. Dr. Asch plans to talk about his time in Mississippi with Teach for America, as well as his experience growing up in DC public schools, his efforts to start the Public Service Academy, and his book.
Date: Tuesday, Oct. 4 at 3 p.m.
Location: Center for the Arts Lobby
For more information, visit today.gmu.edu.

CULTURAL FUSION
Celebrate the diverse Cultural Heritage of George Mason University with lots of cultural performances, activities, games, sports, free food and a lot more fun!

Date: Wednesday, Sept. 28,
Time: 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Location: JC Cinema for Performances and Activities/Dewberry Lobby for Table fair and Cultural Arts Showcase

TURN OFF THE VIOLENCE WEEK
During Oct. 3-7, Sexual Assault Services will sponsor a week dedicated to helping the Mason community work to end violence against women, and to honor its victims.

Click on the links below for more information on the sponsored events:
The Clothesline Project
Take Back the Night
Survivor Space

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A ABOUT THE COLOMBIAN FLAG:
In a popular kids’ song, the yellow stripe on the Colombian “bandera” is said to represent gold, the blue stripe is said to represent the ocean, and the red stripe is said to represent blood spilled by patriots who fought for freedom from Spain.

ACCESS students Geovany Costa and Camila Moreno showed off their Mason Spirit during College Colors Day on Sept. 2.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE WORKSHOPS
Date: Through Dec. 5
Location: ELI, Northern Neck
Includes: Research Writing, Conversation & Culture, & Pronunciation

VISIT TO THE BUREAU OF ENGRAVING & PRINTING
On this tour, you can see millions of dollars being printed as you walk along the gallery overlooking the production floor!
Date: Friday, October 7
Time: 10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. The group will meet at 10:15 am in SUB I Patriots Lounge.
Cost: Metro fare. Please bring cash for snacks.
RSVP required. For sign-up & questions, email bdebeers@gmu.edu

OPEN CLIMB AT THE MASON EDGE
Come explore and climb the Alpine Tower, our 50-foot vertical challenge course. Registration required. $15 w/Mason ID
Date: Oct. 9 at 11 a.m.
Location: Prince William Campus, Freedom Aquatic & Fitness Center

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH: Shades of Brown: Open Microphone & Poetry
Date: Sept. 28 6:30-10:00 pm
Location: Johnson Center, Bistro
Sponsored by the Mariposas Mentoring Program and Latinas Promoviendo Comunidad / Lambda Phi Chi Sorority, Inc. Mu Chapter.

TIPS FOR STUDYING FOR EXAMS
Midterms are coming, so to help you to prepare, we suggest following these tips for success:

✔ Focus on understanding concepts instead of verbatim memorization.

✔ Ask professors after class questions about the lecture.

✔ Request sample questions if essay questions will appear on forthcoming tests. Practice writing simple essays during study sessions. Create outlines with 3-5 main concepts before writing them.

✔ Organize peer study groups. Share insights together and review the main concepts that will show up on the test.

✔ Don’t over study. Lack of sleep, poor eating, and excessive stress can lead to lower test scores.

(From www.collegeatlas.org)