

LAUC-SD Diversity Committee 2011-2012 Annual Report

Members

- Cristela Garcia-Spitz, Chair (2nd year, 1st year as Chair)
- Gayatri Singh, (3rd year & continuing State-wide Representative)
- Victoria Chu (2nd year)
- Heather Smedberg (2nd year)
- Marlayna Christensen (1st year)

Key Events

Author Talk/Book club discussions:

- Jameelah X. Medina - "Swimming Upstream in the University of Life" (September 2011)
- Murray Lee - "In Search of Gold Mountain" (February 2012)
- Zohreh Gharemani - "Sky of Red Poppies" (May 2012)

Screenings of Diversity-themed films:

- *Days of the Dead: a living tradition* & Papel Picado Craft Activity (October 2011)
- *Campaigning Against Hunger* & Holiday Food Drive (November 2011)
- ALA's Office of Diversity 3- part webinar series "[Diversity Leadership Online](#)"
- *Fight in the Fields* (March 2012)

Other activities:

- Stitching Memories: exhibit, reception and panel discussion (February 2012)
- Los Peregrinos: A photography exhibit (April 2012)
- DiversiTea annual cultural potluck (July 2012)
- UCSD Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action & Diversity Award
- Support to send two committee members to JCLC 2012

During a year of significant transition in the UCSD Libraries, the LAUC-SD Diversity Committee hosted a number of educational and social events and focused on keeping the mood uplifting and positive.

The committee continued its lunchtime screenings of diversity-themed films. The series is open to librarians and staff, bringing together a group of 15-30 attendees at each event. This year, the screenings often aligned with holidays or celebrations. In October, we showed the film *Days of the Dead: a living tradition* (2007), which examined the sacred, social, and artistic traditions of one of Mexico's most important annual festivities. There was also a papel picado craft activity a part of the event. In November, we featured a TED Talk by Dr. Melony Samuels on *Campaigning against Hunger*, as well as gathered a grocery cart full of donations for the San Diego Food Bank's Holiday food drive. For César Chávez day in March, we screened *Fight in the Fields*, a 1997 documentary about César Chávez and the non-violent movement of the United Farm Workers Union featuring archival footage, newreels, and contemporary interviews. Most of the films presented came from the Library's collection, and the committee also referenced library resources on the topic or theme. Finally, the annual potluck celebrated the opening ceremony of the London Olympics with a DiversiTea party.

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Over the past year, there were three author talks:

- Jameelah X. Medina, M. Ed., contributor to I Speak for Myself: American Women on Being Muslim, spoke about her experiences as a third-generation African American Muslim in mainstream society and in the Muslim community, before and post-9/11, with the focus on the shift that has taken place after 9/11.
- Author and Historian Murray Lee told the story of some of San Diego's earliest pioneers: the Chinese community in his book, In Search of Gold Mountain. There was a full house for the Saturday event with over 70 people from the Library, University, and Community in attendance.
- The committee continued the diversity-themed book club/discussion group with a talk by author Zohreh Gharemani on her book Sky of Red Poppies, which is a story about friendship, culture, and politics in Iran in the 1960s and was one of the 2012 One Book, One San Diego selections.

These events were well attended and well received.

As in previous years, many of the activities were partnerships with other Library and University groups. In collaboration with the UCSD Libraries Training, we showed the ALA Office of Diversity's three part webinar series *Diversity Leadership Online*, which aimed to help build Diversity advocates in libraries. The committee co-sponsored with the UCSD Department of Communication and the UCSD African & African American Research Center, *Stitching Memories*: an exhibit, reception and panel discussion. The exhibit showcased quilts created by local African American quilters from the San Diego People of Color Quilt Guild. We also co-sponsored with the UCSD Chicano/Latino Staff Association and the César E. Chávez Planning Committee, the Los Peregrinos photography exhibit, documenting the 1994 recreation of the historic 1966 UFW March from Delano to Sacramento. The 3 x 5 foot "anchor piece" along with a few other images by Photographer Ricardo Garcia-Trejo were on display in Geisel Library on the 1st floor, Brody Collaborative Study Space.

Throughout the year, the committee also worked to better document its procedures by creating an event checklist and a document on the Chair's duties, looking at the content of the website, and adding past documents such as flyers to the shared drive. The web site will be enhanced further in the coming year.

In February 2012, the LAUC-SD Diversity Committee was honored to receive the UCSD Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action and Diversity Award, which recognizes employees, departments, and organizational units for their outstanding contributions in celebrating cultural differences and promoting fairness at UCSD, and supporting the UCSD Principles of Community.

The committee has already begun planning events for the 2012-13 academic year. Two of the committee members will attend the 2nd National Joint Conference of Librarians of Color (JCLC), a combined meeting of the five ALA associations of ethnic librarians. There will be an accompanying Lunch n' Learn event following the conference, so that committee members and other library staff who attend can share their experiences with the rest of the Library.

The committee is comprised of hard-working, passionate members that will continue to bring thought-provoking events to the staff of the UC San Diego Library.

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*LAUC Diversity Committee Expenditures for 2011-2012**

Index Number LIBLW01

Annual Allocation \$1500.00

FY 2011-2012		
July	<i>Babies</i> Film Screening	\$34.28
August	ARL CEP Fellows Sendoff	\$81.32
September	"Swimming Upstream" Author Talk	\$189.77
	Reimbursement for past event	\$27.55
October 26	<i>Days of the Dead</i> Film Screening & Papel Picado Craft Activity	\$41.67
November 16	<i>Campaign Against Hunger</i> Film Screening & Food Drive	\$29.39
December 8	Diversity Leadership Webinar, Part 1	\$21.43
January 17	Diversity Leadership Webinar, Part 2	\$25.74
February 4	"In Search of Gold Mountain" Author Talk	\$119.27
February 15	<i>Stitching Memories</i> Exhibit, Reception & Panel Discussion	\$250.00
February 29	Diversity Leadership Webinar, Part 3	\$8.58
March 17	Diversity Leadership Webinar, Part 4	\$11.48
April	<i>Fight in the Fields</i> Film Screening	\$31.40
May 2	"Sky of Red Poppies" Author Talk & Book Club	\$124.36
June	Support for JCLC	\$400.00
	Final Balance at fiscal year-end (released to general fund)	(\$103.76)
FY 2012-2013		
July 27	DiversiTea annual cultural potluck	\$90.04

* Expenditures correspond to fiscal year (July – June), which differs from the LAUC Committee appointments (September – August).