Hi everyone, and welcome to a new semester! I hope the first week of classes has gone well for you all. Personally, I love the ebb and flow of the academic year in a college town like Fort Collins. I love the summer lull, when one can catch one’s breath, re-set, and carve out time to reflect on the past year while planning for the upcoming year. Not to mention the plethora of available parking spots! But I also love the end of the summer lull and the energy and excitement that sweeps across campus and the entire town when students are back, even if it means I’m parking further and further away from my favorite spots.

The start of the Fall semester also fills me with hope and expectations for us - CSU employees charged with setting the agenda and modeling behavior towards a more inclusive campus, and for our students, particularly those with the least societal privilege. As I cycled through the Centers during the ice cream social, I enjoyed all the student-to-student interactions, soaking up their excitement and nervousness about being on campus, a first-time experience for so many of them. It also filled me with appreciation and pride for the numerous ways in which we work to make this campus “home” for students.

While our unit is new, our mission, vision, and priorities have not changed. We exist to actively support efforts to increase the recruitment and retention of historically and currently underrepresented and underserved students, staff, and faculty, to contribute to continual improvement of the campus climate, and to facilitate engagement with external communities. Achieving some of these priorities may seem more demanding than ever, given current national discourse and real staffing needs. Still, even baby steps in the right direction are better than no motion at all. So, as we settle into the new semester, let’s foster open dialogue and work together to find solutions to challenges. I truly appreciate the hard work you all do to support our CSU community.

Wishing everyone a great Fall semester!

Kauline

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**OIE Welcome Back Lunch and All-Division Meeting**

**Tuesday, September 13**
LSC Ballroom D
Lunch 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Remarks 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

All OIE staff members, including student staff, are invited to attend. Lunch will include a burger and salad bar. Gluten-free and vegan options will be available. Dessert and drinks will also be served.
Save the Dates

**2022 Symposium for Inclusive Excellence**

The Symposium for Inclusive Excellence (formerly the Diversity Symposium) will be held **October 17 – 21, 2022**, online and in person at CSU. Guest speakers, educators, and community members will share presentations with topics on diversity, equity, and inclusion, in higher education while focusing on local and global issues. By providing knowledge based on diverse topics, the Symposium for Inclusive Excellence builds a community where the diversity of people, perspectives, and ideas are affirmed and celebrated. The symposium returns for the first in-person events since the pandemic began in 2020.

Assistant Vice President Ria Vigil oversees the annual symposium for the Office for Inclusive Excellence and heads a committee of CSU volunteers to review and approve programming proposals, set up keynote speakers and events, and promote the symposium to the greater community. Vigil said, “We are thrilled to continue to build upon both the growth of the Symposium and the accessibility of the virtual sessions from previous years. We know people still love to come and be in community, so we will also offer several sessions in person. The Symposium is such a rich opportunity to check the pulse of DEI on our campus and to highlight the many scholars, students, and professionals who are contributing to the field of DEI on our campus. I learn so much every year and continue to be in awe of our community.”

This year’s symposium kicks off on Monday, October 17, with a welcome party partnered with the ACT Film Festival. A film screening will follow a reception to welcome symposium guests to a weeklong schedule of rich programming and university fellowship. Attendees can build their own symposium experience by selecting daily programs and attending sessions as their schedule will allow. All CSU students, staff, faculty, and community members are invited to participate.
Division Lunch Fun

Together in Community

Thanks for coming out to the OIE lunch event! We had a lot of great food and community. We hope to gather again more often. Your feedback is important to help us plan successful events where everyone can enjoy time together. Do you have an idea for a fun division retreat? Email your suggestions to OIE_comms@colostate.edu.

Festival on the Oval Opportunity

Reserve Your Table Now

The Homecoming Committee will host Festival on the Oval on Friday, October 14 from 3 - 6 p.m. Campus partners are invited to host a table for the event at no cost. Homecoming is an opportunity to engage with students and families through an entire weekend of special events. Be sure to add your events to the main calendar so we can support your efforts, too. Contact Jennifer Wright to reserve your space at Jennifer.Wright@colostate.edu.
Ty Smith Named Interim Assistant Vice President, OIE

Colorado State University alum and Native American Cultural Center (NACC) Director, Ty A. Smith, has been named interim assistant vice president in the Office for Inclusive Excellence (OIE). NACC is part of the Student Diversity Programs and Services (SDPS) at CSU, and in the Interim role Ty will provide leadership, guidance and advocacy for all the SDPS offices. The SDPS centers enhance and support student diversity and multi-culturalism as part of the institution’s land-grant mission.

The centers include the Asian Pacific American Cultural Center (APACC), the Black/African American Cultural Center (B/AACC), El Centro, the Pride Resource Center, Students Empowering & Engaging in Dialogue (SEED), the Student Disability Center (SDC) and the Women and Gender Advocacy Center (WGAC). Additionally, Ty will serve as OIE liaison to VPSA, a critical role as we strive to provide comprehensive, seamless and inclusive support for students.

OIE Vice President Kauline Cipriani said, “I’m excited for Ty to take on this role since he has been in the SDPS offices for over 15 years. Ty is a well-respected and knowledgeable director on campus. He will be able to lead from true experience and help strengthen our division, while reinforcing partnerships with the division of Student Affairs.”

Ty, MBA, is originally from New Mexico and an alumnus of Colorado State University. As a citizen of the Navajo Nation he identifies as Tódíchʼiiʼnii (Bitter Water Clan), born for Ashiihi (Salt Clan). Ty received both his baccalaureate degree (B.S. Mechanical Engineering) and master’s degree (MBA) from Colorado State University. He has previous experience as a practicing engineer in the oil/gas and energy transmission industries prior to becoming director of the Native American Cultural Center (NACC) at Colorado State University in 2005.

NACC focuses on outreach to Native communities, as well as recruitment, retention, and graduation of students at CSU, while raising cultural awareness on campus and within the community.

Staff Updates
Best of Luck
Team members who moved onto new adventures:
Tiffani Kelly (August 1) Alicia Sprague (August 3)

Congrats
Maggie Hendrickson, interim director of the Pride Center
Casey Malsam, interim director Women and Gender Advocacy Center (WGAC)
Ty Smith, interim assistant vice president for OIE

Welcome
Annie Cunningham (she/hers), SDC Accommodation Specialist
Lynsey Fenter (she/hers), SDC Accommodation Specialist
Rasa Humeyumptewa (she/hers), NACC Student Success Coordinator
Freya LaLuna (she/her), Front Desk Student Administrative Assistant
Ulises Mendoza (he/they), Front Desk Student Administrative Assistant
Elizabeth Pollack, SDC Accommodation Specialist
Mekala Stiffler (she/her), Front Desk Student Administrative Assistant
Stephanie Swanson (she/her), Business Manager
Tiffani Kelly Lauded by Leaders for Contributions to CSU

Passionate, fierce, dedicated, and caring. These are the words that many people use to describe Tiffani Kelly, former assistant director of the Native American Cultural Center (NACC). As a CSU alum, Tiffani was deeply invested in her work at the university. She cared about students and fought for social justice. Recently, Tiffani left CSU to pursue her graduate studies.

“Throughout her years, she has served as an advisor, instructor, mentor, supervisor, role model, advocate, and leader. She strengthened and expanded NACC programming and events while developing key partnerships both on and off campus. She will be greatly missed by staff, students, the SDPS group across campus, and the Fort Collins community. I am thankful and blessed to have her as a friend and colleague, and I hope to find a way to keep her connected to the NACC office. I wish her all the best in her graduate studies,” CSU System Chancellor Tony Frank said.

NACC Director Ty A. Smith has been working with Tiffani for many years. They worked together to provide support and services related to recruitment, retention, graduation, and community outreach in NACC. The office embraces and encourages a supportive environment based on the traditions and cultures of Native American peoples.

Tiffani began working for NACC in 2014. However, her impact on NACC and CSU began earlier than during her time as an undergraduate and graduate student. Ty said, “She will be greatly missed by staff, students, the SDPS group, across campus, and in the Fort Collins community. I am thankful and blessed to have her as a friend and colleague, and I hope to find a way to keep her connected to the NACC office. I wish her all the best in her graduate studies!”

Asian Pacific American Cultural Center Director JoAnn Cornell also said, “She made an impact on all of those she worked with and for. All the best with her journey in graduate school, and I look forward to her returning to CSU someday!”

Many people had similar experiences with Tiffani. Vice President for Student Affairs Blanche Hughes said, “I have had the pleasure of watching Tiffani grow and develop into an amazing and wise woman, professional, advocate, leader, and scholar. She has made a difference on this campus, first as a student and then as a professional working for the Native American Cultural Center. I have learned so much from her over the years and already miss her and wish her well as she starts her doctorate program in Oklahoma. She was dedicated to making CSU a better institution, and I thank her for all that she has given to us. I hope she finds her way back home to CSU in the future.”

Tiffani will be missed, and we wish her all the best in her studies. She will undoubtedly continue to set the world ablaze with her passion for social justice work.
## Upcoming OIE Events

### SEPTEMBER

**September 15 - October 15**  
National Hispanic Heritage Month  
National Recovery Month  

“We need to help students and parents cherish and preserve the ethnic and cultural diversity that nourishes and strengthens this community - and this nation.”  
Cesar Chavez

**Thursday, September 1**  
NACC BBQ  
Rolland Moore Park

**Friday, September 2**  
B/AACC BBQ  
Rolland Moore Park, Shelter #2

**Monday, September 5**  
Labor Day  
University Holiday - Office Closed

**Friday, September 9**  
B/AACC Meet the Greeks  
NPHC Meet the Greeks: Backyard Boogie:  
We are hosting a Meet the Greeks event this fall and you’re invited to the event to represent your org.  
Dinner: 6:30 p.m.  
Program: 7:00 p.m.  
OIE backyard

NPHC organization reps and interested students are invited. Each organization present is invited to take 5-10 minutes to share some information about their organization.

**Tuesday, September 13**  
All-Division Lunch & Meeting  
LSC, Ballroom D  
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

**September 29**  
Latinx Faculty & Staff Mixer  
OIE House  
4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

### OCTOBER

**Relationship Violence Awareness Month**  
**Global Diversity Awareness Month**  
**National Disability Employment Awareness Month**  
**Breast Cancer Awareness Month**  
**National Polish American Heritage Month**

**Week of October 3**  
Disability Awareness/Education Week  
Student Disability Center

**Thursday, October 6**  
Guest Speaker: Carson Tueller  
SDC, Noon - 1:00 p.m.

**Monday, October 10**  
World Mental Health Day  
Indigenous People’s Day

“The elders were wise. They knew that man’s heart, away from nature, becomes hard; they knew that lack of respect for growing, living things, soon led to lack of respect for humans, too.”  
Chief Luther Standing Bear  
Sicangu and Oglala Lakota Chief

**Friday, October 14**  
WGAC Plaza Day  
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Friday, October 21**  
LGBTQ+ Spirit Day  
Wear purple to support LGBTQ+ youth, speak out against bullying

**Monday, October 24**  
Diwali

**Monday, October 31 - Wednesday, November 2**  
Dia de los Muertos