

## PRESIDENT SCHULZ VISITS THE DSP OFFICE!!!

For the first time in the history of the Developing Scholars Program, a president visited our office. It was an honor for us to welcome President Schulz on Tuesday, June 7, 2009.

We hoped that the President would spare a minute of his time to peek into our office and see what we have been doing throughout these ten years. To our surprise, he gallantly walked over, followed by Vice President Pat Bosco, introduced himself and asked many questions about our research.

"Please do not look at my office. It is messy," Anita said.

"You should see mine," replied the President.

He then proceeded to visit the office designated for students, looked around and even made a comment about some of the art on the walls.

To end the visit, we asked him for a picture, which he was very pleased to take with me. While I was trying to strike my best pose, he was curious enough to ask me where I was from and how long I have been in the USA. He then continued to ask how many languages I spoke and seemed very impressed when I told him I only spoke four. He replied, "Wow, I can barely speak one! So how long have you been here?"

I answered, "I have been here for eight

years."

"Do you go home often? Do you have any desire to go home?"

"It is not free," I said.

He chuckled and it was time for him to leave. He then shook my hand and said, "It was nice to meet you." When he shook Anita's hand, she told him how pleased she was of his visit and invited him back at any time. To my surprise, he laughed out loud and said, "It won't be the last."

That sums up my exciting Tuesday morning in the DSP office. I have to admit that it was quite an experience for me.

-- R. Djiofack



## DEVELOPING SCHOLARS PROGRAM CELEBRATES 10 YEARS

It has been ten years since the Developing Scholars Program started its journey.

Over the years the number of undergraduate students participating in research has increased, and there has been an increase of graduation rates for under-represented groups as well. For a decade scholars have proven themselves to be a distinguished group of students.

"I think this program is excellent. I never knew there was such a program on campus. I can not wait to come again next year."

-- **Cristina Fanning**  
**Associate Director/Instructor**  
**Collaborative Intercultural and Multi-lingual Advocacy Center**



### In the last 10 years:

We have organized our lives with a BlackBerry (1999) and began listening to an Ipod (2001) while we walked, and Digital Satellite Radio (2001) while we drove. We found out we could Tivo (1999) our favorite shows or watch them online at Hulu.com (2008). If we ever run out of things to do, Youtube.com (2005) provides us with plenty of free entertainment. And, DSP has grown from 20 to 74!

# College, a Scary Transition?

When we are finally ready to leave home and come to the university, we get all kinds of advice from parents, teachers and friends. They tell us everything we need to do or not do to be successful. They basically give us the big picture of how college life will be and how they will be by our side if we need them.



They give us everything to prepare us for our new life, right? I mean everything except a book of where to find all of our answers. So we come here like soldiers ready to survive.

The day arrives and, we are finally awake and realize that we are away from everything we have ever known. We are alone, and there is no one to tell us what to do or not to do.

We get depressed; we are homesick; we feel intellectually challenged. Lucky for us, all hope is not lost. We are part of the Developing Scholars Program!

Here at DSP, the rules are clear from the beginning that this is not recess time, and you need to do your best to represent yourself and the program well. You do not have time to be just another college freshman. DSP wants you to live up to the fact that you are a Scholar and that you are expected to excel in everything you do as you are observed by people all over the campus that you do not even know.

How do you do that when you are so afraid? When you do not know anyone on this big campus? When all you can think about is home, dad, mom, your boyfriend or girlfriend? When you feel stupid and think you are not up to the challenge?

Well, you can start by talking

to your mentor about your concerns, and talk to Anita and Loryn as well. Your mentors are there to help you during your research, but they can answer other questions as well.

Remember that the Developing Scholars Program has an open door policy. This means you can come in any time to hang out in the office, do homework, meet other Scholars like you or just whine or cry to Anita. Remember that DSP chose you over others who applied. If DSP chose you, it is because you proved that you were up to the task. It is alright to be a little afraid as you will have to juggle between doing your research and school work and just having fun and doing the things you enjoy doing.

To make this transition easier for you, I asked graduates and continuing Scholars to share some tips. Here they are listed below:

## TIPS! TIPS! TIPS! TIPS! TIPS!

*Stay in close touch with friends and family. This can help ease your transition to KSU. Look into getting tutors ahead of time, if you know you're going to be taking a difficult subject/class. It can take up to several weeks!*  
-CISCO VELAZQUEZ-

*Remember what your priorities are. School comes first. Learn to manage your time! Have a good balance between school work and free/social time. Exercise, it's a great stress reliever and fun!*  
-LEO HERNANDEZ-

*Write down your morals/beliefs before coming to KSU, so that when they are challenged, you remember where you stand. Learn how to balance school and your free time first semester, then allow a little time for socializing the second. (Be sure to take a lighter class load with that spring fever!) Call your parents: remember all they've done for you!*  
-ARIEL ANIB-

*Take heed when you are struggling in a class, and get help ASAP. Do not wait until after the first test, because in certain classes grades are based solely on tests. Also make sure that the professor knows who you are. This is a great way to network, and to develop a personal relationship with your professor.*  
-MYCHAL DAVIS-

*If you live in the dorms, there are many great friendships that you can establish and many activities that you can enjoy with new and old friends. Academically, it helped me a great deal to find out as much about my department as possible from groups and organizations, to the tools and resources available. Also, meeting professors and resourceful people is much easier in the summer when they are not as busy as in the regular academic year. Good luck and have a great semester.*  
-VICTOR SALAZAR-

*Don't be afraid to sit up front in classes and ask your professors for help!*  
-JESSICA RODRIGUEZ-

*Changes in plans might be frightening but do not let fear control you and make you miss a great opportunity. Also, work hard in your academics but do not forget to take time to have fun.*  
-JORGE MENDOZA-

*A few tips for incoming freshman: Get involved! But not too involved. Test the waters and find out about clubs and organizations that you will be interested in. Then attend a few of their meetings and then from that see which one will be the most rewarding to be a part of. Study your syllabi for your classes. Professors spend time making them for a reason -- they are your guide through a class. So keep them handy. Use your resources! You*

*have Anita, who is a very valuable resource! She practically knows everyone on campus. Then you should introduce yourselves to your professors. If you get involved on campus, you will meet older students who can introduce you to other important people. Knowing the right people to help you at the right time is invaluable. So, tap into all of your resources and network.*  
Good luck!  
-SHEILA ELLIS-

*One last tip: get enough sleep! Don't think that just because you're finally rid of your parents you should start staying up all night. Get sleep!*  
-EDMOND RIVERA-

*Note From Anita: The majority of problems that students encounter could be resolved much faster and easier with better communication. Communication is the key to a smoothly running semester: this involves both talking and listening.*

*Also turn in seminar assignments on time. Respect your professors!*



## Is the grass really always greener on the other side? An inside peek at Anita's world.

**The** Developing Scholars has as a tradition held an induction ceremony to welcome new and incoming Scholars. During the event, students receive prizes: these could vary from free meal coupons and gift certificates, to t-shirts, hats, mugs, cologne, etc.

Now, do you remember the last time you received one of



these prizes and said: "What in the world is this, I don't want this!" or maybe you said something like, "Hey bro, you wanna trade me?"

We often make faces of discontentment, or simply laugh out loud at the prizes we receive because we have no idea how those prizes come to us.

I had the wonderful opportunity to work with Anita this summer as her assistant, and I got to witness how she gets these coupons for us. I can not tell you much, but I can tell you it was not "easy like Sunday morning."

Before we started with this whole process, Anita had told me that she hated going out to ask for coupons, and I responded: "Why?

It should be fun. How hard could it be? You ask for coupons and they hand them to you."

Of course, in my mind I figured how can a business just refuse to give to such a wonderful program like ours? However, they receive multiple phone calls and letters from other programs who claim to be just as wonderful and beneficial as ours.

Now before we started our exciting adventure, we had to get everything ready. We had to write a letter explaining who we are, what we do and what we want. Next, Anita drove me around to area businesses and I distributed the letters. Some people welcomed me with a bright smile while others simply gave me the "I don't want to donate" look, but I still had to smile even when they were not interested.

The worst part is not the begging for coupons: keep in mind that during this time of year, the sun is unbearable. We had to work in the sun going from one business to another hoping that they would be welcoming and generous enough. Sometimes we were lucky and sometimes we were not.

After handing out letters, we still had to call them to see if they would be willing to donate and when the best time would be for us to come pick up the coupons. Once again luck has to be on our side.

All this adventure about seeking for coupons is not all bad. Some businesses were very generous and it was always heartwarming to see some managers take the time to read the letter.

Most of us did not know

what goes on behind closed doors but now that you do, before you complain about what you receive or even about what you do not receive, take a second to remember how much work was put into getting that coupon to satisfy everyone.

Just because we are Developing Scholars does not mean that businesses follow us around to give us coupons, nor do they jump up and down and say, "We will be more than happy to help. We have tons of coupons in stock for your program."

Remember that Anita does this to spoil us. If you read the benefits of DSP, it does not mention that we have to get coupons.

So whether you get a pizza, a t-shirt, ice cream, a taco or a coffee drink, remember that these businesses support Developing Scholars.

*"When it comes to life, the critical thing is whether you take things for granted or take them with gratitude." ~ G. K. Chesterton~*

### Dates to Remember:

**Sept. 13-** Last day to drop with 100% refund.

**Sept. 13-** Last day of enrollment on iSIS (need to fill out Add/Drop Forms).

**Sept. 20-** Last day to drop with 50% refund.

**Sept. 28-** Last day to drop a course without a W being recorded.

**Oct. 30-** Last day to drop a course.



## Summer Time: Some Things Begin and We All Meet Again

On Friday, June 19, DSP had a get-together at Anita's house just like old times. We took this opportunity to welcome some of our new Scholars who were already in town and to spend time out of school with some of our continuing Scholars. This was an opportunity for our new Scholars to get acquainted with each other and feel comfortable in the DSP family.

There was plenty of food and many of us were forced to take food home. We got to make each other laugh, played Pictionary together, and listened to some kind of music that Anita chose.

Pictionary had students going crazy as not all of us were great artists. Some did not want to be on the losing team, and although we had trouble nailing the rules down, we all had fun.

At the end of the day, I realized that it is not about winning or losing; it's all about how you interact with your teammates. To win or to lose is a state of mind and if you give it your best, you are always ahead of the game -- just like with school.



## Don't be Another Victim!

The Kansas State campus is often described as one of the safest campuses, but that is not to say that we should be careless. We should al-



ways be our own best advocates.

For those who are not aware, there is a suspected serial rapist here in Manhattan and for about nine years, the police have not been able to arrest him. According to recent reports, the rapist attacks his victims in the early morning between 1 a.m. and 5 a.m. Sources also claim that many rapes take place close to campus in places like apartments, bars and fraternity houses.

If leaving the library at a late time, do not walk home alone. Ask a friend to walk with you or call Wildcat Walk at 395-SAFE (395-7233). Be responsible when you go out: Do not walk home alone late at night. Remember when you were little and mom and dad always told you not to talk to strangers; maybe it's time to start using that rule again.

The KSU campus has a program called SafeRide. According to their web site, "The mission of the Safe Ride Program is to save lives and prevent injuries and damage to property by offering students and their guests a safe alternative to drunken driving and other threatening situations." SafeRide provides a safe ride home for K-State students and guests who live within the designated city limits of Manhattan, Kansas, from Thursday through Saturday night, from 11 p.m. to 3 a.m.

You can call SafeRide at: **785-539-0480** or visit : <http://www.k-state.edu/osas/saferide.htm> for more information.

You know the saying: Better safe than sorry.

**NOTE:** If you are caught drinking underage, it will not only cost you several hundred dollars and missed classes for court appearances, but you will lose your sense of dignity and self-respect of being a Scholar.



**We Drive  
You Ride  
Every Weekend**

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