



Terrapi **NOISE!**

Thursday, January 31, 2013



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FCA in the Community: MLK Service Day 2013

Upcoming Events

Cultural Practices

Every Mon and Wed
6:30PM, Chem Atrium

Freshman Dinner

Tues. Feb 5 at 6PM
North Campus Diner

Asian Americans, Leadership, and The U.S. Military

Captain Jeana Cho of the U.S. Army will discuss the topic of Asian Americans serving in the military and share her own experiences

**Tues. Feb 5 at 3:30PM
Nanticoke Room, Stamp**

Do You Know HTML? Want to build web sites?

We're looking for a Web Developer to maintain and build FCA's website!

Interested? Contact Pauline at publication.editor@gmail.com or ask an Eboard member

**By Andrew Aggabao
President**

Welcome to another great semester with the Filipino Cultural Association! To everyone who is returning, thanks for coming back; to everyone who is new to FCA, thanks for stopping by! There's something for everyone at FCA, and the executive board has already been hard at work making plans for the upcoming months!

For those who don't know, Eboard meetings occur on the Thursdays during which there are no GBMs. We'd love for everyone to attend! They are open meetings where anyone (even non-FCA members) can come, sit and listen, or contribute new thoughts and bring up any item that he/she wishes to discuss. Our next meeting is one week from today on Thursday, February 7, at 8:00 PM in Terp Room B/C in Stamp. Pay attention to

the email listserve or our Facebook Page just in case the location might change. If you have any questions, and are definitely thinking of stopping by, feel free to talk to me anytime or email me at president@fca-tumd.com. Our community is at its strongest when everyone is heard, so please join us at our next meeting!

One of the important events of the semester is the 2013 4th Biennial Filipino American Studies Gala: Inheriting History on the evening of Saturday, March 2 in the Grand Ballroom at Stamp. In 2007, the executive board under President Jonathan Sterlin and Vice President Ryan Herrera set off on an unprecedented, and still unmatched, journey of advo-

cating for the creation of an academic course at the University of Maryland. Their vision was to better celebrate and share the Filipino American culture with the greater student body not only through FCA, but also Filipino American Studies (FAST). With the help of the Asian American Studies Program (AAS) and important

leaders in the local Filipino American community, that Eboard held the first ever FAST Gala in April, 2007 in order to raise awareness and support for the program. The

University recognized the efforts of this unique cultural group and that Fall offered what is still today one of the only Filipino American stud-



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Member Spotlights!

Get to know your Eboard and General Body Members!

General Body: Min Yun



Major:

Civil Engineering

Favorite Movie:

There's Tangled, August Rush, Despicable Me, & any movie with Emma Stone or Watson

Favorite Artist:

Sara Bareilles

Favorite

FCA Moment:

There was a Freshman Dinner last year where for some reason, Patty had a bunch of cups and she was magically able to unstack a pyramid of them really quickly. The whole diner was pretty much in an uproar by that. So crazy.

Interesting Fact:

I never had cable TV until like 2010. I pretty much lived on Simpsons, Wheel of Fortune, Arthur, etc. So, no Boy Meets World or Hey Arnold.

Semester Preview

Spring semester is usually FCA's busiest (and finest!) Here are some of our biggest events:



FAST Gala

We host a dinner to raise funds for our Filipino-American Studies (FAST) Scholarships and raise awareness for our FAST program



Philippine Cultural Night

Each year, FCA produces an entire play production (from writing, to acting, to dancing, etc) to express our cultural and personal identities

Spring (Continued)

ies courses on the East Coast. Since then, successive Eboards have raised tens of thousands of dollars each year in order to fund two scholarships, as well as raise overall awareness about the program. This year, we celebrate "Inheriting History" in order to recognize the legacy that we now must pass on to the next generation of FCA leaders.

The grand finale of our year and what truly brings FCA together is: Philippine Culture Night (PCN), which will take place on the evening of Saturday, April 20 in the Grand Ballroom at Stamp. This is our time

to proudly and boldly express what it means to be a part of FCA, a member of the Filipino American community, and to share the experiences of the entire year with our families and the greater community. It consists of a talent pre-show, and a play that is completely written, acted, and produced by members of FCA. But rather than reading a long description, to find out more about PCN and how you can be a part of it, you should come to Camp PCN on the evening of Friday, February 15. This overnight retreat will share the entire process that makes up PCN, a showing of last year's PCN, and maybe another surprise or two. Details

for Camp PCN will come soon, so mark your calendars and be ready to sign up when the announcement is made!

At the end of the day, while FCA does all these great things and more (I couldn't possibly list them all here), the best thing about it is that FCA is family. Through all of our stress, hardships, and struggles both inside and outside of the organization, it is a group of people bound by an undefinable factor that makes us proud to be a part of FCA. Again, welcome to our first GBM of the Spring semester, and get excited for the best semester FCA has to offer yet!

This Here is SPAM Country

A Trip to the Spam Museum

By Adrian Francisco

What should a Pinoy do when in Minnesota? See the Spam Museum! Located in Austin, Minnesota, where Hormel Foods first started, the Spam Museum is a testament to the popularity of this canned meat in the United States. It is approximately two hours away from Minneapolis.

The Hormel Foods company first released Spam in 1937. During World War II, Spam fed American troops overseas. Since then, Hormel Foods has kept Spam in the public eye with jingles, singing, and advertisements. Spam was famously featured in a Monty Python sketch, Brett Favre was a Spam sponsor, and Spam even fielded a NASCAR Team in the 90's.

Spam's popularity has spread as far as Hawaii, which holds the

Spam Jam Festival annually, and the Philippines, where the Spam Jam restaurant holds a plethora of Spam-inspired entrees. Some uses of Spam include Spam and eggs, Spam fried rice, Spam, mac and cheese, and the Hawaiian classic Spam musubi.

The museum showcases the brand's treasured history, from Hormel's humble beginnings, to World War II, to today, with Hormel having sold seven billion cans of Spam. A movie theater within the museum displays ways Americans celebrate Spam. A game show room allows friends to test their Spam knowledge for points, and a hands-on activity room explains the process that Spam is made.

Spam is available in eleven varieties, including Spam with Bacon, Spam Oven Roasted



Turkey, and Spam Jalapeno. All eleven are available online and at the Museum shop, which also sells other Spam merchandise. I brought home six different kinds- the seventh, Spam Garlic, was eaten in fried rice.

If you are Filipino, Hawaiian, or you just love Spam, the Spam Museum is the place to celebrate the canned meat that holds a place in so many of our hearts.

Philippine Lawmakers Pass Controversial Reproductive Health Bill

By Tyler Babish
District Six Representative

In December 2012, President Aquino of the Philippines signed a Reproductive Health (RH) Bill 14 years after a similar legislation was first introduced. With the passage of the bill, the government will provide contraceptives and information about reproductive health.

Supporters believe the bill will improve women's health and promote economic development for the nation. They believe if women have access to information about sexual health they can make safer choices and better plan how to have children. The Philippine Department of Health says that an average of 221 women per 100,000 died during childbirth in 2011, while the United Nations Population Fund estimated that there are 3.4million unintended pregnancies a year. This data has also been connected with concerns for women's rights. Philippine Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago, who co-sponsored the bill, wrote, "Many poor women do not receive information on how

to receive reproductive health care. Our underprivileged women have to accept standards lower than what they need, want, or deserve." Advocates for the RH bill also cite years of academic research that suggests high birthrates prevent economic growth in developing countries like the Philippines.

The strongest opposition for the bill came from the Catholic Church and politicians promoting intense arguments that were mostly based on moral and religious grounds. A group of Philippine bishops went as far as to claim supporters of the bill "will invoke divine wrath on themselves." Many people are also upset that their tax dollars are being used to pay for contraceptives, even if they are morally opposed to them. Secular

opposition to the bill raises concerns with the cost of the programs and how it may burden the government's budget.

Regardless of their stances, most observers agree that the RH Bill marks a significant cultural moment in the Philippines where the Catholic Church has long held overwhelming power.

Gem Daus, who in addition to teaching the FAST class is a public health professional, commented, "I think the movement to get the RH bill passed is something that Jose Rizal would be proud of. Rizal saw the church as corrupt and responsible for the oppression heaped upon Filipinos by Spain...Certainly it should have a voice, but not the outsized role that they claim...it's not just women's health that is impacted here." There may also be a generational divide at work, seen most clearly as Senator Juan Enrile staunchly opposed the bill while his son voted in favor of it. Discussion about the bill will not stop just because it has passed, but for now the government will begin carrying out the plan and Filipinos on all sides of the issue will watch carefully to see what changes it brings.



Martin Luther King Jr. Service Day 2013

By Ryan Toledo, Community Service Chair

On January 21, 2013, the Filipino Cultural Association participated in Montgomery County's Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service. It was held at the North Bethesda Marriott Conference Center. Local community organizations were in attendance and provided several activities for volunteers such as blanket making, lunch packaging, card making, and picture frame designing. It is important that on Martin Luther King Jr. Day we recognize his desire for a better community by partaking in events that improve the quality of life for those in our community.



Spotlights! (Cont.)

Eboard: Jonathan Reyes



Major:
Computer Engineering
and English

Favorite Quote:
"He knew that when he kissed this girl, and forever wed his unutterable visions to her perishable breath, his mind would never romp again like the mind of God."
-F. Scott Fitzgerald

Favorite FCA Moment:
Last scene of PCN 2012

What do you do as the Treasurer?
As treasurer, I handle FCA's money. I control spending from our SGA funds and checking account and write out reimbursement checks (on our dope unicorn checks). I also make budgets and approve spending done by the club.

Most important lesson you learned during your term?
Try everything at least once. You never know what you may end up liking, and, if you don't, at least you know for sure.