

Intercultural Happenings

Office of Intercultural Affairs

Spring 2013

The Office of Intercultural Affairs is thankful for the many ways in which the Stonehill community has engaged in diversity and inclusion initiatives and practices. As the initial work of the Diversity Task Force concludes with the Presidential Report, there are key recommendations for senior leadership, divisional planning, and intentional learning for all members of the Stonehill community. This summer, divisions, departments and individuals will be asked to include ways to enhance diversity in their daily work as well as their strategic plans. *Together, we can take steps towards creating a more inclusive Stonehill.*

What are a few ways you can you deepen your understanding of and engagement with diversity?

- Join us for our diversity book club in July, or pick up any one of the books we have discussed over the years
- Check out the HR Newsletter for suggestions about cultural events in the local and Boston area
- Seek out summer street festivals learn about opportunities to engage in those communities (<http://www.partyearth.com/boston/festivals/> has a good collection)
- Follow us on Twitter where we often post about diversity related articles and events (@SCDiversity)
- Come to our RACE Dialogue Summer Series (in July)
- Look through our bookshelves in Duffy 149 for great ideas for all ages

With peace,

Liza Salusan

LEADERSHIP THROUGH DIVERSITY

Congratulations to the following students for completing the Leadership Through Diversity program! With action plans in hand, these students are ready to make Stonehill College an inclusive campus for all.

Danielle Berkman
Love Boussiquot
Erin Cook
Anna Craft
Bree Dau
Jade Dube
Mounia El Arar
Brittany Frederick
Nisha Khubchandani
Nathaly Lopera
O'Shane Morgan
Amanda Nagim Williams
Jenn Pham
Cassandra Ponce
Billy Wilson
Carrie Coughlin
Parijat Bhattacharjee
Cait Gillet
Breanne Penkala (ALANA-A Sister) Prithak Chowdhury (ALANA-A Brother)



Interviewed: International, Interracial, and Interreligious

On Thursday, January 24, 2013 the Office of Intercultural Affairs sponsored the annual “Interviewed” panel on international, interracial, and interreligious adoption, dating, and marriage. As our world and its citizens continues to diversify in many ways, intersecting identities become increasingly visible in our world, community, and in our own Stonehill lives. According to the US Census, those identifying with multiple races grew by 32 percent over the decade, for a total of 9 million people, while single-race identifiers grew by just 9.2 percent. The “Interviewed” panel featured the personal stories, experiences, and reflections of members of our Stonehill community. Our panelists were **Danielle Berkman '16, Jason Watts '13, Parijat Bhattacharjee '16, and Liza Talusan, Director of Intercultural Affairs.**



Danielle Berkman '16: “I suppose I’m what you could call ‘half-bilingual’. I can listen to a conversation in Spanish and understand it quite easily but ask me to speak to you in Spanish and that’s another story. But I guess that stems from the cultural divide between my mom and dad, which inevitably left me stranded somewhere in between the two. What I have come to realize, though, is that race is much more complex than appearance. My dad is Polish and Russian, but my mom’s Peruvian heritage poured into every aspect of my life and had ultimately been more of a visible influence to me than anything else.”



Jason Watts '13: “My mother is Hindu and my father is an Anglican Christian. They never forced religion on me; instead they took me to both the temple and church while growing up and allowed me to make a decision for myself. I identify as a Christian but I still take part in some Hindu practices and respect the values of the religion. From my perspective, God is the house while religion is the doors and windows. It shouldn’t matter whether you chose to go through the front door and I chose to go through the back door as long as we all are respectful of the house. The sooner we as a society and a people realize this, the sooner we will create a better world for ourselves and each other.”

The Langston Hughes Project

Dr. Ron McCurdy and his band packed the Martin Auditorium on February 20, 2013 for a wonderful jazz concert. In honor of Black History Month, the Langston Hughes Project engaged an audience of over 200 in “Ask Your Mama: 12 Moods for Jazz”, a multimedia performance involving spoken word artists, a jazz quartet and a slide presentation of images from the Harlem Renaissance. This multimedia presentation recreated Langston Hughes's vision of the global struggle for freedom in the early 1960's.

Ask Your Mama is a “twelve-part epic poem which Hughes scored with musical cues drawn from blues and Dixieland, gospel songs, boogie woogie, bebop and progressive jazz, Latin "cha cha" and Afro-Cuban mambo music, German lieder, Jewish liturgy, West Indian calypso, and African drumming -- a creative masterwork left unperformed at his death.” In collaboration with the Visual and Performing Arts department on campus, the Langston Hughes Project brought this piece to life on Stonehill’s campus for a night of jazz, history, poetry, and education.



CONFERENCE ON DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

In February, the Office of Intercultural Affairs sponsored the 4th Annual Conference on Diversity and Inclusion. In an afternoon of learning, sharing, and dialoguing about ways to shape a more inclusive community, more than 144 Stonehill community members engaged in the following sessions:

- **Ally Development** by Liza Talusan, Director for Intercultural Affairs
- **How Diversity Can Help Your Job/Career Search** by Christina Burney, Associate Director of Career Services
- **“Diversity and the First Year Experience”** by Noah Dunn '14 and Leadership Through Diversity group
- **Intersections of Race and Gender: A dialogue with the women of R.I.S.E** by Silvana Vivas '13, Alanna Melendez '13, and Karuna Reang '15
- **Navigating DisAbility** by Elizett Pires, Housing Assignments Coordinator/AAC and Kadian McNeil '14
- **First in Our Families: The experiences of first generation college students** by David Golden, RD
- **Tough Guise: Men of Color and Masculinities** by Jason Watts '13 and Prithak Chowdhury '15

KEYNOTE PANEL

Our keynote panel featured six Stonehill alumni who shared their insights since they have graduated. While many of the alumni spoke of the great experiences they've had since graduation, it was clear that diversity and inclusion were part of their lives.



Stephany DePina graduated from Stonehill in 2010 with a focus in Sociology. Currently she works for Road to Responsibility in a residential home assisting adults living with disabilities.



Francesca Villanueva is in her last semester of a full-time nurse practitioner program at MGH Institute of Health Professions specializing in Adult Primary Care and Women's Health. She also works part-time as a registered nurse for the Bristol County Sheriff's Office in their county jail in Dartmouth and as a pediatric home care registered nurse.



Shannon E. O'Malley works at the Boston Public Health Commission in the Research and Evaluation Office. She currently volunteers with two reproductive health organizations and the Big Sister Organization of Greater Boston.



Michelle Tineo worked for the non-profit organization Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD) where she managed 30 youth, ages 14-21, in their summer jobs.



Since graduation, Ariel Bowen has been working at an elementary school where she is involved with multiple projects such as facilitating a course on bullying prevention.



Blayne Lopes is in his last semester at Simmons School of Social Work. He is working with youth with traumatic brain injuries and neurological disorders. Blayne also interns at Wayside Youth and Family Services Community Service Agency as an Intensive Care Coordinator.

CHINA 2.0 by Kevin McCann '13



Kevin McCann '13 with Prof. Yu (Communications)

As a senior with an International Business major and Chinese minor, I've quickly realized the importance of understanding China's culture and economy as well as the vast opportunities China presents. After having returned from a semester studying abroad at the University of International Business and Economics in Beijing during the fall of 2011, it was nice to be back in the States. However, it wasn't long after my return that I was already looking for ways to go back.

As the Teaching Assistant for Professor Xuejian Yu and Professor Ginger Meng's Travel Learning Community, I was presented with the opportunity to return to Beijing in the spring 2013 and tag along as a student escort for a 10 day trip. *Needless to say, I was thrilled.* Of the students, I was the only one who had been to China and who had a solid understanding of the Chinese language. I did my best to help the group of 13 students get around this very different city. We stayed at a hotel only 2 blocks from the University I studied at during my junior year, and I was able to easily revisit all of my favorite restaurants, stores and even catch up with a few of the friends I made while abroad.



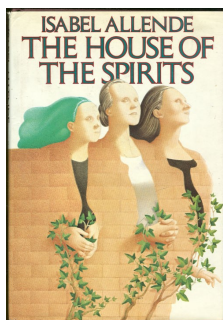
After climbing the Great Wall, visiting the Beijing Zoo, Olympic Village, Tiananmen Square, Forbidden City, Summer Palace and even taking a *tai chi* lesson, I felt as though our group took advantage of many great opportunities in the time that we had.

Kevin McCann is graduating senior and a guest contributor this semester

Lunch with 12 Strangers: *Free Food for Millionaires*

"I guess we are the millionaires?" joked one of the participants in our spring 2013 multicultural book discussion program. Provided with a free book and lunch, the participants read *Free Food for Millionaires* by Min Jin Lee, a Korean American writer. This debut novel was a Number 1 Book Sense pick, a New York Times Editor's Choice, a Wall Street Journal Juggle Book Club selection, and a national bestseller. It was also a Top 10 Novel of the Year for the Times of London (www.minjinlee.com).

The story intertwines the lives of the Han family as we witness decisions and events of careers, love, relationships, school, deception, and exploration. In our lunch discussion, participants noted themes of race, ethnicity, gender, class, immigration, social status, betrayal, trust, power, privilege and faith, and connected these themes to their own lives, choices, and decisions. It's a lengthy book (perfect for someone to pick up during the summer!) and one that captivates the reader from the first page to the last.



The Lunch with 12 Strangers program is designed to bring Stonehill members together to learn more about each other and to discuss issues of diversity.

The summer selection is *House of Spirits* by Isabel Allende and will be held on Wednesday, July 10th from 12-1pm. This group will be facilitated by Melinda Rios, Development Assistant at Stonehill. Please rsvp to diversity@stonehill.edu if you are interested in joining us.

To be eligible for the book raffle, please email diversity@stonehill.edu by June 1st at noon. We will randomly pick 12 names to receive a copy of *The House of the Spirits*.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH CONVOCATION

On February 7, 2013 students, faculty, and staff came together to celebrate and honor Black History Month by listening to members of our own Stonehill community who identify as coming from Black, African, or African-American heritage. Our panelists were **Amanda Nagim-Williams '16; Luis Rosa, Assistant Dean of Admission & Coordinator of Multicultural Recruitment; Love Boussiquot '16; Shayla Jordan, Human Resources Assistant; and Jermirius Troy '13.**



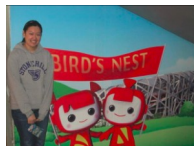
"Aside from being African-American, growing up in a Trinidadian household has definitely shaped me into who I am today: a young woman who is extremely proud of her culture and all that contributes to my many identities. I want people to see that I am just as capable to do anything that anyone else can, and to show individuals that they should evaluate the way in which they view people, all people, especially people of color, the way in which they view their neighbors. Skin-tone should not determine whether or not one can empathize with someone subjected to discrimination, but rather it should be out of the goodness of your heart to recognize that all people are equal." -**Amanda Nagim-Williams '16**



"Being Black isn't easy, especially in a school with so few. I think that people need to become less close minded when it comes to race, and it would be great if more people started to WANT to know about and become involved in things that made Stonehill more comforting towards anyone of any ethnicity." - **Love Boussiquot '16**

ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH CONVOCATION

This year, we had four outstanding panelists join us: **Prof. Jungyun Gill (Sociology); Trevor LaTorre-Couch '13; Emily Chang '15; and Lori Wong '15.**



Lori Wong '15: *"Do you want to be a doctor when you grow up? Are you really good at math? What part of China are you or your parents from?"* Being asked these questions were confusing. I wanted to start my own business like my parents did. I wasn't a math genius. My parents weren't from China and neither was I. Before making assumptions you should take the time to get to know someone.



Prof. Jungyun Gill, Sociology/Criminology: One thing that I was a little worried about when I started teaching was how American students would respond to my criticisms of aspects of U.S. society. Would they think I have less authority to talk about U.S. society than American sociologists? Would my opinions be less trusted than my white male counterparts because of my status as an immigrant minority woman? My first year at Stonehill has been great and I am happy with how welcoming students, faculty and administrators are here at Stonehill College.



Emily Chang '15: After coming to Stonehill, I was surprised that I'm one of the only students that speak Chinese and my whole way of hanging out with friends changed. In Asia, when we say we're going to hang out with friends, we normally go to karaoke, movies and (window) shop. However, people here hang out with their friends with going to parties, playing sports and they only go shopping when they need to buy something. Thus, my expectations of life in the States failed again!

DiverCITY 2013: IN A WORLD OF MANY, WE ARE ONE

On Thursday, April 18th, 2013, DiverCity brought in an audience of over 550 Stonehill community members. The Shields Science Center was overflowing with people wanting to share in the night's celebration. Through celebration and education, the evening featured a wide array of student groups showcasing their talents through dance, fashion, spoken word, and music. This year's DiverCity Festival included performances from Ruckus, Diversity on Campus, PRIDE, WHEN & RISE, Bollywood, Latin Dance, Asian American Society and many more!

The event was a result of the dedication and hard work of the SGA DiverCity Planning Committee. The committee is advised by Tiffany Enos, Assistant Director for Intercultural Affairs and is comprised of **Julie Kelly '13 (SGA Executive Diversity Chair)**, **Jose Paz '15 (DiverCity Planning Chair)**, **Prithak Chowdhury '15 (Programmer)**, **Kadian McNeil '14 (Programmer)**, **Noah Dunn '14 (Publicity)**, **Neeraj Dev Varma '15 (Publicity)**, **Wanny Munoz '13 (Reception Planner)**, **Sabina Dhama '14 (Media/Visual Manager)**, and **Brianna Dau '16 (Manager)**. For this 2 hour April event, planning begins in September with student rehearsals, auditions, and planning.

This year the committee chose **"In a world of many, we are ONE"** as the DiverCity slogan. Our hope was to highlight our unique identities, cultures, experiences, and talents in order to celebrate the contributions we each make to the Stonehill and global community. Through tickets sales and donations, the community raised \$800 to be donated to the organization CRISPAZ, Christians for Peace in El Salvador.



LGBTQ SUMMIT: Coming together to discuss change

On Saturday, April 27th, Julie Kelly and the SGA Diversity Committee hosted the LGBTQ Summit. The goal of the summit was to assess the campus climate around issues of inclusion as well as to provide space for the Stonehill community to speak openly about issues impacting and affecting the LGBTQ community.



The program included a diverse panel of Stonehill community members who shared their insights and experiences working with and within the LGBTQ community. The participants had the opportunity to engage in round table discussions around questions about how to make change, how to develop a more inclusive community, and sharing of personal experiences.

The panelists included Christopher Wetzel (Department Chair of Sociology and Criminology), Beth Devonshire (Director of Community Standards), MaryAnne Cappelleri (Campus Minister for Community Service and Partnerships), George Piggford, C.S.C. (Professor of English), Erin Burns (Class of 2015 and President of PRIDE), and Amanda Chasey (Class of 2014).

Participants of the program left with key messages that *because* of our Catholic identity rather than despite it, support for the LGBTQ community exists at Stonehill among students, faculty, and staff.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION NETWORKING EVENT

For the past three years, the Office of Intercultural Affairs and Office of Career Services have collaborated to bring together company representatives and students who are interested in shaping a more inclusive environment through professional work and internships. The event takes place after the Internship Fair, and those companies who identify as having a commitment to diversity meet students who have held leadership positions in diversity at Stonehill. Together, they share past success as well as future goals. Thank you to Christina Burney and Amy Brunswick who helped to coordinate the event with Intercultural Affairs.



DIVERSITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE AWARDEES

The Diversity and Social Justice Award is given to members of the Stonehill community who exemplify the purpose, mission and ideals of diversity and inclusion. These individuals have changed the Stonehill community through crucial engagement and empowerment, and have provided opportunities for access and equity in our community. Consideration is given to individuals who have demonstrated consistency throughout their time at Stonehill and who have internalized key components of being a leader, an ally and a change agent for social justice.



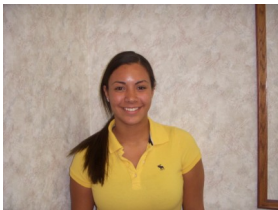
Christina Burney, Associate Director of Career Services Through her work with the RACE Dialogues Program, Safe Space, Diversity and Inclusion Networking Events, the New York City Externship, and career advising, Christina Burney has placed diversity at the center of her work. She has been an invited guest to the RISE and MOSAIC groups and students identify her as an advocate, ally and as a person committed to influencing institutional and departmental change.



David Golden, Residence Director Throughout his six years at Stonehill, David has been an outstanding member of the Residence Life team, particularly in his continued growth and commitment with diversity and inclusion. Most recently, David has been instrumental in the launch of GenOne, a network of first generation college students.



Hailey Chalhoub, 2013 Hailey's impact has been through her activism and commitment to social justice. Through her work with the Peer Mentors, Resident Assistants, ALANA-A Sister, Activism Club, Mindful Living, Newman Fellow, African Service Project, Democratic Education, study abroad, and much more, Hailey has embodied a commitment and practice of justice.



Alanna Melendez, 2013 is a scholar and practitioner of diversity and inclusion. Her work as an ALANA-A Sister, Education major, Gender Studies major, Best Buddies, Girl Scouts, and RISE have contributed to a more just and compassionate Stonehill. She is a leader, a friend, and a mentor to many on campus and she has made a lasting, positive impression at Stonehill.



Min Kim, 2013 is an ALANA-A Brother, a Resident Assistant, varsity hockey player, SURE scholar, and mentor to international students. He has been an active member of MOSAIC (men of color discussion group) as well as an important mentor for students of color at Stonehill. He has consistently been a positive contributor to the community and has shared his story at numerous convocation panels. Min is a fantastic role model, friend, tutor, and leader.



Julie Kelly, 2013 is an ALANA-A Sister, Resident Assistant, SGA Executive Diversity Chair, facilitator of the LGBTQ Summit, co-writer of the *Teambuilders for Inclusion* activities book, intern for Intercultural Affairs, former ABS Co-Coordinator, and member of PRIDE. Julie's work has been consistently challenging the Stonehill community to think about power and privilege, and she has worked to change the ways in which we think about inclusion. Julie has been brave in the face of adversity and is often seen fighting for equal rights for all.

Congratulations to all of our Diversity and Social Justice Award recipients.

CAMPUS CONVERSATIONS ON DIVERSITY

In the spring semester, the Office of Human Resources and the Office of Intercultural Affairs collaborated to provide a 3-part series to engage the Stonehill community in conversations about diversity. These workshops were rooted in the stories, experiences, interests and actions of the participants. In roundtable discussions, participants engaged in meaningful dialogue with their peers that helped to build familiarity, uncover personal and professional journeys, and make connections.

Part I: Diversity in My Life

Are there employees at Stonehill you have never met? Do you feel there are fewer and fewer names and faces you recognize over the years? Are you new to Stonehill and haven't met many other employees yet? Join us for a get-to-know you program just for Stonehill employees and come together for an interactive dialogue about diversity in our lives and in our work

Part II: What difference can I make?

How can you make a difference in diversity and inclusion in your own life and at Stonehill? Learn about different ways in which we can be allies to people and communities by exploring our earliest messages about diversity and difference. Develop an action plan for how you can identify as a better ally.

Part III: Monday, May 13 at 11:00am in Martin Auditorium *look for an upcoming announcement soon!

What actions can I take to practice inclusion every day? How can I address situations of bias?

EXPRESSING GRATITUDE by Joshua Rapoza (Information Technology)

For those of us seeking to improve the quality of our lives, the simplest thing we can do is to begin a gratitude practice. Gratitude is being thankful. It is showing appreciation outwardly to the rest of the world with a touch of kindness, and inwardly towards yourself for your own unique greatness. The best part about practicing gratitude is that you don't need to attend any classes, read any books, or pay any money. You can start from where you are, right now!



The moment I wake up in the morning, I say a silent "Thank You." Just waking up is a gift, let alone having a comfortable bed, a beautiful wife, a roof over my head, and heat to warm my house. As my left foot touches the floor, I say "Thank," and as my right foot touches the floor, I say "You." The practice continues as I move through my morning routine, saying "Thank You" with each step and continuing to be grateful for the warm running water, the clothes in my wardrobe, the food in my kitchen, and the job that I am getting ready for, etc.

When I discovered the Stonehill Compliments Facebook page, I was filled with so much joy! After hearing about #stonehillprobz on Twitter, to know that a growing group of students are expressing gratitude to counter the complaints on social networks made me proud to work here. Can the employees of Stonehill College build on this wave of gratitude and deepen the sense of community that already exists?

We can begin with a Lunchbox Learning session on Gratitude Journaling in late May, co-sponsored by the Employee Wellness Committee and the Office of Intercultural Affairs. Writing in my gratitude journal every morning is another part of my personal practice. Listing 8-10 things I am grateful for and why, then briefly reflecting on each item, I leave the house feeling like a rich man. Once we discover all of the blessings we have, the sense of lack in our lives diminishes.

Joshua is a RYT-200 certified yoga instructor, has been practicing yoga for 17 years and currently works in the Department of Information Technology. Being alive is fantastic and helping people to live more fantastic lives is his dharma.

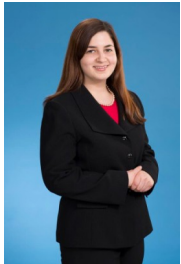
GETTING INVOLVED WITH DIVERSITY AT STONEHILL COLLEGE



Maria Curtin, Dean of Faculty, panelist: “A more diverse Stonehill will provide all Stonehill students with the cultural richness, awareness of differences in points of view, and perspectives from different ethnic and socio economic groups that are needed to interact in a meaningful and constructive way with all peoples.”



Fr. George Piggford, C.S.C., LGBTQ Summit, “It is very important that all members of the college community as well as our visitors feel that Stonehill is a place of welcome. During their years here our students, especially, need to know that Stonehill is their home. I therefore believe that all of us have a responsibility to offer welcome in an explicit way to those who identify as gay and lesbian, bisexual, trans, and questioning about their sexuality. God made all of us as beloved, beautiful creatures and calls upon us to “love one another” (John 14.34). This is no easy task; it takes real courage to overcome prejudgment, fear, and even hate. I am happy to help with this process in any way that I can.”



Amy Brunswick, Career Services, “Lunch with 12 Strangers” *Free Food for Millionaires* “My favorite part of the book was the author’s use of omniscient narration, allowing the reader to get inside the thoughts of every character. I felt like it allowed me to understand each character’s truth and perspective, even if their actions were hurting others. Every character in the book was treated as a real, compelling person with both flaws and positive qualities; no one was one-sided and relationships were painted to be as difficult as they are in real life.”



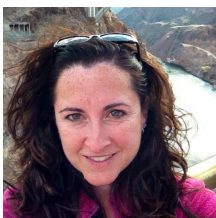
Andy Anderson, Residence Life, RACE Dialogue Group, “As a new employee I wanted to find a way to learn more about the diversity of the Stonehill campus while also finding a stepping stone to learn more about students and colleagues, and I thought RACE would be a perfect way to do both of those things. RACE was a great place to get to know a wide range of people from all over campus and have safe and real conversations about what we observe about diversity on and off campus. I look forward to continuing the discussions started in RACE with the students and staff of Stonehill.”



Jatna Amador, Student Activities, DiverCity Festival, “I enjoyed participating in DiverCity because this program is such a great way to acknowledge and celebrate diversity on Stonehill’s campus. I would consider myself a feminist and instantly fell in love with the idea of the feminist fashion show when Meredith (Kalinski ‘13) presented it to me. I wanted to participate in the program to show my support for both diversity and feminism.”



Mary Dunklee, Bookstore, Convocation Series, “I attend the Convocation panels and other events because I enjoy learning about the different cultures and backgrounds of the speakers. I also want to support the speakers: I feel that it takes a lot of courage to share your personal story in such a way.”



Lucia Darling, Budget Manager, Campus Conversations: “Participating in the diversity programming on campus has helped me stay connected to Stonehill and has helped me tackle diversity issues with my own children. Having grown up in a very diverse city and now being the mother of two children and living in a very non-diverse rural community I am always looking for ways to have conversations about diversity with my children and to find ways of exposing them to diversity. I have learned so much from other Stonehill community members by participating in the Campus Conversations program.”

WELCOME 2013-2014 ALANA-A BROTHERS AND SISTERS!

ALANA-A Brothers and Sisters are student leaders who embrace the identity of change agents, social activists, and intentional educators. We focus on the institutional, individual, ideological and interpersonal impacts of oppression and privilege and the intersections of race with other social identities. We seek to empower our community and develop a shared commitment to both equality and justice by consistently reflecting on our own identities, personal development, and collective responsibilities.

ALANA-A Brothers and Sisters are supportive, approachable and serve as positive role models. Their actions and words are consistent with serving as diversity allies and addressing social justice and equity issues.

The ABS Leaders engage in training workshops in the spring semester, through online modules during the summer, and return for additional workshops in the fall. The leaders will spend the summer planning their student-facilitated workshops to be held in the fall semester and are planning an anti-bullying/inclusive community agenda. The ABS Leaders learn about power, privilege, intersecting identities, engaging first year students, addressing bias, empowering communities for change, and learn about the various resources on campus that assist in the support of students of color and students from underrepresented backgrounds. The ABS leaders, themselves, are a diverse group of class years, majors, races, ethnicities, religious identities, geographic locations, and interests. To learn more about the ABS Leaders, check out the video created by Neeraj DevVarma '14: <http://youtu.be/vD7GlrGLgJs>

Congratulations to Noah Dunn '14 who will serve as the Coordinator for the ALANA-A Brothers and Sisters



ALANA-A Brothers and Sisters Leadership Program 2013-2014:

Nisha Khubchandani, Erin Cook, Johnny Joseph, Patrik Bergabo, Thomas Noah, Noah Dunn, Brianna Dau, Kadian McNeill, Danielle Berkman, Audrey DelRosario, Kelli Brodbeck, Sabina Dhami, Amanda Nagim-Williams, Brittany Frederick, Anna Craft, Cassandra Ponce, Amanda Egesi, Breanne Penkala, Myesia Newton, (abroad) Mary Charlotte Buck, Paul Ataide

GenONE: Navigation for the First Generation

Did you know that more than 25% of the population at Stonehill College identifies as the “first in their family” to attend college?

Are you the first in your family to go to college?

If so, then GenOne is for you! Meet other first-generation college students through our GenOne Program – a network of students, faculty and staff who know what it’s like to be the first in their family to go to college.

GenOne is a safe space in which first-generation college students can discuss academic and social challenges, the identities of a GenOne student, changing relationships, and specific aspects of the college experience.

Group participants will have the opportunity to:

- Talk about and explore their experiences, at college and at home, of being a first-generation college student
- Discuss the particular characteristics of being a first-gen student at a private, liberal arts, Catholic college
- Share experiences of belonging, social class, education and pressures unique to first generation college students
- Discuss other aspects of your personal identity
- *Realize you are not alone!*

Want to meet other students, faculty and staff who are First Generation College Students?

Saturday, August 24th from 12:30pm-1:45pm
Cleary Dining Room, Roche Dining Commons
RSVP by Monday, July 22nd to attend: diversity@stonehill.edu

Interested in being a mentor for First Generation College Students?

Contact Liza Talusan, x1409, to get involved!