Real Talk: Student Edition

On Tuesday, April 10, six Mercer undergraduates took the stage to share their stories of trials and triumphs at the culminating event in the Real Talk: #NoFilter speaker series. The event, designed to give students a platform to share their struggles with mental health, identity, academics, health, and finances, was orchestrated by first-year students Robyn Guru and Shailey Shah.

The speakers (pictured right) were Aakash Patel, Didi Berry, Princess Ogundu, Kiara Williams, Erica Duncan, and Sam Dunklin. All six students were selected from a competitive application process that included interviews with Robyn and Shailey as well as the staff advisors, Emily Halstead in the Office for Student Success and Hannah Vann in the QEP Office. After selection, each speaker was paired with a staff/student team for one-on-one coaching to help them craft their story.

Real Talk: Student Edition is the final event in a series that featured Mercer faculty sharing their own experiences as undergraduates and young professionals. This year’s speaker list included Dr. Garland Crawford, Professor Stephanie Howard, Dr. Chester Fontenot, Dr. Laura Lackey, Dr. Chinekwu Obidoa, and Professor Adam Ragusea.

Don’t Miss the Run, Roll, Ride Fun Run!

The Run Roll Ride Fun Run is a free event that gives participants the opportunity to “do their joy.” People can run, walk, ride bikes, dance, play music, or do any activity that brings them joy and is a healthy outlet for stress management. Area service providers will also be available to raise awareness about mental health resources available in Middle Georgia. Mercer student Alfred Troy will host the fun run on April 21 from 9:00am – 11:00 a.m. at Tattnall Square Park. Online registration is open here until April 18. Walk-up registration is also available.

Alfred Troy received funding from the Visionary Student Panel in Fall 2017 to implement this event. Since January, he has worked closely with Hannah Vann to plan the event including obtaining rentals and park permits, designing marketing, and recruiting community partner support.

Global Citizenship Exhibit with Dr. Lisa Vu

Dr. Lisa Vu received project funding to pilot a new service-research class project in her IGS 380 course this spring. Dr. Vu and her 12 students developed exhibits that demonstrate the effects of globalization on our daily lives and highlight the importance individuals can play in their roles as global citizens. The exhibits were first displayed at the Washington Memorial Library and are now available for viewing at the Ruth Hartley Mosely community center. Full details about the exhibit schedule are available online.

Summer Research Faculty

Congratulations to our eight faculty who were selected for the 2018 Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship. Each will work with two undergraduates on service-research projects.

- Dr. Chester Fontenot, English and Africana Studies, CLA
- Dr. Chris Grant, Political Science, CLA
- Adam Griggs, Research Librarian, University Library
- John Lee, Physics, CLA
- Philip McCreaor, Environmental Engineering, MUSE
- Andrew Pounds, Chemistry and Computer Science, CLA
- Deneen Senasi, English, CLA
- Dr. Lisa Vu, Global Development Studies, CLA

We Love Assessment! Yes We Do!

We Love Assessment! How About You?

As the semester comes to a close, we want to say thank you to all who so generously share student work with us for our Expose, Explore, and Express assessment. You should have already received emails with information about submitting student work. For those of you who have already shared work or made to do so, thank you. If you haven’t been contacted for assessment and would like to be included in the Explore or Express counts, please contact Hannah Vann or Dr. Kathy Kloepper.