



# The ICE Chest

The Monthly Newsletter of the Inclusion and Community Engagement Center  
November 2010

## EXPRESS YOURSELF...

### Director's Message

**"Think for yourself. No one else is qualified."** - Frank Vizzare

At no time is this quote more appropriate than in the most recent weeks and months. It seems that with every political season we are being flooded with messages from candidates and political groups who are hoping that we will heed their words and cast our votes for them. While I can appreciate the creativity used in sharing the message, I often wonder whether the message can stand the "truth test". More importantly, I often find myself saying, "do they really think we are that gullible".

The reality is that many of these groups rely on the hope that we won't think for ourselves, but simply take their message at its face value and react to it. So, I ask each of us to question whether we are really thinking for ourselves, or simply allowing others (family, friends, coworkers, teachers, etc.) to do the thinking for us. Everyone who knows me well, knows that I don't lack for personal opinion and have no reluctance to share that opinion. In fact, some might say that I enjoy sharing my opinion with others. As much as I enjoy sharing my opinion, I get more enjoyment out of hearing other people's thoughts and opinions because it shows me that they are thinking for themselves and are not afraid to share a different idea.

So, here's my challenge for each of you who read this column. Every chance you get, think for yourself by taking the time to research the issues, learn more about a topic, and more importantly expand the conversation. By doing so, you will not only bring a variety of perspective, but also be that much more enlightened by the conversation.

Marlon

### Celebrate UTSA



Students, faculty, and staff are invited to a special all-campus event, **"Celebrate UTSA! All Different. All Roadrunners."**

This year's celebration is the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual event. The event will be held on Wednesday, November 17, 2010 from 5:00 – 8:00 pm on the University Center Paseo—Main Campus.

The event includes an onstage showcase with performances, readings, and speeches, along with information tables and activities with valuable information about UTSA student organizations and departments. Special ethnic foods will be served, along with the opportunity to enjoy interactive programs, prizes, give-aways, t-shirts, and other fun and educational activities. Food, T-shirts and other promotional items are free while they last.

For more information about the event, please contact Ann Margaret Trujillo in the Inclusion and Community Engagement Center UC 2.01.04 or 210.458.4770.

To sign up to have an information table, or perform in the showcase please use the form accessible at <http://www.utsa.edu/ice>.



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## Student Organization Spotlight: **The French Club**



The French Club at UTSA is a fairly new organization. The club's purpose is to help introduce students to the French and francophone culture by providing students with various functions and resources. Due to the newness of the club, it is continually working on getting the word out about the

presence of the French language and culture that is present in and around UTSA by sharing in experiences with other students.

The French Club offers students an opportunity to develop and enhance their speaking skills through both a meeting setting, and the various cultural events held on and off campus. Some of the events include movie night, where students are given the opportunity to experience the francophone culture of various French speaking countries. Other events include enjoying cuisine that stays true to the French culture, while educating students on the various traditions associated with the food from different regions.

The French Club is open to the entire UTSA community, and anyone who is interested in learning about the French culture is invited to attend. No prior knowledge of the French language is required in order to become part of an increasingly growing culture here at UTSA. General Meetings are held once a month and various cultural events are held throughout the month. Those interested in becoming part of the French Club at UTSA can email the club at [utsafrenchclub@gmail.com](mailto:utsafrenchclub@gmail.com).

## Becoming an Ally

Our next Ally Training is Thursday, November 4, 2010 from 9:00 a.m – 12:00 noon at the Downtown Campus Buena Vista Building 1.338.

If you are interested in becoming an Ally for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning (GLBTQ) students, please attend this training.

The training is exclusively for Faculty and Staff members of UTSA. You can register for the class using TX Class <http://utsa.edu/hr/training/index.cfm>, the course number is SD 310.

For more information about the Ally program please contact us at 210-458-4770 or go to the website [www.utsa.edu/ice](http://www.utsa.edu/ice) and click on Ally Program.



Over 854 million people on our planet suffer from hunger.

2010  
Oxfam  
Hunger  
Banquet



November 9, 2010 • 6-8pm  
Main Campus • Denman Room

Please join us for this FREE experience that includes dinner, speakers, and eye-opening information!

Seating is limited to 100 and tickets will be distributed beginning at 5:30pm!  
For more information come by the VOICES Office: UC 1.216.



We will be collecting canned goods for the San Antonio Food Bank (not required for admission) as well as cash donations at the event.



Sponsored by VOICES and the Inclusion & Community Engagement Center. For more information about the OXFAM Hunger Banquet visit [www.oxfamamerica.org/fast](http://www.oxfamamerica.org/fast). Please stop by UC 1.216, call (210) 458-4770, or email [engaged@utsa.edu](mailto:engaged@utsa.edu) with questions.

## Student Spotlight: David Stewart



David Stewart is the October VOICES (Volunteer Organization Involving Community Education & Service) "Member of the Month". This honor is given to the VOICES member who accrues the most service hours in one month. David is a junior Accounting major from Houston, TX.

David's favorite VOICES projects so far have been working at Morgan's Wonderland, an accessible amusement park for children with disabilities, and Habitat for Humanity. So far this semester, he volunteered for 59 hours with VOICES. David says he got involved with VOICES because he wanted to start volunteering and thought a student volunteer organization would be a good place to start.

When asked his favorite thing about UTSA, David replied "My roommate is from Ghana!" and that he enjoys the diversity and the opportunity to meet other students from all around the world. When asked what he wants to do when he graduates David said "as long as I have time to enjoy life it doesn't really matter." If David could give one piece of advice to incoming freshmen it would be to, "Be active, join a club and enjoy your life. Make friends and socialize!"



[www.utsa.edu/ice](http://www.utsa.edu/ice)

## OXFAM Hunger Banquet



The UTSA Community is invited to attend the 2010 OXFAM Hunger Banquet on Tuesday, November 9, 2010 from 6—8 pm in the UC Denman Room. This experiential dinner will inform participants about world hunger issues and how each of us can make a difference. Over 38 million Americans are food insecure. Last year, over 27 million people used a Food Bank for emergency food assistance. Hunger is a problem locally and globally.

In conjunction with the Banquet, VOICES will be collecting cans to support the San Antonio Food Bank, so bring one along or stop by the VOICES Office to donate.

The Banquet can accommodate 100 guests and tickets will be given at the door on a first come first served basis. Event sponsored by VOICES and the Inclusion & Community Engagement Center. Please call 210-458-4770, email [engaged@utsa.edu](mailto:engaged@utsa.edu) or come by the VOICES office in UC 1.216 for more information. To learn about OXFAM Hunger Banquets and other events visit [www.oxfamamerica.org/fast](http://www.oxfamamerica.org/fast).

### **Inclusion and Community Engagement Center (ICE) Staff**

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