

Principle of Community

In June of 1980, the Board of Trustees endorsed the following "Principle of Community" for Dartmouth College:

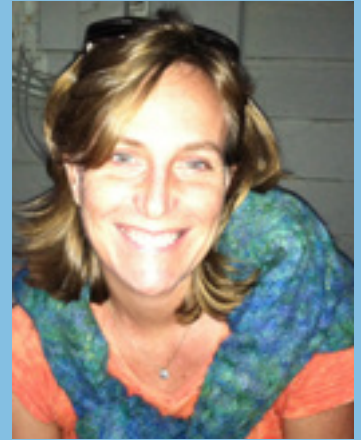
The life and work of a Dartmouth student should be based on integrity, responsibility and consideration. In all activities each student is expected to be sensitive to and respectful of the rights and interests of others and to be personally honest. He or she should be appreciative of the diversity of the community as providing an opportunity for learning and moral growth.

The following principles guide OPAL's priorities and goals:

- An inclusive and affirming educational environment leads to better learning outcomes for all students.
- Students who are supported and challenged appropriately are best positioned to meet their educational, personal, and career potential.
- Understanding where students are developmentally, as well as their socio-cultural context, increases our ability to positively enhance student learning and leadership development.
- Leadership development can be a bridge between students' curricular and co-curricular experiences, evidenced by the transfer of knowledge into applied skills.
- The development of key partnerships with campus colleagues maximizes learning outcomes for all students.

Greetings from OPAL!

We're are so happy to have returning students back on campus and to welcome new students to our Dartmouth community.



Alysson Satterlund, OPAL Director

We know some of you may be wondering, "What exactly is OPAL?" Here's what we know: studying and living in a diverse community enhances social development, prepares you for leading and working in a global society, promotes critical thinking and enhances self-awareness. To further such experiences at Dartmouth, the Office of Pluralism and Leadership (OPAL) was created to support students' academic success, provide student leadership development opportunities, enhance the engagement and cultural competency of the Dartmouth community, and design programs and services to build and sustain an inclusive and welcoming academic community. OPAL realizes this vision through its talented Socio-Cultural Advising and Outreach team of Assistant Deans, via collaborating with partners across campus on signature programs like the Leadership Discovery Program, the Diversity Peer Program, the First Gen Network, the OUTreach Peer Mentoring Program, Crossing the Line and many other programs. OPAL also coordinates campus-wide dialogues and cultural programs to promote both education and celebration of diverse experiences and perspectives. OPAL provides so many wonderful opportunities to learn about oneself, the Dartmouth community and the world.

In Community,

All of us at OPAL



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Events to look forward to this fall

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Who's Who in OPAL?

Steve Silver

International Student Programs Director

Stephen.M.Silver@dartmouth.edu





New Assistant Dean & Advisor to Pan Asian/Asian American Students, Aerial Anderson

Hello! My name is Aerial and I am the new Assistant Dean and Advisor to Pan Asian and Asian American Students at Dartmouth. I joined OPAL in August 2012, after living for a year in Europe. During my adventures abroad, I had the privilege of spending time in 11 countries. Needless to say, I love to travel! I also enjoy reading, running, and all things related to food (gardening, cooking, and of course eating!). I hail from

the great state of Minnesota (“Ya-Sure-You-Betcha!”), and am excited to continue some of my recreational hobbies (hiking, paddle boarding, and cross country skiing) as I explore New Hampshire’s great outdoors. With a background in communications and counseling, I am deeply passionate about fostering safe space for students to engage in personal identity reflection and authentic dialogues on diversity. I am thrilled to be joining the OPAL team and look forward to meeting you soon!

ariel.a.anderson@dartmouth.edu



New Assistant Dean/ Advisor to Black Students, T.M. Mosley

Greetings! My name is Mosley, and I originally hail from the Gulf Coast. Prior to relocating to the Upper Valley area, I resided in Atlanta, Georgia and worked as a therapist and graduate school instructor. I was drawn to Dartmouth by its commitment to build an inclusive community for students, and I am most passionate about facilitating diversity train-

ings, mental health and wellness awareness, and social justice education. As an amateur boxer and a sports and motorcycle enthusiast, I look forward to attending many of the Dartmouth College sporting events and exploring the Upper Valley area during motorcycle riding season. I am thrilled about joining the OPAL staff and working alongside colleagues, students, faculty, and alumni to build community and bridges between groups on campus.

Mosle022@gmail.com

Welcoming the New Additions to the OPAL Staff

New Leadership & Community Coordinator, Karlos Santos-Coy

Karlos served students at California State University, Sacramento for seven years prior to joining the OPAL team at Dartmouth. While in Sacramento, he established a campus-wide student leadership certificate program, conducted leadership courses, and coordinated leadership conferences, workshops and speakers as well as leadership awards receptions. Additionally, he advised hundreds of student clubs including cultural, academic, and religious clubs, as well as social Greek letter sororities and fraternities including 17 culturally-based Greek letter organizations. As a first generation college graduate, he is particularly interested in issues related to student engagement and success. Karlos coordinates OPAL leadership programs, Diversity Peer Program (DPP) and facilitates the First Gen Network.

Karlos.A.Santos-Coy@dartmouth.edu

Latina/o Community Resources

Latina/o Community Resources include the Latina/o Advisory Council (LAC) and an Assistant Dean and Advisor to Latina/o Students. LAC is a representative group of Dartmouth College students, alumni, faculty and staff coming together as a council to serve as a resource, support and advocate for the Latina/o and Latin American community at Dartmouth College and the Upper Valley.

OPAL's Advisor to Latina/o Students, Rodrigo, is here to help Latina/o students achieve personal, professional, and academic success. A large part of the advisor's job is to help students get connected to Dartmouth, to advise them on anything from cultural and family issues, to academic and career planning, and anything in between. Additionally, the Latina/o Office supports multiple programming events to educate the Dartmouth Community as a whole on issues relevant to our community and the student experience. The Latina/o Office also advises a number of the Latina/o student organizations.

About Our Offices

Leadership and Community Resources

In support of the College's mission, OPAL offers campus leadership training programs which help students develop the knowledge and skills to compete in an increasingly diverse society and marketplace.

Through OPAL's leadership development training programs, workshops, retreats, and internships, students undergo a set of processes which allow them to:

- identify, develop, and maintain their values and ethics
- expand their understanding of leadership styles, philosophies, and methods
- identify their own unconscious assumptions of others by learning to view the world from multiple perspectives and with an understanding of the implications of applicable historical and cultural contexts
- develop skills to assess and manage complex group power dynamics
- think critically about the impact of their own decision making processes and actions, take responsibility for their decisions, and learning from these experiences
- develop fundamental leadership skills including active listening, critical thinking, facilitation, coalition building, communication, problem solving, decision making, collaboration, assessment, and wellness

Native American Program

The Native American Program (NAP) provides student support services to Native students at Dartmouth. We collaborate with Dartmouth's faculty and staff, as well as tribal communities, to assist Native students in their personal, social, intellectual and ethical development so they can become life-long learners and responsible leaders in our global society. We complete our work with high regard for the unique cultural experiences and perspectives of Native peoples.

The Native American Program supports institutional recognition of Native forms of knowledge and work to help students, faculty and staff understand the ways Native forms of knowledge can interact with academia. We assist students in building their scholarly and leadership capacity by affirming and strengthening the forms of leadership Native students provide to Dartmouth, tribal communities and the world. We strive to make Dartmouth a respectful and welcoming environment where all cultural identities are celebrated.

International Student Programs Office

The International Student Programs office sponsors a variety of programs for international students and scholars, including Orientation programs, International Issues Personal Perspectives (IP)², International Friendship Family Program and Student Mentor Program, as well as a Newsletter and Residence Floor.

International Undergraduate Orientation for the Class of 2016 has already wrapped up for the year. (IP)² consists of panels of international students and/or scholars from Dartmouth speaking about cultural, social, and political issues in their home countries or regions of the world. The International Student Mentor program (ISM) helps new undergraduate international students overcome difficulties during their first academic year.

The Director of International Student Programs is currently the advisor for the International Student Association and provides support as needed. Whenever possible, the International Student Programs office supports events on campus, including those organized by student groups or individuals. In the past, events sponsored or supported have included a Canadian/US border green up, an international dance party, and Argentine tango events.

Center for Women and Gender

Founded in 1988, the Center for Women and Gender (CWG) explores the role gender plays in the human experience and in various settings. The CWG provides opportunities for reflection, engagement, and personal growth, with a particular emphasis on using gender as a lens to think more fully about life at the College and around the world.

Central to our mission is the recognition that explorations of gender must take place in tandem with explorations of race and ethnicity, economic status, sexual orientation and other significant aspects of individual and cultural identity. We strive to build a campus-wide community that respects differences and to support the College's diverse communities. We are committed to meeting the needs of the whole person and supporting the academic mission of the College. While our programs and services primarily address the needs of students, everyone at Dartmouth is welcome at the Center for Women and Gender.

The CWG is part of the Office of Pluralism and Leadership in the Dean of the College area.

About Our Offices

Office of Black Student Advising

The purpose of the Office of Black Student Advising (OBSA) is to holistically support Black students' academic success, leadership development, and cultural enrichment through providing personal and academic guidance and pertinent programming initiatives. OBSA also partners and collaborates with offices and organizations across campus to provide consultation, workshops, and trainings for campus colleagues and student groups.

Here are some events to look forward to this Fall: Big Sib Lil Sib (peer mentoring program) Meet and Greet, Shades of Black (Black student orientation panel for '16s), Black Hair Care Days, and the Afro-American Society's Study Hour. OBSA will also commemorate Black Alumni of Dartmouth Association's (BADA) 40th anniversary reunion during the week of Homecoming.

Did You Know...

* OPAL advises over 75 student organizations.

* OPAL assists in the planning of over 300 campus-wide events that celebrate and raise awareness regarding the rich cultural diversity of the Dartmouth community.

LGBTQA Student Community

We support lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and allied (LGBTQA) students to help them realize their greatest potential both as individuals and as leaders in academic, educational, and social groups. We also support the institution and the student body at large to help them understand the experiences of LGBTQA individuals, and how sexual orientation, sexuality, and gender identity or expression can intersect with ethnicity, race, socio-economic experience, religious or spiritual identity, and the many other pieces of who we are. These aspects of cultural competency are critical to today's global learning, and provide exciting opportunities for personal growth, professional development, and community building.

This fall we look forward to welcoming the 16s! We'll be at a variety of orientation and opening events, and will host a number of LGBTQA specific events for the term. Watch for details coming soon! In the meantime, get acquainted with the LGBTQA Resource Room in Robinson Hall 106/107, and look for Outreach Peer Mentors and GSX (Gender Sexuality XYZ) members around campus.

Pan Asian Community Advising

The Pan Asian Community is a vibrant facet of student life at Dartmouth. As a part of the Office of Pluralism and Leadership (OPAL), we promote holistic student development; fostering individual, academic, social, cultural, and community success.

Staff includes the Pan Asian and Asian American Advisor/Assistant Dean as well as two student interns and additional special projects interns. The advisor advocates for the community by counseling individual students, advising a number of student organizations, and working to advance campus-wide inclusivity through various outreach and educational programming efforts. The Office also supports many student groups under the umbrella organization, Pan Asian Council.

* OPAL provides funding to student projects designed to enhance the cultural competency of the Dartmouth Community

* OPAL staff provides outreach, academic, and personal advisement to individuals as well as specific student communities through various initiatives and programs.

10 Tips For Surviving Freshman Year

Courtesy of your OPAL Student Interns

1.

Leave your door open, both literally and figuratively, so new conversations can happen!

2.

Let Dartmouth challenge you. Your perspective on a lot of issues will evolve continually throughout your time here, and that's okay. No one here has all the answers, and it's important to remember that our varying life experiences shape our opinions.

3.

Remember to spend time alone and reflect on what matters to you.

4.

Choose classes that interest you, not one's you think you have to take. Make sure you balance your classes sensibly. Try checking out each class's syllabus to figure out where the classes are weighted, so you don't end up with two midterms one day and three essays the next.

5.

Get to know your professors, Dean, Advisor and staff members on campus--especially at OPAL! Everyone is very excited that you're here and can't wait to get to know you and see you grow.

6.

Don't be too shy or embarrassed to try and meet upperclassmen. In fact, go out of your way to do it. You won't regret the effort - talking to older students can give you a whole new perspective on your freshman fall.

7.

Frats will always have parties, but you only get one shot at that midterm. Not everyone here drinks, and it's totally possible to enjoy yourself without doing so.

8.

You will get at least one grade lower than what you expected. Learn from the situation and adjust your study techniques accordingly. There's nothing wrong with taking a little bit of time to get settled into college academics. Reach out to tutors or study groups through the Academic Skills Center (located in Collis).

9.

No matter what other people tell you, your Dartmouth experience should be what you want it to be. Don't feel pressured to do more than you want to. Do what's right for you.

10.

It gets better -- some of the happiest people that you'll meet had a not-so-amazing freshmen fall.



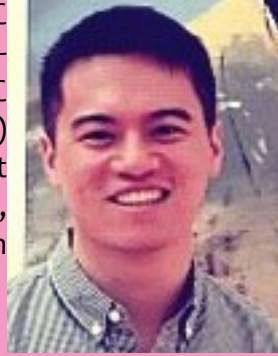
Student hard at work painting in the basement of '53 Commons

Photo Courtesy of Corinne Arndt Girouard via Dartmouth Flickr

Thoughts From Your OPAL Interns

Don't forget to check out our PAC Facebook page (Pan Asian Community Dartmouth) or our PAC blog (panasiancommunity.com) for PAC updates, ways you can get involved with the PAC community, and how the PAC community can help you!

Kevin '13,
PAC Special Projects Intern



Prioritize! You're going to have a lot of people and groups vying for your attention, so make sure you put what's important to you first.

Ayda '13, PAC Intern



As Conan O'Brien said at Commencement 2011: "Work hard, be kind, and amazing things will happen."

Alice '13, PAC Special Projects Intern

"If you are using the word "should", you are already internalizing somebody else's expectations (Dean Francine A'Ness)"



Waju '14,
FFP Intern

Don't be afraid to reach out to people on campus, especially during those early months when you feel you don't know anyone all that well yet. We've all been in that position and can appreciate how much tougher it is to open up when you don't have a support system.



Sophia '15, CWG Intern

The mentor programs on campus are there for a reason, not just for show, so take advantage of them. Remember that when people put themselves in a place of visibility on campus, they are generally opening the door to conversation.

Share your ups and downs with others.

-Han '15

FFP Intern



Don't be afraid to challenge Dartmouth. If a tradition makes you uncomfortable, speak up.

The only way we can continue to mold and shape Dartmouth into a safer, more supportive environment is to continually provide one another with constructive criticism.

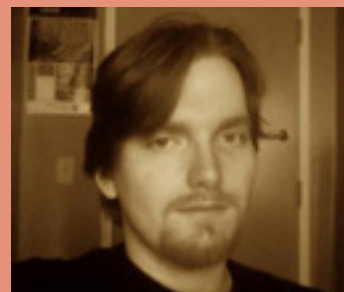
- Hannah '13,
CWG Intern



Don't be afraid to reach outside of your comfort zone and say YES to many of the awesome activities freshman fall. Even during your day-to-day life, say YES to a floor-mate who needs to run to CVS at 1am. Say YES to that rando who asked you to lunch. It's during these most random moments that lasting friendships and connections can form.



Huan '13,
PAC Intern



Don't let anyone tell you that there is only one perfect recipe for the Dartmouth Experience. That is a lie. There are so many different ways you can be yourself at Dartmouth. Find social spaces on campus that you really feel comfortable in, and make choices that work for you. Fitting into cookie cutters will only make you unhappy, and what's fun is that?

-Pavel, '13

International Students Mentor Program Intern

Upcoming Events

We asked the OPAL Interns what events '16s should be sure to look out for this fall. Here is what they said!

Latina/o Community
First-Year Reception

Dartmouth
Chinese Culture
Society's "Legacies"
Event

"Quien Somos:
Who We Are" panel
discussion

PAC
Welcome
Showcase

"Words of Wisdom"
for First Year Women

AASPIRE
dinner

LGBTQ
Student
Mixer

NAP Student
Welcome Dinner

Diversity Peer
Program Retreat

Diwali
Celebration

Shades
of
Black

International
M&Ms

First Gen
Student Welcome
Dinner

PAC
Community
Dinner

Latino/a
Partnership for Success
Program

Building
Community
Orientation Event

I2P2
International Issues
Personal Perspective

Like what you read? *Want to learn more about OPAL programs, events or internship opportunities?*

Drop by Collis 211 or blitz the OPAL account at
Pluralism.and.Leadership.Office@dartmouth.edu