



# FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

## Office of Multicultural Student Services

### 2018-2019 FACT SHEET

#### WHO WE ARE...

- Founded in 1986 as the Office of Minority Student Affairs, and renamed in 2008 as the Office of Multicultural Student Services (OMSS).
- The OMSS aims to create a welcoming and supportive environment for students of underrepresented backgrounds.
- The OMSS sponsors opportunities that promote the intellectual understanding and appreciation of diversity, inclusion and social justice.

#### 2018-2019 POINTS OF PRIDE

- 2800+** Attendees at the 34 events coordinated and/or sponsored by the OMSS this year.
- 2000+** Students visited the OMSS for support and engagement opportunities.
- 400+** Students received support from the OMSS i.e. printing, school supplies, and meals.
- 200+** Students on campus are trained as College Positive Volunteers to act as ambassadors of higher education, exposing youth to college options, resources and materials.
- 60+** Students were recognized for their active participation in the Teaching Others What Establishes Real Success (TOWERS) Leadership Development Program, and in the Black Male Empowerment Network (BMEN).
- 30+** Group visits and/or presentations were facilitated by the OMSS staff in partnership with Admissions for prospective students of diverse backgrounds.
- 20+** Facilitated workshops and presentations to students, faculty and staff on diversity & inclusion.

#### FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY \*URM UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT

986 / 7% Black or African American  
743 / 6% Hispanic or Latino/a/x  
481 / 4% Two or More Races  
226 / 2% Asian  
61 / 0% American Indian or Alaskan Native  
10 / 0% Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

(Fall 2018 by Race/Ethnic Origin)

\*URM - Federally recognized underrepresented minority populations.  
Source: Ferris State University Fact Book 2018-2019



Students from the Asian Student Organization and the International Student Organization at the annual Lunar New Year Celebration.



Ferris Faculty, staff and students on MLK Day at the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Freedom March.





## YOUR HOME, AWAY FROM HOME

OMSS values the importance of creating a welcoming climate for our students. The OMSS is located in FLITE, the FSU Library, and is a safe space where students are encouraged to come and connect with our staff, get acquainted with multicultural student organizations, utilize the computer stations in the lobby, or to relax in between classes.

- **20+ Activities** - activities such as the "Cultural Heritage Month Film Series", the "Black Alumni/Professional Chat Series" and "Late Night Study Tables" were hosted in the OMSS lobby for students throughout the year.



## STUDENT INVOLVEMENT, DEVELOPMENT & SUCCESS

Our department coordinates a variety of ways for students to be involved to make the most out of their FSU experience! Employment, internships, and volunteer opportunities aid in the retention, and persistence of our students. Furthermore, programs such as TOWERS and BMEN provide students opportunities to strengthen their transferable skills, which are essential to being successful in a variety of career fields.

- **90 - 95% Retention** - students who actively participated in the TOWERS & BMEN programs during the 17-18 academic year returned to Ferris for the 18-19 academic year.

## A COMMITTED STAFF

The staff within the OMSS are a group of professionals dedicated to multicultural student success. Staff individually are available to coach and mentor students, as well as to advise student organizations. Collectively, the OMSS staff facilitates workshops and presentations for students, faculty and staff to better understand diversity and inclusion, as well as actively seek out and continue dynamic collaborations and partnerships with campus partners to create positive change.

- **50+ Campus Partners** - OMSS collaborated with departments, faculty members and student organizations on a variety of cultural awareness events and initiatives for the campus community.



OMSS Staff (pictured left to right)  
**Dr. Matthew Chaney (Director)**, **Trudy Roersma (Secretary)**,  
**Danyelle Gregory (Coordinator of Pre-College Programs)**,  
**Michael Wade (Assistant Director)**.