Where Will We Go?

By: Jennifer M Lor ’17

On Sunday, May 4th, a member of the Latin American Student Organization contacted me, along with a number of other students, urging us to come together and organize an event for Raul Guzman ’17, who had received a hate note on his desk, demanding him to go back to his country. Unfortunately, I opened the email after I had returned home from midterm break, after I had eaten dinner, and after my father, my sisters and my brothers and I had played Frisbee on the mini Bald Spot. As I lay in bed that night, I made no hesitation to say yes. This could have happened to anyone on campus and the worst part is that it could have happened to my brother and sisters and my father, who prided himself in the fact that his first-born daughter was now attending the most prestigious private liberal arts college in Minnesota. This was my job.

I was and I still am upset about the incident, despite the fact that it didn’t happen to me, but I realized long ago that if human rights were something I was going to fight for, then the battle wasn’t just for me. The fight belongs to everyone. This fueled me as I was barely hanging on to sixth week. The committee, which consisted of a few seniors, juniors, and two other freshman, had but 48 hours to organize this rally, which was intended to happen during Common Time of the following Thursday. Everything happened so fast, with Guzman using social media to create an event to spread awareness about the heinous act to me running around and making sure we had clearance for our event. Within hours, at least 300 people responded in support of us, as well as people outside of Carleton and the state calling to urge us forward.

Continued on Page 3
Carleton College Welcomes Back
Nkauj Kab Lia Yaj (Kao Kalia Yang)

By: Billy Moua and Mo Vue

Not a dry eye was present in the chapel during Kao Kalia Yang’s convocation for Asian-American Heritage Month sponsored by the Office of Intercultural and International Life. Yang’s speech was eloquently delivered, detailing her experience growing up in a refugee camp, navigating through the public housing and education systems in America as well as her time at Carleton and beyond.

Kao Kalia Yang graduated from Carleton in 2003 with an American Studies major and a Cross-Cultural Studies and a Women and Gender Studies concentrations. She has also received a Master’s of Fine Arts in Creative Nonfiction Writing from Columbia University. In 2008, Kao Kalia Yang published her first novel, The Latehomecomer: A Hmong Family Memoir, exploring and documenting her family’s journey from the jungle of Laos to the refugee camps in Thailand, and finally to the United States where her family resettled in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Yang attributes her skills as a writer from the craft of Hmong storytelling from her parents and grandmother. Through this, she beautifully articulated and wove together her stories of perseverance, struggle, loss and triumph. The Hmong students on campus especially resonated with these experiences, Billy Moua, a Hmong junior, described Yang’s convocation as “simply inspiring, she makes me want to do so much more”. This impact was surely felt by the other members of the audience as observed by the standing ovation Kao Kalia Yang received at the conclusion of her convocation. It was wonderful to have Kao Kalia Yang back to Carleton College.

2013-2014 OIIL Sponsored Convo Speakers

**Fall Term**
Leo Chavez—Scholar and author presents an anthropological view of immigration, offering an analysis of myths vs. facts.

Zonnie Gorman—Recognized historian of the Navajo Code Talkers of World War II.

**Winter Term**

**Spring Term**
Kao Kalia Yang—is a Minnesota writer with a story that stretches across the globe. Author of The Latehomecomer: A Hmong Family Memoir, Kao Kalia is also a Carleton graduate.
The rally was dubbed “We Are Not Going Anywhere,” to show defiance to the majority student body and “We Are Here For Each Other,” to form solidarity on campus against hate crimes. In a few days, Guzman was interviewed by a local news station and word of what went on was published in two local newspapers. Usually, event planning should happen a month in advance; you’re cutting it close if you start two weeks before. But in two meetings that went on for a couple of hours each, we developed a concrete plan and purpose. It was here that I realized that I was fighting for all of the wrong reasons.

I wanted the person who left the note on Guzman’s desk to be punished, to make a statement that discipline did not have a color barrier. I wanted the majority to be turned upside down, but when has violent conflict ever made a difference? What are the lessons learned? What we were fighting for was not for the person responsible for the note to step forward and take his punishment. We were fighting because we have a right to be here on this very campus, because we are strong, intellectual individuals who offer things that the campus would not have if it had not been for us. We were fighting because we deserve to peacefully coexist with our peers. We’re human and nothing promising ever occurs when race conflicts are the cause of geographic division. We were fighting because given our history we should all be beyond this.

Racial insensitivity and threats happen everywhere, even in the classroom, on other campuses, and in the real world. That same day, St. Olaf was having their own rally as well. The campus needed to be made aware of the fact that this wasn’t the first time it happened. This was achieved, as Guzman, Gabriela Bosquez ’17, and I spoke beneath a sheath that barely covered us from the rain that was pouring down on our supporters that Thursday. When we moved the rest of the event inside, we played our music, and conversed with one another to make our presence known. Within minutes, our “White Board Project,” in which we made statements declaring why we fought for this cause, was gaining a number of supporters from all student bodies. In spite of the cheery mood, and like Bosquez had stated, this was not a party at all. I believe we achieved our goal that day. With hugs and laughter exchanged between one another, after quite a few tears were shed, we made it clear that we were not going anywhere. Students of all colors, professors, and staff members stood in the rain that day and formed a mutual partnership to declare that we were all staying for the long haul.

Though I am the current Intercultural Program Assistant with the Student Activities Office, I realized that organizing this rally was not only my job. It was my duty, as an organizer, as an activist, as a humanitarian, and as a person. I represent the marginalized voices of the minorities on campus and the world and it is in my every intention to move forward. With a few committees forming now to create support for victims of verbal and physical racism on campus and to mend the diversity programs for all incoming students, this is just one of many more changes to occur. There is always more work to be done.
Future OIIL Peer Leader Reflections

By: Melanie Xu

I love the OIIL community because it's not only fun and vibrant but also inspiring. I met my mentors, closest friends, some of the nicest and most awesome staff members, activism circle, and safe space here. So I applied to be an OIIL Peer Leader to invite more students to join this awesome community on campus and keep this tradition of mentorship. What am I excited about next year? EVERYTHING. I look forward to meeting my mentees, participating in International Student Orientation as a peer leader, having late night conversations with OIIL people, adding to the activism sphere on campus and many more. I also hope to work with Gender and Sexuality Center and TRIO/Student Support Services (TRIO/SSS) in collaboration to raise awareness about and address intersectional identities.

By: Freddy Stensaeth

So what inspired you to apply for the OIIL Peer Leader Position?
There are several reasons for why I applied for the OIIL Peer Leader Position: leadership experience, getting to know the international freshmen, my mentor Billy and what he means to me, and the fact that I personally have plenty of experience with core aspects of the job. An OIIL Peer Leader has a special connection with his/hers mentee. Although they, the mentor and the mentee, are officially bound together for a year, I see it as a relationship that carries way further than that. For example, I know I can count Billy next year, although he will not officially be my mentor anymore. He, the mentor or OIIL Peer Leader, if you like, is someone you can rely on for your entire Carleton career, regardless of the situation and circumstances. Not many other Peer Leader roles function in this way on campus. It is a special bond that encapsulates both academic and personal issues. I wanted to be that person—a person that someone knew that they could rely on one hundred percent regardless of the matter. Another reason for why I wanted to be an OIIL Peer Leader was the leadership experience. The leadership experience will help me grow as a person.

What are you excited about for next year?
Besides the points elaborated on above, I am excited to get to know the international freshmen (and domestic) before the hectic academic life begins. It is important to acknowledge the people around you and to get to know them well. When classes and extracurricular activities start it is easy to fall back into old habits and stick to the people you know. By being and OPL I get the opportunity to get to know the international freshmen before classes and extracurricular activities start, something I highly value. And of course I am excited for the various events OIIL hosts during the academic year, such as Laser Tag and other get-togethers.

Which office do you look forward to working with as a peer leader?
I look forward to working with OIIL, as well as any other office I come across through my Peer Leader position.
So what inspired you to apply for the OIIL Peer Leader Position?
I applied for the OIIL Peer Leader Position mainly because I wanted to strengthen
my leadership skills, give back to the Carleton community, and expand my network. I felt that I was qualified for
the job considering the various hardships that I had gone through and the experiences I had gained from them.
I went through the immense culture shock of moving from Tehran, Iran to Vancouver, Canada. I witnessed my
parents separate after only six months of having moved to Canada. I discovered I had three half-siblings at the
age of 9. And the list goes on. I would feel very guilty if I kept the valuable lessons I gained from these experi-
ences all to myself!

What are you excited about for next year?
Tons of things! I am excited about declaring my major, seeing the new freshmen, getting to see my assigned
mentees, living with my new roommate, amongst a bunch of other things. More importantly, I am excited to
see what new adventures Carleton has in store for me, as cliché as that sounds. A perhaps harder question
would have been ‘What are you not excited for next year?’

Which office do you look forward to working with as a peer leader?
I look forward to working with the OIIL obviously because this will be the office with which I will have the most
interactions. In addition, I look forward to collaborating with offices, such as GSC (e.g. Chili Night) and Career
Center (e.g. academic events), for these office always provide valuable experiences and advices. While I have
been to numerous campus offices this year on my own, I am curious as to see what it will be like to attend
these offices as a peer leader.

2014-2015 OPL Staff

Anthony Harris  Jan Dela Cruz  Jeffrey Bissoy—Mattis
Brianna Gray  Kathryn Melendez  Dahee Lee
Camila de la Vega  Marlise Williams  Wanchen Yao
Claire Su  Panhia Yang  Johnny Zapata
Freddie Stensaeth  Takuya Amagai  Jongho (Nick) Baeck
Hami Abdi  Tiffany Thet
Ivy Wu  Tristan Dresbach
Asians in America: smart, good at math, bad drivers, forever foreigners, and model minorities. These stereotypes, sometimes implicit but sometimes clearly defined, permeate throughout American society. Moreover, as all generalized labels do, stereotypes create overarching categories that curtail differences within the population. Often, Asians in America are grouped under surface-level stereotypes, when, in reality, the experiences of the different sub groups range so drastically. Focusing on the label of the model minority, we explored how this label can overlook and mask great disparities among the Asian population within the United States.

To illustrate the vast spectrum of experiences as Asians in the United States, people were asked to share their own stories. In an attempt to differentiate the experiences of Asians in America, anthropologist John Obugu’s categorization of immigrants on the dimension of voluntary or involuntary was discussed briefly; however, even with just the handful of personal stories given in our discussion, we found that such frameworks do not illustrate the richness of people’s experiences.

As illustrated by the personal stories, the experiences of Asians in America range greatly—so how does the categorization of such a diverse group of individuals affect the population? Clearly, there are negatives of any broad generalization, including the failure to see individual differences and premature judgment of people within a group. However, there are also ways in which people can capitalize on pan-ethnic labels, such as using the larger pan-Asian identification as a platform to have voices of the community heard. Yet, even these seeming “positives” still had the drawbacks—for instance, using the pan-Asian label as a voice will highlight the majority within the minority, but ignore the minorities within the majority.

Finally, ways in which the Carleton community could change from understanding these differences among the population of Asians in America were discussed. Perhaps most importantly, continued dialogue among individuals, as well as among student organizations to promote intergroup dialogue and contact was emphasized, which would, in turn, raise awareness in the greater community.
Holi is a South Asian spring holiday, often known as the festival of colors. Individuals sing and dance all day, and have a large color fight. This term, MOSAIC hosted the first ever Holi celebration on campus. Around 100 people attended the celebration to throw powdered colors at their friends and strangers. They danced to Bollywood music and had a chance to celebrate Holi in a very traditional way. It was a very successful event and MOSAIC hopes to continue to host it in future years!
Human Family

Maya Angelou

I note the obvious differences in the human family. Some of us are serious, some thrive on comedy.

Some declare their lives are lived as true profundity, and others claim they really live the real reality.

The variety of our skin tones can confuse, bemuse, delight, brown and pink and beige and purple, tan and blue and white.

I've sailed upon the seven seas and stopped in every land, I've seen the wonders of the world not yet one common man.

I know ten thousand women called Jane and Mary Jane, but I've not seen any two who really were the same.

Mirror twins are different although their features jibe, and lovers think quite different thoughts while lying side by side.

We love and lose in China, we weep on England's moors, and laugh and moan in Guinea, and thrive on Spanish shores.

We seek success in Finland, are born and die in Maine. In minor ways we differ, in major we're the same.

I note the obvious differences between each sort and type, but we are more alike, my friends, than we are unalike.

We are more alike, my friends, than we are unalike.

We are more alike, my friends, than we are unalike.
Congratulations to Our Graduating Seniors!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Major(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abo Sakr, Hanan</td>
<td>Biology, Mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahn, Jonathan S</td>
<td>Studio Art, Computer Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabi, Daniel G</td>
<td>Computer Science, Mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Areja, Adit B</td>
<td>Biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arteaga, Gabriela</td>
<td>Studio Art, Sociology/Anthropology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashida, Ingrid N</td>
<td>Political Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baker, John J</td>
<td>Political Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Batu, Nada</td>
<td>Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Becker, McCoy R</td>
<td>Physics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beltran, Marcos E</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bertaud, Daniel E</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Betthauser, Leo M</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boghossian, Emily A</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown, Rebecca R</td>
<td>Cinema and Media Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campbell, Andrew G</td>
<td>Political Science/IR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chandra, Raghav</td>
<td>Political Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cho, John</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choi, Yuna</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chow, Lauren</td>
<td>Cognitive Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christensen, Elijah Mae C</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chu, Jennie</td>
<td>Geology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coalson, Calder C</td>
<td>Computer Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cohen, Sylvie N</td>
<td>Biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cruz, Erica A</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danno, Giancarlo S</td>
<td>Cinema and Media Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daza, Tony</td>
<td>Biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dou, Dou</td>
<td>Chemistry, Mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duong, Ivan</td>
<td>Biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estes, Joshua D</td>
<td>Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fashena, Zed</td>
<td>Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaildon, Asiya M</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garcia, Michelle P</td>
<td>French and Francophone Studies, Psychology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenberg, Katherine M</td>
<td>Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greig, Sabrina E</td>
<td>Biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groen, Robert G</td>
<td>Art History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guiney, Mallory S</td>
<td>Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hahn, Micaela M</td>
<td>French and Francophone Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haradhvala, Nick</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heo, Edward</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herrera-Heintz, Marina K</td>
<td>Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hill-Abercrombie, Anthony M</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hiranuma, Nao</td>
<td>History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ho, Jasper</td>
<td>Environmental Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong, In Taek</td>
<td>Biology, Computer Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huang, Jessica</td>
<td>Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hussain, Aun A</td>
<td>History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Political Science</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Roberts, Nathan
Schmidt, Ellie
Shapiro, Nina J
Sharma, Richa T
Shen, Yichen
Solis, Angel
Stephan, Cole A
Sterrett, Maria C
Stillerman, David A
Stoll, Isaama M
Sun, Nathalie
Sun, Yan
Sury, Meera S
Sutton, Kao
Swanson, Leia W
Swyter, Kelsey R
Taitt, Brandon J
Tall, Khadiata
Tam, Kayla
Teng, Tiantian
Tokuhira, Mikkey
Tominaga, Yuki
Tran, Allen
Tran, Tony M
Tsai, Jukie
Valle, Brandon A
Vamarasi, Curtis O
Vang, Pachee
Varanasi, Swathi M
Vue, Mo
Wadia, Zainab B
Wagner, Malia E
Wang, Cody
Wang, Huaiyu
Wang, Iris
Wiesenthal, Bettina S
Williams, David B
Williams-Condor, Daniela M
Wong, Chris
Wu, Jessica W
Xiong, Milah L
Yang, Julia
Yang, Kia X
Yang, Shanna X
Yazawa, Kyohei
Yirdaw, Mignote M
Yong, Ray
Young, Colin A
Yuen, Michelle D
Yun, Janghun
Zagal, Maribel
Zahid, Jasmine O
Zhou, Kaiyue

Computer Science
Studio Art
Sociology/Anthropology
Political Science/IR
Economics, Mathematics
Biology
Computer Science
Biology
Economics, Mathematics/Statistics
Religion
Political Science/IR
Mathematics, Physics
Biology, Religion
Geology
Biology
Biology
Chemistry
Economics
English
Economics
Studio Art
Political Science/IR
Biology
Computer Science
Psychology
Biology
Sociology/Anthropology
Spanish
Sociology/Anthropology
Psychology
Women's and Gender Studies
Computer Science, Environmental Studies
Mathematics/Statistics, Economics
Mathematics/Statistics
Psychology
Psychology
Philosophy
Spanish
Political Science
Psychology
Chemistry
Spanish
Mathematics
Political Science/IR
Sociology/Anthropology
Philosophy
Studio Art
Inclusion, Empathy, and Cultural Engagement

Meet Our Staff!

Joy Kluttz  
Director  
jkluttz@carleton.edu  
(507) 222-4013

Luyen Phan  
Associate Director  
phan@carleton.edu  
(507) 222-4451

Martin Olague  
Assistant Director  
molague@carleton.edu  
(507) 222-4505

Toni Grant  
Cultural Advisor  
agrant@carleton.edu  
(507) 222-4442

Brisa Zubia  
Program Coordinator  
bzubia@carleton.edu  
(507) 222-7488

Mike Hodges  
Program Assistant  
mhodges@carleton.edu  
(507) 222-4014

Mission Statement

For over 25 years, the Office of Intercultural & International Life has been an integral part of Carleton’s initiatives to enhance diversity and cultivate a fully inclusive community, enriched by persons of different ethnicities, nationalities, genders, economic backgrounds, ages, abilities, sexual orientations, and spiritual values. The primary mission of the Office of Intercultural & International Life is to provide programming that fosters intercultural dialogue in the service of greater cross-cultural awareness, empathy, mutual respect, tolerance, and recognition.

Want to submit an article?

If you are interested in writing an article for the Spectrum, please contact Martin Olague or Toni Grant by email (molague@carleton.edu, agrant@carleton.edu) with the subject title “Spectrum Article Submission”.

Responding to the Spectrum

See anything you have a question, response, or comment on? Shoot us an email with the subject title “Spectrum Response”. If we like your idea, we’ll put it into our next submission.

This Spectrum was coordinated and designed by Toni Grant & Martin Olague.