On Thursday November 20, our Chancellor Julie Furst-Bowe and Associate Chancellor Venessa A. Brown opened SIUE’s new Multicultural Center. The Multicultural Center is an amazing addition to the university that will be a place for everyone; faculty, staff and students to come together. The Multicultural Center will also be the home for a number of organizations such as Black Girls Rock, Safe Zone and the Hispanic Student Association.

According to the E Today, “Diversity has in fact been growing here at the university. Since the fall of 2010 African American enrollment has grown 28 percent, Latino enrollment has grown 19 percent and International enrollment has grown 27 percent. Let’s all continue to do our part in making this university a place where everyone can feel welcome!”

http://www.siue.edu/news/archives/ArchivesNV2014.shtml#SIUEStudentBodyDiversityReachesAllTimeHigh
What does the holiday season mean to you? A student’s perspective

With the holiday season quickly approaching, we wanted to know just what the holiday season means to our students here at the university, so we asked a few of them and here is what they said!

Shanequa Tolliver, a graduate student from St. Louis said, “The holiday season provides a special time for me to really be thankful for what all God has brought me through this year and a time to celebrate life, family and friends. It also brings true happiness no matter what else is going on in the world.”

Marten Jonsson, a senior from Sweden will be going home to Sweden to spend Christmas with his family. Marten said, “I will be spending the majority of my time practicing at a pro tennis academy in Stockholm but this holiday season is important because I can travel home to see family and friends that I have not seen for several months.”

Sidney Smith, a freshman from Carterville, Illinois said, “The holiday season means the season of giving and spending time with family.”
Omotola Soyoye, a graduate student from Nigeria said, "Holiday season is a time for both immediate and extended family reunion. A time to merry, and dine together as one big family. It's a time to buy new family uniform dress and a moment to extend God's love to others through benevolence. We share gifts and food items with our neighbors."

James Kenner, a junior from St. Louis said, “The holiday season is a time to just relax and reflect on all the blessings you received throughout the year then enjoy time and good food with your family and friends.”

Tania Manjarrez, a freshman from Chicago said, “The holiday season means getting to see my family again.”

Yoshihiko “Yoshi” Tsumekawa, a graduate student said, “The biggest holidays in Japan are New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Most family gather around and eat seasonal and traditional food. We don't have Thanksgiving. We have Christmas, but it is just a social event, nothing religious so I enjoy the holidays around this season but they don't really mean anything to me except New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.”
Many people will be going away for the break but for those of you that will be enjoying your break in the area, you should find the time to check out a few of our athletic teams. Below are a number of athletic events being held on campus during the break for you to enjoy and cheer on your SIUE Cougars!

**Women’s Basketball**
- 12/20 2:00 pm vs. Valparaiso
- 1/1 4:00 pm vs. Jacksonville St.
- 1/3 2:00 pm vs. Tennessee Tech
- 1/10 4:00 pm vs. Tennessee St.

**Men’s Basketball**
- 12/20 6:30 pm vs. Milwaukee
- 12/22 7:00 pm vs. Chicago St.
- 12/28 2:00 pm vs. Robert Morris
- 1/1 1:00 pm vs. Jacksonville St.
- 1/3 6:30 pm vs. Tennessee Tech
- 1/10 7:00 pm vs. Tennessee St.

**Wrestling**
- 1/7 7:00 pm vs. Appalachian St.

**Events are held in the Vadalabene Center**
From the Faculty mentors and their mentees on the Men’s basketball team!

To learn more about the Faculty Mentoring Student Athletes Program go to http://www.siuecougars.com/sports/m-baskbl/archive/FacultyMentor