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BOLINGA CULTURAL RESOURCES CENTER

129 Millett Hall, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio 45435 513/873-2086



The Bolinga Center opened on January 15, 1971, as a tribute to the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The word "Bolinga" means love in Lingala, an African language, and the center's mission is to promote cultural pluralism on campus through programs, activities, and forums.

Related to this is the center's day-to-day functioning as an office which addresses the gamut of academic, cultural, and personal concerns of minority students at Wright State. The center's programs consist of a component which includes a Minority Scholars Speakers series, a Community Speakers Series, and a film series. Through the Minority Scholars Speakers Series, the center (in conjunction with academic departments) hosts visiting minority and non-minority scholars for lectures and talks. The Community Speakers Series sponsors minority and other speakers from various segments of the Miami Valley community. In addition, the center has two important resources. One is the Peer Supportive Services Program (PSSP), a program of tutoring, counseling, and workshops for students. Although open to all, the PSSP

program is aimed at serving minority students, and, through the MODELS Toward Success program (Mentors Offering Direction, Encouragement, Leadership, and Strategies Toward Success), it works with a select group of minority freshmen. The models (peer counselors) provide insight and assistance to freshmen. A second resource is the Paul Laurence Dunbar Library, a collection of over 3,000 books and periodicals relating to the African and African-American experience. The center also serves various student groups, including the Black Student Union, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Wright State's chapter of the NAACP, and The Society of Black Engineers and Scientists.



**Wright State
University**

Dayton, Ohio 45435