and crafts.

The cultural event is an opportunity for MSU students involved in NAISO. The experience is an opportunity to learn about American Indian culture through song, dance, art and crafts.

1987. Implementation of the Minority Aide Program expanded to include the Asian Pacific American student population. As a result of the program’s growth, the Coordinated Minority Student Programs Office (CMSPO) was created from which the program was coordinated and implemented. In 1972, the program was expanded to include Chicano/Latino and Native American students and its name was changed to the Minority Aide Program. In the spring of 1987, the Minority Aide Program expanded to include the Asian Pacific American student population. Implementation of the APA Aides began in the fall of 1987.

1989 COORDINATED MINORITY STUDENT PROGRAMS OFFICE (CMSPO) CHANGES NAME TO MINORITY STUDENT AFFAIRS (OMSA)

1972 BLACK AIDE PROGRAM IS RENAMED TO MINORITY AIDE PROGRAM

1990-1989 OFFICE OF CULTURAL & ACADEMIC TRANSITIONS

1999 AANII
First year experience program for incoming American Indian freshmen. The program supported students throughout their first year with academic programs, retreats & interactions with American Indian faculty/staff.

1998 STUDY ABROAD TO AMEALCO QUERETARO
Study Abroad trip to Mexico

1996 MAXIMIZING ACADEMIC GROWTH IN COLLEGE (MAGIC)
One week summer transition program focused on preparing incoming MSU students for the social, cultural, academic, and professional opportunities imperative for a successful career at MSU.

1994 DIA DE LA (DLM) MUJER CONFERENCE
Latina empowerment conference highlighting the accomplishments of Latina women in our community.

2000

2001 OFFICE OF MINORITY STUDENT AFFAIRS (OMSA) CHANGES NAME TO OFFICE OF RACIAL ETHNIC STUDENT AFFAIRS (ORESA)

2001 MINORITY AIDE PROGRAM IS RENAMED TO RACIAL ETHNIC STUDENT AID PROGRAM

2004 THANKSGIVING UNITY DINNER
An annual dinner that provides a FREE Thanksgiving meal to students who remain on campus during the Thanksgiving holiday. This fellowship dinner, formerly called Homies Giving, began in 2003 with serving 20-30 students in Akers Hall to now serving 200-400 students. The event was started by Felipe Lopez, an Intercultural Aide.

2002 BLACK MALE INITIATIVE
Serving our primary mission of promoting academic and cultural success of African American students with a specific emphasis on Black males, the members of the BMI serve as a small but powerful influence changing MSU’s environment for Black students and thereby creating a better and richer environment for all.

2002 STUDENT SUCCESS INITIATIVE
SSI originated when a small group of faculty and staff came together and began to discuss the graduation and retention rates of Students of Color (SOC) at MSU. The SSI provides “intentional programs” to address, discuss the issues and factors that contribute to the retention and graduation outcomes at MSU.

2005

2006 OFFICE OF RACIAL ETHNIC STUDENT AFFAIRS (ORESA) CHANGES NAME TO OFFICE OF CULTURAL & ACADEMIC TRANSITIONS (OCAT)

2007 STUDY ABROAD TO AMEALCO QUERETARO, MEXICO CHANGES NAME TO INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT IN MEXICO (IEM)

2010 LATINO MALE INITIATIVE
This program aims to cultivate an engaged support network for Latino Males during their undergraduate experience to improve retention and graduation at Michigan State University.

2014 LATINX STUDENT MENTORING PROGRAM
MDP is open to first year Latino students that offers support by providing a one-to-one relationship with an MSU faculty/staff member who volunteers to help their new student be successful at MSU.

2015 SUCCESS SERIES
A series of seminars aimed in supporting student leaders by offering students the opportunity to listen to their point of view on what is happening around the world and how it is impacting their lives, their organizations, and communities.

2016 OCAT OFFICE SPACE GETS REDESIGNED TO CREATE A MORE WELCOMING AND STUDENT FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT

2020 OCAT’S GREEN TABLE
A space where MSU students can engage in topics that matter to them. Join us to listen and learn from campus leaders who share their point of view on what is happening around the world and how it is impacting their lives, their organizations, and communities.

Office of Cultural & Academic Transitions
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ocat@msu.edu • www.ocat.msu.edu

1969-1989

1990-2000

2005-2010

2015

2020
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Student Success Initiatives Descriptions • www.ocat.msu.edu

1983 POW WOW OF LOVE
The cultural event is planned by MSU students involved in NAISO. The experience is an opportunity to learn about American Indian culture through song, dance, art, and crafts.

1969 BLACK AIDE PROGRAM
The first Black Aide Program (BAP) was created in 1969. The Aide program was designed to provide a unique experience for incoming Black students to the university. The program was expanded in 1974 to include Chicano/Latino and Native American students.

1972 RENAMED TO MINORITY AIDE PROGRAM
In 1972, the BAP became the Minority Aide Program (MAP). MAP was designed to recruit and retain minority students.

2002 BLACK MALE INITIATIVE
The BMMI provides opportunities for Black males to openly discuss the issues and factors that contribute to the disappointing retention and graduation outcomes for Black men at MSU.

2002 STUDENT SUCCESS INITIATIVE
SSI originated when a small group of faculty and staff came together and began to discuss the graduation and retention rates among MSU students. The SSI identifies and promotes the use of successful strategies for avoiding pitfalls when possible and overcoming them when they are not avoided.

2007 CORES LEADERSHIP RETREAT
An annual retreat for executive board members of the Council of Racial and Ethnic Students (CARES) aimed at assisting the leadership development and transition of new eboard members.

2010 SPARTAN REMIX
SPARTAN REMIX is a Multicultural Welcome Festival that takes place each fall on the Thursday after Labor Day. This unique event is a celebration of art, music, and culture where students share cultural programs, showcase community pride of their communities. The Office of Cultural & Academic Transitions coordinates the event with a diverse group of students who volunteer to be part of the Spartan Remix Planning Committee.

2014 LATINO STUDENT MENTORING PROGRAM
The Latino Student Mentoring Program (LSMP) offers support to first-year Latino students. The program provides academic and personal support through mentoring relationships with an MSU faculty/staff member who volunteers to help their new student be successful at MSU. Mentors draw upon their own experiences to provide support to students and guidance from class and career development, campus organizations and resources, to good eating spots around campus.

2019 LATINOS UNIDOS MALE STUDENT INITIATIVE
In collaboration with Migrant Students Services, Neighborhood Student Success Collaborative and OCAT, Latinos Unidos is a mentoring initiative in collaborations with Migrant Students Services, Neighborhood Student Success Collaborative and the Office of Cultural & Academic Transitions. This program aims to cultivate an engaged student body that might otherwise have spent the holiday isolated in their rooms. Additionally, the BMI seeks to develop and implement new intervention activities for the MSU’s student community with a specific focus on a variety of topics which are, but not limited to: interview and resume skills, career exploration, learning strategies, and both highlights the availability of, and are not avoided. The BMI actively promotes the use of student success strategies, and both highlights the availability of, and encourages the use of supportive services that are readily available for students.

2019 LATINOS UNIDOS MALE STUDENT INITIATIVE
In collaboration with Migrant Students Services, Neighborhood Student Success Collaborative and OCAT, Latinos Unidos is a mentoring initiative in collaborations with Migrant Students Services, Neighborhood Student Success Collaborative and the Office of Cultural & Academic Transitions. This program aims to cultivate an engaged student body that might otherwise have spent the holiday isolated in their rooms. Additionally, the BMI seeks to develop and implement new intervention activities for the MSU’s student community with a specific focus on a variety of topics which are, but not limited to: interview and resume skills, career exploration, learning strategies, and both highlights the availability of, and encourages the use of supportive services that are readily available for students.

2020 OCATS FUN FRIDAYS
Every Friday, OCATS creates a relaxing environment for students to destress, engage in fun activities while meeting new friends.

2020 SPARTAN REMIX
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STUDENT SUCCESS EFFORTS BEYOND PROGRAMMING:

Advising:
• CARES Outreach (CARES/Council of Racial and Ethnic Students’ Advisers)
• Individual Student Consultations
• Student Success Support: On Campus and Off Campus
• Exploration of cultural identity
• Personal development
• Relationship advice
• Career advice
• Committee, conference, program planning

Celebrating Leadership and Achievement
• Academic Achievement Award Celebrations
• Graduation Celebrations

Celebrating Spartan Pride
• Provide Spartan athletic tickets to students

Collaborations:
• Writing Center, Peace Corps, ALSAME, Migrant Students Services, Neighborhood Student Success Collaborative, Academic Success Coaching Program, Early Career Development, Spartan Career Network, Center for Engaged Learners, LBGTQ, CAPS, NESC, AACC, RAMP, etc.

Consulting/Trainings:
• National Hispanic Leadership (DI)
• Hosting Campus Visits, recruitment

Creating Opportunities:
• Job opportunities for students
• Internships for students, practices for graduate students
• Volunteer Opportunities

Student Success Environment:
• Space for students to gather/meet friends
• Individual or group study space
• Meeting spaces, conference/program planning space
• Self-expression through arts and crafts
• Self-care and mental health activities
• Student programming initiatives e.g. Voter Registration Drive

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The following is a list of OCAT’s outreach efforts that promote student success by creating a sense of belonging and community building, beyond our programming initiatives.