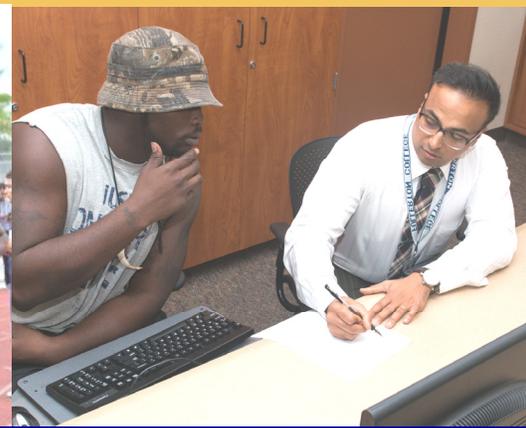




SPRING 2015



Academic Support for Student Athletes

Outright Vision

Earvin Anumgba, former Incite Program Tutor



Earvin Anumgba, former Fullerton College football and track scholar-athlete and Incite tutor, had me review an essay he wrote for his Human Sexuality class. I think anyone who cares about social justice and education should take the time to read this. In his essay, Earvin integrated his personal perspective into a practical and compelling narrative.

-- Futoshi Nakagawa

For 72 hours of my life I was asked to wear a button that symbolized equality for the lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgender, queer, and intersex (LGBTQI) community. In my mind I thought this task would be a walk in the park, but I failed to realize how many different viewpoints there were in the small city of Fullerton. During my first 24 hours I was constantly asked the question "Why are you wearing that button?". I simply said it was for my class and people would leave me alone, but as time progressed I felt that was a lame reason, and that I shouldn't be wearing a button just because I had to for class. I told myself that if I was going to wear the button for two more days that I would wear it because I believed in what it stood for.

Once I hit the 48 hour mark the interrogation became more personal with questions like, "Are you gay?", "Do you swing both ways?" and "You turning gay on me bro?" At this point of the project I had to ask myself if wearing the button showing my support was really changing people's perception of me. As a heterosexual man who has never done a gay act, the questions really discouraged me. I started to wonder whether a class assignment worth 75 points was worth my image among my peers. It was a tough task to continue with the project. When the 72 hour mark finally came around, people would try to crack jokes questioning my sexual orientation like it was a game. Being an athlete that has never really been teased, I never realized how mean people can be with their words.

People who come out and express their sexual orientation are truly strong people. All I had to do was wear a button for three days and I struggled dealing with the negative comments and disapproval from my peers. I now have a higher level of respect for those who hold their heads high and continue in their efforts for equal rights. This project has opened my eyes and taught me that education is learning how to think critically about narrow mindsets.

Save the Date!

We are proud of YOU!

We are celebrating your accomplishments in the classroom and on the field by having an Incite Program celebration on Tuesday, May 12 from 4:30pm - 7:00pm in the Historic Library Courtyard (by Stinger's Café). Come grab some food and hang out with your teammates one last time before they transfer. Life is only as good as the memories we make!

Incite Program Staff

Dr. Olivia Veloz
Director, Academic Support Center

Dr. Queen Peterson
Incite Program Counselor

Futoshi Nakagawa
Incite Project Coordinator

Dustin Sober
Incite Coach Liaison

Ankur Kumar
Carl Macarthur
Incite Program Specialists

Isaiah Aneke
Cassandra Garcia
Chon McCormick
Miles Nossett
Incite Program Tutors

Defining Student Athletes. Defying Stereotypes.

Why Does Superman Wear a Cape?

By Futoshi Nakagawa, Incite Program Coordinator

If ever there was a hero that taught us to fly high and soar the skies, it is Superman. Without a doubt, he is and always will be the greatest hero of all time. He has the superpowers and the quick moves that make people mistake him for “a bird” or “a plane”, and he also has the air of confidence and the looks that the ladies dig. He has it all, and like all superstars, he knows it. However, what separates him from the other mutants and superheroes is the fact that he knows it can all come to end on any given day. How do we know this? Well, I’ll give you a hint in the form of a question. *Why does Superman wear a cape?*

The popular answer is, “So he can fly.” But if one really thinks about it, he can fly without the cape. He isn’t one of those so-called heroes that needs a special ring or a mask that looks like a bat to go along with a hopped up tool belt that holds more gadgets than an iPhone holds apps to get the job done. So then why? A response I got from a woman was, “Maybe he got tired of people staring at his rear end, so he wears it similar to the way I wear a sweater around my waist when I go jogging.” Possible, but I doubt a man who wears a red Speedo over a full suit of bright blue skin-tight Under Armour is all that concerned about people staring at him. So here it is. The real reason is this: he wears it to hide the parachute he packs on his back.

A parachute? Why would Superman need a parachute? Think about it. What if Lex Luther met Mary Poppins on Tinder and convinced her to fly above the clouds and sprinkle pretty green crystals in an attempt to make the planet “greener”? If she did so—not knowing the glowing green crystals were kryptonite—Superman would fall straight out of the sky and hit the ground like a sack of potatoes...mashed. And he knows that such surprises could occur. Hence, he packs a parachute for insurance.

So what does this crazy, convoluted story have to do with student-athletes? To all my student-athletes who are blessed with superior athletic talent, who walk like Superman, talk like Superman, and maybe even believe they are Superman—I am not discounting your athletic skills and abilities. In many ways, you ARE Supermen and Superwomen in my eyes; however, freak accidents and career-ending injuries happen. Even Superman knows he’s not invincible. That is why you need an education—your parachute—to save you if harsh reality ever dishes out a raw deal. An educated mind is far stronger than kryptonite.

Get your parachute at the Incite Program.

Counselor’s Corner

By Dr. Queen Peterson, Incite Program Counselor



The Incite staff and I look forward to sharing many rewarding experiences with you throughout your Fullerton College careers. Here are some reminders that will help you achieve your goals:

- See me for academic planning
- Attend workshops
- Work with a tutor if you need help

“When you know you have potential, something wonderful is set in motion. It starts out slowly and builds momentum like a slow moving train pulling you along with it. But knowing you have potential is very different from doing the things necessary to achieve your goals. So step outside your potential and just do!”

Thank You!

By Ankur Kumar, Incite Program Specialist

Dear Incite students - I have really enjoyed working with you this semester. I have gotten to know many of you and thank you for sharing your successes and challenges with me, I respect your character, resilience, work ethic, and persistence to be here in college, working hard each day. I am confident you will succeed both academically and professionally. You have every capability. Stay in touch with the great people in this program and with me.

To the Incite staff - you're a strengths-based team that supports each other and makes study hall a great place to be. The student-centered culture is vibrant here. I am fortunate to work with an excellent team and thank you all for this experience.

Edited by Futoshi Nakagawa, Incite Program
Design and layout by Cory Thomas, Academic Support Center

Contact Us: incite@fullcoll.edu

The Incite program is funded by the Fullerton College Basic Skills Initiative and supported by the Academic Support Center.