

Alfred University student accepted as national fellow in student affairs

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Jessica Cabrera, a junior communications studies major at Alfred University, has been accepted into the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators' (NASPA) Minority Undergraduate Fellows Program (MUFP). The MUFP was initiated in 1989-90 to identify and encourage ethnic-minority undergraduate students to continue in higher education and to encourage them to consider students affairs as a profession. The fellowship provides Cabrera with a free NASPA membership; an all-expense-paid, summer internship on another campus; a four-day Summer Leadership Institute at NASPA, Washington, DC, which focuses on skill-building and career development; and three shorter-term experiences in student affairs on the Alfred University campus. Fellows also participate in an ongoing exchange with a mentor at their home campus designed to provide the student with a chance to develop a sense of what a career in student affairs or higher education might be like. Kathy Woughter, vice president for Student Affairs at AU, is Cabrera's mentor. As a freshman, Cabrera founded The Taste Buds, a club that celebrates culture through food. She was recognized by the Alfred University Board of Trustees with the 2005 Student Innovation Award. Cabrera currently serves as vice president of the Alfred University Student Senate (she previously served as secretary); is a resident assistant for Residence Life; is alumni coordinator for ALANA (African, Latin, Asian, and Native American Affairs) and is planning the 2008 ALANA Reunion; and is active in several other clubs campus-wide. The daughter of Vivian Martinez of the Bronx, Cabrera is a graduate of Murry Bergtraum High School.