## **DCC DEI Newsletter**

## 10/26/2022

The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee celebrates our students, faculty & staff, and their heritage.

Today we are celebrating Women's Basketball Coach, Romeo Lagmay and his Filipino heritage.

Thank you Romeo for sharing with us!

**What brought you to Dawson?** A coaching opportunity. I coached at the 4-year level for many years, but never at the two-year. I played at the two-year level, but never coached it before. So this was an interesting opportunity to do so.

**How has Montana life been so far for you?** *Montana has been wonderful getting to feel the close knit community atmosphere, experience outdoor life and raise my family in beautiful Glendive. But honestly, I can't relate to these extreme winters. You can have that Montana. Haha.* 

**This is Filipino Heritage month, what does that mean to you?** The fact that America can acknowledge its own diversity and appreciate and an attempt to understand what makes our country so beautiful. My dad served this country as an Army veteran in war and he is from the Philippines, and I'm honored to make him proud daily doing my best to be a productive and positive citizen in the country he defended. I do my best to carry on traditions that my family has taught me in the past whether it be cooking, dancing, or other specific practices, like spinning a food plate on the dinner table as a sign of respect and safe travels when a person leaves the room to get on the road.

**Tell us about your heritage and how your family has celebrated it in the past.** *Filipinos are very family oriented. Any guest that comes to our household is invited to eat (especially rice ) instantaneously Any special events are commemorated with large family gatherings serving plenty of different styles of our food and bakery, gifts, dancing and singing, and good ol' fashion social gathering.* 

What would you tell someone planning on coming to Dawson that comes from a diverse background? Enjoy the environment of Dawson and its community as the folks here will appreciate you with a smile and care. You will not be alone. You will be somewhat of an ambassador of your ethnic and cultural background and be ready to share and educate us in what it's all about.

Next up, we celebrate our veterans!