Islam Awareness Week

Reflections on the Event

To: The Association of Former Students

THE MUSLIM STUDENTS’ ASSOCIATION
Howdy!

On behalf of the Muslims Students’ Association, we would like to start by thanking you for your generosity. Your grant helped us make Islam Awareness Week successful, so we truly appreciate your support in helping diversify this campus! The grant of $500 you awarded us provided much needed support for our Battalion advertisements as well as hotel fees and airplane tickets for our speakers.

As you already know, seeking knowledge is the primary objective for every individual attending Texas A&M University, and as America becomes more multinational, it is incumbent that A&M students diversify their knowledge concerning international issues so that they remain competitive in today’s world. The purpose of these events was to raise awareness to our fellow Aggies about Islam. Activities and lectures were held with the idea of educating students, faculty, staff and other members of the university community on the basic teachings of Islam. Our goal was also to tear down inaccurate representations of Islam in the media. Our events helped students understand the basic practices and beliefs of Muslims, as well as helped clarify misconceptions about Islam and Muslims that exist today.

All of our lectures were followed by a 15 to 30 minute question and answer session which further clarified the topics, and in order to encourage people to ask questions, we accepted written questions on note cards. This encouraged students to ask, in front of an audience, anything they may have had on their mind. After each of the events, we also asked the attendees to fill out evaluation forms for feedback, which will help us improve the quality of our events as well as highlight the issues we need to work more on next year. The average response on the
forms was very positive and everyone unanimously replied yes to attending another lecture by the provided speakers. Many students also mentioned that the material was presented in an easy and an understandable manner.

Overall, our events affected the campus environment by welcoming students and encouraging to find answers to their questions, gain a better understanding about the religion of Islam, and remove any stereotypes they once believed in. It also opened doors for students to go beyond their own belief system, and put their minds in the context of other cultures and religions.

Once again, we really appreciate your help. These events would not have been successful without your support!

Sincerely,

The Islam Awareness Team 2010