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Western Oregon University celebrates International Education Week

MONMOUTH – Western Oregon University will celebrate its third annual International Education Week from Monday, November 14 through Friday, November 18 with a variety of events open to the public and free of charge.

Monday, November 14

Noon – Columbia Room of the Werner University Center (WUC)

WOU Provost Jem Spectar, Ph.D. and Interim President John Minahan, Ph.D. will provide opening comments for the week-long celebration.

12:15 p.m. – Columbia Room of WUC

A faculty panel will discuss “how the international experience informs our teaching and research.” The panel members include Maria Dantes, Ph.D., of the Teacher Education Division; Kit Andrews, Ph.D., of the Humanities Division; and John Rector, Ph.D., of the Social Science Division.

7 p.m. – Room 211 of the Instructional Technology Center

The first film in the International Film Festival is “Abouna,” an African narrative containing moments of tenderness, comic flourishes and a message of hope, as well as photographs using saturated primary colors and earth tones. This film is co-sponsored by the Anthropology Department and will be introduced by professor Mark Moritz, Ph.D.

Tuesday, November 15

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. – Oregon Room of WUC

The International Education Fair will provide the community with the opportunity to learn how WOU is contributing to global understanding. Participants in the fair include: the Study Abroad and International Exchanges Office, International Students Club, Health and Physical Education Division, Modern Languages Division, Diversity Peer Educators, AHA International, Model United Nations, Makindu Children’s Fund, UNICEF, and the Multicultural Student Club.

2 p.m. – Columbia Room of WUC

Visiting Japanese professor and artist Motohiro Kozawa from Saitama University will present a lecture about his work, which will be on display in his first art exhibit in America. Kozawa has taught at Saitama University for 13 years and has published three books on painting. He has a lengthy exhibition record including solo exhibits in Tokyo and Paris. His exhibit will feature 60 small-scale acrylic paintings with the theme being the idea of position and relationship.

3 p.m. – Art Gallery in WUC

Kozawa's exhibit will open and be available through Thursday, November 17.

Wednesday, November 16**11 a.m. to 2 p.m. – Oregon Room of WUC**

A world expo will feature authentic clothing, items of cultural significance, music and more. Students from 22 countries are represented on campus and will be available to talk to.

7 p.m. – Room 211 of the Instructional Technology Center

The International Film Festival will show "8 Women," a comic and irreverent murder-mystery musical. It presents a twisted story with soap acting, camp costumes and decadent décor that suggests a hybrid of Vincente Minnelli, Douglas Sirk and John Waters. Geography Professor Shaun Huston, Ph.D., will introduce the film.

Thursday, November 17**10 a.m. – Calapooia Room of WUC**

WOU alumni, faculty and students will discuss their experiences working abroad and give advice about working internationally.

1 p.m. – Santiam Room of WUC

Visiting Japanese professor Kazuko Uda of Saitama University will demonstrate how to make chirashi-zushi (sprinkled sushi) and maki-zushi (roll sushi) using ingredients that are common in America. The audience will be invited to taste the sushi.

4:30 p.m. – Room 107 of the Hamersly Library

WOU Spanish Professor Eduardo González-Viaña will read from his newly published collection of short stories titled "American Dreams." It is infused with the hearty folk traditions of Latin America and will follow the fierce challenges facing immigrants as they adapt to life on the other side of the border.

Friday, November 18**6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. – Gentle House**

WOU's international students will sponsor a potluck dinner.

The events are sponsored by the Office of Study Abroad and International Exchanges, Office of International Students and Scholars Affairs and the International Education and Services Committee, in conjunction with a variety of departments on campus.

The films in the International Film Festival are made possible with the support of the Cultural Services of the French Embassy and the French Ministry of Culture and are presented as part of the Tournées festival.

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