

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

SEP Students 2

Make a  
Difference

Going Green 2

in the  
Residence  
Halls

Upward 3

Bound; A  
Student  
Success

Office of 3

Disability  
Services

New Year 4

brings some  
New Staff

Campus 4

Recreation

### Our Mission:

The Division of Student Affairs fosters students' academic, personal growth, educates students to respect and appreciate diversity, and prepares students to be responsible and engaged citizens in a global community

## International Ambassadors and Mentors (I-AM)

Western Oregon University welcomed over 330 International Students to campus this fall. As a way to help facilitate deeper cultural understanding and awareness between the WOU community and students from across the world, a new ambassador and mentor program has been created. The International Students/Scholar Affairs office and the Division of Student Affairs is working together to facilitate this project.

International Ambassadors and Mentors (I-AM) was created to allow domestic students, primarily from Oregon, to represent WOU on a two and a half week trip to China in late June. Three groups, each with seven student ambassadors and one advisor, will travel to three locations and conduct visits to local Chinese schools. During

the trip, the ambassadors would share about Western Oregon University, engage in English tutoring, interact with the students and their families living in China, visit significant landmarks in the region, and take in the Chinese culture and cuisine.

Upon returning to WOU in the fall, the ambassadors would transition into mentors for the incoming International Students. The mentors would serve as conversation partners, encourage participation in programming on campus, and work with the international students to plan an inter-cultural event that raises awareness of the rich global diversity of WOU students, faculty, and staff.

The office of Service Learning & Career Development is

accepting nominations from faculty, staff, and administrators for current WOU students who would represent the university in an appropriate and professional manner. As the participants will need to commit meeting, program, and travel time from January 2009 – June 2010, first, second, or third year students are eligible. Students having lived in Oregon over the past five years will receive priority in the selection process. Information sessions will be held in January for interested students. An application and interview process will determine the final I-AM representatives.

To nominate a student, please contact Service Learning & Career Development at 503.838.8432 or [slcd@wou.edu](mailto:slcd@wou.edu).

## WOLF Ride

great service for students, especially as our days are getting shorter, and the winter weather is upon us.



In order to utilize WOLF Ride, a student would call 503-428-7238 and state his/her name,

location to be picked-up, what time to be picked-up, destination, V number, and a phone number where he/she can be reached. Currently WOLF Ride is only offered Monday through Thursday, 5:00 pm – 10:00 pm. The program hopes to expand to more days a week for Winter term.

One last note...WOLF Ride is not a designated driver service. Students who are intoxicated should not call as they will not receive a ride.

## SEP Students Make a Difference



SEP students in front of the Hawkes' home.

Over 40 Student Enrichment Program students and staff members made a significant contribution to one family's home in Independence as part of their service learning project. The 40 students were taking part in SEP's Summer Bridge program, which is designed to acclimate new WOU students to university life.

Blenda and Dick Hawk moved into their Independence home 17 years ago. "The house was in poor shape when we purchased it and we've been working on it ever since," Dick said. "We've been wanting to

paint the house for some time, it's just kind of a blessing in disguise. We were impressed that students would want to do a service project like that."

The house had been prepped and power washed by volunteers before the painting occurred. The Hawks family picked out a color scheme of light green with dark green trim. Primer, paint and painting supplies were donated by local recycling companies and businesses throughout the Monmouth, Independence and Dallas areas. Individuals in the community and the university also contributed money towards the project.

Letitia Erckenbrack, SEP educational advisor for the program said the completed paint project is valued at about \$3500. The outside of the house, a small barn and the living room were painted in one day, Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup>.

Students wrote about their experiences offering assistance to a family that they did not know previous to that day of service. Many of the students shared the lessons learned that day about working in teams, meeting specific needs within our community and the value of giving of oneself to better the lives of others.

**WOU Student Affairs E-News is published periodically by the Vice President for Student Affairs at Western Oregon University.**

## Going Green in the Residence Halls

University Residences launched a new initiative this year to enhance recycling efforts of residence hall and apartment students. All rooms now have their own recycling container, and each residence hall community houses centralized recycling stations (there are 12 of them in all) to encourage the residents on campus to recycle more of their recyclable materials. The recycling stations are set up to receive mixed paper, plastic, glass, aluminum and cardboard.

The Recycling Stations are maintained by a team of students who were selected at the end of Spring Quarter. The Green Team, as they are called, is made up of four students committed to the cause of sustainable living. Kat Hayes, Gus Townson, Ashley Wilson, and Elizabeth

Wood were selected because of their interest and passion for the cause. University Residences staff members Patrick Moser, Assistant Director, Facilities and Operations and Noah Cheek, Student Intern, are supervising and leading the Green Team this year.

"The Green Team is a very enthusiastic group," Patrick stated, "and they are leading a very successful campaign with the assistance of the residential students."

The Green Team has greater aspirations, of course, generated by their enthusiasm and the initial success of the recycling program. They are developing an educational presentation on recycling and sustainability that can be presented to students in the residential communities.

Their goal is to get the message about recycling out to as many students as possible. In fact, they have just started a group on Facebook<sup>®</sup> for students who wish to support "The Green Team."

Even in its early stages the program has been a tremendous success. The Physical Plant estimates that the residence halls are recycling 7-10x more materials than they did last year. The Physical Plant is inundated with much more recycled material than they have ever had. So much so that they had to enlist the help of the Green Team for assistance in sorting the recyclables they are receiving. As we so often hear when successful programs bring about new challenges, the increase in recycling is a good problem to have.



Outdoor Program Trip, p. 4

# Upward Bound: A Student Success

The Upward Bound Program at WOU is a federally-funded TRiO program which provides services to eligible high school students from three area schools. The program is designed to help prepare students for successful entry to and completion of college. The following is a profile of a former Upward Bound student currently enrolled at WOU.

**Career Goal:**

My goal is to graduate from Western Oregon University with a Bachelor's Degree in Community Health Education, then attend graduate school at OSU or OHSU to obtain a Master's Degree in Public Health. I plan to obtain the necessary licensure to become a Diabetes Educator/ Specialist.

**Other future plans:**

Get married, buy a house and form my own family.

**What made you decide to go to college?**

Honestly, I don't remember. Ever since I can remember (young age), I knew I would attend college. I didn't know how or where, but I knew it would happen.

**What barriers did you overcome in getting to college?**

The main barrier I had to overcome was finding ways to pay for school. That barrier made me value my education more than anything; although I struggled I am thankful because it gave me strength to do well in school.

**What is the best part about college?**

Freedom! I get to pick my schedule and my classes to some extent. I love that I don't have to be in class all day, everyday. Plus there are a lot more fun things to do than in high school!

**What was the biggest surprise about college?**

The biggest surprise was probably finding out that college is not as

hard as I thought. Although you have to put in a lot of effort and work, it is not something out of this world, like I thought.

**What did you gain from the Upward Bound Program?**

A lot! Through participation in the program, I gained many skills and experiences that have been essential in my success in college and work life. The UB staff provided me with an enormous amount of support; I knew that I could always ask any of the staff for assistance. I was also provided with crucial college, scholarship, and other information that gave me the guidance I needed to meet my goals. One of the most important experiences I had with UB was the summer program, where I lived on campus for two summers. This experience helped me gain many skills that made the college transition a lot easier, plus I felt that I could help other freshmen because I knew the campus like the back of my hand!



Kristitty Polanco is a 2006 graduate of Dallas High School and the Upward Bound Program. She is currently a Junior at Western Oregon University majoring in Community Health



**FREE!**

You're invited to:

# WOLF-IT DOWN!

December 4, 2008  
9:00-11:00PM  
Summit, WUC

FREE pancakes, sausage, orange juice

**FREE!!**

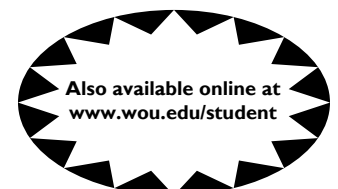
Dead Week Special!!

Late Night Breakfast!

## Office of Disability Services

The Office of Disability Services has been really busy this fall term. We have experienced a general increase in the number of students we serve as well as an increase of Deaf and Hard of Hearing students. This term we are serving a total of 197 students with a variety of disabilities and 17 of those students are Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

The month of October was Disability Awareness Month at WOU. The Disability Awareness Month committee coordinated and provided several different programs including the Experiential Center, speaker John Evans, "A series" of movies about a variety of disabilities and the Out of Sight Dinner. By far the two most popular events were John Evans and the Out of Sight Dinner with over 100 attendees at each event. Thank you to the Disability Awareness Month Committee for all of your hard work and effort!



# New Academic Year Brings some New Staff

The Office of Service Learning & Career Development is pleased to announce the addition of two new staff members to the team. Analia Mendez is the Assistant Director of Career Development and Tina Trinh is the Community Partner Liaison as part of the AmeriCorps\*VISTA program.



Analia holds a MS in Counseling from San Francisco State University and was most recently with Sacramento State University's Career Services office. Her new position primarily focuses on building and establishing relationships with recruiters, increasing the awareness of and the importance of internships, and working with students on their career endeavors.

Tina has a BA in Psychology from WOU and works on the creation of community service, Service Learning, and Alternative Break programming. She also works with students individually to help them find volunteer opportunities. Welcome Analia & Tina!



Tina Trinh

The Werner University Center, Student Leadership & Activities department is proud to welcome two new staff members! Adam Slaton is the new Leadership Development Coordinator and Shelby Case is the new Student Media Advisor.

Adam is a 2001 graduate of Western Oregon University and a former professional staff member in the Multicultural Student Services and Programs office as well as a former advisor within the Student Enrichment Program. He has spent the last four years working in the Dominican Republic before deciding to return to WOU and to his home in Oregon. Adam has great experience working with leadership and diversity areas and will be responsible for new student orientation, leadership development, diversity education, non-traditional student services and more! He is a busy guy who has jumped into his new role at WOU with energy and enthusiasm.



Adam Slaton

Shelby comes to WOU as a former Associate and Managing Editor of *The Central Oregonian* newspaper in Prineville, Oregon. He brings 19 years of professional experience where he will be working with our student newspaper, *The Western Oregon Journal*, WOU's art/literary magazine, *The*

*Northwest Passage*, determining the future of WOU's TV station and whether we wish to develop a new campus radio station! Shelby will put his experience to good use working and training our students to put out high quality publications!



Shelby Case

With the increase of Deaf and Hard of Hearing students we have hired a new staff interpreter. Michael (Myk) Rose started



with our office on September 29, 2008 and has been a great addition to the ODS staff. Myk Rose grew up in Albany, Oregon before coming to Western Oregon University. He graduated Magna Cum Laude from Western in 2008 with a degree in ASL/English interpreting. In his spare time, Myk likes to read random trivia, crochet, and play ultimate Frisbee.

with our office on September 29, 2008 and has been a great addition to the ODS staff. Myk Rose grew up in Albany, Oregon before coming to Western Oregon University. He graduated Magna Cum Laude from Western in 2008 with a degree in ASL/English interpreting. In his spare time, Myk likes to read random trivia, crochet, and play ultimate Frisbee.

## Campus Recreation News

**Rugby and Lacrosse fields open:** A 5 acre area adjacent to the Church St. Intramural Fields was opened and designated for the Rugby and Lacrosse sport clubs. The fields serve as both the practice and game fields for these sports and lessen the pressure on the intramural fields.

**New Restroom:** A new restroom has been constructed in the intercollegiate baseball, softball and soccer field area, next to the intramural / sport club area. The building benefits both the intercollegiate and recreational users of these field spaces and eliminates the need for the wonderful blue "Honey Buckets". This facility is courtesy of the Athletic Department and WOU.

**Record intramural entries for fall term:** A record number of students are participating in the intramural Flag Football, CoRec Soccer and CoRec Volleyball programs this fall. Flag Football team registrations totaled 20, CoRec Soccer doubled its numbers to 8 teams and CoRec Volleyball reached a record number of 43 teams. Volleyball is now the 2nd largest intramural program (winter term basketball is 1st) as far as the number of players, surpassing CoRec Softball. Who knows what Spring has in store though!

**Outdoor Program:** 10 students and faculty staff went to Siletz Bay outside of Lincoln City on October 19 to canoe the Siletz River and Milford Slough. Trip highlights included a harbor seal 'leading' the group part of the trip and a stop at the Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area where whales were spotted and climbing the Lighthouse stairs. While on the river, the group passed the house used in the 1971 movie based on the Ken Kesey book Sometimes a Great Notion. The film starred Henry Fonda and Paul Newman. The trip was coordinated with the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Also participants picked up floatsam and jetsam in the waterway (see picture on p. 2: Amanda Dean, Rick Sedgwick, and Bubba).