

# Inspire, Champion, and Celebrate the talents within each of us

American Association for Women in Community Colleges—Oregon Chapter

Fall 2014 Newsletter



Belle Wheelan

## Proceed to the 2014 Fall Conference



Linda Herrera



Leigh Anne Jasheway

“Proceed and Be Bold” is the theme for this year’s AAWCC Oregon Fall Conference. Women from all over the state will gather to hear three fabulous keynote speakers, participate in valuable breakout sessions, and get acquainted and re-acquainted with colleagues at our sister community colleges.



The keynote speakers on the program offer a varied approach to boldness in our lives and careers. **Dr. Belle S. Wheelan, PhD**, currently serves as President of the

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges and is the first African American and the first woman to serve in this capacity. Her career spans 40 years and includes the roles of faculty member, chief student services officer, campus provost, college president and Secretary of Education. In several of those roles she was the first African American and/or woman to serve in those capacities.

Dr. Wheelan received her Bachelor’s degree from Trinity University in Texas with a double major in Psychology and Sociology, her Master’s from Louisiana State University in Developmental Educational Psychology, and her Doctorate from the University of Texas at Austin in Educational Administration with a special concentration in community college leadership. She has

received numerous awards and recognition including four honorary degrees.

**Leigh Ann Jasheway, M.P.H.** (master of public health/mistress of public humor) is a stress management and humor expert who helps people manage stress, embrace change, and become healthier by learning to lighten up. She speaks at 30-40 conferences and workshops every year and is a member of the Association for Applied and Therapeutic Humor (AATH). She is the author of 21 books, including *How’d All These Ping Pong Balls Get In My Bag!?*, *Don’t Get Mad, Get Funny*, *Not Guilty by Reason of Menopause*, *101 Comedy Games for Children and Grown-Ups*, and *Bedtime Stories for Dogs*. She is the 2003 winner of the national Erma Bombeck Humor Writing Award for her true story on how her first mammogram caught on fire. She teaches at both the University of Oregon and Lane Community College, and is a humor columnist for the Register Guard’s Dash Magazine.

**Linda Herrera** is the Dean of Academic Development and the Diversity and Equity Officer at Chemeketa Community College. Linda will open the conference for us as the keynote speaker on Thursday morning.



## *President's Message*

To all of my community college colleagues:



*Julie Kopet,  
AAWCC Oregon President*

Welcome to the 2014-2015 academic year! As always in community colleges, there will be new challenges and opportunities. That is a given! What is great to know is that you belong to a professional organization that connects you with incredible women who provide both professional and personal connections that we all need to thrive and exceed in our jobs.

The Oregon chapter of AAWCC has a very energetic and engaged board of directors who are working hard. We have been updating our website, archiving photos from past events and reviving the newsletter. Our last year's three events, Fall Conference, OILD, Summer Conference were more successful than ever.

We are looking forward to our upcoming Fall Conference November 6 and 7. "Proceed and Be Bold" will offer wonderful speakers, great breakout sessions and, of course, a lot of fun. You will be able to see colleagues from all over the state. Be sure to get registered!

I hope that all of us have a great fall term and that you can participate in the many AAWCC activities.

## *Conference Will Provide a Variety of Topics and Events*

**Workshops,  
Zumba, Concerts,  
Networking,  
and More!**

In addition to the plenary sessions, several workshops and breakout sessions are planned for the AAWCC-Oregon Fall 2014 Conference. Included among those scheduled are wellness, technology, and leadership sessions. Chicamarimba, an eight-woman Portland marimba band, will perform at a reception for all guests will take place late Thursday afternoon. Portland-area band Say Yes will close the conference with energetic and inspirational original songs.

For early birds who want a good workout, a Zumba class will be offered on Friday morning before the conference resumes. Be sure to bring comfortable workout clothes if you'd like to participate.

A silent auction will be held to raise funds for AAWCC functions and scholarships. Donating to the silent auction is a wonderful way to promote your college and community while helping women attend our events. If you have an item or service you would like to donate, please bring the item to the conference registration desk, and we will do the rest.

Registration for the fall conference is \$210. Register online at <http://www.aawccoregon.org/fall-conference/>. Reserve your room at Embassy Suites and mention the AAWCC Fall Conference for the group rate. Visit the Embassy Suites website or call (503) 644-4000. The hotel is located at 9000 SW Washington Square Road, Tigard, Oregon.

## *Fall Conference Wins National AAWCC Award*



*AAWCC Attendees at the 2014 AACC Annual Conference*

Each year, the national association of AAWCC recognizes an official chapter and its members who have made a significant contribution to the development of women. This year, AAWCC Oregon received the AAWCC Community College Award for the 2013 Fall Conference. The theme for the conference was *Reboot, Refresh, and Restore: Igniting Your Potential*. The fall conference is offered annually and is unique in that it is created with leadership and professional development opportunities specifically with Oregon Community College women in mind.

The award was presented at the 2014 American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) Conference in Washington, D.C. AAWCC-Oregon officers and members who attended the conference gathered at the AAWCC Awards breakfast to receive the award.

Oregon is the only state chapter that holds an annual conference.

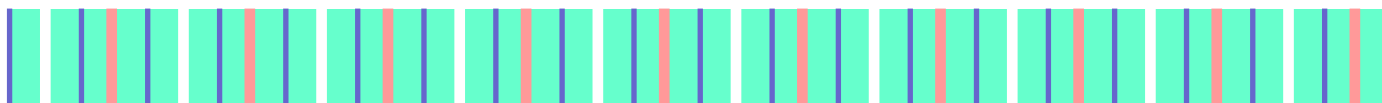
## *Plan to attend OILD or Nominate a Leader from Your Campus*

Save the date for the 2015 Oregon Institute for Leadership Development. The 26th annual OILD will be held June 22-25, 2015. This is a professional development opportunity for community college women interested in leadership as well as personal and professional growth. The institute is held at the beautiful Silver Falls Conference Center located east of Salem. Information on the program and the selection process will be sent to the AAWCC Campus Contacts and college presidents in early 2015.



## *Campus Connections*

Share what's going on at your campus with other women around the state. Inquiries go out to campus contacts twice a year for submissions to the newsletters. To get your chapter and campus news in the publication, contact AAWCC-Oregon VP of Communications, Donna Zmolek at [zmolekd@lanecc.edu](mailto:zmolekd@lanecc.edu). Photos are always welcome, too!



### ***Lane Community College***

***By Siv Serene Barnum***

Lane started 2014 with a Valentine's gathering at Mary Spilde's home. It was great fun with a station set up with valentine's cards, color pens, glitter and stickers to assist in creating the perfect valentine. Later in the evening we found out just a little more about our fellow AAWCC sisters when Siv and Lida read out loud "something no one knows about me" statements. Examples: I swam with dolphins, I used Sylvester Stallone's bathroom, I collect ephemera, etc. There were some enlightening moments, and it generated much laughter!

We were fortunate to have Becky Washington come and give use a presentation on LinkedIn during winter term. She navigated us through the basics while explaining how valuable it is to have a professional profile. In Spring term, we had a presentation on stress by Lane's Wellness Coordinator, Wendy Simmons—timely for us as our campus faces changes.

Just before Summer term, Lane's AAWCC members voted to approve changes to our bylaws and elect new officers for our chapter. New officers include Keren Levine as VP Communications, Lida Herburger, Eila Sontag, and Tiana Marrone-Creech as Members at Large.

Our fall kickoff luncheon will be held October 23, where we will have a visit from Toastmaster Jim Lindly, and Claudio Riumallo from Counseling and Advising will discuss her experience at OILD 2014.



## ***Mt. Hood Community College***

### ***By Christy Weigel***



MHCC's AAWCC chapter has begun hosting an "In House Speaker Series" with the purpose of hearing the stories of, and getting to know more about, women that work at the college. Our first sessions happened in January and February. The speaker series will happen on an "as close to monthly basis" as possible, with considerations for breaks between terms.

Chapter members Sydney Frost, Christy Weigel, Lauren Smith, Aslinn Arcuri and Bhaktirose Dawdy all presented at various sessions of the Student Success and Retention Conference in February.

Chapter member Katelyn Goslin was recognized recently as the MHCC student services "Top Banana of Excellence" award winner for spring term 2014. This award was started in fall term 2013 by student services leadership to recognize a different staff member for going above and beyond the call of duty.

With the assistance of chapter members Eran Smith, Lisa Riegel and Christy Weigel, among others, MHCC is about to reboot its participation in national Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day. This marks the first time the college has officially participated in a number of years.

Our chapter is in full swing with our first formal AAWCC Executive Committee elections, with our newly elected committee being announced on November 4, in time for the Fall Conference!

This year, in a continued effort to empower Mt. Hood Community College's student and professional women, our AAWCC chapter has partnered with our campus representative from the American Association for University Women (AAUW). Charged by MHCC President Dr. Debbie Derr, Melinda C. Bullen acts as a campus representative for AAUW and is a member of the Gresham branch, with a primary goal of serving female students' education and career goals. The Executive Committee of the MHCC chapter created the position of AAUW Liaison in an effort to create seamless communication between these two women-centered organizations. As this partnership develops, the goal is to enable an even stronger voice for both organizations on campus and their shared missions of supporting women and the issues they value.

Fundraising efforts for student scholarships continue at MHCC. Earlier this year, we held a fundraiser for the Shellie Macias Memorial Scholarship at Chipotle, raising \$1146.25, plus held two book sales raising another couple hundred dollars. The MHCC chapter has also formed two teams for the College's upcoming Bowling for Scholarships event with the goal of raising at least \$1000 that will go directly to student scholarships.

This spring, the MHCC chapter also hosted Tea with Dr. Derr, the College's first female president, and started an in-house speaker series where all employees are invited to come learn more about their colleagues. This academic year the chapter is planning a "Generations" speaker series to learn more about employees who have been with MHCC for many years as well as those who are just starting out their careers in higher education.

Before fall term began, the AAWCC VP of Web Development and Social Media, Katelyn Goslin, spearheaded an internal campaign for a Campus Cleanup Day which saw great success with 27 college employee and student volunteers in attendance.

## *Nominations Sought for Leadership Awards*



*2010 DesJardins Award Winner  
Dawn DeWolf with Jan Woodcock.*

The mission of the Oregon Chapter of the American Association for Women in Community Colleges is to inspire, champion, and celebrate the talents within each of us.

To recognize and celebrate this mission, the AAWCC-Oregon Board of Directors is accepting nominations for the prestigious 2014 Carolyn DesJardins Leadership Award and the Community College Excellence Award.

The **Carolyn DesJardins** award will be given to someone who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and made a significant contribution to community colleges. Criteria for receiving the award will include demonstrated ability to inspire, champion, or celebrate women as leaders.

Nominations are now being accepted. Please visit the website at <http://www.aawccoregon.org/awards/>. Nominations should be sent to Cherie Maas by November 1, 2014. Previous winners include Linda Reisser, Dawn DeWolf, Cam Preus, and Jan Woodcock, to name just a few.

The **Community College Excellence Awards** are chosen by campus AAWCC membership and celebrates individuals whose accomplishments made a difference for women at his or her own community college. The AAWCC-Oregon board will award a certificate to honor each Community College Excellence Award recipient at the fall conference. 2013 winners were Kendi Esary from PCC, Julie Brown from Clatsop, Cheryl Roberts from Chemeketa, Karen Domine from Southwestern, Lorrie Ranck from Umpqua, Elizabeth Lundy from Clackamas, and Jeanine Howell from Linn Benton.



*2013 Excellence Award Winner Karen  
Domine with SWOCC President Patty Scott*



*2013 Excellence Award Winner Jeanine  
Howell with Karin Magnuson*



*2013 Excellence Award Winner Julie Brown  
with Donna Larson*



*2013 Excellence Award Winner Lorrie  
Ranck with UCC President Joe Olson*



## *Newest Members on the AAWCC Board of Directors*

The AAWCC-Oregon Board of Directors is made up of ambitious, caring professionals who are dedicated to the personal and professional development of community college women all around Oregon. The following board members were elected at the last Fall Conference and have nearly finished their first year of service in these board positions.

### **CAROL MCKIEL, PRESIDENT-ELECT**



Carol McKiel works at Linn Benton Community College as the director of the High School Partnerships program. Carol's background is in elementary education. In 2000, however, while teaching a reading strategies class at a community college, she found that she thoroughly enjoyed working with adult learners. This new career focus led her to earn an MS in Student Personnel Services and then attend OSU to earn a PhD in Educational Leadership in 2011. Carol has been a member of AAWCC since 2008. She was attracted to AAWCC because of its commitment to developing women's capacities. She has assisted with fundraising activities and program planning.

Carol has a grandson, daughter and son-in-law living in Dallas, Texas, and a son in Washington, D.C. She enjoys working out at the gym during the week and walking on the beach or bicycling with her husband during the weekend. She also enjoys attempts at gardening.

### **SYDNEY EUSTROM, VP MEMBERSHIP**



Sydney Frost joined Mt. Hood Community College (MHCC) in 2009 as Student Outreach Coordinator and has since sampled out and stepped into the roles of Manager for Student Outreach & High School Services, instructor to a 3-term series of Educational Leadership, student conduct officer, and Future Connect Project Manager. As of 2014, she has settled into her current role of Manager for Student Recruitment, Orientation & Testing Services.

Sydney is currently the interim (as in self-appointed) Co-President for the MHCC Chapter of AAWCC and was an attendee of the 2013 OILD. "As a newbie to AAWCC at the 2012 Fall Conference and participant of the 2013 OILD, my response has been: "I hope the women behind this all are contagious, because I want to catch it and then spread it."

### **TERI OLSON, VP SPECIAL PROJECTS**



Teri has worked for Clackamas Community College for 18 years. She has worked in the Business Office, the Small Business Development Center and the last 16 years in the Customized Training & Development Services department. That experience has allowed her to work with many different organizations and industries, and she strives to turn every customer engagement into a continuing long-term customer relationship. Teri has an Associate's degree in Accounting and a Bachelor's degree in Business Management.

This is Teri's first time on the AAWCC board although she has attended AAWCC conferences for over 13 years. "I was very fortunate to work with an AAWCC board member when I was new to the college and that introduction to the organization has stayed with me for 13 years. It is my pleasure to be a part of this organization, and I am eager to work with the board on special projects."

## Board of Directors, Cont.

### HEATHER WHITE, VP REGISTRAR

Heather works at Mt Hood Community College, as the Library Technical Services Coordinator managing the library collection and technical operations behind the scenes. Prior to MHCC she worked as a part time Reference and Instruction librarian at Portland Community College for three years, and held the same position at Portland State University for one year. Before moving to Portland in 2007, she worked as a librarian in a high school, and then at a college, in Buffalo, NY where she was born and raised. Heather attended OILD 2013 and quickly realized AAWCC was an organization she wanted to be involved in. She is currently serving as Archivist for MHCC's local AAWCC chapter, on the interim-executive board, and she is absolutely thrilled at the opportunity to join the state chapter's board of directors as VP of Registration. In her spare time, Heather enjoys reading, gardening, jigsaw puzzling, hiking, meditating, practicing yoga and Pilates, and spending quality time with her friends, family and pets.



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