Inspire
champion, and celebrate the talents within each of us

American Association for Women in Community Colleges – Oregon Chapter   Spring 2007 Newsletter

Angela McMahon wins prestigious leadership award

Angela McMahon was awarded the Carolyn Desjardin Leadership award for 2006 at the AAWCC-Oregon fall conference.

The award is given annually to someone who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and made a significant contribution to community colleges.

Angela has influenced the lives and careers of hundreds of women who have attended AAWCC conferences. She has found inspirational speakers, life-changing workshop sessions, and continued to develop the spirit of community at each conference.

In 2002 and 2003, Angela helped with logistics and has been VP of Conference since 2004. In 2006, she picked up the responsibility for the conference after a resignation and pulled off one of the best in the organization's history.

In addition to the conference, Angela developed the state chapter's Web site and continues to keep current information posted.

"Each year, conference evaluations inform us that women have changed their lives and their careers as a result of our fall conference," said Jan Woodcock, AAWCC-Oregon president.

"Angela has provided the leadership for these conferences, and I can't think of anyone else who has touched the lives of so many women.

"Angela does this work with great energy and spirit," Woodcock continued. "She has helped develop a sense of community on the AAWCC Board and throughout the organization."

Angela worked 13 years at Portland Community College. She currently works with YouthBuilders in Portland.

Higher Education group honors Mary Spilde

The 2007 Oregon Women in Higher Education Network of Women Leaders 2007 Service Award went to Mary Spilde, president of Lane Community College and AAWCC-Oregon ex officio member.

Nominated by the Oregon-AAWCC Chapter, Spilde received the award at the annual conference January 26 in Portland.

OWHE, an educational forum of female administrators and faculty, is affiliated with the American Council on Education’s Office of Women in Higher Education.

Nominations for the OWHE service award are based on “substantial contributions to the advancement of women in higher education in Oregon and/or in the nation,” including scholarly work, administrative leadership, program development or student mentoring.

Past recipients all have been university leaders or instructors, AAWCC-Oregon President Jan Woodcock noted.

“Dr. Spilde is an icon for women in higher education, not only within our state but also across the nation,” Woodcock wrote in her letter of nomination to OWHE.

Spilde has been LCC president since August 2001. She joined Lane in 1995 as vice president of Instructional and Student Services. She served at Linn-Benton Community College in Albany for 15 years.

She holds a bachelor’s degree in business and social systems and a law degree from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. She completed a master’s in adult education and a doctorate in post-secondary education at Oregon State University.

She helped establish Oregon-AAWCC, which flourishes today with over 350 members, and was a founder of the Oregon Institute for Leadership Development.

“Hundreds of women look to Dr. Spilde as a mentor and model woman leader,” Woodcock said.

“She has inspired us, taught us, learned with us, laughed and danced with us, cried with us, counseled us, directed us..."
By Jan Woodcock  
Umpqua Community College

I got a cell phone message at the home of the Kentucky Derby while touring the locker room of men who are about half my size even when they are holding their horses saddles on race day. I had forgotten that my article for this newsletter was due.

I came to the South for spring break with my 16-year-old niece Sally to visit the new Civil Rights, Voting Rights Museum between Selma and Montgomery and to see as much of Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, and North Carolina along the way as we could.

It was Sally’s first time in the South, so I also got to make sure she experienced grits, hush puppies, fried okra, fried green tomatoes, and sweet potato pie... ribs, country music, and little girls in tiny pink cowgirl boots in Nashville... acid reflux in Atlanta *causing Sally to rename her Atlanta experience as “Mylanta experience”*)... cardinals, meadowlarks, magnolias, and wild dogwoods in the Great Smoky Mountains.

Somewhere in these lands of Daniel Boone, Thomas Merton, Loretta Lynn, Rosa Parks, and the four little girls from the 16th Avenue Baptist Church in Birmingham, my mind wanders home to you.

It also contemplates work. Budget cuts, unread textbooks, unwritten syllabi, undone projects, frustrating people and so many things that seem so wrong. Yet when I think of you as I write this, all I feel is gratitude for the good things in my life.

For the Letter from the Birmingham Jail and for people who do what is right, no matter what the cost.

For work that I love, for the opportunity to exist in a complicated world that is wrong in so many ways, yet filled with so many good people like you who work everyday to try to bring about justice, hope, and opportunity for our students and others.

I am grateful for the never-ending opportunity to gain new knowledge and new perspectives.

For the opportunity to see the South in the springtime, for a new set of OILD participants at Silver Falls and for the great plans for your summer conference in the Columbia Gorge in July.

So here I am now in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee jotting down some little notes, while Margaret, your AAWCC VP of Communication is working away at Rogue editing your spring newsletter and calling people who have not yet turned in their articles.

I want to thank her and you for all the hard work you do each day. I also want to remind you to increase your connections with people who respect and sustain you.

I hope you find chances to do more of the things that give your life meaning and bring you joy. If some of that happens to be in the context of AAWCC, that would be a bonus for us.

In AAWCC, as we continue always to refine our vision and find new ways to encourage people and to develop leadership at all levels with character, integrity, and justice, we need your voice, your wisdom, your ideas, and your experience.

I’m grateful to be coming home to a part of the country that includes you.

Race for the Cure needs you

Bring a friend and join your AAWCC sisters for the 2007 Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, Sept. 23, starting in the Tom McCall Waterfront Park, downtown Portland.

This inspiring event draws thousands of participants each year. Proceeds benefit the race to cure breast cancer by funding research and free mammograms.

For more information, contact Julie Huckestein at (503) 399-6575 or at jhuckeste@chemeketa.edu.
Ten women earn excellence awards

Once again, Oregon community colleges honored outstanding individuals by nominating them for the AAWCC-Oregon Excellence Awards.

Ten women were honored at the annual fall conference. The 2006 Excellence Award winners were Jeannie Odle, Chemeketa; Gayle Lawn-Day, Blue Mountain; JoyLynn Woodard, Mt. Hood; Tammi Drury, Linn-Benton; Jackie Bryson, Lane; Ann Baumgardt, PCC; Carla Bee, Umpqua; Gina Roper, TVCC; Joanne Truesdell, CCWD; and Cindy Harboldt, Rogue.

Chosen by local membership, they were cited for the difference they have made for women at their own community colleges.

It's not too early to start thinking about someone at your college who deserves this recognition. Recipients need not be a member of AAWCC to receive the award.

Send the names of nominees to Carol Schaafsma at carol.schaafsma@linnbenton.edu.
By Donna Zmolek
Lane Community College

Lane’s AAWCC Chapter has been busy as usual this year. We started with our Fall Kickoff in October. A special luncheon was held for the members to recognize this year’s scholarship recipient, Jessica Rojas.

Jessica is in the LCC Environmental Science program, and she works part time in the Career and Employment Services Department. Her goals are to earn a bachelor’s degree in environmental science and start her own environmental restoration crew.

Jessica is staying active in the local AAWCC chapter, attending events and giving input when her busy schedule allows.

Our holiday silent auction was a huge success and a heck of a lot of fun, too!

We held the event at the lovely home of board member Siv Serene Barnum. We had a great time eating, socializing, and picking up one-of-a-kind holiday gifts donated by members, employees, and local businesses. This year we raised just over $1,000. Wow!

We have had a few opportunities for women on campus in regards to professional development, including a speaker from the American Association of University Women and another speaker who talked about women and money.

The women and money presentation was so successful that it generated an all-day workshop, held February 24. More professional development is planned for the remainder of the school year – a grant-writing workshop and another on living wills.

Jackie Bryson was Lane’s choice for the AAWCC Excellence Award, presented at the state conference in November.

Jackie is a career and employment advisor at Lane, vice president of professional development for Lane’s local chapter, and she became a member of the state AAWCC Board last year. She is an inspiring campus leader and has made a significant contribution in her work as an advisor and on both AAWCC boards.

By Marie Simonds
Southwestern Oregon Community College

Southwestern Oregon Community College’s local chapter is planning its third annual Umpqua Valley vineyard tour on Saturday, June 2.

The wineries to be visited will be in the Roseburg, Melrose area. Cost for the day-long tour is $40, which covers transportation, wine glass, tasting fees and water.

The college’s athletic bus is rented for this event so those attending sit back in comfort and enjoy the trip. We are looking forward to another fun and festive day.

By Victoria Flagg
Mount Hood Community College

From truffle-making workshops to slumber parties, we’re having a great time at MHCC.

This winter we kept four of our traditions alive. We brought back our breakfast meetings, scheduling one in January. These meetings give members another chance to network and enjoy each other’s company. We try to meet somewhere convenient to all of our locations.

We also usually help sponsor at least one of the Women’s “Herstory” Celebration events each year. These events start in late January and go until early March.

This year we sponsored “Channeling Women’s Voices.” Women and men read their favorite works written by women for about an hour. It was well attended, educational and heart warming.

What would Valentine’s Day be without chocolates? Many of us aren’t sure what it would be without Karen Reynold’s chocolate truffles. Every other year she puts together a fundraising workshop teaching us how we can make them ourselves. Many of us keep coming back. We’re hooked!

We also managed to hold our winter retreat this year at the Columbia Gorge Riverside Lodge in Stevenson, Wash. This is a time when we just kick back and relax. Occasionally some of us go for a hot bath and massage at the Carson Hot Springs. This year a few of us had the massage come to us.

We all enjoyed dinner at the Crab Shack restaurant next door and celebrated Sharon Lannigan’s second retirement from MHCC. Sharon continued to work part time after her first retirement. She was one of our chapter’s founders, and we plan to keep her around even though we don’t see her daily anymore.

By Maureen McGlynn
Chemeketa Community College

AAWCC-Chemeketa ended winter term on a high note with a visit by Andrea Henderson, Oregon Community College Association executive director.

Andrea updated a small, spirited group of early risers on current and upcoming legislative bills, the budget process, and shared her thinking about a proactive approach to working with legislators in the future.

A lot has been happening during the quarter. Nancy Doerrfler, human resources benefits specialist, received certification as a senior professional in human resources from the Human Resource Certification Institute.

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Linda Herrera, program coordinator for CAMP, participated in an awareness-raising video for attorneys and judges to emphasize the lack of certified court interpreters in the state.

Dee Montgomery, adjunct physical education instructor, was a presenter at the National Education Association’s 25th Annual Higher Education Conference in San Diego.

Simone Hughes, instructional assistant in electronics, helped plan the 20th annual “Expanding Your Horizons” event for middle school girls hosted by American Association of University Women and Willamette University as part of our Gender Equity Task Force.


Louanne Whitton, developmental education instructor, was elected 2007-08 president of the National Council for Staff, Program and Organizational Development.

Gretchen Schuette, CCC president, and Maureen McGlynn, director of curriculum and instruction, were nominated for the 2007 Athena Awards sponsored by the Statesman Journal.

All the news is not birth-related, however. Kitty Berthlin, advanced secretary, Counseling, is learning to solder and rivet metals together. She’s also celebrating the finishing stages of her house construction by painting, laying flooring, and tile, and she is planning for her son’s wedding in August.

The second annual event included a Texas Hold’em tournament, Monte Carlo games, silent and online auctions. The event netted $18,000. Proceeds are split between the two organizations, and AAWCC made $4,000 more than last year.

Jennifer Wheatley, RCC Foundation executive director, is celebrating the great work that both Cindy Harboldt and Angel Woods did coordinating the event.

Finally, RCC-AAWCC raised $610 for scholarships via a clothing sale drive on both campuses. The left over clothing was donated to needy families in Mexico.

By Joanne Secrest
Linn-Benton Community College

International Working Women’s Day Tea was celebrated at Linn-Benton on March 8.

AAWCC-LBCC Co-President Karin Magnuson offered a PowerPoint presentation on the life of one of our local chapter members, Wendy Major, who is currently serving in Iraq with Navy Mobile Construction Battalion 18 on the airbase at Al Asad, east of Baghdad.

Wendy’s rank is Petty Officer E6, and her job title is storekeeper first class.

She is on leave from the LBCC Health Occupations and Workforce Education Division, Business and Employer Services.

In July 2006, NMCB 18 was mobilized to Gulfport, Miss., for

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Karin’s presentation included views of sand storms, sunrises and sunsets, Christmas in Iraq (including a photo of stockings filled with some of the items our staff collected and sent to Wendy in Iraq), and Wendy in uniform.

Wendy’s daughter Danielle and husband Phil await Wendy’s return to Albany in April. We also look forward to her safe return.

Before Karin’s presentation, we had the pleasure of listening to the LBCC Choir, directed by Susan Peck.

Funds were available to award three $500 scholarships to deserving students at LBCC. A silent auction will be held in May to acquire additional scholarship monies.

One of our more popular auction items has been gift baskets that included local chapter cookbooks and the ingredients or final product that were put together as auction items throughout the year.

Our joint meeting with the American Association of University Women from Corvallis Oregon State University in the fall 2006 was well attended and provided an opportunity to share some of our common goals.

Our monthly campus meetings between noon and 1 p.m. have been well attended and have provided staff with the opportunity for time away from the work routine.

We look forward to seeing you at the AAWCC-Oregon summer retreat in Hood River on July 26.

By Wanda Clifton-Faber
Blue Mountain Community College
Congratulations are in order – the BMCC Chapter of the American Association of Women in Community Colleges has been revived. Many of you may remember a time when the BMCC Chapter was prominent on campus.

A new slate of officers was nominated and elected March 16 after acceptance of the revised by-laws.

The chapter board is comprised of President Michelle Rosales (College Prep), Vice President Becky Satter (JOBS), Treasurer Kristy Pierson (HR), Secretary Lynda Bennett (Title III), Professional Development Chair Amy Spiegel (Retention and Student Success), Fundraising Chair Beth Smith (Retention and Student Success), and Campus Contact Wanda Clifton-Faber (GLSMA Grant).

The chapter’s purpose is to encourage, champion and celebrate the talents within each of us. We are charged with having at least two fundraisers and one professional development activity every year.

The fundraisers are intended to fund, in part, the newly created dependent care assistance scholarship and the professional development opportunities for members.

By fall 2008 we expect adequate funding for our first retreat, at which the second slate of officers will be nominated and elected.

Membership applications are online behind the college resources button.

Anyone who wants to support the mission of the chapter is encouraged to join. Dues are set at $20 per year (December 1 through November 30) with half of the dues funding the dependent care assistance scholarship and the other half going to fund chapter activities.

BMCC President John Turner, was one of the first to apply for membership by presenting newly elected chapter President Michelle Rosales with a check for his dues and a completed membership form.

“President Turner has been very supportive of this effort from the beginning,” Michelle said. “He has agreed to fund one nominee every summer for the Oregon Institute for Leadership Development and two presenters for the annual fall state conference in Portland.”

We look forward to this opportunity to become a vital part of the Oregon state chapter – a vibrant organization of women from all our counterparts across the state that is willing and able to mentor, encourage, and enjoy the camaraderie.

Our plan is to laugh and learn, to grow and celebrate and energize our professional lives. The chapter will meet once a quarter via ITV, and the schedule will be set at the next board meeting. There will be monthly updates and quarterly newsletters.

That’s the news from the foothills of the Blue Mountains. We plan to see you in Hood River on July 26. Let’s Buck!
Meet the newest AAWCC-Oregon officers to join the board

Several newly elected or appointed officers are taking on the challenge of the AAWCC-Oregon Board.

**Vice President Finance, Cherie Mass**
Cherie is assistant to a division dean at Portland Community College.

Cherie is currently president-elect and vice president of membership for the PCC Chapter of AAWCC. As operations manager for the Community College Humanities Association, she is responsible for the organization’s registration process.

“I want to give back to AAWCC what it has given me – the opportunity to work with professional women, network with other women in a community college setting and to grow professionally.”

**Vice President Summer Retreat, Susan Wolff**
Dr. Susan J. Wolff is the chief academic officer at Columbia Gorge Community College, located in The Dalles.

Previously, she held instructional leadership and academic positions at both the community college and university levels.

Throughout her career, Dr. Wolff has been actively involved in community organizations and events, taken leadership roles on statewide councils and with professional organizations, given numerous presentations at national conferences, and continually seeks to learn.

She also has chaired and planned several state-wide, regional, and national conferences and participated in the planning of an international conference.

**Secretary/Member-at-Large, Donna Zmolek**
Donna was appointed secretary when Joyce Coleman (Treasure Valley), who was elected last November, took a job outside the state.

Donna has worked at Lane Community College since 1990, after earning her associate’s degree at LCC in 1988.

She currently is assistant to the president and board of education.

Last year, she graduated from Linfield College with her bachelor’s degree in arts and humanities. In 2000, she attended the Oregon Institute of Leadership Development, “where I realized the benefits of being involved in such a wonderful organization as AAWCC,” she said.

She assumed a leadership role on the AAWCC Board at Lane and is now the president of the chapter.

“AAWCC has had a positive impact on my life and my career, and it has been gratifying knowing that I am supporting the personal and professional development of women in community colleges,” Donna said.

When she’s not at work, she spends time with her husband, four children, two dogs, one cat, and four horses.

**Vice President, Annual Fall Conference, Julie Kremers**
Julie has worked for four years at Southwestern Oregon Community College. Her background is accounting and she has over 20 years in the field.

She also has worked in conferencing at several hotels and restaurants in Oregon.

She attended Oregon Institute for Leadership Development in 2005 and has been a member of Southwestern’s AAWCC Chapter for three years.

She currently serves as the treasurer of the chapter.

**Web Master, Ex-Officio Member, Angela McMahon**
Angela worked 13 years for Portland Community College. She attended OILD in 1994 and joined the AAWCC-Oregon Board in 2002 as Web Master. She was VP Annual Conference for the 2004-06 conferences.

Angela was honored by PCC with a Local Chapter Excellence Award in 2005 and received the Carolyn Des Jardins Leadership Award in 2006.

In 2005 Angela turned in a new direction, joining Portland YouthBuilders, a nonprofit organization that provides educational, vocational, and leadership development programs for low-income men and women. Her ties in the community college network are an asset in her role as a high-school educator.

Angela and her husband Doug are the parents of four children ranging in age from 8 to 22.

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Save the date!
AAWCC-Oregon Fall Conference
Nov. 15-16, 2007
Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel
www.aawccoregon.org
Leadership institute set for July 4 weekend

The 16th annual Oregon Institute for Leadership Development will be held July 3-6 at the Silver Falls Conference Center.

OILD is a professional development opportunity for community college women interested in leadership as well as personal and professional growth.

The institute, with its focus on positive leadership development, connects women with community college administrators and executives from across the state and focuses on developing skills specific to Oregon’s environment.

Real-world solutions, cutting edge theory and multiple approaches are explored to provide a comprehensive leadership-training program. Many OILD participants have assumed leadership roles in their institutions.

Twenty-three women representing the majority of Oregon community colleges participated in last year’s institute. “Evaluations were very positive, and we are looking forward to another exciting program this year,” said Mary Spilde, OILD director and president, Lane Community College. “As in the past, we are asking each college to make its participant selection using local criteria,” she added.

Information on the program and selection process was sent to AAWCC Campus Contacts and college presidents in January.

For more information, contact OILD directors Mary Spilde at (541) 463-5200 or spildem@lanecc.edu; Jan Woodcock at (541) 440-4706 or Jan.Woodcock@lanecc.edu.

Summer retreat planned in the ‘Hood


The retreat will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Best Western Hood River Inn on the banks of the Columbia River in Hood River. Registration information will be posted soon on the AAWCC Web site.

The presenter will be Dr. Cris Cullinan, human resources and training administrator for the University of Oregon. She is well known for her research and work in diversity and multi-cultural issues.

Her presentation is based on the research of Marcus Buckingham and Donald Clifton, PhD., of the Gallup Organization, which looks at the commonalities of workplaces where employees are productive and happy.

Their premise is that today’s world requires coalition building rather than team building, a male- sports- competitive-dominated model. By contrast, coalitions are a temporary union of distinct people for joint action.

From this work, Dr. Cullinan leads people in the discovery of their strengths and how each person can use these skills at work and personally to build and actively participate in coalitions.

Reserve your room now for the retreat. Hood River Inn standard rooms (single and double) are $74, tax not included. Riverfront rooms, single or double, are $99. The hotel will extend these rates for reservations, or visit the inn’s Web site: www.hoodriverinn.com.

Campus Contacts

Blue Mountain
Wanda Clifton-Faber
wcfaber@bluemic.edu
(541) 278-5838

Central Oregon
Lori Willis
lwillis@coc.edu
(541) 383-7572

Chemeketa
Maureen McGlynn
maureen@chemeketa.edu
(503) 399-6145

Clackamas
Shera Hunn Felde
sherah@clackamas.edu
(503) 657-6958, Ext. 5047

Clatsop
Lois Tivey
ltivey@clatsop.cc.or.us
(503) 338-2371

Columbia Gorge
Karen Carter
kcarterr@cgc.cc.or.us
(541) 506-6010

CCWD
Candace Norwood
ccwd@cbedu.edu
(503) 378-8648, Ext. 467

Klamath Falls
Dawn McAugust
mclong@klamathcc.edu
(541) 880-2210

Linn-Benton
Joanne Secrest
secrestr@linnbenton.edu
(541) 917-4929

Mt. Hood
Victoria Flagg
Victoria.Flagg@mhcc.edu
(503) 491-7533

Oregon Coast
Kathy Steenkolk
vsteenkol@occc.cc.or.us
(541) 574-7115

Oregon Community College Association
Lori Sattenspiel
lsattenspiel@occa17.com
(503) 399-9912


Portland
Cherie Maas
chreimass@pec.edu
(503) 977-4266

Rogue
Angel Woods
awoods@roguecc.edu
(541) 956-7410

Southwestern Oregon
Marie Simonds
msimonds@socc.edu
(541) 888-7211

Tillamook Bay
Sue Owens
owens@TillamookBay.cc
(503) 842-8222, Ext 159

Treasure Valley
Sandy Newman
snewman@tvcc.cc
(541) 881-8822, Ext. 299

Umpqua
Lee Salter
lee.salter@umpqu.edu
(541) 440-4668

Campus Contacts