

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

American Association for Women in Community Colleges—Oregon Chapter

Fall 2017 Newsletter



AAWCC Fall Conference People, Purpose, & Passion: A World of Opportunities

On November 19 & 20, Oregon women will gather at Embassy Suites in Tigard, Oregon for the **AAWCC Fall Conference**. The conference will feature three dynamic keynote speakers, relevant breakout sessions, and networking with your colleagues from all over the state.



Cathy Kemper-Pelle

Dr. Cathy Kemper-Pelle is a first-generation college graduate who started her post-secondary education at a community college, then earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Illinois State University. She conducted marine research at McNeese State University before discovering her passion for teaching.

She taught at Lone Star College and moved into administrative roles. She earned her Doctorate in Education at the University of Texas, and eventually moved to Oregon to become president of Rogue Community College in July 2016.



Diane Allen

Diane Allen knows the personal barriers that keep people from consistently operating in their “A” game, and how the sum becomes greater than the parts when everyone is operating at their best. Diane is a peak performance speaker and performance coach, and a retired concert violinist. She has been the featured speaker for leadership conferences, women's conferences, network marketing events, and a first place winner for numerous speaking competitions. Diane has been a performance coach for TEDxBend, the Bend Venture Conference, women in upper management at companies such as VMWare, HSBC, and Charles Schwab.



Sharon Lacey

In addition to being a sought-after keynote speaker, **Sharon Lacey** is also an internationally touring headlining comedian. She performs all across the USA, has been to Iraq twice to entertain our troops, and performs stand up comedy for Ugandan audiences in two of their tribal languages. Sharon's earlier careers include a radio dj, television news producer, and a national award winning middle school teacher. She was a national Disney American Teacher Award honoree; TCI Oregon Teacher of the Year; and a consultant for the Disney Learning Project and the Harvard Zero Project.

Sharon's memoir, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to Dementia: A Stand Up Comedian's Race Against Time*, was published this year.

President's Message

To all of my community college colleagues:

I am grudgingly welcoming fall. It is so hard for me to see the bright sun, blue skies and long, warm summer evenings disappear; however, I am grateful to this organization for putting together a fabulous fall conference to give me something to celebrate. I look forward to seeing many of you in November! During the summer conference in July, Jil Freeman from Clackamas Community College taught us about growth mindset and that our brains can grow as we age. Intelligence can be developed! The growth mindset leads to a desire to learn and a tendency to embrace challenges, persist in the face of setbacks, see effort as the path to mastery, learn from criticism and find lessons and inspiration in the success of others. *It was fascinating!* I also learned, and have been training myself, to add the word *yet* to any sentence that is about experiences that I have not had, YET. I have not been skydiving, YET. I have not been to Europe, YET. I have not reached my full potential, YET. Perhaps you have not obtained your associate's, bachelor's, master's or doctorate degrees, YET. Perhaps you are not prepared, educationally, emotionally, financially or spiritually to move forward in your career, YET. Let your professional development goals start right here, with the Oregon chapter of AAWCC. Register to attend the fall conference, and let us help you reach your full potential. Please read and enjoy this issue of the newsletter and let me know if there is anything that AAWCC Oregon can do for you. I would love to hear from you!



Lynn Irvin,
AAWCC Oregon President

Fall Conference Will Provide a Variety of Topics and Events

**Workshops,
Awards, Music,
Officer Elections,
Door Prizes,
Networking,
and More!**

In addition to the plenary sessions, several workshops and breakout sessions are planned for the AAWCC-Oregon Fall 2017 Conference. Included among those scheduled are wellness, technology, and leadership sessions. Receptions for all guests will take place Wednesday evening and Thursday afternoon to offer plenty of opportunities to network with colleagues from around the state and catch up with old friends. A special musical performance by the Chemeketa Choir will close the conference with talented students from one of our very own colleges.

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.

Early registration for the Fall Conference is \$225, and the cost is \$275 after October 13. 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](#) at or call (503) 644-4000. The hotel is located at 9000 SW Washington Square Road, Tigard, Oregon.



Outgrowing Our Shells at the AAWCC Oregon Summer Conference

This year's summer conference was held at the beautiful Salishan Lodge and Resort, where 100 community college women attended and enjoyed the company of their colleagues, knowledgeable speakers discussing thoughtful, timely topics, and some much needed time on the Oregon coast.



Speakers included experts from our own colleges. Jil Freeman from Clackamas Community College spoke on the subject of growth mindset, and Rut Martinez Alicea from Portland Community College enlightened us on the subjects of intersectionality and inclusion.

Other activities for the day included campus updates and roundtable discussions on ideas addressing the need of our members for future conferences.

Oregon Institute for Leadership Development

Women from community colleges throughout Oregon attended the 26th annual Oregon Institute for Leadership Development on June 19 - 22, 2017. For four days, they participated in activities that allowed them to learn more about themselves and their leadership values while experiencing the natural beauty of Silver Falls State Park and Conference Center. The institute provided positive leadership development and connected women with community college executives and administrators from all over the state.

If you have not attended OILD in the past, be sure to look for the application process at your college next year. Applications are due to AAWCC-Oregon in April.



OILD 2017 Cohort

Campus Connections

Southwestern Oregon Community College Submitted by Anne Matthews

The Southwestern Chapter has made a concerted effort this year to support their local Women’s Safety and Resource Center. Through advocacy, counseling, support groups, shelter and community training initiatives, the Women’s Safety and Resource Center provides support, education, and healing to hundreds of people each year in Coos County. Last spring, they conducted a “personal hygiene” donation drive. They collected everything from tampons to toothpaste. The Center was extremely grateful.

The Chapter also held their Annual Spring Silent Auction to raise money for scholarships for their members to use to attend conferences and take advantage of professional development opportunities. This year, they raised almost \$800. The campus always comes out in strong support of their auctions.

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. Photos are always welcome, too!



Chemeketa’s first AAWCC scholarship recipient, Melysa Leday, with board members Monica Valdivia, Erika Coker and Peggy Greene.

Chemeketa Community College Submitted by Lynn Irvin

Chemeketa’s AAWCC chapter sponsored a table at the *Stop Violence Against Women* event in April. They distributed information about our chapter and handed out buttons designed by a Chemeketa graphic arts student with the AAWCC logo and inspiring messages including Wonder Woman, I Inspire, I Believe in Me, I Am Strong, I Am Powerful. They also sponsored a brown bag lunch webinar on time management. Cookies were provided for participants. They had several employees attend the summer conference. The chapter will have a team participate in the 13th annual Discover Pink Walk coming up on October 14.



Lynn Irvin and Megan Cogswell from Chemeketa at the National LEADERS conference in Red Bank, NJ.



Chemeketa celebrates summer conference at Salishan!

Funds raised benefit underserved women in Marion and Polk counties with early detection and breast cancer treatment services.

Nominations Sought for Leadership Awards

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 2017 Carolyn DesJardins Leadership Award and the Community College Excellence Awards.

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 [Deb Nicholls](#) by November 1, 2017. Previous winners include Linda Reisser, Dawn DeWolf, Cam Preus, Jan Woodcock, and Karin Magnusen, to name just a few.



2015 DesJardins Award Winner Margaret Frimoth (c) with Karin Magnusen and Gerald Hamilton



The **Community College Excellence Awards** are chosen by campus AAWCC membership and celebrate 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. The recipient of either award does not need to be a member of AAWCC to receive the award.

AAWCC Board of Directors

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AAWCC Campus Contacts

Blue Mountain CC

Velda Arnaud varnaud@bluecc.edu
 (541) 278-5740
 2411 NW Carden Ave.
 PO Box 100
 Pendleton, OR 97801

Central Oregon CC

Jennifer Newby jnewby@cocc.edu
 (541) 383-7572
 2600 NW College Way
 Bend, OR 97701

Chemeketa CC

Lynn Irvin lynn.irvin@chemeketa.edu
 (503) 399-5012
 4000 Lancaster Dr. NE
 PO Box 14007
 Salem, OR 97309

Clackamas CC

Teri Olsen terio@clackamas.edu
 (503) 954-3194
 19600 S. Molalla Ave.
 Oregon City, OR 97045

Columbia Gorge CC

Lori Ufford lufford@cgcc.cc.or.us
 (541) 506-6025
 400 E. Scenic Dr.
 The Dalles, OR 97058

Clatsop CC

Joanne Zahn jzahn@clatsopcc.edu
 (503) 338-2421
 1653 Jerome Ave.
 Astoria, OR 97103

Community Colleges

& Workforce Development (CCWD)
 Evelyn Roth evelyn.m.roth@state.or.us
 (503) 947-2431
 255 Capitol St. NE
 Salem, OR 97310

Klamath CC

Shannon Childs chिल्ds@klamathcc.edu
 (541) 880-2210
 7390 South Sixth St.
 Klamath Falls, OR 97603

Lane CC

Tiana Marrone-Creech
marrone-creech@lanecc.edu
 (541) 463-5894
 4000 East 30th Ave.
 Eugene, OR 97405

Linn-Benton CC

Vickie Keith keithv@linnbenton.edu
 (541) 917-4697
 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW
 Albany, OR 97321

Mt. Hood CC

Carrie Toth carrie.toth@mhcc.edu
 (503) 491-7474
 1415 SE 122nd Ave.
 Portland, OR 97233

Oregon Coast CC

Debra Hess ea@occc.cc.or.us
 (541) 867-8532
 332 SW Coast Hwy.
 Newport, OR 97365

Oregon Community

College Association
 Katie Archambault katie@occa17.com
 (503) 399-9912
 260 13th Street NE
 Salem, Oregon 97301

Portland CC

Cherie Maas-Anderson cmass@pcc.edu
 (503) 977-4266
 PO Box 19000
 Portland, OR 97280

Rogue CC

Jenny Jackson jjackson@rogucecc.edu
 (541) 245-7991
 3345 Redwood Hwy.
 Grants Pass, OR 97527

Southwestern Oregon CC

Anne Matthews amathews@socc.edu
 (541) 888-7612
 1988 Newmark Ave.
 Coos Bay, OR 97420

Tillamook Bay CC

Sayde Moser
saydemoser@tillamookbaycc.edu
 (503) 842-8222
 4301 3rd Street
 Tillamook, OR 97141

Treasure Valley CC

Cathy Yasuda cyasuda@tvcc.cc
 (541) 881-5585
 650 College Blvd.
 Ontario, OR 97914

Umpqua CC

Debbie Hill debbie.hill@umpqua.edu
 (541) 440-4600
 2555 NE Diamond Lake Blvd.
 Roseburg, OR 97470

