

Inspire, Champion, and Celebrate the Talents Within Each of Us

American Association for Women in Community Colleges—Oregon Chapter

Spring 2017 Newsletter

American Association for
Women in Community College



AAWCC-Oregon Founding Mother to Retire



Lane President Mary Spilde

For 37 years, Mary Spilde has been an advocate for our underserved community college students and a champion for women in community colleges. In 1987, Spilde and her colleagues from around the state got together and decided to form the Oregon chapter of AAWCC. Since that time, AAWCC Oregon has inspired, championed, and celebrated the talents within women at all levels in the community college system around the state. Spilde coordinated the very first AAWCC Annual Conference and has held several positions on the state and national boards. Concurrently, she progressed in her career through positions at Linn-Benton College and Lane Community College, eventually leading Lane as its first female president in 2001.

In June, Spilde will explore new adventures as her time at Lane comes to a close. She'll be traveling and spending time with her family – especially her granddaughter – but she's sure to be a presence in Oregon's community colleges and AAWCC for many years to come.

Congratulations, Mary! Thank you for your leadership, mentorship, and friendship. We wish you all the best.



Spilde (right) at OILD in 2001

Outgrow Your Shell at This Year's Summer Conference

The annual AAWCC Summer Conference is set for July 20, 2017, at Salishan Lodge and Conference Center. The event is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and will feature presentations on "Growth Mindset" and "Intersectionality and Inclusion" from Jil Freeman of Clackamas Community College and Rut Martinez Alicea of Portland Community College. The Summer Conference has grown tremendously over the years—and for good reason. It is an excellent way to rejuvenate and connect with dynamic women from all over the state in just a single day. The cost is only \$120 until June 15 when it jumps to \$170, so register now for the early bird rate! A block of rooms is being held at Salishan at the rate of \$130 per night, plus taxes and fees. For reservations call (800) 452-2300. For more information, visit the AAWCC Oregon website at <http://www.aawccoregon.org/summer-conference/>.



President's Message

*Lynn Irvin,
AAWCC-Oregon President*



It's a sincere pleasure for me to say, "Welcome to Spring!" This winter was especially challenging for those of us who are not used to so much weather! No worries about snowpack this year, right? I'm not quite convinced that spring has indeed sprung, but the daffodils and occasional slices of blue sky are giving me hope. The board members of the Oregon State Chapter of AAWCC have been very busy preparing the yearly activities for 2017 that begin with the Oregon Institute for Leadership Development, June 19-22. This institute is a wonderful opportunity to open your eyes to your own potential! We intend to "Outgrow Our Shells" and expand ourselves through growth mindset with Jil Freeman at the Summer Conference. It will once again be at Salishan Lodge and Conference Center on the Oregon coast on July 20. Registration is open now. Our VP for Fall Conference has some wonderful professional development plans for November 16 and 17 in Portland, so be sure to add those dates to your calendar as well. Please keep reading this newsletter to see what fun and inspiring personal and professional activities our local college chapters are doing. If you don't see your college chapter events listed, please contact our amazing Donna Zmolek so she can share them in the next newsletter. Board members are always interested in what's going on at the college chapters. We would love to be invited to your activities! I look forward to seeing many of you at AAWCC events this year. Please introduce yourself and say hello! Let me know about a great book you are reading or ask me for a movie recommendation. I had plenty of opportunities to see several movies and do some reading during the long, gray, wet, cold, snowy, sleeting, hailing, windy, weather-filled winter!

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AAWCC Bridges the Leadership Gap at National Conference



Participants enjoy a welcome reception prior to the event.



The Conference Chair Quartet Minus One opens the event.



AAWCC President Beverly Walker-Griffiea presents award to AAWCC Oregon President Julie Kopet.



AAWCC Oregon Board Members Jan Woodcock and Donna Mathews-Levelling and Blue Mountain President Cam Preus.

AAWCC held its first national conference in Portland, Oregon, last fall in conjunction with AAWCC Oregon. The theme for the event was “Bridging the Leadership Gap,” and was held at the Doubletree near the Lloyd Center in Downtown Portland. Attendees included 215 women from community colleges in 16 different states around the country. Keynote speakers Beverly Walker-Griffiea, Letitia Clark, and Mary Spilde empowered and enlightened the audiences with stories and presentations on identity, inclusiveness, and leadership.

Workshops included topics such as communication, work/life balance, mentoring, and collaboration. A special tribute was given to President Mary Spilde, who will be retiring after nearly 40 years in community colleges. Attendees were treated to the beautiful voice of AAWCC National Board member Claudia Curry, who performed several songs to close out the event.

AAWCC Oregon received special recognition when the chapter was presented with an award from AAWCC National in the form of a “Proclamation of Excellence.” AAWCC Oregon has a long and impressive reputation of a robust chapter providing a variety of leadership and professional development opportunities for women in Oregon.

To view materials from the event, visit the AAWCC Oregon website at <http://www.aawccoregon.org/fall-conference/previous/fall-conference-2016/>



President Mary Spilde delivers her keynote address to AAWCC women.



Women from all over the country participated in the AAWCC National Conference.

Campus Connections



Chemeketa Community College By Lynn Irvin



Mannequin dressed to impress

Chemeketa’s AAWCC chapter kept a high profile around campus with many activities during fall and winter terms. In December, we helped “Pay It Forward for the Holidays.” Colleagues nominated co-workers who were having a difficult time and could use some help. We asked for donations to brighten the holidays and raised enough funds to purchase items for all the families in need.

January marked the beginning of a new year resolution to “Clean Out Closets and Donate.” Our chapter organized a college-wide clothing drive for an AAWCC sponsored student sale that was held on February 13. All donated items were sold for \$1. There were a record number of donations this year and the fire marshal told us we had to clean out our storage area because there were too many bags! Over 600 items were sold at the one-day event. The students loved it. Volunteers helped staff the sale during the day. Proceeds will be used for scholarships and chapter activities. Next year we intend to combine the clothing sale with college Earth Day activities.



Happy students at \$1 per item clothing sale

March brought us a little flurry of snow and a big flurry of activities. We sponsored an early morning drop in coffee for employees and served coffee, tea and some homemade cookies. We had a membership drive, talked about upcoming activities and shared pictures from our events. It was a hit! People do love their morning coffee! On Friday, March 3 we met after work at Gustav’s Bargarten restaurant at Keizer Station for some delicious food, fondue,

delightful conversation and networking. Everyone brought a bottle of wine to swap in a fun white elephant style manner including stealing. March is also the month to celebrate women’s history. We combined our popular lunchtime Remarkable Women speaker series and a women’s history celebration. We served a spicy taco salad lunch and had an inspiring speaker, art instructor Deanne Beausoleil, who talked about making art history relevant to Chemeketa students by sharing knowledge she learned while travelling in Guatemala and Mexico City. It was fascinating! We ended March with a paint night on the 28th at a local restaurant in the Salem area. We painted Zen Again

Chemeketa is pleased to be sending two women to the National LEADERS Institute in New Jersey in June. Megan Cogswell was selected by a college committee and Lynn Irvin will be attending on a national scholarship.



Chemeketa AAWCC board members and student scholarship recipient



Paint night at Chemeketa

Campus Connections, Continued

Southwestern Oregon Community College

By Tina Woodworth

In December, Southwestern Oregon Community College AAWCC Chapter hosted a couple of events to help in our community. The first was the Scarf Swap and Stocking Stuffing to donate to all the residents at the Wineva Johnson Girls Center. A group of ladies got together with donated items and stuffed several stockings for these girls in need. For some of them it's their only "gift" for the whole year. We received thank you letters that would make you cry, especially the one that said our gift was the nicest thing she had ever received. At this event we did a scarf swap (white elephant style) and had a great time. An annual Snowball "Sock" Toss was held where people brought donated socks, gloves, and mittens to toss at each other that were later donated to the Women's Safety and Resource Center. Anna (who is an AAWCC member) and her husband gave birth to twin boys, Norrin and Thorin on March 13, 2017. Upcoming events for Spring are the first annual Mimosa's and the Masterpiece which we are extremely excited about. It will be a community event which will include donations for the local women's shelter and a raffle!



L: Scarf Swap and Stocking Stuffing; C: Twins!
R: Snowball "Sock" Toss.



Mt Hood Community College ***By Nikki Gillis***

Several members of the Mt. Hood chapter participated in the Women's March in Portland on January 21.



Mt. Hood women at the Portland Women's March.

Blue Mountain Community College ***By Velda Arnaud***

On Wednesday, March 15, we held our annual Day of Dialogue. Two TED Talks were shown: 1) Jackson Katz' *Violence Against Women—It's a Men's Issue*, and 2) Jessica Ladd's *The Reporting System That Sexual Assault Survivors Want*. The discussion was moderated by an AAWCC member from the Wellness Program. Several staff and students participated. Next month we will work with BMCC's Outreach department, student government, student ambassadors, BMCC's student American Association for University Women group, and community organizations to raise awareness about sexual assault and domestic abuse. Many activities are planned, including our second year of a Clothesline Project.

Campus Connections, Continued

Lane Community College ***By Tiana Marrone-Creech***

Lane's AAWCC Chapter offered a professional development event during fall term in which participants played the Finish Line Board Game and participated in a discussion of barriers to student success at Lane and the role we all play as Lane employees in mitigating these barriers. We have been holding monthly networking brown bag lunches. We have had three so far, and different people attend each time. It's a great chance to connect across the campus and network. Our March brown bag lunch included a discussion with Sheila Broderick, history instructor, in celebration of Women's History Month. AAWCC offered a personal safety training in winter term. Participants learned basic self-defense and how to increase personal safety from Lane's public safety officers. We held another bunco night during winter term - always a hit!

Enhance Your Leadership Skills at OILD

The 26th annual Oregon Institute for Leadership Development (OILD) will be held at the Silver Falls Conference Center, June 19-22, 2017. This is a professional development opportunity for community college women interested in leadership as well as personal and professional growth.

OILD, 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 our state's environment. Real-world solutions, cutting edge theory and multiple approaches are explored to provide a comprehensive leadership training program. Many OILD participants have gone on to assume leadership roles in their institutions.

Consider applying to OILD through your college. Information went out to your local chapter and presidents' offices in February. The registration fee for the event is \$575 and is sponsored by your college. Nominations must be received by April 14, and space is limited. For more information, please see the AAWCC Oregon website at <http://www.aawccoregon.org/oild/>.

SAVE THE DATE!

The AAWCC-Oregon Fall Conference will be held November 15—17, 2017, at the Tigard Embassy Suites in Tigard, Oregon. Be sure to mark your calendars!

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