

Summer 2009

Alumni News

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Linfield College

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Tweet the Wildcat



The Wildcat is a social media maniac – he’s tweeting, facebook-ing, linking in and YouTubing. Unable to attend commencement or a recent campus event? Keep up with activities through video clips, and browse campus pictures on Flickr. Follow the lead of the Wildcat and find Linfield online.

- Facebook: Join a Linfield group, become a fan of the college or befriend the Wildcat
- Twitter: Follow Linfield
- LinkedIn: Join the Linfield group
- YouTube: Search for Linfield video clips or subscribe to the Linfield College Channel

Lights, camera, action

Grab your video camera and earn some cash by entering the Homecoming video contest, “Come Home to Linfield.” Grand prize is \$500. Videos must be 90 seconds or less and submitted by Sept. 1. Top videos will be placed on YouTube and the grand prize selected by vote. Videos will also be screened during Homecoming. For details, go to www.support.linfield.edu/video_contest.

Welcome new alumni

One day, one time, six parties. Alumni in three states will welcome new graduates to their area and provide tips and advice to the latest generation of Wildcat alumni during Welcome to the Alumni parties, held simultaneously on Sunday, June 28, at 4 p.m. in Portland, Salem, Bend, Seattle, San Francisco and McMinnville. Make the most of your Linfield network by attending an event. Go to www.support.linfield.edu/welcome09.

Oh, the places you’ll go

Join Linfield alumni and friends at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, July 30–Aug. 2. See five plays and attend pre-show discussions led by Ken Ericksen, professor of English. Plays include *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Servant of Two Masters*, *Henry VIII*, *The Music Man* and *Don Quixote*.

Journey to Costa Rica Feb. 8–16. Enjoy pristine natural wonders through exclusive excursions and presentations, as well as unscheduled time for personal discovery. Learn more about the trip during a webinar on Aug. 4 at 7 p.m. Find out more at www.linfield.edu/alumni.

Homecoming 2009

Catch up with classmates at Homecoming 2009 Oct. 16–17. Reunions will be held for the classes of 1949, 1959, 1969, 1979, 1989 and 1999. Last fall, alumni of all ages returned to campus. If you missed them, here’s a glimpse of what some are doing, including a few of last year’s reunion coordinators:

Patricia (Buckingham) Lang ’58 of Sequim, Wash., helped establish Mujeres de Maiz Opportunity Foundation,

a nonprofit offering educational opportunities to indigenous Mayan women through a sewing cooperative.

Diane (Staiger) Bandonis ’68 of Salem has been studying acting with the greats of British film and stage for several years.

Chris and Jean (Cottingham) Ratto, both ’78, of Gresham operate Ratto Farms, an organic herb and basil farm.

Denise (Jeskey) Farag ’88 of McMinnville is teaching business law at Linfield.

Brian Gerritz ’98 of Lake Oswego, former student body president, is president and founding principal of Pavilion Construction, a Portland-based firm.

For more information:

www.linfield.edu/alumni



on the Web



Message from the director

Are you making the most of your Linfield connections? Many times just this semester, I have witnessed Linfielders helping each other and in today's economy, that assistance is more valuable than ever. I am reminded of a 2008 graduate who made a connection through last summer's Seattle Welcome to the Alumni party that resulted in a job. Or the 1993 alumnus who attended a Linfield Professionals Network event in Portland after losing his job and got a lead that resulted in a position.

Linfield alumni are responding in other ways. At a recent Life after Linfield dinner, 10 alumni returned to give career advice to graduating seniors. On another occasion, a recent graduate relocating to North Carolina contacted our office. We, in turn, put out a call to alumni living in the state and within 24 hours, 20 responded willing to serve as a resource for him.

Connect with your Linfield peers – attend our networking events, join the Facebook group, log in and search our online Wildcat directory. If you are an alum who is willing to help others, attend one of the welcome parties to roll out the welcome mat, offer to let a Wildcat job shadow you or return to campus to share your expertise.

They say it is not what you know but whom you know that counts. I am happy to tell you that you know a lot of people through Linfield. It's your Linfield – make it count!

– Debbie (Hansen) Harmon '90

Pencil us in

Welcome to the Alumni parties

June 28, 4 - 6 p.m.

In Portland, Salem, Bend, Seattle, San Francisco and McMinnville

Oregon Shakespeare Festival July 30 - Aug 2

Dodging with Durham One Last Time

Sept. 12, 9:30 a.m., Ford Hall patio

A reunion for players, coaches and friends of Paul Durham '36.

Alumni volleyball game

Oct. 3, 7 p.m., Wilson Gymnasium

Homecoming Oct. 16 - 17

Costa Rica - Nature's Museum alumni tour

Feb. 8 - 16

Advice to freshmen



Straight from the trenches, Linfield's newest alumni have learned a thing or two during the last four years. Here, graduates from the class of 2009 offer words of advice to incoming freshmen.

Don't be afraid to take chances. Stay organized and have fun.
– Karsen O'Bryan '09

Professors have office hours for a reason. They want to help, but they can't if you don't make the time.
– Samantha Smith '09

Choose a major that you are interested in and don't be afraid to change your major. Life is too short to be doing something you don't enjoy.
– Megan Wills '09

Don't stress over the little assignments, but push yourself to do your best. Make time for friends and fun. Treasure these four years!
– Tiffany Jones '09

As tempting as it is to go home on weekends as a freshman, stay on campus and meet people early in the year.
– Chris Towe '09

Get a job! Every bit of money helps, even if you only work six hours a week. It will also open up opportunities for you later.
– Cassandra Hansen '09

Try something in every department. Many of my best connections with students and professors were made outside of my major.
– Galaxy Slight '09

Your GPA as a freshman actually counts toward your final GPA... so try to study a little, too.
– Kendra Strahm '09

Become friends with your professors early. They will help you in classes, deciding on graduate schools and serve as great references for your future career.
– Amanda Moore '09

Travel to another country. Take an online class through DCE.
– Naseem Momtazi '09