

Fall 2007

## **Linfield Digest**

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### **Recommended Citation**

Linfield Magazine Staff (2007) "Linfield Digest," *Linfield Magazine*: Vol. 4 : No. 2 , Article 4.  
Available at: [https://digitalcommons.linfield.edu/linfield\\_magazine/vol4/iss2/4](https://digitalcommons.linfield.edu/linfield_magazine/vol4/iss2/4)

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## Grant to strengthen Latino enrollment

Linfield College will continue to strengthen its enrollment of Latino nursing students, thanks to the renewal of a grant from the Health Resources and Service Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, according to Thomas L. Hellie, Linfield president.

The new grant will provide \$758,692 over a three-year period to support Linfield's efforts to recruit and retain Hispanic students as well as students from other groups underrepresented in Oregon's nursing workforce.

Of this total, \$225,000 will be for student scholarships and stipends. Other funds will be used to continue building student support services, including the establishment of a comprehensive peer mentorship program. The grant will also provide resources for a targeted outreach program that includes workshops to help pre-nursing students improve their academic skills and learn how to apply for scholarships and other forms of financial aid.

The grant builds upon an initial three-year nursing workforce diversity grant made by HRSA, which developed resources at the Linfield-Good Samaritan School of Nursing to support the academic success of students from educationally and economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

"Linfield is becoming a regional leader in diversifying the nursing workforce, and we are grateful for the support of HRSA in continuing this important trend," Hellie said. "The first grant expressed confidence in our potential. This renewal recognizes achievement."



Colorful banners celebrating Linfield's sesquicentennial are displayed around the McMinnville and Portland Campuses. The banners were designed by Amy (Westersund) Rogers '96 and will highlight the celebration over the next 18 months.

## Linfield compared to the best

Linfield College compares favorably with the best undergraduate colleges in the United States.

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching has included Linfield as one of only six institutions in Oregon and Washington in its new classification, Baccalaureate Colleges – Arts and Sciences, grouping it with the top liberal arts colleges around the country.

Linfield is recognized by peers and outside organizations, includ-

ing *The Princeton Review*, for the high quality of its academic programs. *U.S. News & World Report's* rankings reflected the changes in the Carnegie classification and included Linfield in the national category of "Best Liberal Arts Colleges." Linfield was ranked 122nd out of 266 colleges.

"While there are legitimate concerns about the value of college 'rankings,' we are pleased to be recognized as a liberal arts institution with a national presence," President Thomas L. Hellie said.

## Joint program to aid students in completing bachelor's degrees

Linfield College has joined forces with Portland Community College, Tillamook Bay Community College and Columbia Gorge Community College to provide more educational opportunities for Oregon students.

The new partnership will help students attending the three community colleges complete a bachelor's degree by providing for easier transfer between those institutions and the Linfield Portland Campus and Adult Degree Program.

The program is designed to improve access to support services and information, assist in designing education plans, increase curricular choices and help tailor students' educational experiences to fit personal goals and preferences. In addition, financial aid can carry over to any of the schools involved, and student advising can be integrated among the programs.

## Health concerns plague Linfield's Old Oak

The Old Oak, one of the most recognized landmarks at Linfield College, is in decline.

Although the tree has been in poor health for years, a recent infestation by carpenter worms is adding to its distress. The insects are difficult to control, according to John Hall, senior director of facilities services.

In addition to the insects, a combination of age, summer irrigation, fertilization, mowing and continuous activities under the tree all contribute to the decline. Hall said the life span of a tree in an urban environment is generally cut in half.

Plans call for the installation of a decorative barrier surrounding the tree to protect people from falling limbs. New cables and a support pole will also be added to stabilize weakened branches. In addition,

a series of light prunings is scheduled.

The Old Oak, thought to be 200–250 years old, is an Oregon White Oak, and measures 78 feet in height.

Much has been done to revitalize the failing oak. In 1990, the tree's limbs were cabled together for support, and in 1995 consultants drilled holes and trenched the root zone.

In 1994, Linfield launched the Oak Grove Restoration Project, which assessed each tree in the grove and sought to improve drainage, establish native grasses as ground cover, and stop summer irrigation, fertilization and mowing.

The Old Oak will continue to be monitored for stability, said Hall, adding that trees can be stressed for decades before falling.

## Alumni gifts will add new faculty chairs



Elizabeth Glicksman '32

Gifts from two alumni will allow Linfield College to add distinguished new faculty to the teaching ranks. Through both lifetime gifts and bequests, Elizabeth (Davidson) Glicksman '32 and Philip Renshaw '31 created endowments that will result in new faculty chairs at Linfield.

"The excellence of Linfield College is deeply rooted in the quality of our faculty, and their commitment to teaching," President Thomas L. Hellie said in announcing the gifts. "Thanks to these new funds, totaling more than \$3 million, we will add permanent faculty in key disciplines and bring recognized writers and scholars for shorter-term appointments in the liberal arts."



Philip Renshaw '31

The Morris and Elizabeth Glicksman endowment will be used initially to augment support from other donors to create new endowed permanent faculty positions. Mrs. Glicksman, a 1932 graduate with a degree in French, was a member of the Sigma Kappa

Phi sorority. She and her husband were long time supporters of the college.

"We are especially eager to add faculty in areas that focus on the Foundational Educational Principles recently adopted by the college – integrated learning, global and multicultural awareness, and experiential learning," Hellie said.

Renshaw served on the Linfield College Board of Trustees from 1957 to 2005. He had been a generous donor to his alma mater throughout his lifetime and his gifts funded Renshaw Hall and an endowed scholarship. With proceeds from a series of charitable trusts created during his lifetime, and a bequest at his death, the college has created the Renshaw Distinguished Visitorship and the Renshaw Distinguished Professorship of Literature and Writing. The visitorship is designed to bring distinguished writers and scholars to campus for readings and short residencies. David Quamman and Tracy Kidder have presented public readings and worked with students at Linfield under the auspices of the Renshaw Visitorship.

The Renshaw Professorship is designed to bring to the college for an extended but finite period (generally an academic year or two) accomplished writers in a variety of liberal arts disciplines whose careers demonstrate and foster the critical thinking through the written word that Renshaw deemed the essence of a truly educated individual. An initial appointment is anticipated for 2008–09.