

Fall 2004

Linfield Digest

Linfield Magazine Staff

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Recommended Citation

Linfield Magazine Staff (2004) "Linfield Digest," *Linfield Magazine*: Vol. 1 : No. 2 , Article 5.
Available at: https://digitalcommons.linfield.edu/linfield_magazine/vol1/iss2/5

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Joan Austin honored by Linfield

Joan Austin, senior vice president and treasurer of A-dec, Inc., in Newberg, received an honorary bachelor of arts degree from Linfield College during opening Convocation ceremonies Sept. 1.

Austin, who is a member of Linfield's Board of Trustees, is only the second person to be awarded an honorary bachelor's degree in Linfield's history. Although Austin did not have the opportunity to attend college, "her life has embodied the principles and spirit of the liberal arts," according to Linfield President Vivian A. Bull, who presented the degree.

Forty years ago, Austin and her husband, Ken, founded A-dec, now the largest private dental equipment manufacturer in the U.S. From the beginning, Austin managed the administrative, personnel, financial and legal areas.

"Her personal approach to these

tasks has brought A-dec fame as one of the best places in Oregon to work," Bull said. "The company not only compensates its people well and shares its profits with them, but it encourages them to pursue lifelong learning by providing in-house seminars and paying full tuition for college courses and certification programs."

Austin is a philanthropic force in her hometown of Newberg, at Linfield and at Oregon State University. For example, each year A-dec pays for the entire kindergarten through eighth grade classes of Newberg, Dundee and St. Paul public schools to attend a cultural function in Portland, and it funds a free local concert by the Oregon Symphony.

She is also active in civic and community affairs beyond the Willamette Valley. She was the



Joan Austin, left, and Glenna (Foley) Kruger '68 adjust the tassel on Austin's hat after she was awarded an honorary degree at opening Convocation.

first woman appointed to the Oregon Economic Development Commission, served on the advisory council of the Federal Reserve Bank Board in San Francisco and currently serves on The Kennedy Center President's Advisory Committee on the Arts.

"Cicero Speaks" to Oregon audiences

Audiences across Oregon will be treated to a glimpse of Cicero, famous Roman orator and politician, during the coming months.

Jackson Miller, assistant professor of communication arts and director of forensics at Linfield College, will present "Cicero Speaks: A Performance and Discussion on the Art of Oratory" for the 2004-2005 Oregon Chautauqua season. Miller compiled, directs and performs in the original one-person show, focusing on the life and ideas of Marcus Tullius Cicero. The show, which premiered at Linfield in October 2003, features excerpts from five of Cicero's speeches and passages from his scholarly writings and letters.

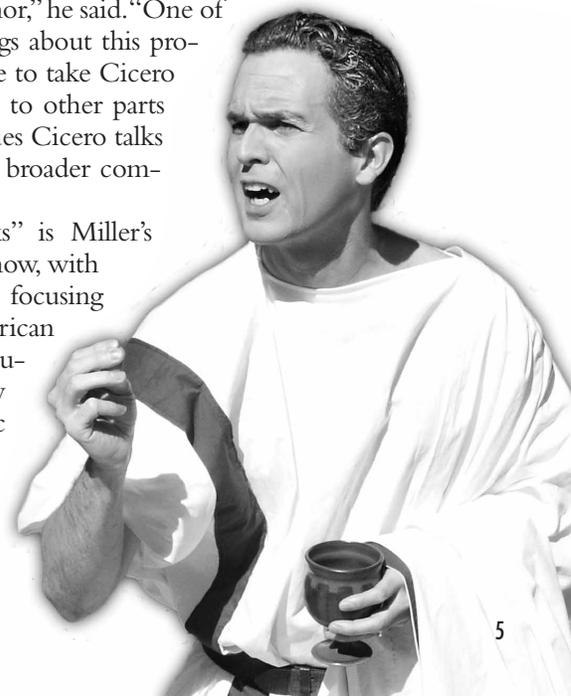
Oregon Chautauqua is a public humanities program of the Oregon Council for the Humanities, which brings vibrant public lectures, discussions and presentations to communities throughout Oregon. The council will fund approximately 200 Oregon Chautauqua programs during 2004-2005.

Miller's first performance will be Oct. 25, at 7 p.m., at the Cedar Mill Community Library in Portland. Additional performances will be scheduled throughout the year. A schedule can be found at www.oregonhum.org.

Following the show, Miller will lead a discussion with the audience about issues raised by the performance. Miller said the program focuses on connections to political, social and ethical issues, and draws on the disciplines of history, philosophy, theatre and rhetoric.

"It's a great honor," he said. "One of the really neat things about this program is it allows me to take Cicero and the humanities to other parts of Oregon. The issues Cicero talks about apply to our broader communities."

"Cicero Speaks" is Miller's third one-person show, with previous programs focusing on the lives of American philosopher and educator John Dewey and literary critic Rufus Griswold.



Jackson Miller as Cicero

Nobel Symposium set for March



Carl E. Wieman

Carl E. Wieman, distinguished professor of physics at the University of Colorado at Boulder, will present the Oregon Nobel Laureate Symposium March 30 and 31 at Linfield College.

Wieman, along with Eric Cornell of the National Institute of Standards and Technology and Wolfgang Ketterle of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, shared the 2001 Nobel Prize in Physics. They were cited for their landmark 1995 creation of the world's first Bose-Einstein condensate, a new form of matter that occurs at just a few hundred billionths of a degree above absolute zero.

Wieman will present a public lecture as well as meet with Linfield students and faculty. Details of his visit are not yet final.

Linfield retains number one ranking

Linfield College has again been ranked the top college in the western region in the Comprehensive Colleges-Bachelor's category in rankings released by the magazine *U.S. News & World Report*.

This is the fourth consecutive year that Linfield has been ranked number one in its category by *U.S. News*.

"Two of the factors in our top ranking are our continued high graduation and retention rates, which are consistently higher than the national average," said Linfield President Vivian A. Bull. "Those rates reflect a high-quality faculty that is dedicated to teaching. Our students and faculty take teaching and learning beyond the classroom, into the field, the laboratory and the community, and find innovative ways to feed their intellectual curiosity."

Linfield has also been named one of "The Best Western Colleges" by *The Princeton Review*. Linfield is one of 134 schools receiving the Best in the West designation.

New music building planned



A new music building is planned for the Keck Campus to complete the new Arts Quadrangle that so far includes the James F. Miller Fine Arts Center, the Jereld R. Nicholson Library and the Marshall Theatre in Kenneth W. Ford Hall. BOORA Architects, which designed the renovations of other buildings in the quad, has completed drawings for a 17,000-square-foot facility that will include instruction and practice spaces, as well as large band and choral rehearsal spaces. The choir room will have seating for 100 and will also serve as a venue for smaller recitals. Fundraising for the first phase of the project is under way, with a target deadline of June 30. Shown above is the view from the choir room towards Nicholson Library.

For updates on the presidential search

www.linfield.edu/president_search/index.php



Strong freshman class begins life at Linfield

One of the strongest classes in recent years enrolled on the Portland and McMinnville Campuses this fall.

At McMinnville, 437 freshmen are in the class of 2008. On the Portland Campus, 136 new students, including 31 freshmen and 105 transfers, are majoring in nursing or health sciences.

Ranging in age from 18 to 60, Portland Campus students have an average freshman grade point average of 3.56, while the average for transfer students is 3.67. Thirteen percent of the new students are male and 16 percent are students of color.

Thirty-seven percent of the transfer students have prior bachelor's degrees, in psychology, engineering, exercise science, business and physics, among other fields. Students also hold advanced degrees of J.D., master of divinity and master of education. Many of the new students are from Oregon, but others are coming to Linfield from Florida, New York, Virginia, Wisconsin, Peru, Colombia, Romania and Russia.

In McMinnville, 52 percent of the new students are

women and 48 percent are men. With an average GPA of 3.6, students represent 272 high schools. Students of color, including international students, make up 15 percent of the entering class in McMinnville.

Scores average 1120 for SAT and 25 for ACT. Thirty-two percent are from the top 10 percent of their high school classes, and 10 percent are from the top one percent of their previous classes.

On the McMinnville Campus, 92 are legacy students, with a relative who previously attended Linfield.

Members of the new class have been active in student government, newspaper, yearbook, National Honor Society, music, theater, dance, forensics, 4-H, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and other groups. They have completed community service projects with Meals on Wheels, DARE, the Big Brother program, Red Cross, library, peer mentoring, Habitat for Humanity, Portland Rescue Mission, Helping Hands and Food for America, to name a few.



Attending Linfield is a family tradition. Twenty-one percent of the freshmen enrolling this fall have family members who have attended Linfield. Members of the 2004 Legacy class are front row, left to right, Mike Arbogast, Cole Norris, Ryan Ishizu, Allison Stone, Lisa Chupp, Joshua Gastilo, Jenny Corak, Corinne Cosentino, Cassi Lundberg, Sara Hurn, Emily Jenkins, Lee Stutznegger, Ashley Hollenbeck, Sarah Davis; second row, Kathleen Reilly, Melissa Henson, Jenny Marshall, Jesse Gibson, Ian Crosby, Kristen Huggins, Grant Harmon, Maura Williams, Patricia Peters, Amy Twietmeyer, Courtney Davis, Andy Narus, Natalie Taylor, Kimberly Hartman, Jordan Boustead, Geneva Perry; third row, Joe Paterson, Jeff Baker, Tyler Smoker, Ann Sinclair, Janna Windsor, Laura Ruggeri; fourth row, Chad King, Kyle Henderson, Zak Webb, Andy Sharp, Jake Hoover, Jeff Roerig, Andrew Rose, Becky Burke, Bryan Barr, Peter Brown, Nathan Anderson, Talon Wood, Marc McKee, Dara Jester.