

2013

Linfield Digest

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Recommended Citation

Linfield Magazine Staff (2013) "Linfield Digest," *Linfield Magazine*: Vol. 10: Iss. 2, Article 4.
Available at: http://digitalcommons.linfield.edu/linfield_magazine/vol10/iss2/4

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President's Report available online

The 2012-13 President's Annual Report is available online, linfield.edu/presidents-report. It records some of the college's recent successes, provides an overview of the strategic plan and offers several stories about how philanthropy affects the Linfield community.

Linfield recognized for excellence

Several publications recognized Linfield for academic excellence this year. Linfield was named one of the region's top schools by *The Princeton Review* and recognized for academic strength, sense of community and study abroad programs. Linfield was one of 125 colleges chosen for the "Best in the West" section of the website feature, "2014 Best Colleges: Region by Region."

The college was ranked 123 in the latest *U.S. News & World Report* survey of the nation's best liberal arts colleges. The annual survey ranked nearly 1,400 schools in a variety of categories including retention, graduation rate, class size, caliber of students and quality of faculty. Linfield tied for 123 with St. John's College in Maryland and Wittenberg University in Ohio.

Washington Monthly named Linfield as one of the top liberal arts colleges where you get the "Best Bang for the Buck." The ranking is a list of colleges that do the best job of helping non-wealthy students earn degrees at affordable prices. Out of 1,572 colleges and universities in the publications' broader rankings, only 349 made the cut as best-bang-for-the-buck schools.

Linfield team wins problem solving competition

A team of Linfield sociology students placed first in the Judith Little Problem Solving Competition at the Association of Applied and Clinical Sociologists meetings in Portland Oct. 3-5.

Students were presented with a problem to solve for a community partner. Linfield students were asked to develop a method by which the Well Arts Institute could expand their base and work with larger organizations. They received their assignment Thursday at noon, and had until Saturday at 3:30 to consult with applied sociologists, conduct online research, and attend conference panels and listen to papers that were relevant to their problem. From that, they developed a proposal to present to a public audience, which included three judges and the community partner.

Linfield's team was judged to have the

most professional and comprehensive solution to the problem presented by Well Arts. They are discussing a possible internship where they might be able to implement part of their proposal. The Linfield team was comprised of Ines Peña '15, Flora Maciel Garibay '15 and Gina Castillo '14.

Grants awarded to faculty, college

Linfield faculty continue to succeed in attracting outside support for programs and students.

- The Jack Miller Center awarded Nicholas Buccola, associate professor of political science, a grant to support the Constitution Day lecture, "FDR, Obama & How Presidents Drop Bombs." This lecture is part of a series of activities of the Douglass Forum for Law, Rights, and Justice and the Legacies of War theme for PLACE (Program for Liberal Arts and Civic Engagement).

- The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation awarded the Linfield-Good Samaritan School of Nursing its fifth New Careers in Nursing grant supporting a scholarship program. These scholarships go to students from populations underrepresented in nursing, who have a bachelor's degree and are pursuing a second degree through Linfield's accelerated nursing program.

Books by Linfield professors recognized nationally



Anna Keeseey

Two Linfield professors have been recognized with national prizes for books they have authored.

Anna Keeseey, the Renshaw Distinguished Professor of Literature and Writing, received the Janet Heidinger Kafka Prize for *Little Century*. The award is given each year by the University of Rochester to a book of prose fiction by an American woman. The novel, published in 2012 by Farrar, Straus and Giroux in New York City, was chosen for the Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers program, and was praised by *The New York Times*, *The Boston Globe* and *The Washington Post*.

Lissa Wadewitz, associate professor of history, received a pair of awards for her latest book,

The Nature of Borders: Salmon, Boundaries, and Bandits on the Salish Sea. The John Lyman Book Award from the North American Society for Oceanic History is awarded annually to "recognize excellence in the publication of books that make significant contributions to the study and understanding of maritime and naval history." She also received the Hal K. Rothman prize from the Western History Association. This award is made once every two years to "the best book in western environmental history defined in its broadest sense." *The Nature of Borders* won over all other entries from 2011 and 2012.



Lissa Wadewitz

•The Oregon Cultural Trust awarded Brenda DeVore Marshall, professor of theatre and communication arts, a grant for the project Launching Through the Surf: The Dory Fleet of Pacific City. The grant supports the digitization of oral histories and archival work related to the history of the dory fleet. Project collaborators include Ty Marshall, professor of theatre arts; Kathleen Spring, Digital Commons coordinator; and Rachael Woody, archivist.

•The William G. Gilmore Foundation awarded a grant to partially fund The Dave Hansen Chair in Economics in honor of Dave Hansen, professor emeritus of economics and former dean of students, and to support the growing demand for economics courses taught by Professors Randy Grant, Eric Schuck and Jeff Summers.

New vice president named at Linfield College

Mary Ann Rodriguez, vice president for administration and finance at California State University, Dominguez Hills, has been named vice president for finance and administration at Linfield College, effective Dec. 9.

Rodriguez has 28 years of progressively responsible experience in higher education administration in areas such as finance, budget development and planning, capital planning and other related areas.

At CSU Dominguez Hills, Rodriguez serves as chief financial officer, responsible for all administrative, business and financial operations for the university's \$173 million enterprise. She also serves as executive

director of the CSU Dominguez Hills Foundation and is the university liaison for Stub Hub Center (formerly Home Depot Center), a public private partnership.



Rodriguez has a bachelor's degree in business administration from California State University, Long Beach and a master of business administration from California State University, Dominguez Hills. She also completed the Harvard Institute of Educational Management.



Eleven new Linfield students arrived on campus early to participate in iFOCUS, which provided them an introduction to the Linfield science division. In addition to receiving an overview of interdisciplinary research projects in the sciences, they also had hands-on experience in lab and fieldwork. As part of the fieldwork, students spent two days at the Oregon Coast studying microbial ecology with biology Professor Jeremy Weisz. Here they examine how a sea star feeds by giving it a small piece of mussel and watching it eat. The iFOCUS program gives incoming Linfield students an opportunity to work with faculty and student researchers before classes begin and learn about science across the traditional disciplines of biology, chemistry, math and physics at Linfield.



Soléna winemaker Bruno Corneaux works with Patrick Hickok '14 in the vineyard at Soléna Estates Vineyard as part of a new career program at Linfield. The Oregon Wine Industry Experience is preparing students for wine industry careers through a Summer Wine Institute, fall harvest experience, January Term course and spring internships at a winery. During the first phase of the program, the Summer Wine Institute, students worked in vineyards and attended courses taught by wine industry professionals from Willamette Valley vineyards and wineries covering grape growing, winemaking and bottling, and other topics. Sustainability issues are also addressed, along with distribution and marketing.