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Linfield Magazine Staff

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Linfield named to community service honor roll

Linfield College was named to the 2010 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for the third consecutive year.

The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), which administers the honor roll, named Linfield a leader among institutions of higher education for its support of volunteering, service-learning and civic engagement.

“Community engagement is a cornerstone of a Linfield College education,” said Jessica Wade, director of Community Engagement and Service. “Linfield students meet important community needs while applying concepts learned in the classroom.”

Last year more than 950 students participated in community-based activities, dedicating more than 43,000 hours of service to organizations in the McMinnville community and elsewhere. They served as tutors and helped with afterschool and physical education programs and literacy initiatives. To address poverty, they worked at the local soup kitchen and in transitional housing shelters, and assisted with Yamhill County’s 10-year Ending Homelessness Plan. Students also initiated sustainability initiatives, including the distribution of more than 3,000 compact fluorescent light bulbs to area residents, saving McMinnville more than 150,000 watts of power.

New trustees join Linfield board

Gale Castillo ’73
President, Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber, Portland

Anthony Uphoff
CEO, UBM TechWeb, Inc. San Francisco, Calif.

Students witness disaster, tragedy

When earthquakes hit New Zealand and Japan earlier this year, several Linfield students were studying in those locations and became witnesses to the tragedy and chaos. They were all given the option to return home, but all elected to continue their studies. For a brief look at their experiences, go to: www.linfield.edu/linfieldmag-extras.

Heard on campus

Students, faculty and staff had the opportunity this spring to interact with a playwright/director, a nationally known composer, a Pulitzer Prize-winning author who just happens to be a local boy, a Nobel Prize winner in chemistry and an artist whose work tells the story of Iraqi detainees. They attended classes and worked alongside students and faculty, sharing their knowledge, wisdom and insight into their chosen professions. But it wasn’t only guests featured. Retiring Professor Bill Apel gave his “last lecture,” and Dean Emeritus Dave Hansen spoke at commencement. For their words and those of other visitors, go to our website, www.linfield.edu/linfieldmag-extras.

Students take top honors at Japanese speech competition

Rebecca Coffelt ’12 walked away with the grand prize in the Toyama Cup Speech Contest, and she and Michael Colby ’11 won first and second place in the advanced division.

The annual contest is open to all students studying Japanese at colleges and universities in Oregon. Held annually since 1996, it is co-sponsored by the Toyama Prefectural Government of Japan and the Japan-America Society of Oregon. This year’s competition was held at Portland’s World Trade Center.

This marks Linfield’s second consecutive year to win the top two places in the advanced division and for a Linfield student to win the contest’s grand prize.

Steven Crowder ’14 won an Encouragement Award in the category for students who have studied for less than two years.

Coffelt will receive a round-trip ticket to Japan to serve as a cultural ambassador. The award-winning students were mentored by Japanese Professors Christopher Keaveney and Masayuki Itomitsu.
Margaret Ngai ’12 will hone her leadership skills over the next year as the vice president of the National Student Nurses Association, a 56,000-member professional organization for student nurses. Ngai was elected during the organization’s annual meeting in April. She will chair committees on bylaws and policy, and membership, and serve as a member on the executive, finance and image of nursing committees. The newly elected officers will meet in June in New York City to establish goals and objectives for the coming year. In addition to chairing committees, Ngai will also travel the country presenting workshops and seminars as requested by other state organizations.

Ngai, a Portland native and graduate of St. Mary’s Academy, has been involved in the Oregon Student Nurses Association and looks forward to working on the national level.

“NSNA provides opportunities for professional development and networking that can be valuable in this tight job market,” she said. “Nurses who are involved in professional organizations and who have support of colleagues are more likely to stay engaged in the profession and make the most of their careers.”

Ngai plans to pursue a career as a nurse practitioner because of the broad opportunities it offers to work with a variety of individuals. “I enjoy all aspects of nursing and this career means I don’t have to select just one specific area,” she said.

Ngai previously completed a bachelor’s of liberal studies with a minor in psychology and a certificate in biomedical ethics from Portland State University. She likes the flexibility that nursing offers, which will allow her to pursue her outside interests. She’s a classical musician trained in violin, piano and clarinet and is also a singer. She’s bilingual – English and Spanish – and has studied German, Italian and Cantonese.

NSNA’s mission is to mentor the professional development of future registered nurses and facilitate their entrance into the profession by providing educational resources, leadership opportunities and career guidance.

T.J. Day Hall dedication planned

The makeover is nearly complete and the newly renovated T.J. Day Hall, formerly Northup Library, will open this fall and will be dedicated during homecoming festivities Saturday, Oct. 8, at 10:30 a.m. Plans include a short program followed by tours of the facility, and the opportunity to meet with faculty and current students. To see a slide show of the work over the past year, go to www.linfield.edu/photogallery.

Two receive Fulbrights

Craig Geffre ’11 and Jade Severson ’11 have been selected for Fulbright scholarships to teach English in Thailand and Germany respectively. Both received degrees in anthropology and plan to attend graduate school after completing their Fulbright year abroad. They are among 22 Linfield students who have been selected for Fulbright grants since 1999, said Deborah Olsen, competitive scholarships advisor. The school was named a top producer of Fulbright awards for bachelor’s institutions in 2006 and 2010.