President’s Report offers a look back

The 2010-11 President’s Annual Report is now available online. It records Linfield’s recent successes, includes a programmatic and financial overview of the last fiscal year, and offers four stories on members of the Linfield community – student, faculty, alumni and staff. Click on www.linfield.edu/presidents-report/ and take a few moments to look back on the year and its highlights.

Keck grant boosts LCN programs

A $250,000 grant from the W.M. Keck Foundation will boost summer collaborative research and move findings directly into Linfield College classrooms.

The Linfield Center for the Northwest (LCN) is expanding its campus-wide, summer collaborative research initiative through the Keck Community-Engaged Research-to-Classroom Program funded by a three-year grant from the W.M. Keck Foundation. LCN research projects address issues of importance in the Pacific Northwest and allow students to apply academic theory through hands-on research. The LCN program is unique in that faculty revise courses based on summer research projects. After summer research concludes, the student researchers bring findings to courses taught the following year. This aspect of the program enriches the classroom learning experience for many Linfield undergraduates.

The grant will increase student and faculty participation in community-engaged research. Linfield student researchers will learn methodologies and practices through hands-on work in the field. Then, they will serve as classroom peer instructors, working collaboratively with faculty to integrate their findings into specific courses. In addition to incorporating research into the classroom, project results will be disseminated in a variety of ways including research papers, presentations, conferences and the Digital Commons, an online repository.

Keck funds supported four projects last summer and additional research projects will be added in subsequent years. Projects include: research on photovoltaic electricity production and LEED building energy, focusing on the new T.J. Day Hall; a documentary on the first 25 years of the International Pinot Noir Celebration; research on the impacts of sponges in Oregon estuaries; and collecting oral histories and digital photographs on Pacific City’s dory fleet, culminating in a theatre production at Linfield and Pacific City.

The W.M. Keck Foundation of Los Angeles, Calif., is one of the nation’s largest philanthropic organizations, supporting outstanding science, engineering and medical research, and undergraduate education.

Wine archive housed at Nicholson Library

Linfield College will house historical documents and memorabilia from early wine growers in the Willamette Valley in an Oregon wine history archive.

Wine growers represented in the collection include David Adelsheim of Adelsheim Vineyard, Dick Erath of Erath Winery, Diana and the late David Lett of Eyrie Vineyards, Dick and Nancy Ponzi of Ponzi Vineyards, Myron Redford of Amity Vineyards, and Susan and Bill Sokol Blosser of Sokol Blosser Winery.

The Linfield archive will document the colorful and sometimes quirky history of the industry. Early growers planted grapes in Oregon against the advice of experts, with what one called “more guts than brains.”

For more information about the Linfield archive, contact Susan Barnes Whyte, Linfield library director, 503-883-2517, swhyte@linfield.edu.
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Linfield’s link to the world

Linfield’s Digital Commons, an online archive launched a year ago, has pushed Linfield out to the world, recording almost 7,700 downloads by visitors from 61 countries and 48 states.

The archive presents nearly 1,100 scholarly and creative works of Linfield students and faculty. It features collections from departments and programs such as Field Notes from Abroad and the Oregon Wine History Project™, Linfield Magazine, faculty books, and student research and creative projects.

More content is added regularly. To explore the collections, go to www.digitalcommons.linfield.edu.

First CLAS promotes service

Orientation started early for 29 first-year students who got their hands dirty working in gardens and in the forest and learning about community service opportunities.

First CLAS (Community Leadership and Service) was launched this year to immerse students in direct service and leadership development. Research shows that students who are engaged in their communities have better GPAs and higher graduation and retention.

The students participated in leadership training, took part in conversations with community partners, and performed direct service with Habitat for Humanity, the Yamhill Community Action Partnership, Miller Woods and the Salvation Army Community Garden, receiving hands-on learning experience before most of their peers were even on campus.

In addition to launching the First CLAS program, the class of 2015 is the most diverse freshman class to enroll at Linfield – 34 percent are students of color. In addition, another 17 percent are legacy students, and 17 percent are first-generation students, the first in their family to attend college. While a slight majority of students are from Oregon, an additional 22 percent are from Washington, 8 percent from California, 7 percent from Hawaii and the remaining are from 12 other states and 10 countries.

Nursing students benefit from grant

The Linfield-Good Samaritan School of Nursing won its third major grant award from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Careers in Nursing Scholarship Program (NCIN).

The $50,000 grant will provide $10,000 scholarships to five students from groups that are underrepresented in the nursing field, including men and minority students, and who enroll in Linfield’s 18-month accelerated program. The NCIN program has supported 24 students in the past two years at Linfield.

Grant funding will also be used to help leverage new faculty resources and provide mentoring and leadership development resources to ensure the scholarship recipients are successful at Linfield.

Linfield’s accelerated program is designed for adults who have already completed bachelor’s or master’s degrees in disciplines other than nursing.

The NCIN scholarship program was launched in 2008 by the RWJF and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing to address the national nursing shortage, develop a diverse professional nursing workforce, and fuel the pipeline for nurse faculty and leaders.

Ivanna Tucker ’15, left, and Kinsey Lloyd-Coles ’15 were among 29 first-year students who took part in First CLAS (Community Leadership and Service). They and several other students spent one morning working at the YCAP community garden at Willamina Schools. They cleaned beds, moved compost, picked vegetables, planted fall crops and painted boxes to install new raised planting beds.