

Inspire, Champion, and Celebrate the Talents Within Each of Us

American Association for Women in Community Colleges—Oregon Chapter

Spring 2018 Newsletter



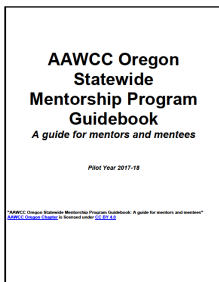
AAWCC-Oregon Launches Mentorship Program

The inaugural group of participants from five community colleges including Rogue, Clackamas, Mt. Hood, Lane and Chemeketa began meeting in January. Participants, paired with AAWCC members from another community college, are mid-way through the six-month pilot program. At a recent check-in, the mentorship committee was interested to hear from participants about how mentorship has shaped their views, career paths, expanded their self-awareness and knowledge of community colleges and their work. A guidebook was developed as a tool to help steer conversations as needed. Mentees and mentors will share their experiences as a



Mentorship workshop at Fall Conference 2017

panel and discuss the impact that the mentorship program has had on their professional and personal development at the upcoming summer conference in July. Please be thinking of applying for the next co-hort that will begin in Fall 2018. Questions and comments can be directed to any member of the mentorship committee: Lynn Nakamura, nakamural@lanecc.edu, Heather White, heather.white@mhcc.edu, Tiffanie Clifford, tiffaniec@clackamas.edu, Kristina Holton, holtonk@lanecc.edu, and Lynn Irvin, lynn.irvin@chemeketa.edu.



“Success Through Community” at Summer Conference

Register now for the next AAWCC Summer Conference on July 19, 2018, to be held once again at Salishan Lodge and Conference Center. The event is scheduled from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will feature presentations by Lisa Davidson of Clackamas Community College, and Senitila McKinley of Seashore Family Literacy. The conference will also include a panel highlighting some of the experiences of the mentors and mentees in the newly established mentorship program. The conference is an excellent way to rejuvenate and connect with dynamic women from all over the state in just a single day. The cost is only \$130 until June 9 when it jumps to \$180, so register now for the early bird rate! A block of rooms is being held at Salishan at the rate of \$131 per night, plus taxes and fees. For more information, visit the AAWCC Oregon website at <http://www.aawccoregon.org/summer-conference/>.



Participants focus on keynote speaker at Summer Conference 2017

President's Message

Lynn Irvin, President
AAWCC-Oregon



It was just a short time ago that we were all resetting our clocks and “springing forward” with the time change. I would like to invite you to spring forward with your professional development plans for 2018 through the American Association for Women in Community Colleges! Yearly activities begin with the Oregon Institute for Leadership Development (OILD) scheduled at the retreat-like Silver Creek Falls Conference Center. This all-inclusive institute on June 25-28 is a once in a lifetime experience to grow your own potential with seasoned leaders who will inspire you and open your eyes to leadership opportunities. You will be able to lead from where you are right now—this very minute—as well as look to the future. It includes several college presidents as speakers and trainers, leadership materials, food and lodging at a unique location. It is a wonderful opportunity to reset your inner clock, renew your spirit and learn from the best. Each community college determines their selection process and submits a nomination. Don't miss out! Connect with your campus contact, President's Office, or myself if you are interested. This summer, we will reconvene the summer professional development conference at the popular Salishan Resort and Conference Center on the Oregon coast. The date is Thursday, July 19. The theme is *Success through Community*, and Lisa Davidson from Clackamas Community College and Senitila McKinley from Seashore Family Literacy will be keynote speakers. There will also be a panel of the first cohort from AAWCC's Oregon statewide mentorship program to share their experiences and results. Set your alarm clock and mark your calendar to be there! In November, the two-day fall conference theme is *Facing the Future Together* and is scheduled on November 8 and 9 with an open house on Wednesday evening, November 7, at the Embassy Suites at Washington Square. I am excited to share this information to give you plenty of time to plan your entire year. I look forward to seeing you, meeting you in person and spending some valuable time together at our AAWCC activities in 2018.

American Association of Women in Community Colleges Oregon Chapter Board of Directors 2018

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Enhance Your Leadership Skills at OILD

The 27th annual Oregon Institute for Leadership Development (OILD) will be held at the Silver Falls Conference Center, June 25-28, 2018. This is a professional development opportunity for community college women interested in leadership as well as personal and professional growth.

OILD, with its focus on positive leadership development, connects women with community college administrators and executives from across the state and focuses on developing skills specific to our state's environment. Real-world solutions, cutting edge theory and multiple approaches are explored to provide a comprehensive leadership training program. Many OILD participants have gone on to assume leadership roles in their institutions.

Consider applying to OILD through your college. Information went out to your local chapter and president's office in March. The registration fee for the event is affordable and is sponsored by your college. Nominations must be received by April 13, and space is limited. For more information, please see the AAWCC Oregon website at <http://www.aawccoregon.org/oild/>.

Carolyn DesJardins Leadership Award

Two recipients of the Carolyn DesJardins Leadership Award were named at the 2017 AAWCC Fall Conference: Sandra Fowler-Hill and Deb Nicholls. This prestigious award is presented annually to someone who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and made a significant contribution to community colleges.

Sandra Fowler-Hill has served as campus president at Portland Community College Rock Creek Campus for over three years following a long career in Washington's community college system. As an active participant in the Oregon Presidents Council, Sandra has made substantial contributions to the state policy agenda for community college leaders. In her community college leadership roles, she has mentored many women and helped them advance their careers. Sandra models the traits of strong women leaders for others to emulate.



Margaret Frimoth accepts the award for Sandra Fowler-Hill from AAWCC Past President Julie Kopet



Deb Nicholls with President Patty Scott and AAWCC President Lynn Irvin

Deb Nicholls is the Executive Assistant to the President at Southwestern Oregon Community College and has worked at the college for 30-plus years. Deb brings strong leadership and organizational skills to every organization in which she is involved. She was instrumental in reviving the AAWCC chapter at SWOCC, and she currently sits on the AAWCC-Oregon state board. She has made a positive difference at SWOCC, in her local community, and with other community colleges in Oregon.

AAWCC-Oregon congratulates Sandra and Deb and thanks them for their service to women, leaders, students, and the community college mission.

SAVE THE DATE!

The AAWCC-Oregon Fall Conference "Facing the Future—Together" will be held November 7—9, 2018, at the Tigard Embassy Suites in Tigard, Oregon. Be sure to mark your calendars!

2017 Excellence Award Winners

The AAWCC-Oregon Community College Excellence Award celebrates individuals whose accomplishments have made a difference for women at their community college. Recipients are chosen by local AAWCC chapters and receive their award at the Fall Conference. Seven awards were presented at the conference last fall. Recipients were:

- Yadira Gonzalez, Blue Mountain Community College
- Erika Coker, Chemeketa Community College
- Lynne Cox, Linn-Benton Community College
- Kathy Andrews, Oregon Coast Community College
- Gaia Layser, Rogue Community College
- Robin Bunnell, Southwestern Community College

The board awards a certificate to honor the recipient of the award. Nominees need not be members of AAWCC. Nominations for the 2018 AAWCC Excellence Award are sought each October prior to the Fall Conference.



2017 Excellence Award Winner Erika Coker with President Julie Huckestein and AAWCC President Lynn Irvin



2017 Excellence Award Winner Lynne Cox with Dean Sally Widenmann



2017 Excellence Award Winner Gaia Layser with President Cathy Kemper-Pelle



2017 Excellence Award Winner Kathy Andrews with Dean Cindy Carlson

Campus Connections

Mount Hood Community College By Kealani Balfour

MHCC's AAWCC Chapter has been busy this winter. Our team has partnered with the new Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Felisciana Peralta, to offer professional development around Unconscious Bias in hiring committees. We also worked with our Title III Grant team to offer some training around Human Centered Design, and our MHCC Continuous Improvement Team to begin to identify ways we can work towards a better, more efficient college experience for ourselves as employees and for students. On March 14, we participated in the Day of Dialogue Event where we collected feedback from students, staff, and faculty on ways we can help students address their basic needs insecurity.



Linn-Benton Community College By Gwen Cox

We continue to increase our membership, but it has been a slow process. At the fall conference, our excellence award was given to Lynne Cox, Dean of Students, who has always supported women on our campus and throughout her life. The LBCC chapter co-sponsors a Thanksgiving food drive for students and staff, and last Thanksgiving we created 150 food boxes so many of our students could have a Thanksgiving feast. Several events are held during the year to add funds to our endowed scholarship. Last year, AAWCC gave away one \$1000 and two \$500 scholarships. In October, we had our 2nd annual clothing sale. Everything is \$1, and everyone loves it. The clothes are all donated, and we raised over \$300 for scholarships and our reserve fund. Clothing not sold is donated to the Professional Closet on campus and community charities.



Campus Connections (Continued)

Linn-Benton Community College (Continued)

In December, we held a silent auction with members donating baskets full of goodies. We are looking forward to our annual Earth Day pot-a-plant sale in the courtyard in April. The plants are donated by a local nursery; students and staff can plant a pot, leave a donation and take home a beautiful colorspot. In November, a local company taught basic self-defense for women. The January meeting was all about ways to relieve stress at your desk with exercises, some ergonomic tips and ‘toys.’ February was about cell phone safety. In May, we will find out about ‘The Best Kept Secrets of Oregon’ by using apps and other resources to get us ready for summer. The event everyone looks forward to on campus is our March Working Women’s Tea. LBCC’s Culinary Arts program provides the wonderful tea menu which is served in a beautifully decorated room. The keynote speaker this year, from our Professional Development department, spoke on the historical changes in the way women communicate in a business environment.

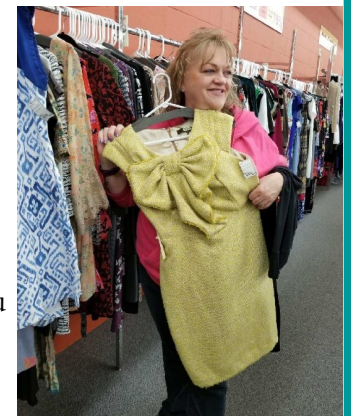


Chemeketa Community College

By Lynn Irvin

Chemeketa’s Chapter of AAWCC congratulates Erika Coker for being selected as the recipient of the AAWCC 2017 Community College Excellence award at the fall conference. Winter activities included hosting a membership drive and coffee in February. We are currently selling raffle tickets for two beautiful purse prize packages. If you join the

chapter, you receive an extra ticket. The drawing will be held in April at a lunch to celebrate national poetry month. Stephanie Lenox, author of a book of poetry who also works at the college, will be the keynote speaker. Donations are being collected for our biggest fundraiser of the year, a recycled clothing sale that will be held April 22 in conjunction with Earth Month. In May, we plan to host a lunch and learn session about Vision Boarding and another session in June when a physician will speak about women’s health issues. We are currently in the process of accepting applications for OILD. We love hearing ideas from other chapters and would love to share, so please contact us! lynn.irvin@chemeketa.edu or 503.399.5012



Campus Connections (Continued)

Clatsop Community College

By Margaret Frimoth

In 2008, Mindy Stokes began teaching as an adjunct instructor at Clatsop Community College in the Lives in Transition program. She took on the assignment with gusto and a clear commitment to supporting students reach their goals. Her ability to inspire students resonated throughout the program, yet she was unsettled by the lack of time to dig deeper into areas of study that promoted personal reflections about gender, abuse, oppression, feminist theory, and critical thinking. Her Master’s degree in Women’s Studies provided the foundation for expanded teaching that included a rotation of Women’s Studies classes. Her students flourished, and the coursework grew to



Mindy Stokes: a tireless advocate for all students



include campus and community-wide events such as the Clothesline Project, One Billion Rising, and the Vagina Monologues. Students, other faculty, staff, and community members have consistently participated in the events. This year, as a kick-off to Women’s History Month, she gave a community presentation titled, “#Me Too: What Now?” that provided a historical analysis of the #MeToo campaign and discussed its significance for the Third and Fourth Waves of the Feminist Movement. Mindy’s presentation exemplified a feminist framework that promotes an equitable and inclusive society.

Mindy Stokes is a long-time and enthusiastic member of the college Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, and recently became the Director of the Lives in Transition/ Transiciones Program. It’s been a full circle experience for Mindy at Clatsop. She has been nurturing students while challenging them to deconstruct, analyze, and research issues empowering our campus community to embrace diversity and inclusion, and speak out against violence and abuse. Her classes infuse academic research with a quest for examining what is missing (a hallmark of feminist research), deconstructing dominant, social norms, and examining an ever-evolving understanding of intersectionality. As the Director of Lives in Transition/ Transiciones, she “walks her talk” and empowers students to rise beyond limitations that others may have determined for them and see their value, worth, and wisdom. Mindy’s contributions to our campus are examples of the Audre Lorde quote, “It is not our differences that divide us. It is our inability to recognize, accept, and celebrate those differences.”



Central Oregon Community College

By Jenni Newby

At COCC we had a fall event that entitled “Walk and Talk,” where we met at a large forested park and walked for several miles, then went to a local pub for social hour. Next week, our chapter is celebrating Women’s History Month by taking a community learning class together called Reflecting Freedom: Head to Toe Fashions Through the Years and holding a social down the hill from our campus after the class.

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