

CLARK

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From Tragedy to Action

Japanese Department and Child & Family Studies create understanding out of chaos

On March 2 and 3, Professor Michiyo Okuhara brought students from the Japanese Department to visit Early Childhood Education Program Specialist Terry Haye and the children of the Sequoia Room at the Child & Family Studies Department (CFS). The purpose of the visit was to collaborate on an art-exchange project to share with Vancouver's Japanese sister city, Joyo, and with Joyo's Satononishi Nursery School. The Japanese Department students had visited Joyo in the summer of 2010 and participated in a service learning project with Satononishi, engaging in art, music and literacy activities with the pre-school children there. The visit to CFS was one way of extending the learning that took place during the cultural exchange and a way to bring what they learned in Japan to the Clark College community.

Just eight days after this fun-filled and educational event, a massive earthquake and subsequent tsunami hit northern Japan, causing catastrophic loss of life, wiping out whole cities, and creating unimaginable homelessness and suffering for millions of people. Suddenly, the collaboration between the Japanese Department and CFS took on a different purpose.

The Sequoia Room children were already interested in Japan, having prepared for the art exchange by learning about Japanese culture and language. Given the heightened awareness the children had about Japan and the conversations the children were having with each other and their families about the disaster, it was important to address the issue and give the children an opportunity to discuss their feelings about it, and more importantly, help them figure out what they could do to contribute to the relief efforts.

Meanwhile, the students in Okuhara's Japanese class and club were also affected

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by the events in Northern Japan, some of them very personally. They too wanted to do something to help. Soon it was decided that the children would make art to present for donations at Clark College's planned Sakura observance, the money from which would be given to a relief organization to help the people of Japan.

The Japanese Department students made a return trip to the Sequoia Room helped the children create bookmarks and cards with messages of hope and concern for the people of Japan. The experience was beneficial for both children and students. "I think making items that celebrate the Japanese culture in order to raise money and awareness for the current crisis in Japan is very noble and rewarding," said Justin Ratliff, a Japanese 122 student. "I really enjoy sharing my appreciation of Japan with the kids."

Efforts are underway by the Japanese Department and CFS to raise money and hope for the people of Japan. The Japanese Club will be selling Sakura petals and bookmarks to raise donations for Japan relief during the Sakura observance and beyond. The children of the Sequoia Room will also be starting a penny drive at CFS, much like the one that was held for a Haitian Orphanage last year after the devastating earthquake in Haiti. You can donate pennies at the front lobby of CFS.

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If you would like to contribute more to the Japanese relief efforts, please visit the Washington State Combined Fund Drive's "Hope for Japan" page at <http://www.cfd.wa.gov/japan.html>.



The Seuss is Loose!

Clark volunteers prove that a reader's a reader, no matter how small

On Wednesday, March 2—the birthday of Theodor Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss—about 90 Clark College volunteers visited three different elementary schools as part of Read Across America, a national reading campaign sponsored by the National Education Association. Visiting classrooms at Fruit Valley, Harney, and Washington elementary schools, these volunteers read aloud one of three different Dr. Seuss books to children and provided each child with a Dr. Seuss book of his or her own, provided through the Clark College Bookstore's annual Seuss-a-Palooza book drive.

This year, the event was performed in three different languages: English, Spanish, and American Sign Language (ASL). Service-Learning Faculty Fellow Becky Engel adopted the Read Across America event as a service learning project for her American Sign Language students.



American Sign Language students interpreting a Dr. Seuss book during Fruit Valley's school-wide Read-In event

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Two sections of her course were required to read and sign a Dr. Seuss book at Fruit Valley Elementary—no small feat, considering how many nonsense words the author used. Fortunately, Engel's students practiced in advance.

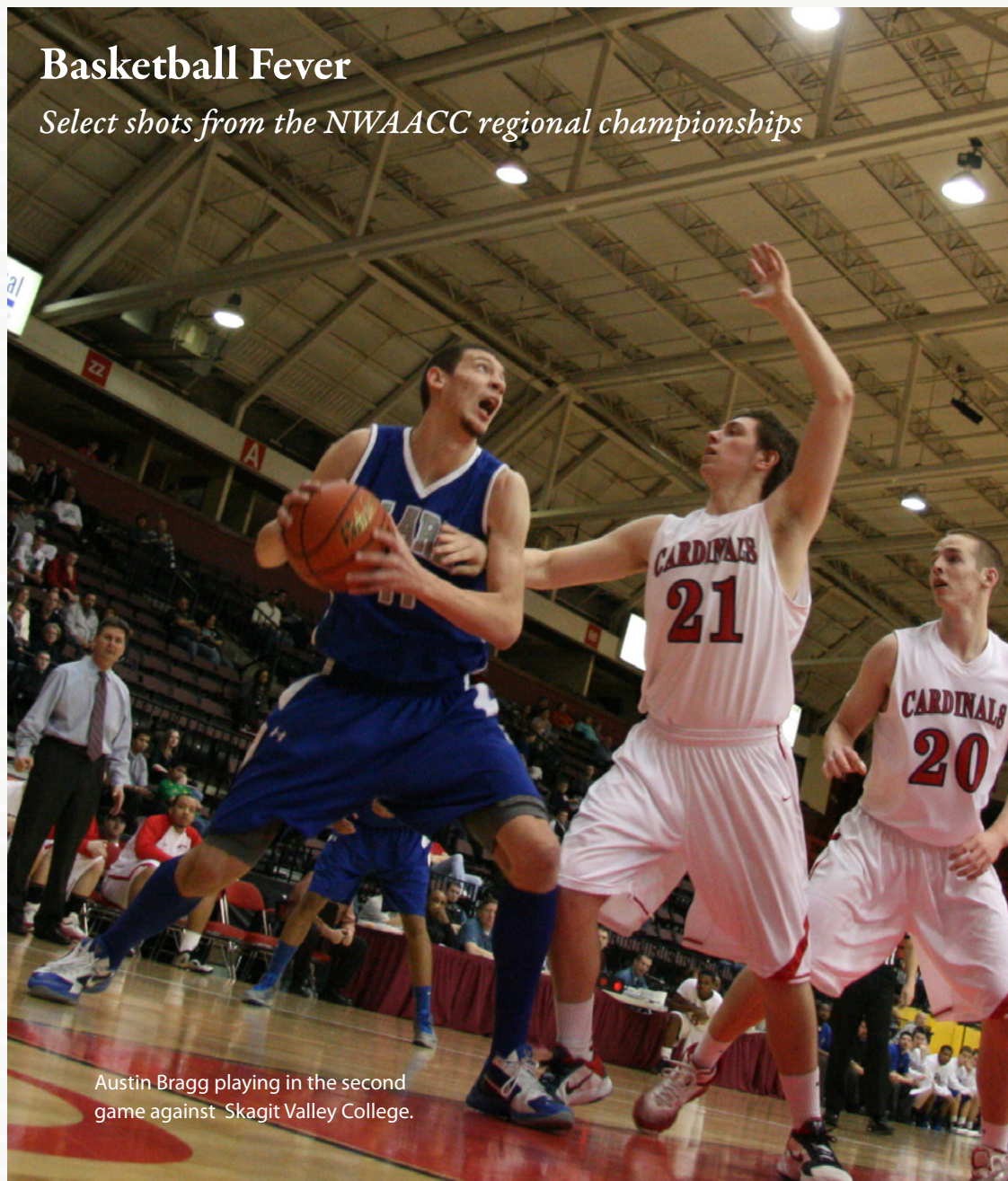
Erika Nava also adopted the event as a service project for the Spanish Club; her students were able to earn club service funding to go toward their upcoming trip to Uruguay this summer by reading a bilingual version of *Green Eggs and Ham*.

Clockwise from top left: Spanish Instructor Erika Nava with Spanish Club members at Harney Elementary School; Clark student Pisak Khuon reads to kindergartners at Fruit Valley Elementary; Penguins Kaina Barba (left), Marti Earhart and Mike Lassner enjoyed reading at Washington Elementary School



Basketball Fever

Select shots from the NWAACC regional championships



Austin Bragg playing in the second game against Skagit Valley College.

Congratulations to all the Penguin basketball players who played in the NWAACC regional championships. Both the men's and women's teams made it to the second round of playoffs. Additionally, members of both the men's and women's teams were nominated to play in the All-Star games.

Deborah Simmers of Clark College was nominated to the Western Region First Team of the 2010-11 Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges Women's Basketball All-Stars. Simmers, a freshman point guard from Anchorage, Alaska, was Clark's leading scorer during the regular season at 13.8 points a game and was second on the team in assists and rebounds.

Clark players nominated to the Second Team were Lacey Kruse for women and Austin Bragg for men. Clark sophomore Arman Kalan played on the Second Team.

Photos courtesy of Bradley York and *The Independent*.

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Left: Lacey Kruse, the team's only returning player, was named to the second All-Star team, here she takes a shot against Umpqua in their third game of the weekend. Right: Deborah Simmers in the first game of the tournament against Lane Community College.

A World of Women's Voices

On the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day, Clark students share their stories

In honor of the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day, the International Speakers Bureau of Clark College brought students from six different countries to share their personal stories and cultural perspectives with the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International (a professional honorary society of women educators) at the group's annual meeting on Saturday, March 5. Seven students from Thailand, Vietnam, South Korea, India, Iran and Albania brought their stories to life when they presented the "Celebrating Women" workshop hosted by three area chapters of the society at the American Legion Hall in Vancouver, Wash.

Each student shared her own perspective of her home country's educational, political or cultural climate as it pertains to women's issues. Dajung Choi described Korean wedding traditions, explaining that marriage is more like a business agreement. The two families meet before the wedding in a traditional ceremony, "and sometimes people change their mind about getting married if the families don't like each other."

Narges Khademisaysan spoke of the religious persecution she endured in her home country, Iran. "When it was time to register for the first grade, they refused to let me register because I was Bahai," she said. She was not permitted



Organizers and presenters gathered for a photo after the "Celebrating Women" workshop. Left to right, standing, Bobbi Fox, co-president Mu Chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma Society International; Poonam Nagpal (India); Narges Khademisaysan (Iran); Susan Taylor, international student advisor; DaJung Choi (South Korea); Lorraine Leedy, international program assistant; Bongkot Khommonthian (Thailand); Linda Elliott, president Alpha Sigma State WA, Delta Kappa Gamma Society International; and Gerry Jarvis, co-president Mu Chapter. Left to right, seated, Inva Begolli (Albania); Thao Nguyen (Vietnam); and Adchara Onsri (Thailand).

to own a passport and was denied a university education in her native country.

Adchara Onsri of Thailand talked of her family's humble background, and how she plans to return to her home country with the professional business skills and education needed to bring her family and her community out of poverty.

After the presentations, the students shared lunch with the group of 25 workshop attendees.

Smashing Success

A new student group hammers away at finals stress



Dog house: Left to right, Diesel Dogs Jay Harris, Roger Knotts, Matt Wiley, Vice President Mark Yamashita, Dennis Lloyd (Diesel Dogs advisor), President Derek Young, President-Elect Derrick Kephart, and Micah Harrie.

On Thursday, March 15, 2011, the Clark College Diesel Dogs raised money for their club and lowered stress levels for students facing finals by hosting what was literally a “smash event.” From 10:00 a.m to 2:00 p.m. in front of the Diesel Building, Clark College students could purchase the opportunity to smack a sledgehammer into a car. Diesel Dog Roger Knotts came up with the idea for the event, and fellow Diesel Dog Ryan Yamashita coordinated the donation of the car by Costellas Midas. In the end, all 30 members of the student club participated in making the event, which raised almost \$180, a success. The money will be used to fund the Dogs’ end-of-the-

quarter barbecue, which serves as a reward for the members’ work in their “mini mack” go-cart project and their Adopt-a-Highway volunteer program.

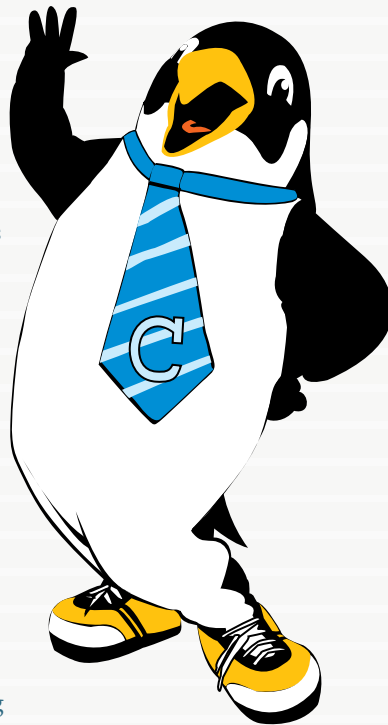
“Our hopes are that we can do this at the end of every quarter so that more and more students get the chance to participate and take their minds off of their finals,” said Clark student Derek Young, who helped found the Diesel Dogs in 2010 to provide social and educational opportunities for Clark students interested in diesel technology. According to the club’s website, the name refers to the fact that “we are diesel technicians and we work like dogs.”

Penguin Patter

News about people from throughout the Penguin Nation!

GREAT DEBATE

Let's hear it for the Clark College Speech and Debate Team, who took first place at the "Voices on the River" tournament held on the campus of Spokane Falls Community College on Friday, March 10 through Sunday, March 13. This tournament included teams from both two- and four-year colleges from across the Northwest, including teams from Idaho, Washington, and Oregon. Highlights of Clark's awards included first-place trophies in Novice Informative Speaking, Open Informative Speaking, Open Persuasive Speaking and Novice Prose Interpretation; second-place trophies in Open Persuasion, Dramatic Interpretation, Novice Prose Interpretation; and third-place trophies in Novice Extemporaneous Speaking, Novice Impromptu Speaking, Novice Prose Interpretation, and Open Informative Speaking. In addition, the NPDA debate team of Nick Carlson and Chris Reinhold advanced to the final round of the novice division, winning their debate on a 3-0 decision and earning a first-place award. All in all, it was a pretty impressive performance by Clark's 11 participating team members—no argument!



COMMUNICATING SUCCESS

March seems to be trophy season for Clark College. In addition to the Speech and Debate Team's impressive win, the Clark College Communications and Marketing Department won a Gold Medallion Award from the National Council for Media and Public Relations (NCMPR) at the organization's annual awards banquet, held Tuesday, March 15. Affiliated with the Association of American Community Colleges, NCMPR is the only organization to represent marketing and public relations specialists at community and technical colleges. With more than 1,550 members at 650 different colleges, it makes for some stiff competition. However, Clark's comprehensive campaign to promote the opening of the new facility at Columbia Tech Center earned the college its gold award in the coveted "Communications Success Story" category.

Upcoming Events

For additional information, see the activities calendar on the Clark College website: www.clark.edu/news_events/college_calendar/ (Unless otherwise noted, all events take place on the Clark College main campus. If you need accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in an event, contact the Disability Support Services Office at 360-992-2314 or 192.102.5.20 (video phone), or visit Gaiser Hall Room 137.)

AUDITIONS FOR “EASTERN STANDARD”

Monday, March 21, 2011 –
Tuesday, March 22, 2011

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Auditions for the spring show will consist of cold readings from the script.

Decker Theater (FAC)

CLARK’S CONCERT BAND AND CHOIR: “TO HONOR AND REMEMBER”

Monday, March 21, 2011

7:00 p.m.

Free and open to the public.

More Information.

Wollenberg Auditorium,
Lower Columbia College,
Longview, WA

MEN’S BASEBALL GAMES

Tuesday, March 22, 2011 –

Thursday, March 24, 2011

Clackamas Community College

WOMEN’S SOFTBALL GAME

Saturday, March 26, 2011 –

Sunday, March 27, 2011

At West Inter-Region
Tournament.

Centralia, WA

MEN’S BASEBALL GAME

Saturday, March 26, 2011

1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Double-header home game vs.
Everett Community College.

This will be the first home
intercollegiate baseball game for
the Penguins since 1992!

Clark College Athletic Fields

PLUS— Save the Date for these Important Events:

CAREER DAYS

Monday, April 11 –

Wednesday, April 13

Join us in an opportunity for
Clark College students and
community members to focus
on job seeking skills, connecting
with employers and preparing for
a successful career search.



From the HR Department

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR COLLEGE EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS

In accordance with Clark College Administrative Procedures, 610.021 BACKGROUND CHECKS, http://intranet.clark.edu/college_information/policies_procedures/admin_procedures/600.pdf the college will conduct background checks of criminal history on all potential employees and volunteers who have unsupervised access to students, children or vulnerable adults.

Criminal history checks will be completed on final candidates and to those candidates to whom a job offer is about to be tendered and includes individuals seeking permanent, temporary, and student employment positions. Background checks for potential employees and volunteers other than student workers will be conducted through Human Resources (HR). Background checks for student workers will be conducted through Career and Employment Services.

NO OFFER OF EMPLOYMENT MAY BE EXTENDED UNTIL A BACKGROUND CHECK IS COMPLETE. HUMAN RESOURCES WILL EXTEND ALL OFFERS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR PERMANENT POSITIONS AND FULL-TIME FACULTY POSITIONS.

A criminal history does not automatically disqualify an individual from employment at the college. The decision to hire or not hire will be made considering factors such as the nature of the offense, when the offense occurred, and the relevancy to the respective job. HR will assist in making the determination.

PROCEDURE FOR REQUESTING BACKGROUND CHECKS:

- HR initiates background checks on potential permanent and temporary employees and volunteers with Intelius Screening Solutions. Contact Heidi Bealer x2097, Laura Likes x2573, or Sue Williams x2619 in HR to request the background check.
- The potential employee must report to HR to provide required personal information and sign the disclosure and authorization form.
- HR will notify the supervisor and the hiring authority, e.g., Director, Dean, or Vice President, of the background check results.
- In the event a criminal history match is returned on the background check, the supervisor, the respective Executive Cabinet hiring authority, and a HR representative will meet to discuss how to proceed and decide whether or not to hire the individual for that particular position.
- Hard copies of background checks are secured in HR.
- HR will extend all offers of employment for permanent positions and full-time faculty positions.

If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact Darcy Rourk, Associate Vice President of Human Resources at 992-2325 or Sue Williams, Associate Director of Human Resources at 992-2619.

SAVE ON GAS—TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE TRIP REDUCTION PROGRAM

Automobiles are one of the most significant sources of air pollution in the Vancouver-Portland metropolitan area. Reducing the number of people who drive to work alone may be the most important and most effective measure we can take to help preserve our environment.

There are a number of ways that Clark College employees can participate in the commute trip reduction program. Most options include the additional feature of a guaranteed ride home:

- Bike riders will find bicycle racks and bike shelters on the main campus. Bike riders may also receive a helmet.
- Walkers are eligible for an umbrella.
- Bus riders are eligible for subsidized transit passes (free for one-zone travel).
- Riders and van poolers are also eligible for the guaranteed ride home.

Other services in support of the commute trip reduction program include personal laundry pick-up and delivery on the main campus and use of lockers on the main campus.

For information about the C-Tran/Clark College bus pass program click on: http://intranet.clark.edu/department_information/human_resources/c-tran_bus_program.doc

To sign up for the Commute Trip Reduction program feature that meets your commuting needs, call Laura Elwood-Klein in Human Resources, X2381.

OPEN POSTITIONS

ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT OF CORPORATE & CONTINUING EDUCATION:

Full time administrative position.
Closing date: March 28, 2011.

DIRECTOR OF ALLIED HEALTH:

Full-time administrative position.
Open until Filled.

TENURE TRACK FACULTY POSITION:

MICROSOFT SERVER INSTRUCTOR

Closing date: April 4, 2011

PSYCHOLOGY INSTRUCTOR

Closing date: April 22, 2011



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