

the official nwacuho newsletter

# the soundings

northwest association of college and university housing officers



# NWACUHO soundings

## cover

NWACUHO 2011 Conference Logo

## soundings editorial board

The editorial board is comprised of volunteer members throughout the NWACUHO region. Duties include assisting in the development of an editorial schedule, submission of interest articles, and soliciting articles and feedback from the members of the association. If you are interested in being a member of the editorial board, please contact your state or provincial representative or the newsletter editor.

## editorial and submission policies

Deadlines for publications are based on distribution needs, and therefore it is important that members honor the established deadlines. Material not received on time, or not used due to space limitations will be considered for use in the next issue. Because *soundings* is the official publication of an educational association and reflects the professional standards of its members, necessary revisions will be made to ensure publication quality. *soundings* also reserves the right to edit submissions for space requirements.

Authors bear full responsibility for references, quotations, and data accuracy of publications submissions.

Authors also hold NWACUHO harmless from any liability resulting from publications of articles submitted for printing.

Be sure to clearly indicate the author(s) and institution(s) on all submissions. Permission is granted to reproduce portions of *soundings'* contents with proper attribution and credit to *soundings*.

Advertisements in the *soundings* should not be considered an endorsement. For information on exhibitor advertising rates please contact: Ian Miller, Product & Services Coordinator at 509.963.8812.

Please send all submissions (articles, letters to the association, updates from around the region, and announcements) to:

## Brian Stroup, soundings editor

Operations Manager  
University Housing and Dining Services  
Oregon State University  
102 Buxton Hall  
Corvallis, OR 97331  
Phone: (541) 737-3290  
brian.stroup@oregonstate.edu

\*Please attach articles using MS word document.

## executive committee

### President

#### Josh Gana

Assistant Director for Operations & Facilities  
University Housing & Dining Services  
Oregon State University  
102 Buxton Hall  
Corvallis, Oregon 97331  
541.737.9197 josh.gana@oregonstate.edu

### President Elect

#### Steve Fitterer

Manager, Residence Services  
Mount Royal University  
Alberta, Canada  
sfitterer@mtroyal.ca

### Past President

#### Richard DeShields

Senior Director  
Central Washington University  
Univ. Housing & New Student Program  
400 E. University Way, MS 7513  
Ellensburg, Washington 98926  
509.963.1734; deshieldr@cwu.edu

### Secretary

#### Lauren Pigott

Assistant Director of Housing & Residence Life  
Campus Corner Apartments  
Green River Community College  
12401 SE 320th Street  
Auburn, WA 98092-3622  
Phone: 253.876.3610

### Treasurer

#### Micheal Seraphin

Coordinator of Purchasing  
Willamette University  
900 State Street  
Salem, OR 97301  
503.370.6055  
mseraphi@willamette.edu

### Newsletter Editor

#### Brian Stroup

Operations Manager  
University Housing and Dining Services  
Oregon State University  
102 Buxton Hall  
Corvallis, OR 97331  
541.737.3290  
brian.stroup@oregonstate.edu

### Website Administrator

#### Patrick Cunningham

Assistant Complex Director  
University of Oregon  
541.346.8237  
pcunning@uoregon.edu

### Products and Services Coordinator

#### Ian Miller

Residence Hall Coordinator  
Central Washington University  
Univ. Housing & New Student Program  
400 E. University Way, MS 7513  
Ellensburg, Washington 98926  
509.963.7917; milleria@cwu.edu

### Alaska-Yukon Representative

#### Maria Bonifacio

Associate Director of Residence Life  
University of Alaska Anchorage  
3700 Sharon Gagnon Lane, Suite 101  
Anchorage, AK 99508  
907.751.7448  
mariab@uaa.anchorage.edu

### Alberta Representative

#### Natasha Reynolds

Assistant Manager, Residence Services  
Mount Royal University  
Alberta, Canada  
Phone: 403.440.6211  
nlopeke@mtroyal.ca

### British Columbia Representative

#### Shari Walsh

Residence Life Manager  
University of British Columbia -Okanagan  
1290 International Mews  
Kelowna, British Columbia V1V 1V7 Canada  
250.807.9802; shari.walsh@ubc.ca

### Oregon Representative

#### David Craig

Assistant Director, Residential Education  
University Housing & Dining Services  
Oregon State University  
102 Buxton Hall  
Corvallis, Oregon 97331  
541.737.8729  
david.craig@oregonstate.edu

### Washington Representative

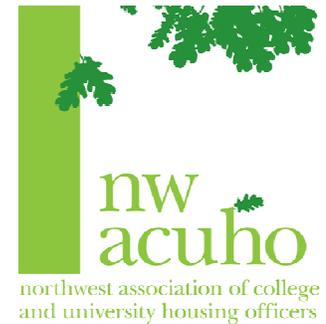
#### Kelly Ammendolia

Assistant Director of Residence Life  
University of Puget Sound  
1500 N. Warner St. #1003  
Tacoma, WA 98416-1003  
253.879.3317 kammendolia@pugetsound.edu

# a letter from the president

# josh gana

Josh Gana, Oregon State University  
NWACUHO President



Friends and Colleagues:

By the time this issue is in your hot little hands (or on your shiny computer screen – we’re sustainable, right?), we’ll be about 3.5 months from the 2011 Annual Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia! That also means the NWACUHO Board of Director’s has that same 3.5 months to put the final touches on the conference with the host committee, and all signs are pointing towards an awesome experience in February.

The board just returned from our fall site visit, and I can confidently say that the conference site, the Four Seasons Vancouver, is one of the coolest locations we’ve had for a conference in a long time. Luxurious meeting and lodging space, awesome food, a broad network of colleagues, and downtown Vancouver – what more could we ask for? How about a top-notch programming track and endless opportunities for involvement? How about internet included in your lodging rate? How about a chance to see some of the latest and greatest products that impact our work? You got it!

As you read through this issue, you will find a number of timely opportunities for you to take action:

- Registration for the conference goes live on November 1. Be sure to register by register by January 12 and get your hotel reservations taken care of.
- Memberships expire December 31. This is your gentle nudge to make sure your institution renews!
- We’re soliciting program proposals for the 2011 conference, so brush up your presentation skills and submit a proposal.
- There are a number of awards and scholarships available to our members. Most have deadlines in the next few months.
- And, if all of that weren’t enough, we’re recruiting a few good people to serve on the Board of Directors. Terms start in February.

Looking a bit more long term, at the conference we’ll be rolling out a strategic planning process for the Association and renewing our commitment to member taskforces to continue the work of NWACUHO beyond February. I encourage to step up and get involved. This is your organization.

See you in February!

Respectfully,

Josh Gana, President  
pres@nwacuho.org

## editor’s note

Brian Stroup, Oregon State University  
Soundings Editor

Welcome to the Fall edition of the *Soundings*! In this edition you will find many great updates from all of our states and provinces .

as well as some great conference information. How to submit a program proposal for the 2011 annual conference in Vancouver, BC, how to renew your institution’s registration, how to apply for many great scholarships that are available to assist participants financially in attending the conference, and how to nominate or bid for a number of great awards that we give out each year at the annual conference are all inside.

Have a great rest of fall!

# nwacuho 2011

## experience the mosaic

Next years annual conference will be in Vancouver, BC! It will be **February 13-15, 2011**. Put it on your calendars, it's going to be a great conference. The host committee is putting lots of great work into the conference theme, Experiencing the Mosaic. The hotel will be the Four Seasons in Vancouver.

As you're preparing for NWACUHO 2011 please remember to get a passport if you are from the United States. In order to cross the border into Canada you will need this on you. For more information on this and how to obtain one please visit [http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport\\_1738.html](http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html)

### **NWACUHO 2011: Register now for the annual conference!**

Registration is now available for the 2011 annual conference in Vancouver, BC on February 13 – 15, 2011. Member registration fees are \$325, with the nonmember rate at \$400 and students at \$250. Be sure to register prior to 2/1/11 to avoid late fees! Registration and more conference information is available online: <http://regonline.com/nwacuho2011c>

### **NWACUHO 2011: Presentation Proposals Now Being Accepted**

The 2011 Northwest Association of College and University Housing Officers annual conference is coming up February 13-15, 2011 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. The theme, "Experience the Mosaic," will provide ample opportunity for building professional networks, examining our purpose, and engaging in wonderful training opportunities.

Do you have a best practice to share? Is there an exciting program or initiative at your institution? Would you like to facilitate a roundtable discussion on a particular topic? It is time to submit a program proposal to present at our annual conference. NWACUHO is seeking proposals in four primary areas – Operations, Facilities and Housing Services; Supervision & Advising, Organizational Development; and Core Purposes. Sessions are 50 minutes and you will need to submit a 100 word abstract as well as a complete program description. Submit a proposal online at <http://nwacuho.org/conferences/annual-conference/program-proposal/>.

**Proposals are due no later than December 10, 2010 and notification of acceptance will be provided by December 24, 2010.**

Contact President Elect Steve Fitterer at [sfitterer@mtroyal.ca](mailto:sfitterer@mtroyal.ca) for more information about conference programs or to volunteer for the Program Committee.



# nwacuho institution & corporate member registration

## Time to Renew your Institutional and Corporate Membership!

Did you know that NWACUHO Memberships expires on December 31, 2010? Membership in NWACUHO is a great way to stay connected with colleagues, keep up to date with best practices, share ideas, and gain valuable professional development activities. Additionally, your institutional or corporate membership will carry the following benefits:

- Discounts on registration for the Annual Conference
- Availability of awards and scholarships
- Resources such as the Soundings newsletter and regional directory
- Participation in regional drive-in conferences and roundtables

Institutional Member dues are based on housing capacity size:

<u>Capacity</u>	<u>Dues</u>
0 - 499	\$75.00
500 - 999	\$100.00
1000 - 1499	\$125.00
1500 - 2999	\$175.00
3000+	\$200.00

Renew institutional membership now at: <http://regonline.com/nwacuho2011m>

Corporate Memberships are available at the following levels:

- Bronze: \$300.00
- Silver: \$500.00
- Gold: \$1000.00

For more information regarding the Corporate Membership Program please visit: <http://nwacuho.org/exhibits-and-corporate-membership/>

If you have any questions please contact the Products and Services Coordinator Ian Miller at (509) 963.7917 or email: [milleria@cwu.edu](mailto:milleria@cwu.edu)

Renew corporate membership now at: <http://regonline.com/nwacuho2011m>

All memberships are for a calendar year and benefits are for the regional conference that year. Dues are not prorated based on date of registration. Thank you for your support and contact [treasurer@nwacuho.org](mailto:treasurer@nwacuho.org) with membership questions.

# A strange familiar place

**Michelle Primley-Benton**  
University of Washington

The year has begun. Halls are open; a new crop of students have settled in, learning the ropes of dining halls, community bathrooms and sharing a small space with a stranger. As housing professionals, we've put in many long hours preparing the RA staff for their arrival, getting our buildings ready and getting leadership opportunities off the ground. The thrill of opening has subsided, and routine has set in. For brand new professionals, the year seems full of opportunity to learn and master your role, get a sense of your campus culture, and plenty to keep busy. There are a group of us for whom the return to routine, however, has placed us in a strange, familiar place. Perhaps you are entering your third year, fourth year, or longer in your role. Perhaps you've taken a new role in the same department. Regardless, the slide into the academic year may have you asking "what's next?" even as you enjoy the familiar place you're currently in. So how can we, the not-quite-seasoned veterans, continue to make the most out of our roles and institutions, particularly as many of our departments face ever-tighter budgets in a tough economic climate?

## ***Try Something New***

There's an adage that says "if it ain't broke, don't fix it," and many of us have come upon our way of facilitating a meeting, creating an agenda, developing programming, etc. in a very intentional way. Yet we all have something in our daily or weekly arsenal that we have left as is simply because it's good enough, and maybe not the first thing to peak our interests. Whether it's taking the time to learn a new staff development tool to try out with your staff, trying a new form of recognition, or a new method of handling your voluminous inbox, challenge yourself to focus on an area that previously hasn't gotten much love.

## ***Explore Your Department***

Once the year begins, it's easy to become siloed in individual day to day activity. In Residential Life you may reach out to Dining to provide food for a program, or Marketing and Communications to draft a poster for your campus-wide event, but how often have you seen their day to day activity? Learning more about the other units within your department can not only help develop better working relationships in your day to day activities and improve efficiencies, but for those hoping to move up within housing it can provide invaluable insight to an area of housing you otherwise remain unfamiliar with. Consider taking a professional development day to shadow in another unit, or talk with your supervisor about taking on a collateral assignment within the department. Your departmental reach across the aisle may breed valuable partnerships down the road.

## ***You're On a College Campus...Get to Class!***

Your role may not allow for you to enroll in an academic program (and the thought of returning to textbooks and homework may make some shudder), but that doesn't mean that valuable professional development can't be gained right on campus. Whether it's a travelling lecture series put on by your College of Education, a discussion on addiction sponsored by the Psychology department, or just a topic you've been curious about (forensic psychology, anyone?), there are few times in life where you'll have the opportunity to have some of the foremost minds in the field speak for free in your workplace/home. Take advantage, and role model to your students and staff the importance of continuing education.

## ***Revisit That Resume***

You may not be actively job searching, but doing resume renovation can better clarify the skills and experiences you hope to gain before it's actually time to distribute it. Think about the position you'd like to see yourself in next; do the experiences on your resume equip you to get there? What can you do in your role this year to get closer to those goals? Placement Exchange season is not the time to discover that you need to have a published article and a presentation to compete for the job you desire. Talk with your supervisor about opportunities within the department to gain more experience in your goal areas, or look to supplement your work experience through volunteer or professional organization experience.

## ***Take Your Leadership to the Campus & Regional Level***

Perhaps you've been involved in committees, ad-hoc work groups, and task forces galore in your own department. Challenge yourself to step into the next level. Most campuses have a professional staff organization that plans programs, advocates for professional staff needs, or offers ongoing training and workshops for faculty and staff. This is a great opportunity to better familiarize yourself with what's going on across campus and continue to build strong partnerships for your own office. Ready to take it to the regional level? Professional organizations such as NWACUHO have great opportunities for various levels of involvement. Whether making a commitment to prepare a presentation proposal, submit an article to the Soundings or join one of our taskforces, NWACUHO can provide professionals an opportunity to continue to expand your horizons even as you enjoy that well-earned feeling of comfort in your current role.

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# a note from pacurh

HELLO NWACUHO!

My name is Jimmy Kelly and I am the Director of the Pacific Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls! PACURH is a student run organization that brings together Residence Hall Associations from parts of Canada, Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Nevada, and California. As the Director of PACURH I have made it a goal to work closely with our Professional Partners from WACUHO and of course NWACUHO so that our Students and Professional Staff can work more closely together without being from the same school.

A little background about me is that this is my 4<sup>th</sup> year at San Francisco State University studying Psychology. My freshman year I was an active member of my Live Learn Community (LLC) and became the RA for that community for the next two years. Currently this year I serve as one of the Assistant Area Coordinators for our LLC Apartment building. Some of my responsibilities are completing payroll, scheduling for the RAs and running a Peer Conduct Review Board. My plan for the future is to go on to Graduate School to either study Student Affairs or Human Resources. As far as PACURH and NACURH go PACURH 2010, A Friend Request to Leadership, will be my 8<sup>th</sup> conference and I have served at these conferences as a delegate, NCC and Regional Board member.

On November 5<sup>th</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup> PACURH will have its first conference of the school year called A Friend Request to Leadership hosted at Southern Oregon University; hopefully I will get to meet a few of you there. In late July I had the pleasure to complete the site visit for this conference and I am very happy to say the SOU team worked a great deal to bring a grand amount of logistics together. They were very committed to keeping a low price for this conference and it showed with over 400 delegates registered for the conference.

We are very excited to have Josh Gana be able to join us at this conference. Josh has been very supportive of PACURH and I know that he has a great deal of plans to be active and talk with our delegates. This will help students begin to work with Professional staff from other schools and consider going into the field of Student Affairs.

Until next time NWACUHO

Foggy Love

Jimmy Kelly, PACURH Director; [pa\\_director@nacurh.org](mailto:pa_director@nacurh.org)

# a note from acuho-i

Jacque Bollinger  
ACUHO-I Regional Affiliation Director

Dear NWACUHO,

As the saying goes “Time flies when you are having fun.” I am not sure all of you would describe what you have experienced so far this semester as “fun”, but I believe you will all agree that the semester has flown by quickly and it is hard to believe the holidays will be here soon. As your academic year has progressed, your professional association, the Association of College and University Housing Officers – International (ACUHO-I), has been working to provide important knowledge and valuable resources to you as you execute the work of our profession. Below I have highlighted some upcoming programs and events for your calendar:

- **Call for Programs for 2011 Annual Conference and Exhibition** – Submissions for Program Proposals are now being accepted for the annual conference July 9-12, 2011 in New Orleans, LA . The program submission deadline is December 3, 2010. Go to the ACUHO-I website at [www.acuho-i.org](http://www.acuho-i.org) for more information.
- **The Placement Exchange** – Registration is now open for The Placement Exchange that will be held March 9-13, 2011 in Philadelphia, PA. Go to [www.theplacementexchange.org](http://www.theplacementexchange.org) for more information.
- **2010-2011 ACUHO-I Housing Internship Program** – The internship process has begun and the important dates are outlined below:
  - Applications now available via website
  - Application deadline (interns): January 10, 2011
  - Application deadline (host sites): January 10, 2011
  - Contact period begins: January 17, 2011
  - Interviews begin: January 20, 2011
  - Offers made: February 10, 2011 (Noon - EST)

Email questions to: [housinginternships@acuho-i.org](mailto:housinginternships@acuho-i.org)

- **The James C. Grimm National Housing Training Institute (NHTI)** – The University of Georgia will host the 2011 NHTI June 14-18. The timeline for this year's event is as follows:
  - October 11, 2010: Faculty interest forms available
  - November 1, 2010: Participant applications available
  - November 19, 2010: Faculty interest form submission deadline
  - January 7, 2011: Faculty notified if selected
  - February 7, 2011: Participant applications due
  - March 14, 2011: Participants notified if selected

I have highlighted only a few of ACUHO-I's most recent announcements and initiatives. See the ACUHO-I website at [www.acuho-i.org](http://www.acuho-i.org) for much more information.

Sincerely,

Jacque Bollinger  
ACUHO-I Regional Affiliation Director  
[bollinge@uwosh.edu](mailto:bollinge@uwosh.edu)



# ways to stay connected

Check out these great ways to stay connected to NWACUHO and ACUHO-I all year long:

## **NWACUHO Facebook Page**

We have a Facebook page! Search for "NWACUHO" under Groups and ask to join. You can share photos, engage in discussions, or just connect with friends you haven't spoken to in a while.

## **ACUHO-I Online Network**

There is an Online Network for ACUHO-I where housing officers across the country are staying connected. There are nearly 800 members. Check out [www.acuho-i.net](http://www.acuho-i.net) for more information.

## **NWACUHO Blog**

We have a blog where you can post thoughts and comments on various topics from the *Soundings* to next years annual conference. Blogging on the NWACUHO website is a great small step if you're interested in writing but don't want to write an entire article.

## **NWACUHO on Twitter**

Follow the latest and greatest of NWACUHO on Twitter with the 24 other followers that are currently signed up. Just go to <http://twitter.com/NWACUHO> to get started.

# state and provincial updates

## BRITISH COLUMBIA

### University of British Columbia

Submitted by: Cate Morrison

Last week, Totem Park and Place Vanier raised almost \$5000 for the United Way through an Advisor and Council Auction. Residence Life Staff and executive Council members in both areas were asked to auction off a skill, talent, or their time for the United Way. It was heartwarming to see the response. Over 90 students volunteered to be auctioned off to first-year residence students. Over 100 students in Totem and over 150 students in Vanier attended to support their Residence Advisors and Council members to attend the two separate auctions. Services offered at the auction included door decorating, cleaning services, dinner preparation, serenades, juggling lessons, sailing lessons and many many more! Both auctions began with a speech from the UBC United Way Loaned Representative, Joel Kobyłka. Success of the event can be attributed to the passionate effort of the those being auctioned. The event showcased the power of student-led initiatives to impact the greater community.

## ALBERTA

### Mount Royal University

Submitted by: Natasha Reynolds

It's been a busy start to our 100<sup>th</sup> academic year here at MRU. Mount Royal Residence kicked off the celebration with one of our most successful Welcome Weeks in years. We've helped plant 100 trees on campus in honour of our centennial celebration and have sung with the likes of famous Canadian artists such as Fred Penner, Daniel Wesley and K-os at the first annual UFest concert. It's an exciting time for students and staff on our campus with many incredible events in the works and so many incredible years to reflect on and celebrate.

MRU Residence would like to welcome two brand new coordinators to our team! Kyle Ross and Alyssa Graham have both joined us from Ontario this past spring and have continued to make a positive impact on the students in our halls and in the continuous development of our program. We would also like to take this time to welcome them to the NWACUHO region.

### Red Deer College

Submitted by: Tim Siemens

Red Deer College revealed plans earlier this semester to relocate the Donald School of Business to the Millennium Centre in the heart of our City. "By expanding to this downtown location, RDC will provide increased access to our local business community, signaling the College's strength as an education leader", says RDC President, Joel Ward. The College is committed to student and faculty engagement with the business community and the community at large.

Shared experiences with local business will ensure our students have the necessary skills to grow into successful entrepreneurs and leaders. Local partnerships will encourage our students to work and live in central Alberta upon graduation, strengthening local business and industry and benefiting our region. Demands in the marketplace are constantly shifting and RDC is always looking for ways to enhance its programming and ensure the communities we serve have access to the programming they want.

"We are excited to offer our students a dynamic new environment downtown in which they can concentrate on team-based projects, and gain hands-on knowledge from business leaders in our community through work experience and other mentorship," says Joanne Packham, Dean of Business and Human Services at RDC.

Renovations to RDC's leased space at the Millennium Centre are anticipated to begin by December, 2010 with completion set for August, 2011. The space will house multiple classrooms, computer labs, learning common areas, and office space. Students will begin classes in the Millennium Centre in September, 2011.

On the technology front, Red Deer College has recently unveiled the first Canadian College Blackberry App as the fall semester kicked into gear. "We are on all the new social media as we know that is the ideal way students want to be communicated to. We wanted to create access to everything students need, whenever they need it," said Joel Ward, President, RDC.

The RDC Blackberry App buttons include:

- Classes – Includes a list of the name, term, instructors and will allow students to receive updates on their latest class schedule.
- Campus maps (both external and internal)
- Campus Rec – Information on student and staff events, and extracurricular activities.
- Academic Schedule – Will give access to students about when their classes are and other important dates.
- Feedback – Provides a way for students and the public to ask questions about the free App.

With the release of the iPhone App in April 2010, RDC is excited to be moving forward with the latest technology to offer students a more modern learning experience. The iPhone App also has updates with new buttons including: Athletics Schedule, Performing Arts Schedule, Campus Rec Schedule, Emergency Response info.

The Central Alberta College-Community Partnership (CAC-CP) has hired its first two senior staff for the Executive Director and General Manager positions. Effective immediately, Jean Madill will take on the role of CAC-CP Executive Director and Jann Beeston will take on the role of General Manager of Community Programming.

"This is the next major step in a new partnership that will enhance existing post-secondary options and add new opportunities for people living in central Alberta communities," said Dr. Tom Thompson, President, Olds College.

Under the Campus Alberta vision, CAC-CP is a partnership between Olds College and Red Deer College created to bring post-secondary learning closer to home for many central Albertans. This partnership, formed last spring, will provide a broad range of programming to communities through the use of the latest technology, including videoconferencing and web-conferencing. Students will be supported by sites in local communities that serve as hubs for services and support.

"Education can go beyond physical boundaries traditionally laid out for students. Through this partnership, we expect to see great growth in the learning patterns of our communities and schools," says Joel Ward, President, Red Deer College.

The regional stewardship provided by this joint effort brings collaboration between local and provincial learning providers to ensure a coordinated approach to meeting the adult learning needs of our central Alberta communities.



## University of Calgary

Submitted by: Mark Keller

We continue to see many changes at the University of Calgary. We're happy to announce two new hires within the Residence Education area.

First, Lakshmi Sangaranarayanan has been hired as the new Associate Director, Housing Services and Residence Education. Having come to us from the University of Colorado-Boulder, Lakshmi is very excited to be both at the U of C and in Canada (and we're excited to have her here).

Second, Alexandria (Alë) Veffer has joined us as the Residence Life Coordinator for Rundle Hall. Alë joins us after completing her Bachelor's degree in Kinesiology from Wilfred Laurier University. Alë has brought a great energy to our team and we're all really glad to have her here.

Our new residence hall is rapidly approaching completion as well as the triumphant event of its naming. We'll be housing summer conference guests in this new building starting in April and we're looking forward to showcasing our latest construction project. Good luck to everyone as we move into the winter months (it's snowing as I write this). Take care.

# OREGON

## Pacific University

Submitted by: Tyler Parker

The Pacific University Department of Housing and Residence Life has welcomed two new Resident Directors, Benjamin Dictus and Tyler Parker, and a Residence Life Manager, Ginger Smith, to their professional team.

Benjamin Dictus hails from Appleton, Wisconsin and now makes his home in McCormick Hall. He earned a Bachelor of the Arts in Biology in 2006 from Lawrence University. He then worked as a Leadership Consultant for his fraternity, Phi Delta Theta, for two years before he completed a Masters degree in College Student Personnel from Bowling Green State University. He loves traveling, rugby, banjos, plants, marathons, and his partner, Cassie.

Walter Hall Resident Director Tyler Parker is a New York native. He received his Bachelor of Fine Arts in Illustration from the Maryland Institute College of Art in 2007 and his Master of Arts from The University Of Brighton in 2009. When not working with students he enjoys making artwork, playing ukulele, graphic novels and records. Residence Life Manager Ginger Smith is from Othello, Washington. She is a recent graduate of Pacific University. She enjoys dancing, crafts, hiking, and cooking.



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The advertisement features three images: a modern multi-story student housing building, a bright and furnished student room, and a common area with a circular ceiling light fixture.

### **Southern Oregon University**

Submitted by: Liz Green

Krista Wiseman, Area Coordinator for the Greensprings Complex

Krista most recently joins us from the midwest where she was a Residence Hall Director for two years at Augustana College. She brings many experiences with residence hall management, residential education initiatives, and advising organizations.

Allyson Beck, Area Coordinator for the Cascade Complex

Allyson most recently joins us from Northern Illinois University, where she completed a Master's degree in student affairs administration. While at NIU she co-advised RHA and brings numerous experiences working with student leaders in the residence halls.

# WASHINGTON

### **The Evergreen State College**

Submitted by: Michael Sledge

Evergreen is completing work on a \$20 million dollar project to renovate our Campus Activities Building (CAB), bringing it to LEED Gold status. Highlights of this process include achieving a 95% construction waste recycling rate, and more efficient use of water including a recycling system for use in the cafeteria dish washing process, and a 28,000 gallon cistern for reusing storm water. The new CAB houses Student Activities, the campus bookstore and radio station, a student-run eatery, and additional student and staff gathering space. The CAB is also home to the primary campus dining common, the Greenery, which features a brand new look and food stations. Compost collection sites are located in all food service venues, and initial feedback indicates that students are pleased with the new space.

### **Gonzaga University**

Submitted by: Matt Lamsma

The year has started off very well and the Residence Life staff quickly made the transition from “training” to “doing.” Many in our Housing Department have said that this was the best opening in their tenures at Gonzaga. One of the changes we made this year with Orientation was a program called “Real World Gonzaga.” This event was mandatory for all first year students and was a great collaborative effort between Residence Life, RHA, Orientation Core, Gonzaga Student Body Association, Student Activities and the Student Wellness Resource Center. The program was recently recognized by our campus NRHH as the program of the month for September. Using student stories, videos, and skits, “Real World Gonzaga” shared information about staying safe on campus, our “Green Dot” message, and Gonzaga values as evidenced in our campus policies, rules and expectations. In general the program received positive feedback and we are excited to improve it for next year.

### **University of Puget Sound**

Submitted by: Kelly Ammendolia

It was an outstanding fall opening at Puget Sound. In particular, Residence Life is proud of some changes that we made to our fall student staff training model. This year, we focused heavily on assessment and streamlining our training sessions and activities to produce specific learning outcomes. This involved a great deal of legwork up front to analyze division and department missions and learning goals, and to assess feedback from focus groups and prior training assessments, in order to develop a set of learning outcomes for training. The end product was a successful outcomes-driven training that fostered intentional, measurable learning and development.

We recently bid farewell to Resident Director Travis Mears, who has accepted a position working at the University of Washington, Tacoma. We're excited for him as he begins this next step in his career and wish him all the best! We've since conducted a search to fill our vacant resident director position and are thrilled to report that an offer has been made and accepted! We are just waiting for some Human Resources pieces to be completed before we make a formal announcement. We'll be sure to introduce you all to the newest member of our team in the Spring edition of the Soundings.

# ALASKA

## **Alaska Pacific University**

Submitted by: Sonja Olson

APU Campus Life is off to a great start this fall with an active student body assisting in changes for the university. The campus Atwood Center will be remodeled this summer to create a cozy student center with “coffee house” seating, staging and after hours dining components. Campus Life is assisting in student forums regarding the layout of the remodel and anticipating a great center for the on-campus students.

Campus Life is also in the beginnings of a search process for a member of our 3 person team as the Assistant Director of Campus Life for Campus Safety. The department is hoping to fill the position by January.

## **Prince William Sound Community College**

Submitted by: Chris Washko

There have been a lot of changes in Valdez at Prince William Sound Community College. The multi-million dollar residence hall renovation is complete and students have moved in! On campus enrollment is currently at a low, but is expected to rise rapidly due to the fact that residents had been living in a hotel in town while the renovations were completed.

A couple of new positions have also been created, three Community Advisors have been added in the residence halls, as well as a Campus Life Coordinator (the latter position has not been filled yet and can be found on [www.uakjobs.com](http://www.uakjobs.com)).

## **University of Alaska Anchorage**

Submitted by: Maria Bonifacio

We are happy that there has been very little change in our department this year! Our professional staff is all returning, with our newest addition to the Residence Life team being our Office Manager, Kerry Davis, who started this summer. Kerry came to us from UAA’s Department of Student Life and Leadership. We are excited to have Kerry on board!

## **University of Alaska Fairbanks**

Submitted by: Laura McCollough

We have two new Resident Directors, Nick Kramer and Megan Connaghan and Iwa Namaau is our new Assignments Coordinator. Nick and Megan have quickly become a part of our Fairbanks family. Iwa has been a part of our family for several years so we are very happy with her role within the department.

We are anxiously awaiting the opening of Skarland Hall. Skarland had some facility issues that needed to be updated and it has been off line for two years. We are hoping that it will be completed and ready for use in August 2011.

We are now hosting three classes in our EDGE program. We are excited about bringing classes into the halls. These classes have provided the opportunity to connect with faculty members on campus. We are looking forward to increase the number of classes each year.

## **University of Alaska Southeast**

Submitted by: Stephanie Self

Lots of changes this year! Stephanie Self was promoted to Residence Life Manager, as we said farewell to Christopher Washko, who is now the Director of Student Services at Prince William Sound Community College in Valdez, AK. We welcomed Paul Dorman on-board as our new Residence Life Coordinator, overseeing our first-year students and serving as the assistant manager to the housing complex. Paul comes to us from Minnesota and brings with him a strong recreational background and great enthusiasm

for student programming.

As a collaborative venture this year, our Residence Life staff, along with Tara Fritzinger (Wellness Coordinator), and Shea Mack (Rec Center Assistant Mgr), created the "Alaskan Spirit" programming series, aimed at offering educational, recreational, and cultural activities to get our students out and involved in Alaskan living. We sponsor events ranging from berry picking and jelly making, to kayaking, camping, and survival skills clinics. Our hope is that, through shared experiences exploring the arts, culture, and activities that make Southeast Alaska so unique, they are able to forge stronger connections with each other, thereby strengthening our greater campus community.

Facilities-wise, we are remodeling approximately 3 apartment units per term—a project that has been going on for the past two years. We are adding a covered bridge structure to the entrance of Banfield Hall, our first-year residence hall, to provide better weather protection. We have roofing and painting projects in the works on various buildings, and anticipate the addition of a much larger trash disposal and recycling center later in the year. They have a lot going on!



# like to blog?

ACUHO-I is looking for a dedicated blogger to represent NWACUHO for their ACUHO-I daily blog. If this is something of interest to you please contact Brian Stroup at [brian.stroup@oregonstate.edu](mailto:brian.stroup@oregonstate.edu) and explain why you're interested and what experience you have blogging. This is a great way to get involved with the region doing something that you may already do on a daily basis!

# putting the community in community college

**Evan Thrailkill**

**The University of Alabama at Birmingham**

As I began my search process for a summer internship, I decided to take on the daunting task of researching and procuring an ACUHO-I internship. As a sophomore undergraduate student at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, I didn't know what would be in store for me. I began looking through the list of thousands of schools that offered ACUHO-I internships. I didn't know what I wanted or expected from this internship, or where I wanted to go. There were so many options from which to choose. Should I try going up north, or going to the Pacific Northwest, perhaps going to a small school, or a large four year institution, or maybe going to a public school, private school, or even a privatized housing company? Thus, I began emailing schools, all different kinds in various regions across America. At first, I emailed around 15 schools. After having phone interviews for around 13, I was stoked. However, those 13 phone interviews culminated, and I didn't receive an offer. Thus, I began looking again. I came across *Green River Community College* in Auburn, WA, and I thought to myself, "This is going to be lame housing at a community college." However the complex was owned by Capstone Companies, so I thought I would give it a try. I emailed the director, despite my negative preconceived thoughts. I then phone interviewed with the director, and only a few short days later interviewed with the assistant directors. The following Monday, I received a call saying that they wanted to offer me the internship. I accepted with excitement, but I had my reservations since it was a 'community college'.

As I began telling people around campus about this exciting opportunity, I received a multitude of feedback. Most of it was from people who "looked down upon" community colleges. As time passed, I became unsure of this opportunity at the college, but didn't want others' ideas as well as mine, influence my decision. I thought to myself "am I going to get the same experience at *Green River* that I would get at a four year institution?"

Finally, I accepted this challenge, and the day arrived; I flew out of Birmingham, AL on my way to Auburn, WA not knowing what to expect. After a long flight across the states I arrived in Washington. As soon as I arrived, I could quickly tell my expectations were all wrong. The student housing complex was very nice. These were apartment style with four individual bedrooms and two bathrooms. After only my first week on the job, I had already begun to understand the community college atmosphere and the challenges to having on-campus housing. This amazing internship opened my eyes to the community college world. I realized it wasn't as "lame" as I had thought. I quickly adjusted to my new environment and began working on typical internship projects. Some of the things I accomplished while participating in this internship were: office communications, updating/formulating an emergency manual, formulating a residence council manual, and working on archives. I also gained experience in marketing. I worked on a new PDF online application, as well as a system to track prospective residents.

Not only did I do "housekeeping" sort of work, I also got to experience the amazing student leadership aspect at a community college. I was part of the CLEO (Community Leadership, Education, & Outreach) program. CLEO is a unique opportunity within the community college system for students to challenge themselves and gain work experiences. I attended the end of the year leadership banquet, and was thoroughly blown away by the amazing student leaders. The RA's were included in this group of student leaders. They were awesome, and many of them were transferring to renowned four year institutions. I also had the opportunity to attend GRCC graduation. This was also an eye-opening experience. To witness all the students who had put their hard work into getting a degree, and then transferring or continuing in a profession - - - all of this was truly outstanding.

About midway through the summer, I began meeting with various stakeholders on campus to see how they interacted with Capstone. This was one of the most successful parts of my internship. I began to understand how the college thrived as a "community." With all the departments working as one: Capstone Cooperate Office, the Campus Corner Apartment Staff, the Student Life Staff, Campus Safety, the Foundation, and the International Programs Office. A prime example of this was the Campus Corner Apartments Coordinating Council (CCACC). The CCACC meets twice a month and consist of the CCA Staff and all the stakeholders on campus. This meeting is where student concerns were addressed, as well as concerns *Green River* had with Capstone.

This internship truly opened my thoughts about working at a community college. I saw how the students interacted, and enjoyed living on campus. I also witnessed the atmosphere of a community of student affairs professionals working together to achieve a common goal: student success. I don't think I would have gained as much professional experience if I would have chosen

a four year school at which to pursue my internship. I think my opinion was valued more, and thus I had more of an impact on new ideas and change that was implemented. I also had a lot more responsibility being on such a small staff over the summer; I genuinely felt as if I was part of the core leadership at Campus Corner Apartments, and that my opinions were valued. It was truly an unforgettable experience.



Evan and two of his RAs

An advertisement for eRezLife residence life software. The background is red with a white dashed line. On the left, the eRezLife logo is shown with the tagline "residence life software". Below the logo, the text reads "Affordable. Customized. Scalable." and "eRezLife Software is proud to announce the release of our online residence assignments system which provides all of the tools required to manage your assignments process. Continuing our tradition of creating powerful and user-friendly tools, our system is affordable for even the smallest schools. The assignments module may be used as a stand-alone system or integrated with our proven suite of residence life modules." On the right, there are three photographs: one of three women smiling, one of a group of people holding a sign that says "IT'S A GREAT YEAR!", and one of two men sitting on the grass with a laptop. Below the photos, the text says "Modules include (but are not limited to):" followed by a bulleted list: "Students at Risk", "RA Programming", "Roommate Mediation", "RA Weekly &amp; Duty Night Reports", and "Student Judicial". At the bottom, the website "www.erezlife.com" is displayed.

# conference scholarships

## 2011 NWACUHO VENNIE GORE SCHOLARSHIP

The NWACUHO Vennie Gore Scholarship is designed to make participation in the annual NWACUHO conference possible for graduate students and new professionals who are interested in working in housing and residence life. The scholarship is specifically “need based” to allow new professionals to attend whose personal funding or institutional support would normally prohibit participation. The 2011 conference will be held February 13-15, 2011 in Vancouver, British Columbia.

The Vennie Gore Scholarship is a needs-based scholarship that consists of a waiver of the conference registration fee and up to \$100 USD (receipts required) in travel expenses for the annual conference.

### Scholarship Information:

There are two scholarships available. **Eligible individuals are either graduate students or within their first three years of full-time professional experience at the time of application.**

Applications must be received on time to be considered.

Applicants must either be from a NWACUHO member institution or hold an individual paying membership.

Recipients will be expected to submit an article to the May Soundings, the first publication after the conference.

Winners will be notified by January 14, 2011.

### A complete application consists of:

An application form completed by the potential scholarship recipient.

Responses to the essay questions completed by the applicant.

A letter from the applicant’s supervisor showing their support and corroborating the candidate’s need for financial assistance.

**Applications must be submitted by email, memo or fax no later than December 17, 2010** by downloading the application form from <http://www.nwacuho.org> in the Awards and Scholarships section. Contact Steve Fitterer at [sfitterer@mtroyal.ca](mailto:sfitterer@mtroyal.ca) for more information.

## 2011 NWACUHO NEW PROFESSIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The New Professional Scholarship is designed to make participation in the annual NWACUHO conference possible **for professionals within their first three years of full time experience** who are interested in working in housing and residential life. The 2011 conference will be held February 13-15, 2011 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

The New Professional Scholarship consists of: a waiver of the conference fee, room accommodations during the conference and reimbursement of travel expenses up to \$500 USD (receipts required).

### Scholarship Information

There are two scholarships available: one for a Canadian delegate and one for an American delegate. **Eligible individuals must be within their first three years of full-time professional experience at the time of nomination.**

Someone other than yourself must nominate you.

Nominations must be received on time to be considered.

Nominees must either be from a NWACUHO member institution or hold an individual paying membership.

Recipients will be expected to present, or co-present, a program during the conference as a condition of accepting the scholarship.

Recipients will be expected to submit an article to the May Soundings, the first publication after the conference.

Winners will be notified by January 14, 2011.

### A complete application consists of:

A nomination form completed by someone other than the prospective award recipient.

A descriptive letter of nomination addressing the reasons for nomination as well as the nominee's current and potential future contributions to the profession.

**To nominate an individual, submit the nomination form as well as a descriptive letter of nomination by email or fax no later than December 17, 2010.** The nomination form is available for download at <http://www.nwacuho.org> in the Awards and Scholarships section. Contact Steve Fitterer at [sfitterer@mtroyal.ca](mailto:sfitterer@mtroyal.ca) for more information.

## **2011 NWACUHO GRADUATE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP**

With a very generous donation from an anonymous source, NWACUHO is pleased to announce the formation of the new Graduate Student Scholarship. This scholarship is designed to make attendance and participation at our annual NWACUHO conference possible for full-time graduate students who are interested in working in the university residential housing profession. The 2011 conference will be held February 13-15, 2011 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

The Graduate Student Scholarship consists of a waiver of the conference registration fee and reimbursement of travel expenses up to \$250 USD (receipts required).

### Scholarship Information:

There is one scholarship available. **Eligible individuals must be a full-time graduate student.**

Applications must be received on time to be considered.

Applicants must either be from a NWACUHO member institution or hold an individual paying membership.

Recipients will be expected to submit an article to the May Soundings, the first publication after the conference.

Winners will be notified by January 14, 2011.

### A complete application consists of:

An application form completed by the potential scholarship recipient.

Responses to the essay questions completed by the applicant.

A letter from the applicant's supervisor showing their support and corroborating the candidate's interest in attending the annual conference.

**Applications must be submitted by email, memo or fax no later than December 17, 2010** by downloading the application form from <http://www.nwacuho.org> in the Awards and Scholarships section. Contact Steve Fitterer at [sfitterer@mtroyal.ca](mailto:sfitterer@mtroyal.ca) for more information.

# nwacuho executive board positions available

## **NWACUHO EXECUTIVE BOARD POSITIONS AVAILABLE**

**Letters of Interest / Nominations Due: December 10, 2010**

There are four positions open on the NWACUHO Executive Board. Becoming a board member is an excellent opportunity for anyone that is looking to expand upon his or her professional roles and fantastic way to give to the region. Nominees for positions on the Board of Directors must be employed at a member institution, have demonstrated a commitment to the mission and purposes of Northwest Association of College and University Housing Officers, have the fiscal support of their host institution, and must have expertise in areas relevant to the needs of the organization.

Some of the specific responsibilities are listed below. For more information, contact one of the current Board members or review the NWACUHO By-Laws on our website.

### **Meeting Information**

- The executive board meets 3 times a year.
- Dinner costs are covered during the meetings and lunch on the full meeting day is also covered, other meals are considered “on your own.”
- Agendas are developed by the president, with input from ALL members of the board and sent out prior to the meeting.
- Flights and or other modes of transportation are taken care of by each individual and their home institutions. For members who are having difficulty covering the cost due to issues around budgets, the board may be able to assist in funding costs of travel.
- Hotel is covered during the fall and spring meeting, but during the conference it is up to institutions to cover your hotel costs.
- The fall meeting is usually held at the end of October, or the beginning of November and is held in the location of the upcoming February conference.
- Meetings begin on the first evening at 6 p.m. for group time and dinner, with meetings all the following day, and departure time around noon on the third day. There is a meeting tied to the annual conference and for this meeting we start on Friday night, meet most of the day Saturday.
- The spring meeting is usually in May. Typically the schedule is like the fall meeting.

For the coming year (2011-2012) the following positions are available:

### **President Elect (1 year term, 3 year commitment, elected)**

The President-Elect is a one year term position on a three year track towards providing primary leadership for the association. As President-Elect, the incumbent is primarily responsible for the conference program and working with the host committee on the development of the year’s conference. Additionally, the President-Elect represents NWACUHO at the annual ACUHO-I Conference. The President-Elect transitions to become the Association President in his/her second year of service with the Executive Board, and then Past-President in his/her third year. The position is elected by the association’s membership.

### **Oregon State and Alberta Provincial Representative (2 year term, appointed)**

The State & Provincial Representatives act as a liaison to members in their respective state or province, and work to represent the concerns and voice of the association’s membership. Representatives also work closely with the President Elect on the annual conference program. The positions are appointed by the President-Elect for a 2-year term.

### **Newsletter Editor (2-year term, elected)**

The Newsletter Editor is primarily responsible for overseeing all production elements of the NWACUHO Newsletter “Soundings” which is published three times per year. Duties include coordination of newsletter production timelines, layout editorial functions and distribution. The position is for a 2-year term, and is elected by the association’s membership.

If you are interested in any of the above positions, or in nominating a colleague for one of these opportunities, please submit the following by **December 10, 2010**:

- a one page nomination statement and summary of experience for distribution to the association’s membership.
- a letter of support of your involvement from your institution’s Chief Housing Officer or immediate supervisor.

Note that the association has limited funds available to provide financial support for board member attendance at board meetings, and financial support from your institution is desirable. We do not however, wish to discourage member involvement based upon financial restrictions.

Submit both to Rich DeShields, Past-President at [DeShielR@cwu.edu](mailto:DeShielR@cwu.edu)

# nwacuho annual awards

## NWACUHO ANNUAL AWARDS

**Nominations Due: December 17, 2010**

NWACUHO is currently seeking nominations for three annual awards.

### **Nomination Process for all awards:**

Please submit a one to two page letter of nomination describing the contributions of the NWACUHO member no later than **December 17th**. The NWACUHO Executive Committee will select the award winner. Submit to Richard DeShields, Past President at [DeShielR@cwu.edu](mailto:DeShielR@cwu.edu).

### **Excellence in Service Award**

The NWACUHO Award for Excellence in Service is designed to acknowledge the ongoing contributions of a professional in the NWACUHO region. The award will be given to a person who during the past year has demonstrated outstanding service to the region or at the national or international level.

### **The David B. Stephen Award**

The prestigious David B. Stephen Award recognizes a member of NWACUHO who, over their years of service, has provided outstanding contributions to our association. David B. Stephen served this organization as President, Newsletter Editor, and initiator of the Northwest Training Institute and in many other capacities during his tenure in the Northwest. Through this award, we wish to honor those who have contributed to NWACUHO with the same kind of spirit.

### **Kay Rich Award**

The Kay Rich Award acknowledges the contributions that individual housing professionals within our region have made as leaders and mentors throughout the course of their careers, whether at NWACUHO regional institutions or elsewhere.

### **Operations Award**

This award recognizes a member of NWACUHO for outstanding service in the operations areas during the past year (NWACUHO to NWACUHO). This award will be given to a person who has contributed best practices in their professional area. Special consideration will be given to those who have participated within the NWACUHO region through conferences, newsletter submissions, committee involvement, and other regional activities and events. Nominations will include a letter of support from the nominator.

### **Best Practices Award**

This award recognizes a member institution that demonstrates excellence in a designated area of student housing. A different area or function is selected each year for this award.

This year's theme: Social Justice Program

Nominations will be evaluated based on:

- The nominated institution's contributions to their institution and/or NWACUHO in the assigned area as selected by the executive committee.
- Quality of the program(s)
- Timeliness of the program(s) and the issues
- Demonstration of effectiveness or value
- Defined goals of the program
- Ability for some of the nomination to be adapted to other campuses

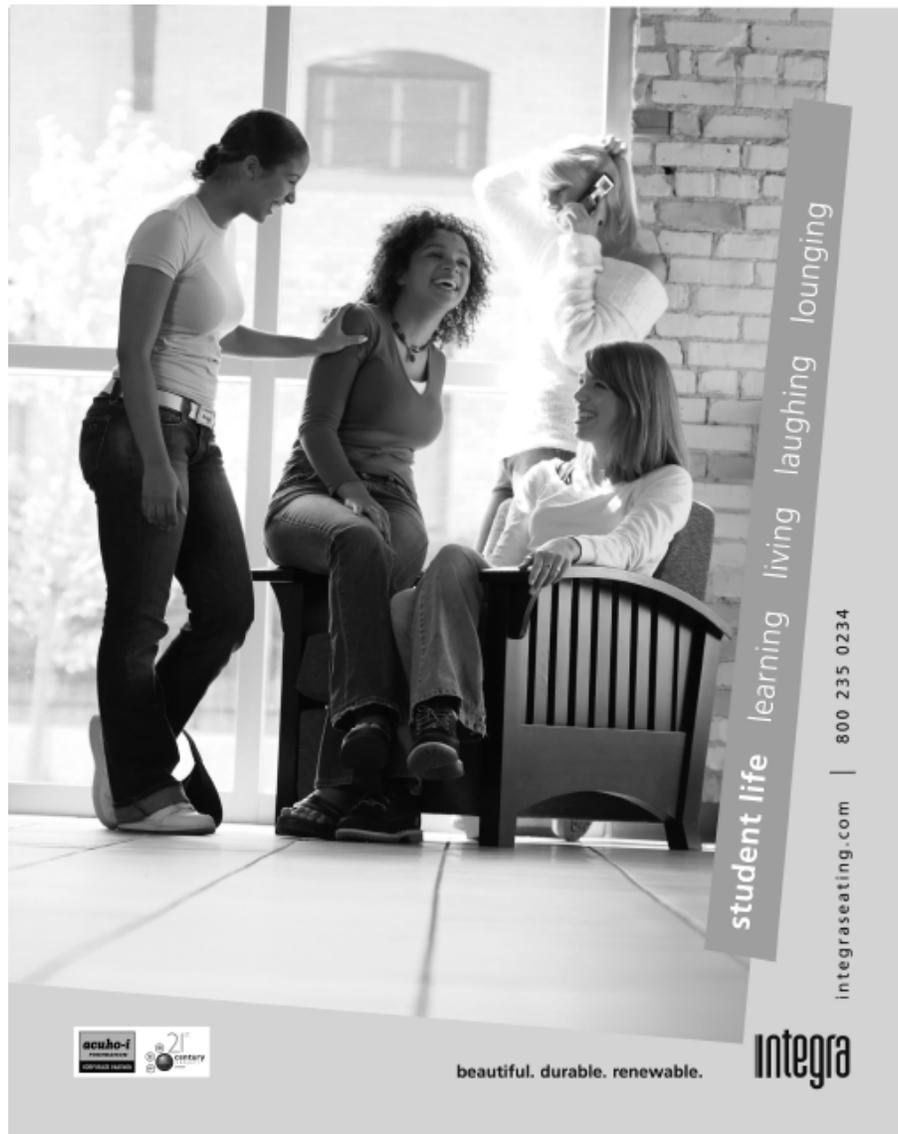
**Best Practices Bid Information:** All entries must submit an emailed document of their program. Bids will be no longer than ten (10) pages (10-12 point type) this includes indices, letters of recommendation, text, etc.); covers and title pages are not included in the page count, dividers are included. All bids must contain page numbers. A letter of recommendation is required.



**The Collegiate Readership Program**, managed by USA TODAY, provides students with access to a daily assortment of newspapers on campus.

USA TODAY and a combination of local, regional and/or national newspapers (chosen for distribution by your college or university) are delivered each weekday morning to displays conveniently located in the lobbies of residence halls and other campus locations. Students then select one or more of the papers daily for their reading enjoyment.

The goals of the program are to encourage a lifelong newspaper readership habit and to increase students' knowledge of local, national and international events.



# in the next *soundings*...

The next edition of the *Soundings* will be published at the start of January. Here's what to look forward to:

- **2011 Annual Conference Information.** Last minute information on the annual conference including the agenda for the business meeting will be included.
- **Articles.** There will be articles in the next edition and one could be by you! To see what articles have been submitted in the past please check out past issues on the NWACUHO website here: <http://nwacuho.org/wiki.cgi?OnlineSoundings>  
Article submissions are due by December 15th and can be e-mailed to me at [brian.stroup@oregonstate.edu](mailto:brian.stroup@oregonstate.edu).

Between now and the next edition have a great Fall!

Brian Stroup  
*Soundings* Editor

the soundings  
c/o brian stroup  
oregon state university  
102 buxton hall  
corvallis, or 97331

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Done reading the *Soundings*? Pass it on!!

Please remember to share the *Soundings* with the rest of your colleagues in the office and on your respective campus. A digital copy can be found at [www.nwacuho.org](http://www.nwacuho.org)