

Should I Study Abroad? Process and Deadlines -
See story 4 & 5



Knights Times

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*Tiresias (Amy Vaught) tells Creon (Sam Palmquist) that he has caused the city's sickness, while the city elders listen. Photo of the Fall production of **Antigone** courtesy of Scott Thompson.*

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Knights Season Preview

By Josh Gaunt &
Steven Wesley

A revamped Warner Pacific men's basketball team is preparing for the 2010-2011 Cascade Collegiate Conference basketball season. There are a lot of new faces on the team this year as well as a few key players returning from last year, creating an opportunity for another successful season of Knights basketball.

One of the most overlooked and least liked pieces of developing a good basketball team is conditioning. The team started running around and up and down Mt. Tabor in early September to get conditioned for the season. The hard work paid off during the first week of practice starting in October when Head Coach Bart Valentine started with a heavy emphasis on coaching defensive fundamentals and lots of conditioning. His son, Jared Valentine, is the associate head coach; the two have coached together at Warner Pacific for seven years. Warner Pacific College has gone to five national tournaments, won two conference titles, and won two conference tournament titles in the last seven years.

Warner Pacific has four seniors who will help lead the team this year: Web Moreland, Andre Davis, Jordan Paulson, and Nate Holthenrichs. Out of these four seniors, three of them are returning players. Web is an athletic combo guard who likes to slash and get to the rack. Andre is the team's big body down low, which will provide a needed presence in the paint this year. Jordan is a quick point guard who works hard and helps provide leadership on the court. Nate is a big man who can rebound and step outside to shoot the three ball. Head coach Bart Valentine is asking for his seniors to step up this season to lead this year's team to big things. All of the leaders as well as the other players seem to be excited about this new year.

Other key contributors for this year's team include Biniam Tadele, the sharp shooter from the three point line, returning for his third year at Warner. Nick Schultens is a good shooter who will play the one and two guard this year. Sean Gaines is an athletic player who brings a lot of energy and hustles for everything. Diego Herrejon, in his second year at WPC, is a crafty player around the hoop and has good instincts on the defensive end. Traevone Bowie is an athletic shooting guard who has one of the best shooting touches on the team. Nathan Graham is a good shooter who works on both ends of the court.



Back Row: (From left to right) Coach Jared Valentine, Coach Garold Howe, Web Moreland, Nate Holthenrichs, Andrey Orlov, Andre Davis, Sean Gaines, Biniam Tadele, Steven Wesley, Coach Scott, Head Coach Bart Valentine. Front Row: Traevone Bowie, Nick Schultens, Josh Black, Nathan Graham, Jordan Paulson, Brett Skogstad, Markis Robinson, Stephen Harris, Diego Herrejon

The Knights are projected to take fifth in the CCC conference according to the coach's preseason poll, which may be attributed to the fact that the team is fairly inexperienced and still has a lot to learn. That's why head coach Bart Valentine has been going over every detail to get players adjusted to his system of play. Practices generally begin with one of several warm-up drills which include full court passing, conditioning, and development of players' concentration skills. Many of the drills are highly competitive because everyone is playing together as a team to meet performance goals. Coach Bart also spends practice time working on different offensive sets to give the team live practice against one another to improve ball movement, interior dribble penetration, movement off the ball, and screening to create good open looks for one another. The team is preparing to be an explosive offensive team that not only gets out in the open court, but also executes in the half court. Repetition on the offensive drills allow the players to understand the offensive sets and how Coach Bart wants the team to execute on the offensive end of the floor.

Team goals for the year remain high even after multi talented combo guard Steven Wesley was lost for the season after wrist and leg injuries. Nonetheless, the team is working hard now to improve as much as they can so they are competing for the conference title when the regular season begins. Knight players Web Moreland and Nick Schultens were named to the preseason All CCC team, so they are expected to make a significant contribution to the team's goals of reaching another national tournament.

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The Lady Knights Machine

By Steven Wesley

The Lady Knights are nothing to shrug at, especially when it comes to basketball. Looking at last season's stats, these players did better than some of the better college men's teams in the conference. Their 2009-10 record ended up 18-10 overall, and 13-5 for conference. The Lady Knights have been led by Head Coach Matt Gregg since 2008, who comes from my home area in Eastern Washington. Assistant coaches Angie Sun, a home girl of our own, has been with the team since '06, and Kelsey Hill, who came from Seattle Pacific in '09, complete a young staff that is on fire and full of energy and enthusiasm, topped off with skills. With this staff as mentors, the team has proven to have the making of a fine running machine, which comes from a team becoming, in reality, a single player with multiple parts lead by a single component (the coaches).

This team has some seasoned players with this year's line-up consisting of two seniors, Miranda Holenstein, playing and dominating at post, and Kara Kasch another intensive post player, as well as six juniors: Cameryn Calhoun, a point guard who keeps the team organized on the court; Kelsey Mattsen, a guard/post who powers in the paint, attacks and shoots from the outside, and is also quick on defense; Alma Silva-Ramirez, a guard who is a definite asset ready for business; Katie Smith, a transfer post who can do it all; Layne Tucker, another transfer guard, shooter, a spark that can bring it all together; and Meaghan White, playing forward and not afraid to lead the way. Coming in as sophomores are Adrienne Spiering, working the post position and Lisa Terry, a guard who can come into the game and make things happen. The new-

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Defensively, the team has been working hard throughout the preseason on trapping, zone reads, help rotations, boxing out, and defensive intensity. Overall the team has progressed steadily on the defensive end of the floor, although transition defense continues to be an area where Coach Bart wants to see more improvement. In order to be a national contender and build on last season's overall record of 22-10, the Knights are going to have to improve on team defense every week throughout the season.

The coaching staff continues to build cohesion with the players as the team begins to improve every day in practice. Associate Head Coach Jared Valentine commented that "the team is focused on getting better every day." This emphasis on improvement will help this inexperienced, but talented group to another successful year. This year's team wants to go back to the national tournament to continue the schools success but to also make their mark on the national stage. The team has the size, skill, and athleticism to go deep into the national tournament; it's just a matter of the team bonding together on the defensive end of the floor, while executing on offense. Day to day improvement has become the emphasis this preseason, and will need to continue throughout the regular season if the Knights are to have another successful year.

comers on the team are freshmen Michelle Bolliger, a strong 5'9" guard, Jondi Das, a 5'10" Kapa from Hawaii playing post (need I say more?), Jessica Denmon, playing guard at only 5'5" (but don't let her height fool you, she's sassy and scrappy off the bench and a dominate rebounder), and Jelisa Pretz, ready to guard standing 5'8." The Lady Knights were picked in the Preseason Coaches' Poll to finish 5th in the Cascade Collegiate Conference, with Cameryn Calhoun and Kelsey Mattsen making the 15-player lineup for the CCC Preseason All Conference Team.

The women beat Simpson University 77-62 in the home opening game, then rolled past Walla Walla University 60-23, and started the official 2010-2011 season with a strong 79-62 win over Rocky Mountain College at the Westminster Tipoff Tournament. The women's team is definitely proving to be a well-oiled machine this season ready to track their wins in the conference. After an impressive come from behind win in their last preseason game, these ladies were ready for league play, which started the first week in December and will go through March. The Lady Knights had two tough battles that first weekend to start the conference play. On Friday, December 3rd, the ladies played Oregon Institute of Technology. The entire game was a battle and even went into overtime, but they won 70-66. On December 4th, the ladies played against Southern Oregon University. During the first half, the Lady Knights were leading by a few points the whole time. Throughout the game it was a battle; unfortunately our ladies lost, 60-61, on a buzzer-beater.

This team is looking great, so get out and support our Lady Knights this season. They have been working hard, and it definitely shows.



Junior Katie Smith looks for a teammate during the Lady Knights game against Southern Oregon on December 4th. Photo by Cody Harrod

Should I Study Abroad?

By Jacqueline Mejia

Studying abroad could be that significant experience in your college career that will change your life forever. Nothing will be quite the same after you have studied abroad. Tired of running into the same people on campus all the time? Studying abroad gives you the chance to meet people from all over. It's also an awesome way to strengthen social skills, as you'll be in a situation where you need to make friends and interact with strangers who are completely different from you.

The biggest myth of studying abroad: "Only language majors study abroad." Study abroad programs are actually open to students of all majors, and in fact, more social sciences, business, humanities, and arts majors study abroad than foreign language majors. Fact: Less than 10% of American college students study abroad! Putting yourself in this small group will provide endless opportunities in all aspects in your life.

The experience will most likely strengthen beliefs or cause students to alter or abandon them and embrace new concepts and perspective for the better of their well-being as a whole. An integration into other cultures will help students to see their own culture through new eyes.

Warner Pacific's Off-Campus Study (OCS) Program offers several opportunities for outside study through a partnership with the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU). If you want further information, contact Kaylee Krout at the Office of Student Affairs. "There are a lot of benefits to studying abroad. No matter what type of person you are or what type of personality you have, studying abroad can most definitely help you," Kaylee said.

Warner Pacific alumnus Kirstie Richman participated in the Oxford Summer Programme (OSP). "Studying abroad in England was definitely the best summer of my life," Kirstie says. The choice of your destination will most always be a desire based on past or present experiences or in relation to your major. And that was the case for Kirstie. "My major was English because of my love for literature. Almost all of my favorite authors were British, so I was interested in going to England to see if I could figure out what it was about the country that produced some of the many authors that I admired." When Kirstie learned that Warner Pacific offered a study abroad program that went to Oxford in the summer for one month, she knew it was the perfect opportunity. She didn't want to spend three to four months overseas and she didn't want to just spend a week in England on vacation playing the part of a tourist, so the one month summer study abroad worked for her.

Got some questions right now? Unsure if this is the path you want to take? I've got you covered with frequently asked questions (and answers) to help you get started:

Do I need a certain GPA or credits to be accepted to the program?

You need a minimum of one semester full-time attendance at WPC before starting the application to OCS. You will also need proof of a cumulative GPA of 3.2 and you must be a junior (either term) or senior class standing (first term only) during OCS term.

What are the steps I need to take?

You will need to complete the WPC OSC Process before applying to an off-campus study program. The WPC OCS Process consists of the following:

- Forms:** WPC OCS Standards Form, WPC OCS Application Form, WPC Faculty/ Advisor Reference Form and the WPC OCS Pre-Application Checklist form. The deadline to submit these forms to the Office of Student Affairs is January 15!
- Interview:** You will be interviewed by the WPC OCS Selection Committee soon after the deadline.
- Selection:** Selected applicants will be notified of their eligibility to apply directly to their target OCS Programs with enough time to meet the individual application deadlines of their selected OCS Programs.

OCS Program Options

American Studies Program (ASP)
Australia Studies Centre (ASC)
China Studies Program (CSP)
Contemporary Music Program (CMP)
Latin American Studies Program (LASP)
Los Angeles Film Studies Center (LAFSC)
Middle East Studies Program (MESP)
India Studies Program (ISP)
The Scholars' Semester in Oxford (SSO)
Uganda Studies Program (USP)
Washington Journalism Center (WJC)
Oxford Summer Programme (OSP)

I have absolutely no money. How much does it cost? Does financial aid apply? Are scholarships available for studying abroad?

The cost depends on the type of program chosen, the length of stay, etc. If the program is through WPC, fees will be about the same as current tuition rates, but can vary depending on the program. In a lot of cases, federal financial aid in the form of the Stafford loan and Pell Grant can be used for an approved Study Abroad program. Make sure your FAFSA/waiver is on file. Be sure to discuss your specific financial needs with the WPC OCS Program Coordinator during the early stages of the application process and get help completing your financial statement on the expenses you anticipate. Ask questions about certain scholarships you have and whether these will apply to the study abroad experience. Don't forget to complete the applications for those programs that award scholarships and/or travel grants.

Are the study abroad programs competitive?

Some programs are more competitive than others, for the reason of higher GPA requirements or enrollment limits. While it is rare that students are not able to participate in the program of their choice, it is recommended for you to apply to competitive programs to choose a backup as well.

Do I have to speak a foreign language?

Proficiency in a foreign language is not a requirement for any of the programs with the exception of the Latin American Studies Program. Remember, there are many programs that offer English as the language of instruction and program requirements vary.

Is there any advice before we begin the process?

Kirstie's advice: Make sure you know exactly what the program expects you to pay for in your day-to-day expenses. Money is the main issue before anything else. Do you need to pay for any of your transportation, room and board, food, sightseeing, supplies? Also, what's the exchange rate of the dollar to the currency of the country you'll be going to? Sometimes the exchange rate can really eat a hole in your wallet, so plan ahead when saving money, and it's always a good idea to have more money available than what you think you'll need! You never know when some unexpected cost might come along! Also, the sooner you buy your plane ticket, the cheaper it'll be."

Another Warner Pacific alumnus, Mari Bettineski, now the Serials and Acquisitions Specialist for the Otto F. Linn Library, explained that when you study abroad you represent the entire institution that is supporting you, and you must realize that it's an honor to be selected. It's exciting to travel but it's more important that you benefit from the learning experience provided in a unique setting. "My greatest advice to anyone who is interested in studying abroad is this: To benefit from the entire experience, you have to be willing to fully embrace the new culture. You have to eat, breathe and absorb your surroundings. If you want your experience to be successful, you must be willing to change," Mari said.

If you have already asked and maybe answered these questions and are wondering about what the next step is—here are three major actions to take: 1. Meet with your advisor. As Warner Pacific student, Mixie McConnell, also interested in studying abroad, puts



A view of High Street in Oxford as seen from the tower at University Church of St. Mary the Virgin. Photo courtesy of Kirstie Richman.

it, "You will have to sit down and really look at what credits you have and what credits you need." Advisors will work with you to create a customized study abroad plan that will include a study abroad experience and that will help fulfill graduation requirements. Also, you might even decide to study abroad to get credits out of the way for your minor and/or mandatory elective classes. You can work with your advisor to find a way to take the courses you need to take before you leave as well as when you come back, especially those credits not available abroad.

2. Decide on a destination. If you already have set where you will like to go, this alone will lead a clearer and a narrower path. However keep in mind, the destination you want to travel to might not offer classes to complete your major, so check around different programs and keep your mind open to different destinations.

3. Do personal research. "If you want to go study abroad with a program not yet working with Warner, you will NEED to do more research.

But the partnering of a new program with Warner is very possible," Mixie states. This choice can be based on appropriate courses, length of the experience you want it to be, and so on.

"Will I get homesick once I'm there?"

I'm sorry to say, but you most probably will. But, that's just part of growing up to the man/woman you are becoming and you'll get over it no doubt. That's a promise. And very quickly you'll fall in love with your new home (or with someone there!) and when you go back to where you came from you'll be homesick all over again!

If you talk to anybody who has ever studied abroad, they will likely tell you that any worries or concerns they had before they departed melted away once they arrived in their host country. They will prove to you that their experience was well worth any extra expense or time it may have taken and that the benefits they have experienced as a result are more numerous and lasting than they ever could have imagined. Kirstie left me with one last piece of wisdom, "My trip abroad was well worth it, and I would encourage anyone who has an interest in going abroad to do it. Once you start traveling the world and seeing new places, you'll never want to stop."

More information can also be found at www.bestsemester.com

DIY: Christmas on a Budget

By Inge Pe'a

Christmas is traditionally a time when we spend lots of money, but it doesn't have to be. Other than the money that my grandma sends me every year, I can't remember any of the presents I got for Christmas last year and whatever they were, I don't know where they are now...except one. When my little sister was 13 she decided to use her artistic ability to draw a picture for everyone in our family as their present. I unfolded the 8 ½ X 11 piece of white paper to reveal a very good pencil drawing of my kitchen. I was confused at first as to why she drew my kitchen. There were pans, mixing bowls and cookies on the counter. "This is my favorite memory of you. I love the times we spent in your kitchen baking Halloween cookies, painting Christmas ornaments, decorating birthday cakes and talking." The piece of paper suddenly became more valuable than gold to me, and the only Christmas present I still remember from recent years. Christmas presents don't have to cost a lot of money to be good; they don't have to take a lot of time to make either. Here are some DIY budget Christmas gift ideas that your family and friends will love.

Cards with cookies

With glue, scissors and construction paper make handmade cards. Pair them with some homemade tree-shaped cookies for an easy present for college buddies, teachers or co-workers.

From scratch cookie kits

In a large glass mason jar, measure and layer the dry ingredients needed for cookies. Attach a note card with instructions to finish the mix. Decorate the jar with a pretty ribbon and you're done!

Personalized calendars

Use a blank calendar template on your computer and add pictures of people and things that are meaningful. Add in birthdays, holidays, anniversaries and other important dates.

Marble magnets

A bag of 25 flat glass marbles and a pack of small round magnets can be picked up at any craft store for about \$7. Comb through magazines for small cute pictures or draw your own and glue it to the flat side of the marble. Then glue the magnet to the back of the picture and it's ready. These are fun to make and easy to personalize.

Goodwill Christmas

This is exactly what it sounds like. I go to Goodwill and look for potential gifts. I find things that are usually still new and in boxes. I leave the tags on and wrap in Goodwill bags. These gifts are cheap and make for a good laugh.



Coupon book

I made one for my sister after she became a new mom. Coupons included things like, "Good for 4 hours of baby sitting," and, "Good for a night off from cooking dinner." These can be customized specifically for the individual and can include other things like "An hour of gardening help," or, "free computer repair...again."

Candles

Many things can be made into candles. A cute idea is using an old teacup and saucer. You can melt old candles and pour the wax into the teacup and add a wick. Now you have a cute new scented teacup candle!

Mix CD

This is good for old and new friends and more meaningful than a store bought CD. Compile your favorite songs that hold memories or cool songs you've heard throughout this year. It will be fun for the person to hear songs that bring back memories or maybe to hear cool new songs they haven't heard yet.

Memory jar

I made one for an old friend who I don't see as often as I used to. I thought of 365 memories I have of her and wrote each on a small piece of paper, then folded it and put it in the jar. Some memories included: "The time we built a fort out of hay bails in your back yard," "The time we were walking around Newberg at night and you found that dollar bill on someone's car windshield and kept it," and, "The time we played snipers from your window and shot all the kids on the trampoline with paintballs." She loved looking forward to picking a new memory out of the jar each day.

Box out of a book

Choose a thick book, then use a ruler to measure and draw a square that is 1 in smaller on all sides than the pages are. Then use a box cutter knife or a craft knife to cut out the square and paint along the edges with glue.. The recipient now has a secret box to hide small treasures.

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Snow-vement

By Sara McClellan

Scream. Bounce. Stare at the sky. Scream. Snap some pictures. Tell everyone it is snowing. Text people that it is snowing with fingers that barely work. Get laughed at by people who know what real snow is. Repeat.

That was me the night it snowed. The weather reports had said we might get some, but I was doubtful. Everyone was massively hopeful for canceled classes. I was a skeptic. Good thing I didn't make any bets. I saw on Facebook a few reports of snow, but I couldn't see any from my window. Then, a friend came knocking on my door and I stepped out into amazement.

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An experience

Spend time with a person instead of giving them a gift. Take them out to experience something like a play, a baseball game, laser tag or paddle boating on a lake.

Rice hand warmers

Sew together 2 pieces of felt fabric leaving a small space on one end. Funnel some dry uncooked rice into the felt then sew the hole closed. Pop the bag into the microwave for a few seconds and you have homemade hand warmer gifts! You can also use larger items like hand towels to make heating pads.

Potted plants

Paint a pot and add a flower. Plants make pretty gifts and they last a long time.

Photo frame collage

Get a plain picture frame and make a collage of photos around the frame. The picture frame will be fun to look at even without a picture in it.

Tree ornaments

Using colored paper, cut out shapes like a star, heart, tree, or square, then glue a small picture of yourself in the middle. Decorate the edges with glitter, hole punch the top, and tie a string. Now you have a tree ornament that your grandparents--or anyone else--would like to hang on their tree.

Add another personal touch and save money by wrapping your homemade gifts in newspaper or magazines.

Your family and friends will love and appreciate the special "DIY Christmas on a budget" gift made by you specially for them. Of course I love opening the envelope of money from my grandma each year, but the picture of my kitchen was so personal and it's something that was free to make and made a lasting impression. Merry Christmas!

Both of us are from warm climates, and had seen snow on a few occasions, but each of us had only seen falling snow maybe once before. We stood in the parking lot of the Tabor Terrace apartments and watched the flakes cycle bigger to smaller and back, then bounced around like five-year-olds. Others joined our snow vigil; some stayed, some went back indoors. While the Oregonians kept up their façade of being unimpressed, the rest of us were all hoping this meant we wouldn't have to complete our homework just yet. After a while the cars were frosted enough to make snowballs, and soon the ground had a dusting as well.

In line with my skepticism, I went indoors after about an hour to complete the aforementioned homework, conveniently just when the snow ball fight was commencing. Others stayed out late in the cold. I heard tales of a snow dance and sure enough, morning classes were canceled the next day. Not a full snow day, but a good enough offering. The outdoors were a strange mix of autumn and winter, orange and yellow leaves scattered through the trees, and a smattering of ice and snow on the ground. One season starting before the other was quite finished.

That eve was a wonderful party before the stress of finals really hit us, a little joy to get us through. Frolicking in the snow, laughing and not doing homework. Exuberance about some frozen water, or at least amusement at those of us who were amazed.



Mindy Kovacs and Sarah Hazen enjoy the November 29 snow vigil. Photo courtesy of Sara McClellan.

Living On Love

By Mixie McConnell

Walking up the steps by the library, I head to A. F. Gray to see some professors. As I walk along I look up the hill to see Stephanie Ahn Mathis out on a blanket with a student. It is a marvelous autumn day breezy winds fluttering the leaves and the sun warming my back. I realize Stephanie's outside office is just as comfy and colorful as her office indoors. Just a week before I met her in that office and enjoyed sitting on the big cushiony couch, while she shared parts of her life with me. Afterwards Stephanie told me it felt odd to be talking so much, because when students come to see her they are usually the ones talking and she listens. With that she told me to come back and said "I want to know your story and about you!"

In talking with Stephanie, I have been amazed by how her previous experience has prepared her for the pastoral job at the college. Prior to Stephanie accepting the job at Warner Pacific, she could be found living downtown and working in Northeast Portland. As the Executive Director with The Oregon Center for Christian Values (OCCV), she was able to use her passion about Biblical justice in a secular format by educating people about various social issues in Oregon. The organization focused on the systems and the laws that were broken, and had a strong big picture perspective. In working with OCCV, Stephanie was part of passing some of the first sex trafficking laws in Oregon.

In the city Stephanie has collaborated with many people and organizations whose connection she is now able to share with the college. Service opportunities are literally only a few mouse clicks and a phone call away. In her small yet comfortable green and yellow office she will offer you a seat on the big soft couch and open up an excel file organized into areas of service and corresponding organizations for each area. For students who wanted to serve in a unique area not yet set-up through Warner, Stephanie has already done research with the students to make new contacts. Stephanie wants to make sure we are getting connected where we are called, and this is because she recognizes what it means to be called.

At chapel Stephanie shared her story with the campus including the ugliness of sin in her life that led to the huge steps of faith she was called to take in ministry. After graduating from college in 1999, she began work with the Girl Scouts, coordinating a K-8 in-

ner-city program in East Austin, Texas. In 2002 she went overseas to Asia to do mission work with a church organization. At the time she felt that she had arrived, but this feeling soon evaporated as she began working with individuals in the community. The idea of the



Stephanie Ahn Mathis (Left) meets with Brittany Mann (Middle) and Jeana Dominguez (Right) at Tabor Grind to check in about their leadership positions as Small Group Coordinators. Photo courtesy of Mixie McConnell.

organization was to disciple the elite of the society and hope that it would trickle down to the lower classes. If mentees were not growing they would be dropped, but Stephanie would not do it. In her years there she worked with the poor, depressed, and those who were victims of rape. At a certain point Stephanie felt strongly called by God to leave this, and she can remember Him specifically saying "trust what I have is better." With this Stephanie left the girls, the country, and the church she loved to do what God had called her to.

When she returned to the U.S., Stephanie was determined to address the pending question on her heart: "Who did God hang out with?" After several other jobs, she began working with InterVarsity, and was soon recruited to seminary. While at Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary, Stephanie worked with World Vision promoting biblical justice, and put together her own major which focused on this area. With a school grant, Stephanie co-wrote the first Biblical Global Justice course and started the Student Justice Association.

Stephanie and her husband moved to the West coast when Stephanie got the job as Executive Director of the Oregon Center for Christian Values. She was working with Jess Bielman to coordinate bringing Warner Pacific students to be interns at OCCV when he asked her to consider the position of pastor at the college. Stephanie says she was drawn to the mission Warner Pacific has embraced. She wanted to be part of a school living in the urban setting, taking on programs like Act Six, lowering tuition, and bringing in minority staff members. The college was living out the calling to love one's neighbor, which resonated with Stephanie's past time meditating on this very subject. For a long time Stephanie had been transforming the broken systems we all live in, and she was ready to start transforming the hearts and lives of students. It was another calling, a call to love us.

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Retention Project at WPC

By Josh Gaunt

Warner Pacific received a grant this year that has allowed the college to create a new program called the Retention Project. The Retention Project is a mentoring program that utilizes service learning as a strategy to improve retention and academic success rates of middle school and high school students who are at risk of dropping out of school, by providing them with a college student as a mentor. According to ServiceLearning.org, "Service-Learning is a learning strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection." The college students improve their own academic advancement by engaging in mentoring and other service-learning activities. Both the mentored students and college mentors benefit because both are able to learn and grow.

Eli Ritchie is the Retention Project Coordinator at Warner Pacific. The grant that created Eli's position was distributed by the Corporation for National and Community Service through Oregon Campus Compact. Eli recruits students to get involved in the project, matches the mentors with the program they will be working with, and supports them throughout the experience.

There are AmeriCorps Retention Project members all over Oregon and Washington. Some programs are already large and well established, like University of Washington's Dream Project. Others, like Warner Pacific's, are just getting started this year. There is a wide range of diversity in the practices and goals for each program. While they all use college students as mentors, some mentor middle school students, some high school, and some even have a peer-to-peer model with college students mentoring other col-



Eli Ritchie meets with Ly Doan outside the Office of Student Affairs. Photo by Mixie McConnell

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Two months in and Stephanie does miss working to fix a broken system and its laws, but is pleased to now be able to work with broken people as they are transformed by love. Like she has said before, "I get paid to love you guys," and when sitting down in the coffee shop or in her office with a student, she continues to remind and encourage them to live life loved. Fifteen years of ministry have been fueled by her finding these truths in her own life through her own hurts and pains. Now Stephanie is seen speaking at chapel, eating meals in the cafeteria, and meeting with students all over campus. She may appear to be busy, but Stephanie would be the first person to make sure that she had time for a student. If it is a listening ear or a helpful word or a place to plug in and serve, Stephanie is the one to do this for you. Feel free to shoot her an email: SMathis@warnerpacific.edu

lege students. Because Warner Pacific already has a program to provide mentoring for its own students and because the mission of the school is to reach out and impact our community, program coordinators decided that the program at WPC would mentor students at local schools.

There are already about 40 active mentoring programs in Portland, and most of those programs provide great structure, training, and support for mentors, but these programs don't have enough mentors to give one to every kid who wants and needs one. Right now the Retention Project is partnering with three different organizations. One is the ASPIRE program at Madison High School and an alternative school called the Youth Employment Institute. This program helps provide incentive for kids to do well in school by providing them opportunities to go to college. Mentors can also help prepare the students

for elements of college life: living away from home, getting work done, and living a healthy college lifestyle. Next is the African Immigrant Mentoring Program, which serves immigrant and refugee youth and seeks to acclimate them to America while maintaining their own cultural identity. The last partner is Impact NW, which provides after-school activities and monthly trips for middle school students and their mentors. All of these programs give mentors an opportunity to give back to the community by supporting youth who are in need of someone who can provide encouragement.

According to Eli, this mentoring initiative fits in perfectly with the College's identity, which is to be an urban, Christ-centered, liberal arts institution. Serving youth with education and guidance is especially important in an urban environment, because of the prevalence of poverty, drug-use, and crime. "Mentoring provides Warner Pacific an opportunity to impact the community in the area it's most concerned with, education. The programs that we're working with are very excited to have young, energetic students who can relate to the kids they are serving," says Eli.

Taking part in the program satisfies service hour requirements for Warner Pacific students, but requires a large commitment. College students, when they volunteer their time and effort to help a child, are emptying themselves and exalting God by loving their neighbors. If you talk to anyone with experience mentoring, they will tell you they learn and grow as much as their mentee, because mentoring creates a space for the application of classroom learning. The Retention Project is always accepting students because it is never too late to help impact the lives of those in need of a mentor. To get involved contact Eli Ritchie at 503-517-1098 or Eritchie@warnerpacific.edu.

Travel on a Budget

By Inge Pe'a

Have you ever wanted to see the Mona Lisa at the Louvre in Paris, or gawk at the grandiose structure of Rome's Coliseum, walk along the ancient Great Wall in China, go on a safari in Africa, or take a tour of the Taj Mahal in Agra, India? You could speed through Japan on the Shinkansen (bullet train) from Tokyo to Hiroshima and see for yourself the exact site where the atomic bomb was dropped. You could take part in Oktoberfest in Munich, Germany or attend the Running of the Bulls in Pamplona Spain. The world is full of remarkable places to go and things to do and see.

Traveling is fun, exciting, and educational; however, it can also be expensive. But guess what! It can also be very affordable simply because we are students! Many students' biggest concern while in college is money, but the college years are the best time to travel and explore the world. Being a student has some great perks when it comes to traveling; places all over the world have discounted fares just for students. Using student discounts and traveling cheap can make almost any destination cost significantly less for even the poorest of college students.

At many places you can simply flash your student ID card to get a lower price, but on a larger scale, there is a card called the International Student Identity Card (ISIC). The ISIC is a globally recognized student identity document, which 4.5 million students throughout 120 different countries use to enjoy over 40,000 benefits. Students can take advantage of offers on travel, shopping, museums and more, worldwide. The card costs only \$22 for one year and quickly pays for itself. Visiting www.mysisic.com, you can put in a specific country and select from "Transportation, Sport, Accommodation, Food, Entertainment, Retail Shops, Museums & Culture, or General" to find the discounts offered in a specific area.

Students can get discounted fare on all lengths of flights whether it's 100 miles or an international flight. I saved \$10 on my international flight to Germany and 12 Euros on the flight between Germany and Paris. Jet Blue takes off a whopping 11% on flights for students when they use their ISIC. Student prices for rail and ferry tickets are also offered at discounted rates for students. You can get a Euro Rail pass and travel around Europe without worrying about buying multiple tickets or figuring out how you're going to get to the airport to catch your flight to the neighboring country. People 25 years and under are considered "Youth" and get a lower price. Hertz takes \$15 off a weekly car rental, and Alamo Rent-A-Car takes off up to 38% when students show their ISIC.

You could stay in a nice hotel and pay more, or you can stay at a hostel. Hostels are great places for traveling students to stay at a fraction of the price. At St. Christopher's Paris, you'll pay only \$25/night! Each bunk has its own reading light and a curtain for privacy. Hostels are shared rooms (think summer camp), usually with bunk beds. Like a dormitory, bathrooms and social spaces are communal. Many offer free breakfast, luggage storage, walking tours of the city, wifi, pizza parties, linens and kitchens. In Tokyo, another generally expensive city, you can experience a capsule hotel

(yes, like the one the girls on America's Next Top Model stayed in) for \$18/night. Depending on the city, time of year and amenities, a bed in a hostel can go for less than \$10! The hostels I stayed in knocked off 10% off my first night's stay for being a student and showing my ISIC.



A bed in a Paris hostel. Photo by Inge Pe'a

If you can't swing \$10/night, there is also the free option of being a couch surfer. CouchSurfing is an international, non-profit network that connects travelers with locals in over 230 countries around the world. My sister and I were in Ireland and set up a night to be couch surfers. We stayed with a couple named Jeremy and Erin who lived just outside of Dublin. They fed us dinner, we shared travel stories, and they were able to give us some local sightseeing ideas that weren't in the tourist books. Normally the guests will just crash on the hosts couch and not expect much else, but they actually had a guest room for us with a bed and warm blankets. It was a great experience and it was free! (www.couchsurfing.org)

In big cities, buying a multi-attraction pass will save you lots of money on admission, as opposed to buying each admission separately. This way you can hit the main attractions for less. In Japan I saved on admission to temples, art and science museums, and Sea World by showing my student ID. I got to visit castles in Germany for less with my ISIC. In Paris, I got 20% off a boat tour along the Seine River and 15% off a guided tour at the Louvre.

Paris was an expensive place to eat, so I made sure to book a hostel that offered a free breakfast. I also look for hostels that have kitchens so I can buy groceries and make my own lunches if I am going to be in the same area for a few days. Food is a large part of different cultures so it's important to sample the local cuisine. Some restaurants will even give meal discounts to students, so flash your ISIC just in case! In Germany, Subway Restaurants give students a 10% discount. Hard Rock Cafés offer a \$13 ISIC menu.

Now that you know how privileged you are as a student traveler, go out and take advantage of all the world has to offer. Using student discounts, your travel adventure can be affordable!

Murdock Grant Revamps RCM Program

By *Mixie McConnell*

In June 2010, after several years of work on a proposal for financial support to revamp the Religion and Christian Ministries (RCM) Program, the college received a \$292,000 three year grant. The grant came to Warner Pacific through the M. J. Murdock Trust, specifically to develop a program that prepares young adults for Christian service. The drafting of the proposal began when Jay Barber was president, and was submitted in July, 2009.

This is the first year the institution is putting into action the three part addition to the program. One of the pieces to the reformatted RCM program are the internships added to the 200 level Christian Ministries classes. Students enrolled in these classes have also been participating in observational internships. The students have been going off campus to observe ministry at four different locations. Jess Bielman says the goal is “to show four different forms of ministry and the wide breadth of ministry.” Max Scholten, a junior majoring in the RCM program and also participating in the observational internships, says, “These internships have helped me to see that ministry is far more than preaching a sermon or planning missions trips. It is a profession that is a lifestyle, and a busy one at that!” Jess Bielman explained that 300 level students will also do internships which will focus on the student’s vocational interests.

The four organizations Warner has partnered with for the internships are: Home PDX, a church specifically for the homeless of Portland; Second Stories, an organization partnering with churches and the community to transform neighborhoods; the Evergreen Community, a church that meets down on Hawthorne in the dining section of a bar before their open service hours; and Young Life, an organization working within schools to introduce students to Christ in a friendly, safe, and fun environment.

In the second piece of the new program, the college will soon have specific houses set up for RCM communities on campus. These houses will be for students who have an RCM major or minor. Jess Bielman and Jojo Davison are already taking names of those who are interested. There will be a house for women and a house for men by next school year, and a third house will be added in the 2012-13 school year. These houses will encourage community and mentorship relationships between upper and lower division students within the RCM program. The hope is for students to learn how community works on a small scale, preparing them for the larger communities they will later be leaders in.

The third part of the new program is to bring consultants to the campus to share their opinions about ministry, community, and the like. These consultants will be well known local ministers who will “give input on how best to be training ministers and developing specific programs,” explained Jess Bielman. For the next few years, the college will be inviting various speakers to chapel and to classes to give students fresh ideas on the topics they are learning about.

This has all been made possible by the financial support of the M. J. Murdock Trust, a grant agency local to the Northwest. It was established in 1975 by Jack Murdock, a man born and raised in Portland, Oregon and a graduate of Franklin High School. The mission of the agency is “to enrich the quality of life in the Pacific Northwest by providing grants and enrichment programs to organizations seeking to strengthen the region’s educational, spiritual, and cultural base in creative and sustainable ways.” This is done by providing money for the initiation or reworking of programs in local institutions. Initially, the M. J. Murdock Trust fronts grant money towards the first big steps in program development, and in the next two years will provide less money. The new RCM program will become sustainable through other forms of support. This is the work President Andrea Cook, Jess Bielman, and Jojo Davison are presently working on. The next three years will be big steps for this program as the college continues to broaden its impact in the community by learning from it and serving in it.



RCM wins fall Departmental Olympics. Photo by Scott Thompson.



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Antigone: Beginning to End

By Sara McClellan

I attended the first and the last showing of our fall drama production of *Antigone*. But I had also heard stories along the way. I knew the cast had rehearsal just about every night for weeks, I had seen the paint stains, been a little freaked out by the ever so real wound make up, and I knew it probably would have been more convenient for professors and students alike to simply supply the theatre with some sleeping bags.

I knew the story line, more or less. Brothers were killed, one glorified, one disrespected. The sister is horrified and works for what she believes is justice. The sister is killed, the ruler is tormented: *Antigone* in thirty seconds. What I didn't know were the details of the play, and the details of what went into its production. So I had to ask.

"Part of the reason we were going to war with Argos was for new metal, so we needed [the set] to look wrecked," Samantha Laws, a member of the chorus of elders, told me. Crew members hit the metal that would line the walls of their set with chains and sanders, and eventually just ran over it with a car. The floor needed to look like sand, the non-metal walls rusted, and the platforms like concrete. A very bare and elemental set, yet it took hours to render, painting and hammering.

Even costumes had meaning. Every part of the play was thought out and orchestrated. Amy Vaught's hair sparkled because her character, Tiresias, was from another world; there was white makeup beneath her and Ali Crocker's eyes (when Ali played the child) to make their eyes look bigger because they were seers.

The main issue for the elders was the gray in their hair; at first it was striped, but that matched too well with their suits. Eventually Hanna Medel and the rest of her wardrobe crew found a way to gray it from the roots out, so it looked like a more natural blend.

So many of these things I would never think of as an audience member. I notice the costuming, but not its meaning; I notice the color of the floor, but not the effort it took to create it. So what is the value in all of this preparation? The value is in the effect. Whether or not I notice the symbolism, it is there. It is an offering to dive deeper into the story. Perhaps in my subconscious it accentuates the emotion of the voices I hear.

I asked Sam what kind of a response the actors were looking for from the audience, or what the play was meant to leave us with, and she told me: "Don't live blindly, don't just follow people, but know what you're following, know what you're agreeing to." As the elders close the play, they are communicating that it is too late for Thebes, but it is not too late for us; we are to question our leaders. This message makes perfect sense in the context of the aftermath of World War II, the time period Brecht was living in when he reworked this play. Hitler was fresh in his mind; this is why Creon is guilty in this version instead of being yet another victim of fate as Sophocles paints him. Brecht and our cast urge us to see we are not to let this happen again because the world has seen enough pain from not questioning our leaders.



Prof. Pamela Plimpton and cast member Bethany Baumann paint the set. Photo by Samantha Laws.

I asked Ben Barlow, who did sound for the play, which show he thought was best. He said it was the one during Knight Life, because the prospective students responded with more energy than the average Warner Pacific gathering; the audience laughed more and fed the actors energy, which they gave right back in performance.

When I went back to the final showing of the play, I found that the emotion had seeped fully through the actors. What had begun months ago had worked its way deep into the hearts of the cast. Creon was angry at the start, yet perfectly worn by the end, *Antigone* was passionate, and everything had worked out its meaning in the end. The theme was pressed through the screen of drama to the audience as an offering to contemplate--as the cast and crew already had. Now it was our turn.

My favorite line from this play is, "if we shudder in our humanity, shudder with us." This is one of the Elders' lines, addressing Creon. I'm not sure what Brecht originally meant by this, but I think it is about the brokenness of humanity, and how the correct response is not hate, but love, compassion, and being there for one another. The message of a play is dependent on its context to derive meaning, just as much as it is dependant on the words spoken and actions taken on stage. Warner Pacific pushes the concept of community, so it is no surprise I find the message of this play to be community driven. We need to question our leaders together--we need to take our strength in numbers and use it.