

THE INDEPENDENT LEADER

News from the
Independent Colleges of Washington



Fall 2011

INDEPENDENT COLLEGES: BY THE NUMBERS

With fall upon us, the ten members of Independent Colleges of Washington are opening the 2011-12 academic year.

5,000 students will be starting at one of our member colleges and universities for the first time, and most arrived on campus in the weeks prior for an orientation to college life and to bridge the transition between high school and college. Enrollment is strong at our colleges, with students and families seeking high-quality, academically rigorous higher education.

Two-thirds of our undergraduate students hail from Washington, and many non-residents contribute to Washington's economy by staying in state during breaks and after graduation.

20% of our students will transfer a year or more of prior college credit, many from Washington's community college system. ICW has developed significant resources for future transfer students at ProjectOpportunity.net, and through collaboration with public colleges.

All of our campus communities are primed to help these new faces navigate their new social and academic environment.

7,000 students will be entering their senior year, approaching the completion of their baccalaureate experience – about 80% of ICW graduates complete their program in four years or less. Comprising about one-in-five baccalaureate degrees in Washington state, these individuals are truly Leaders for Tomorrow.

12,000 graduate students will join campus communities seeking further credentials or degrees for future success.

The energy and excitement on campus is generating a bright light for Washington's future.

FOCUS ON SUCCESS: SERGIO JARA ARROYOS, '13

The three years that Sergio Jara Arroyos has called **Whitworth University** home comes close to the longest period he has remained in one location. Neither of his parents completed the sixth grade, and Sergio spent much of his youth during the summers in orchards. "At ten... I made a promise to myself, that I would get an education at any expense. As I grew up so did my thirst for knowledge." In his early years in college, his parents did not share his dream and wanted him to stay close to home.

But Sergio persevered and kept his promise alive, taking advantage of Advanced Placement classes that could be used for college credit and other rigorous courses at Pasco High School. A natural leader, he became the student representative on the Pasco School Board. Sergio was accepted to his top college choices: Whitworth University and Eastern Washington University. With significant financial aid, including Washington State Need Grant, institutional aid, ICW Board of Directors Scholarship, and Pell Grant, he enthusiastically chose Whitworth University.

Continuing his leadership activities, Sergio is involved in campus life serving as a dorm RA and campus ambassador. He has assisted ICW in compiling a Latino outreach directory. Most importantly, he is committed to his studies, seeking a bachelor's degree in cross cultural studies and leadership studies. His future goals: "I want to help and encourage [Latino students] who think they don't deserve an opportunity to go to college."



Gonzaga University • Heritage University • Pacific Lutheran University • Saint Martin's University • Seattle Pacific University
Seattle University • University of Puget Sound • Walla Walla University • Whitman College • Whitworth University



CHOICES EXPANDING AT ICW COLLEGES

The rich array of program choices and resources available to students at ICW member institutions continues to grow as the 2011-12 academic year opens.

Health Sciences

Heritage University this fall begins offering licensed practical nurses a one-year program to advance in their profession by becoming registered nurses. Students in the cohort-based LPN to RN program will earn an Associate in Nursing and qualify to take the Washington state registered nurse exam.



Saint Martin's University has been reaching out to regional hospitals and linking with area community colleges and associate degree programs, with the goal of starting a post-licensure program where students with a registered nursing license or an associate degree in nursing would work toward a bachelor's degree in nursing.

Interdisciplinary collaboration is evident at **University of Puget Sound** in the design of the 42,500 square foot William T. and Gail Weyerhaeuser Center for Health Sciences opening this fall. The new facility will bring together graduate and undergraduate students from five disciplines: physical therapy, occupational therapy, exercise science, psychology, and neuroscience.



Weyerhaeuser Hall includes a public outpatient clinic, which serves 300 referred patients per year and features innovations such as a simulated apartment where patients can practice living skills. The potential for the new facility design was demonstrated this summer when Puget Sound students won an international award for their research, which brought together neuroscience and physical therapy to demonstrate how a patient's body awareness can help select useful therapies.

Engineering

Whitworth University is adding a specialization to their existing program in engineering physics. The new track in nuclear engineering, which becomes available for students in 2011-12, is designed to prepare students for graduate level work. Students of the sciences will be well served through the three-phase initiative that will significantly upgrade facilities and research endowment. The 63,000 square foot William P. and Bonnie V. Robinson Science Hall officially welcomes its first group of students this fall, with its inauguration on October 8th.



Gonzaga University unveils a new program this year leading to a Master of Engineering degree in transmission & distribution engineering. The discipline relates to the electrical power system and the process of transporting electricity from its generating source over transmission lines to the network of substations and distributing electricity to the end user. Graduates will be prepared to enter an industry that is projecting substantial increases in investments and employment opportunities, while facing a dramatic decline in trained professionals.

Leadership

Seattle University offers a new degree program leading to a Bachelor of Arts in Humanities for Leadership. This cohort-based interdisciplinary program examines the intellectual, personal and spiritual development of people across ages and cultures with a required series of courses in leadership, socio-cultural transformation, poverty and other topics and disciplines. The degree embraces both a local and a global focus, and develops technological literacy to facilitate international discussions. Students will complete a year-long local internship as sophomores, and an international or national internship as seniors.



Sustainable Business

Seattle Pacific University launches an innovative and mission-driven master's degree program this year. The Master of Arts in Social and Sustainable Management is an intensive immersion program completed in 11 months. The program delivers core business and professional knowledge and skills sought after in future leaders of non-governmental organizations, non-profits and businesses alike. The cohort-based program emphasizes stewardship of people, the planet and profits.

Off-Campus Experiences

This summer **Whitman College** sent its first group of students to Wallowa County, Oregon for a month-long program called "Summer in the Wallowas." The program immerses students in an interdisciplinary experience that raises environmental awareness and allows them to explore social and economic issues and the biology and history of the area. Students met with local ranchers, farmers, loggers, weed managers, county commissioners and other residents. The program finished with a week-long writing workshop in which students crafted essays pulling together the strands of their multi-faceted experience, addressing the pressing issues facing the region.

Academic Resources

Walla Walla University significantly increases its available resources for medieval and reformation studies as the repository for an important collection of rare books from the 16th and 17th centuries. History professor Greg Dodds was invited by the Erasmus of Rotterdam Society to take over care of the collection, which includes numerous editions of the writings of Erasmus, a Dutch philologist (a scholar of the use of language in texts) and theologian who is considered one of the first modern biblical scholars.



Student Services

Pacific Lutheran University has opened the Center for Vocation and launched the Career Connections Initiative to further engage the campus community in the pursuit of work and career. The Center takes a philosophical approach and encourages exploration of the self through a variety of programs including the Wild Hope Project and mentorships. The Career Connections Initiative helps students and graduates navigate the practical aspects of finding employment and establishing a career. From career and academic planning to internships and job-networking, the initiative brings together existing campus resources with new job-hunting tools and technologies. Through these two new programs, students, faculty, and staff can contemplate "what they will do with their one wild and precious life," with the support of services and tools that can help them achieve their goals and fulfill their principles.

The private, non-profit members of Independent Colleges of Washington share a commitment to high-quality, academically rigorous learning. Through new programs, facilities, resources, and experiences, ICW colleges build upon the liberal-arts foundation that equips students with vital communication, problem-solving, ethical, and critical thinking skills that Washington needs in the 21st century.

NEW SCHOLARSHIPS FOR THE 2011-12 ACADEMIC YEAR

Thanks to the generous support of several new ICW donors, more scholarships are available to deserving students statewide.

Next Step Scholarship – \$750 will be awarded to low income students who transfer from one of Washington's community colleges to an ICW college this academic year. The Puget Sound law community provided funding for this scholarship, providing an incentive for students to continue their education and receive their bachelor's degree.

HSBC First Opportunity Partners – two students, one from Seattle Pacific University and one from University of Puget Sound, were selected to receive a \$5,000 scholarship for this academic year. Funded by HSBC through the Council of Independent Colleges, this competitive award supports college access, success, and affordability for students from underserved populations.

Thank you to:

PACCAR, Skanska USA and The Spokesman-Review for renewing their support to ICW's Leaders for Tomorrow scholarship fund.

Totem Ocean Trailer Express (TOTE) for restoring its gift. \$1,000 will be awarded to an Alaskan student at each ICW member institution.

For more information on how to create a scholarship to help students receive a great education, please contact Anne Cassidy, 206/623-4494 or Anne@ICWashington.org





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ICW WELCOMES FRESH FACES, SEASONED HANDS

The extraordinary board of ICW just got stronger with the addition of some new members and the return of some stalwarts.

New to the board this fall:

Deborah B. Cushing, retired attorney and community volunteer. Most recently Deborah served as the executive director of Washington Women in Need. She brings to the ICW Board her passion for helping students change their lives.

Laura Lawton-Forsyth, president of Lawton Printing and File-EZ Folder in Spokane. Laura is the fourth generation to join the family business. She brings significant community, regional, and national leadership to the activities of ICW.

Steve Myers, superintendent of Educational Service District 105. Steve brings more than 30 years of education background - from classroom teaching, to school district leadership to his current educational service district leadership. In addition, he is a strong community leader serving on several boards in the Toppenish and Yakima area.

Ahmadou Seck, alum of Saint Martin's University. He extends the membership of recent alumni to the board. Ahmadou was a campus leader from his freshman year, including two years as student body president. During his time at SMU, he was also a strong advocate for student financial aid and lobbied in Olympia with ICW.

In addition, three former board members return after one year off the board, as bylaws require. These three were terrific leaders on the board in their first two terms, each one having served several years as officers.

We welcome back: **Rick Gross**, CFO, V.P. of Finance for the Shared Services Group at The Boeing Company, **Chris Heman**, Senior Vice President at US Bank, **Steve Seward**, Attorney at Van Ness Feldman.

For a full board list, visit www.ICWashington.org/board

