

CAMPUS CONVERSATIONS

HIGHLIGHTING NEWS AT UNION COLLEGE

OCTOBER 1, 2003

DIVISION NEWS

◆ The **Division of Business and Computer Science** held its first **advisory board** meeting on September 28. Board members representing a variety of industries came in from Texas, Florida, Kansas, Minnesota and Lincoln. They spent more than three hours listening to presentations and giving their input on how the business and computer science programs could be improved. Several initiatives were approved and funded with others receiving longer-term study. The advisory board will be meeting two to three times per year.

◆ The Division of **Human Development** hosted Project Wild last week on Union's campus. Senior education majors taking Methods in Social Studies and Science participated in the workshop that lasted all day with events in doors and out. **Project Wild** is sponsored by the U.S. Council for Environmental Education and the U.S. Environmental Protection agency. The workshop curriculum helps teachers encourage student awareness about wildlife and the environment. The goal of the program is to promote informed decisions, responsible behavior and constructive actions concerning the environment.

◆ In May, six 2003 **biology graduates** took the Educational Testing Service major field exam, a standardized test evaluating skills in a student's major area of study. The Union graduates' average was at the **90th percentile** as compared with 18,052 biology majors across the nation.

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

◆ In the 2003 **U.S. News & World Report**, Union tied for second (14 %) in the Most International Students, Comprehensive College Category for the Midwest region. *U.S. News* divides the country into four regions and ranks colleges based on the percentage of the total student body that is designated as international. Three other Adventist colleges were also in the top three for their regions in this category: AUC (11%), Oakwood (8%), and PUC (8%).

◆ **Ring of Fire**, a youth handbell choir from Tualatin Valley Junior Academy in Hillsboro, Ore., will be performing a sacred concert on Sabbath afternoon, Oct. 18, at 4:30 p.m. in the College View Church. The 13 members of Ring of Fire, ages 12 to 16, are widely known for their unique, spirited style and their ability to perform their entire repertoire from memory. In 2001 the group performed at the Inauguration of President George W. Bush. Later that year, they shared their music in New York City and Washington D.C. after the events of Sept. 11, including a performance at the Pentagon with the United States Army Orchestra.

◆ Interested in **notable Nebraskans**? E.A. Kral has written a bio-bibliography that may be of interest to those raised in Nebraska or simply interested in **Nebraska history**. The current results of ongoing research are posted on the Nebraska State Education Association Web site: <http://www.nsea.org>. The document contains 700 nationally distinguished Nebraskan natives or residents since 1854. Educators, librarians and county historical society directors have special permission to print this document in local collections for long-term use by the public.

◆ The Lincoln Literacy Council is currently **seeking volunteers** to help with their work with Lincoln's refugee and immigrant population. Faculty, staff and students are welcome to volunteer. Union staff and friends currently involved are **Osa Berg, Angie Hardt, Carol Leonhardt**, Esther Shadday '02 and **Brian Wong**. Union alumna Michelle Darcy '92, works for the Literacy Council and will be happy to answer any questions regarding volunteer opportunities. For more information, call Carol at ext. 2090 or the Literacy Council at 476-7323.

FACULTY NOTABLES

◆ **David Smith** spoke at the Youth for Youth conference held at Glacier View Ranch for Mid-America Union academy students Sept. 12-13. He also spoke for the Champion Academy church service where **Todd** and **Janya Mekelburg** held an alumni meeting.

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◆ **Ken Hoppmann**, will be making a presentation of Persian music entitled “Piano and Tar improvisation in the Context of Persian Music” at the 2nd annual PlainSong music festival held at Southeast Community College Oct. 4. His presentation will be at 2 p.m.

◆ The collaboration between Union’s science department and Baylor Medical School has resulted in an invitation for **Brian Wong** and **Alessandro Cavalcante** to present in a poster session at the second annual American Association of Cancer Research international conference in Phoenix, Ariz., Oct. 25. Their presentation will highlight the first piece of research data on their TRAMP mice, (mice genetically engineered to develop prostate cancer) and the research to find a cure for that cancer. The findings of this segment of research will also be published in the November issue of the **Journal of Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers and Prevention**.

◆ The **Faculty Guide for Serving Students With Disabilities** is available on the Teaching Learning Center Web site. It contains information on confidentiality, equal access, accommodations, assistive technology and has a list of resources. Also, watch the TLC Web site for more links to faculty resources.

KUDOS

◆ Former ESL student **Filipe Fernandes** won third place in the *RT Image* 2002 Writing Competition. *RT Image* is a news magazine for administrators, educators and radiologic science professionals. He credits his experience in Union’s ESL program with his success in his graduate work.

◆ Are you **thankful** for something or someone specific? Kudos depends on your notes of thanks, so if you would like to acknowledge a kindness you have recently received, e-mail Jacque Smith at jasmith@ucollege.edu.

STUDENT TEACHERS

◆ Secondary education student teachers and their school locations.

Brent Ingold—Lincoln High School

Sara Johnson—Lincoln High School and Lux Middle School

Shaun Meharry—Lincoln High School

Megan Crawley—Pius X High School

Jason Donovan—Platte Valley Academy

Jeremy New—Platte Valley Academy

Nick Owens—Platte Valley Academy

Evan Moravetz—College View Academy and Helen Hyatt Elementary

Brad Moutray—College View Academy

Naomi Woods—Palmyra High School

Becky Gustafson—College View Academy and Helen Hyatt Elementary

DID YOU KNOW...

◆ **The slogan “College of the Golden Cords” began with the class of 1906.** That year the senior class presented the college with a large world map covered with yellow strings connecting the location of Union to the countries where former students had served or were serving as missionaries. Commonly referred to as “the map and strings,” the display became known as “The Golden Cords.” During Homecoming Weekend vespers, former and current students who have served as missionaries are honored by having a cord hung for them. This service has become an annual college event.

Share in the conversation. Because the purpose of *Campus Conversations* is to help inform and connect Union College employees, we need to hear from you. To submit story ideas to *Campus Conversations*, direct campus mail to Jacque Smith, Marketing Communications or e-mail jasmith@ucollege.edu. Don’t let your good news go unnoticed.

Edited by Anna Hartfield