



# Governor's Food Drive Sparks Creativity

From the variety of opportunities being offered, there's no doubt that the WOU community can be quite creative when it comes to fundraising efforts. The annual Governor's Food Drive is a worthy cause, especially when your contributions can be made to local entities like the WOU Food Pantry or the Ella Curran Food Bank as well as to the state-wide effort to feed Oregon's hungry. And then there's that extra incentive of being first among the Oregon public universities in fundraising for the Food Drive. This is a title WOU has held for 9 straight years! And every year we exceed the amount of food we collected the year before.

Here at WOU, you could bid for items on-line, buy Valentines, go to High Tea at Gentle House, wage a Penny War, buy all sorts of goodies (cookies, candies, baked goods), try your luck at a raffle or guess how many candies in a jar. Your contribution could be made with cash or with food items. You can even arrange for an automatic deduction from your paycheck!

No matter what form your contribution takes, it will make a difference because we are all working together.

**STOP HUNGER!**  
Support the Governor's Food Drive

Everyone is invited to the

**NEW STAFF**

**WELCOME**

**Tuesday, February 25**

**11 :30 am—1 pm**

**Willamette Room, WUC**



**Come & meet  
the new faces on campus!**



**Bring your lunch &  
stay for dessert!**



## Staff Senate Election Results

*Despite the oncoming holidays, WOU staff found time to vote in the election of new members for Staff Senate in December. Newly elected Senators are Barry McBeth (Physical Plant) representing administrative support services and Kevin Mahoney (Athletics Department), representing student support services.*

*Barry served previously on Staff Senate in 2009—2010.*

*Barry and Kevin were installed at the February 4th Staff Senate Meeting.*

### Upcoming Calendar Dates

Winter Preview Day	2/22
New Staff Welcome	2/25
Staff Senate Meeting	3/4
Cesar E Chavez Leadership Conference	3/7
Daylight Savings Begins	3/9
Finals Week	3/17—21

## Meet the New Staff at WOU

Once again, the new staff were asked to answer one or more of a series of questions to introduce themselves to the WOU community beyond their offices. Here are some of their answers.



**Elizabeth (Lizz) Hendryx,  
Service Learning  
& Career  
Development**

I would call myself a forever Pacific Northwesterner. The life of a military brat leads to some confusion identifying one specific place as “home”. This entire region is my favorite.

I have always been drawn to higher education because of the continuous learning and developmental environment it provides others. Let’s also not forget the beautiful campus we have here. What is not to love about this small community?

Definitely, I would be a bird. No, a dolphin. Can I be both?

### **Brennan Miller, Graduate Programs**

Before I was 18 years old, I had already lived in Japan for 3 years, Kentucky for 3 years and 7 different cities within Southern California...therefore, I have no “hometown” and I am a product of many different cultures and areas ....very thankful for that!



**Emily Swart,  
University  
Advancement**

In my spare time, I teach group exercise classes such as Body Pump and Spinning. My 2 sons, Kellen, Jace and myself love going to any type of sporting event, whether it be a Beavers football game or the Portland Winterhawks!



**Pamela Medzegan,  
Student Health &  
Counseling Center**

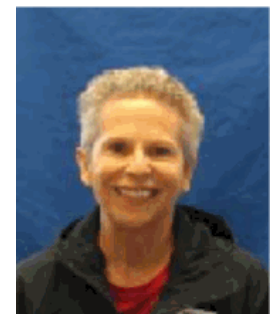
For the past 10 years I have been involved co-teaching a couple of classes in Peer Mentoring with Craig Wimmer and have assisted in Peer Mentor leadership training. I have enjoyed the experience working with the outstanding students here on campus and was delighted to see a position open up as Wellness Educator.

I really enjoy working with Craig, the students and all the wonderful people at the SHCC. And I enjoy spending time with my relatives in Switzerland—when I get the opportunity!

### **Shirley Hill, Student Health & Counseling Center**

Before I started working as a Medical Assistant and working at WOU, I was an Army officer and later taught elementary school in California. I love that my job involves daily contact with our students. Working with our students is my favorite aspect of working at WOU.

My hometown is Sunnyvale, California. It was family and my partner’s job that brought me to this area. In my spare time, I enjoy staying active as well as finding the sun (and reading).



### **Bridget Rhine, Admissions**



I am a recent WOU graduate, returning for an amazing opportunity to promote Western. I was working as a personal trainer for Courthouse Athletic Club in my hometown of Salem. The best part about Western is the people, who give me great advice like “don’t take things too personally”.

I love the outdoors—hiking, traveling and snowboarding — when I’m not working out or spending time with my family & friends.

## Meet the New Staff at WOU



**Adriana Carrillo-Garcia,**  
Student  
Enrichment  
Program

**Alaric Trousdale,**  
Study Abroad &  
International Exchanges



## “Get to Know Me” Questions Answered

These 2 staff members were new last fall but were not able to be included in the fall issue of the staff newsletter. Since these questions were asked and answered, Ben has become a new dad.



### **Ben Prah, Campus Recreation, Health & Wellness Center**

I was hired as the Assistant Director of Intramural & Club Sports which gives me the opportunity to get involved with intramurals again and to gain experience with the club sports program. At WOU, I have great co-workers, new facilities and there's just an overall positive buzz on campus.

If I were an animal, what would I be? As much as my 2 dogs drive me crazy, I would probably be a dog. I would sleep most of the day, wouldn't have to worry about getting my own food and people would have to clean –up after me!

### **Barb Dearing, Athletics Executive Director**

Before coming to WOU, I worked at PSU as the Athletics Department Associate Director and Senior Women's Administrator. I'm looking forward to the opportunity to lead the Wolves Athletic program.

The best part about WOU is the people — and the advice they've given me on here to eat in town. When I'm not on campus, I enjoy hiking, fishing and listening to classical music.



## On the Move

- ◆ Jennie Smith has moved from the Budget Office to the Payroll Office
- ◆ Kellie Whisenhunt has moved from the Payroll Office to the Physical Plant.
- ◆ Kathy Witwer moved from the Registrar's Office to the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences (Business & Economics Dept. support)

## WOU Employee Handbooks

### **Link to WOU's Unclassified Employee Handbook:**

[http://www.wou.edu/admin/hr/employee\\_relations\\_unclassified.php](http://www.wou.edu/admin/hr/employee_relations_unclassified.php)

### **Link to WOU's Classified Employee Handbook:**

[http://www.wou.edu/admin/hr/employee\\_relations\\_classified.php](http://www.wou.edu/admin/hr/employee_relations_classified.php)



## Take Just 5 Minutes

Professional development seems to be on everyone's radar recently and Staff Senate wants to know what kind of professional developments you would want — both by format and by topic.

In an effort to help identify what types and topics of professional development are important to WOU staff members, Staff Senate will be sending out a on-line survey soon. All staff are encouraged to complete the survey (10 questions or less — we promise!). Results will help determine not only what topics are of interest, but also their format (lecture? hands-on? on-line tutorial?) and when they are offered. And if you know of a particular presenter or program that you would like to recommend, suggestions can always be sent to any of the Staff Senate members.



## Why Senate is Here

*The purpose of the Staff Senate is....*  
*....to promote positive dialogue among staff, faculty, administrators and students;*  
*....to advise and recommend to the university president on matters outside the scope of collective bargaining;*  
*....to make resolutions on behalf of constituencies and outside the scope of collective bargaining;*  
*....to consider ideas or projects of importance to the university.*

### ***Your Input is Important to Us!!***

*We would appreciate any suggestions you might have as projects that Staff Senate can initiate, promote or support that would also promote a positive atmosphere on campus.*

## Finding Local Deals

*Did you know that you can get some good deals in Monmouth just by showing your WOU ID or WOU alumni card?*

*10% off at Burgerville (with ID)*

*10% off at WOU Bookstore  
 (with alumni card)*

*\$1 off at Java Crew (with ID)*

*If you know of any other local discounts, the Staff Senate Newsletter would be happy to share that information. (email: lehto@wou.edu)*

### **HUNGER FACT**

Families and children face the greatest need. In an average month an estimated 270,000 people in Oregon and Clark County WA ate meals from emergency food boxes. Of those 270,000 people, 92,000 were children.

## Staff Senate On-Line

*For information about Staff Senate meetings, activities, projects and senators, check out the Staff Senate webpage at:*

**<http://www.wou.edu/staffsenate>**

## In the Next Issue.....

.....Letter to President Weiss supporting WOU Board of Governance plan

.....Spring Break Stories: What are you doing for Spring Break? Share your stories and pictures in the next Staff Senate Newsletter.

Just send to : [lehton@wou.edu](mailto:lehton@wou.edu)