

February 21, 2011

Dear Oregon AAWCC members,

Where did January go? And for that matter, how can February be coming to a close so soon? I hope the new year has begun on a positive note for each of you and that winter term has gone (and continues to go) smoothly.

Our state board recently gathered for a weekend retreat that included a “getting to know you” element – important in light of several new board officers joining our team. Our newest officers include Carla Bee, Umpqua Community College; Barbara Horn, Linn-Benton Community College; and Lynne Melow, Chemeketa Community College. They join returning officers Sue Caldera, Clackamas Community College; Kate Chester, Portland Community College, Sylvania Campus; Victoria Flagg, Mt. Hood Community College; Cherie Maas-Anderson, Portland Community College, Sylvania Campus; Dawn McNannay, Linn-Benton Community College; Carol Schaafsma, Linn-Benton Community College; Karen Sorensen, Portland Community College, district; and Becky Washington, Portland Community College, Cascade Campus.

This powerhouse team of women is excited and energized to lead preparations for this year’s slate of activities and events (the “buzz” even caught the attention of the *Portland Business Journal*, which ran a news item on our new and returning board members in the Feb. 4 issue!). As president of Oregon’s AAWCC chapter, I am honored to be able to glean such valuable insight from this group – our state is lucky indeed!

So, what should you, as Oregon AAWCC members, be aware of in terms of upcoming events? Much of our retreat focused on planning for the summer and fall conferences. Pencil in July 14 for the annual summer conference, which will be oriented toward making yourself indispensable to your employer and maximizing efficiency in the workplace. The conference will again be held at the Oregon Gardens in Silverton, based on positive feedback we received after last year’s event. Registration for the day-long conference is \$75, and members can reserve rooms at a discounted rate. Visit our Web site for more details: <http://aawccoregon.org/>

Oregon’s AAWCC will again sponsor a team for the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure walk/run in September. Details will be posted on our Web site soon.

And of course, the annual fall conference follows soon after. The event is confirmed for November 17-18, again at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Tigard, near Washington Square Mall. This year marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the fall conference, and to celebrate this milestone, we plan to showcase a “past-present-future” theme throughout the event.

As always, thank you for your support, enthusiasm and dedication to Oregon’s AAWCC. We wouldn’t be the strong chapter that we are without your ongoing commitment – to this organization, your schools, students, colleagues and the community at large. Many, many thanks to each of you, and best wishes for the rest of 2011! Exciting times await!

Sincerely,

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