



What's Up with **GEAR** Up

Lakes High School

October 2007

WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back Lancers! We hope you had a fabulous summer and are experiencing a fantastic new school year. GEAR UP is back in your school this year working with 10th, 11th and 12th graders. We are excited to be back and look forward to supporting you with college preparation, after-school homework and in-classroom tutoring, field trips and cultural events, college visits and many other exciting activities.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

HELP US WELCOME OUR GEAR UP DIRECTOR, KIMBERLY LEES, ED.D



Dr. Kimberly Lees is the new director for GEAR UP at the Evergreen State College. When asked, what made her decide to come

out west, she informed us: "I had an interest in coming back to the northwest from Colorado because I loved Washington State and had actually begun my undergraduate degree in Spokane, Washington. I therefore decided it was time for me to come home. I felt that The Evergreen State College was a right "fit" for me due to their core ethics, how people treated one another, and their highly

valued student-centered philosophy, which are all very important to me."

Dr. Lees says her mission and vision for the GEAR UP Program are, "... to build stronger community partnerships, work towards obtaining another six year GEAR UP grant, and to strengthen collaborative relationships among school and community partners. My vision is to create an empowering sustainable program that will leave foot prints for others to follow."

Help us in welcoming Dr. Lees to GEAR UP and Lakes High School.

GEAR UP TEACHER CORNER:

WHERE DID LAKES' TEACHERS GO TO COLLEGE?

Ms. Nanette Jimenez is a Family and Consumer Science teacher at Lakes High School. She teaches Independent Living and Interpersonal Relationships. Prior to coming to Lakes, she worked at South Kitsap High School in Port Orchard, Washington for 12 years. She has been at Lakes for 8 years. Ms. Jimenez was influenced to teach and attend college by her teachers, friends and family.

Her biggest challenge in college was money. Ms. Jimenez's family did not have any money. She graduated from high school and worked at McDonalds for two years. Ms. Jimenez lived by herself and applied for financial aid as an independent adult. She received Pell grants, work study and loans. She applied to Western Washington University on her own



and filled out all the forms for required for financial aid.

Ms. Jimenez's advice to students is "pursue your own dreams and do your best. Don't let anyone tell you that you can't do something. Don't give up on yourself."

In her spare time she likes to shop, eat and spend time with her family.

GEAR UP recognizes Ms. Jimenez for her hard work and commitment to Lakes students' high school and post secondary education experiences. If you know of a teacher or administrator you would like to have recognized in the GEAR UP newsletter, notify Ms. Daniels and she will contact them and ask permission to print their profile in this column. We hope that you are learning more about Lakes staff and how they prepared to go to college.

SAVE THE DATES!

GEAR UP is sponsoring several **FREE** events for students and parents. Flyers announcing these events have been handed out to the advisories and are available in the career center and main office. Come learn more about college admissions, financial aid and other college preparation topics and have fun while doing it!

College Fridays at Lakes High School

September 21, Washington State University
October 5, University of Washington
October 19, Gonzaga University
November 16, University of Puget Sound
November 30, Pacific Lutheran University
December 14, The Evergreen State College
January 11, 2008, Saint Martin's University
January 25, 2008, Central Washington University
February 8, Eastern Washington University



Come out during lunch and talk with a college admissions counselor from one of the following colleges/universities. This is your opportunity to learn more about the various colleges available to you within Washington State. The recruiters will introduce you to the unique qualities and programs offered at their college or university. A **free** pizza lunch will be provided.



Seattle National College Fair

Monday, November 5, 2007
8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Seattle Convention Center
Seattle, WA
Parents and Student Are Invited to Attend

College Goal Sunday

Sunday, January 27, 2008
Times To Be Announced
Tacoma Temple Theater
Tacoma, WA

College Goal Sunday is a free, on-site program that helps students and families complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), a form that is required to apply for federal financial assistance for higher education. More than 900 students and parents were in attendance at seven locations across Washington state for the first-ever College Goal Sunday Washington on January 28, 2007.

If you have questions about these events, please contact Ms. Daniels at 253-310-2850 or danielsa@evergreen.edu.



What's Up with **GEAR** Up

Lakes High School

October 2007

HAVE YOU TAKEN THE ACT/SAT!

Juniors will have the opportunity to take the ACT on December 8, 2007. GEAR UP will pay the \$43 registration fee for students to take the test. The ACT will be administered at Lakes High School. A mass registration process will happen in November. Seniors wanting to take the ACT should contact GEAR UP.

There are some GEAR UP funds available for seniors to take the SAT. If a senior is interested in taking the SAT, please contact Ms. Daniels.

BACKPACKS, PORTFOLIOS, FLASH DRIVES COMING SOON!

GEAR UP will provide sophomores (backpacks), juniors (portfolios) and seniors (flash drives) as school supplies to assist them with their academic work and their college and career planning. GEAR UP is pleased to be able to provide tools and information that help the students in high school and in their preparation after graduation. These supplies will be available in November.



GEAR UP SUMMER ACTIVITIES



GEAR UP staff were very busy again this summer. We hired and trained College Preparation

Assistants (CPAs) to work with students and teachers during the WASL Academy and credit retrieval classes this summer. The CPAs offered academic assistance in math and writing

GEAR UP also provided two exciting and educationally enriching summer camp opportunities for our students.

Washington Business Week at Pacific Lutheran University

School was barely over, summer was about to begin, and a total of ten students from Clover Park and Lakes high school were registered and on their way to Washington Business Week. The students stayed on campus in the residence halls and ate in the dining hall. This experience gave them a

chance to see what life at a university is like, while also giving them exposure to the business community and the opportunity to meet students from around the state.

The weeklong activities confirmed the value of an education by connecting it to the real world. The students learned to understand that making a profit is important for society; they can have their own business and be successful; and teamwork is essential to being successful in business. The camp "allows students to run a simulated business and compete with other participants from around the state. Each company of 10-12 participants is matched with a volunteer mentor from the Business Community to help guide the Company through the week." Students reported the different kinds of learning that would help prepare them for college, including the experience of meeting



and getting along with new people. The week ended with a trade show. Each company created a new product and marketed it to investors. These “investors” were local businesspeople who volunteered to act as judges. At the trade show, the students applied the skills they learned during the week.

“I am thankful to GEAR UP for allowing me this opportunity. Attending this camp allowed me to learn about teamwork, leadership, and setting real-life goals. Thanks GEAR UP for supporting camps like this and in helping to make our dreams seem more of a reality.”

The students that attended this camp were offered an opportunity to receive two college credits from Edmonds Community College for successfully completing the camp.

Washington State University Cougar Quest, Pullman, WA

Lakes students are always eager and ready to learn. July 22-27, seventeen students attended a weeklong summer academic camp that gave them an opportunity to explore career interests on the campus of one of Washington’s largest universities. Students from Clover Park and Lakes high schools participated in the program, with GEAR UP funding all expenses.

The students were able to interact with faculty, embrace an actual college experience, participate in hands-on

discovery workshops, live in a residence hall, eat in the dining center, and enjoy free time at WSU’s Student Recreation Center. They were also able to participate in social activities and make new friends from around the state. Students participated in workshops such as Computers, Culinary



Arts, Landscape Architect, Veterinary Project, Companion Animals, and Ode to Writing Great Poems. We surveyed the students and discovered that the

majority of them enjoyed their classes and would attend WSU Cougar Quest again if they had the opportunity to do so.

When asked one or two things they learned from the experience at Cougar Quest, students responded: *meeting new people, time management, how to communicate better with others, college can be fun and not just work, be open to new people, learn to have fun while you are learning, and make the best out of things.* Students were also asked how their attendance at Cougar Quest helped them in their search for college. Some of their comments were *“I want to attend WSU when I graduate.” “College can be fun even if you are not partying.” “This experience showed me how college life really is.”*

Please visit our website to see more information about GEAR UP and activities we support in the school.

www.evergreen.edu/gearup



Ms. Daniels

Educational Specialist
Library, Room 607 LHS
danielsa@evergreen.edu
253-310-2850