

Quarterly Newsletter for KEY Student Services, a TRIO Program at The Evergreen State College

## 10 Tips for Surviving College

1. Get organized with calendars and planners
2. Connect with other students in your classes
3. Talk with your faculty
4. Find a quiet, ideal place to study
5. Meet frequently with your KEY advisor
6. Use campus resources—from clubs to counseling
7. Get involved on campus
8. Don't procrastinate: Prioritize your life
9. Stay balanced: make time for you!
10. Stay healthy: remember to eat right, sleep, sweat



A U.S. Department of Education TRIO Program, KEY Student Services provides comprehensive support services for first generation to college students, low income students, and students with disabilities at The Evergreen State College. It is 100% federally funded at \$1,430,440 for a 5-year grant cycle

## Welcome to Evergreen!

Welcome to the 2006-2007 academic year! For all those returning KEY students, we missed you this summer, and we're glad you are back. And for all you freshmen or transfer students, we at KEY Student Support Services want to especially welcome you to this remarkable campus.

We have lots of activities and workshops planned for fall quarter. A few of them are:

- ◆ If you are in INS or M2O, be sure to sign up for the weekly Success for Students in the Sciences tutoring series that runs **Oct 5-Nov 13, 2006**
- ◆ **Oct 11**, 1-3 pm: KEY Open House and pick up your free 2006-2007 Calendar  
7-8:30 pm: KEY in Housing: Stop by and meet and mingle
- ◆ **Oct 18**, 1-2:30 pm, Sem 2 E1107: Time Management Workshop
- ◆ **Oct 25**, 1-3 pm Sem 2 D 1107: Celebrate 5th Week with lunch and faculty Emily Lardner on *Writing at Evergreen*. Enjoy interactive learning!

Remember to be an "active KEY student," you need to meet with a KEY advisor **at least twice** each quarter and attend **one** KEY event per quarter. Call 867-6464 to schedule your appointments. Be sure to stop by and meet our new staff member Lisa!



*Niki*

*Dawn*

*Lisa*

*Jenny*

Niki Amarantides, Dawn Carlson, Lisa Jourdan & Jenny Rodriguez

## Meet KEY Advisor Lisa Jourdan

I am so honored to be a part of KEY Student Services. As a past TRiO student, I can identify with some of the struggles KEY students face. And I can think of no better way to repay those who have helped me along the way than to help others on their journey.

When I started at Centralia College, it had been 15 years since I had seen the inside of a classroom. However, with a lot of hard work and support, I was able to graduate from CC and transfer to WSU where I earned my degree in History and Sociology. For the past two years I had been working for the TRiO program at South Puget Sound Community College, and that experience helped me land this job with KEY. I love working with students and if they let me, I will die here.

I hope to meet most of you at the KEY Open House on October 11th from 1-3 pm, but if you can't make it, please feel free to stop by anytime to introduce yourself. As you can tell from the photo above—I am not very scary. I look forward to working with you this year and many more to come.



Lisa Jourdan as a whoopee cushion; Halloween 2004

# A Note From KEY's Geoduck Representative

My name is Kylan Clayton. I am a KEY student and a new member of the Geoduck Union. This will be my third year at Evergreen, as well as my third year as a KEY student. I meet all three of the qualifications to be a KEY student: I am disabled, low income, and first generation. The ableism and classism in our society has set up institutions of higher education that can seem nearly impenetrable by those of us who meet the KEY criteria. As I'm sure we all agree, these prejudices should not exist in our society, and especially not at our college. My main goal as a representative is to help the union work toward a high standard of inclusion and respect.



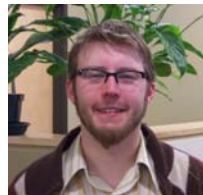
Being a part of the Geoduck Union is very important to me for many reasons, both political and personal. Evergreen needs better communication between administration and students. The Geoduck Union can be a bridge between the two communities. Also, the Geoduck Union can be a check on the administration and will send the message that students are concerned about how our school is run and how our money is spent.

As a member of KEY and the Geoduck Union, it is my goal to make sure that every facet of the population at Evergreen is heard, respected, and taken into account. I will work to make sure that marginalized voices are heard. If you have any concerns you'd like me to raise, please email me at [clakyl05@evergreen.edu](mailto:clakyl05@evergreen.edu).

## Lessons from Argentina

*I first applied for the Gilman scholarship because my KEY advisor encouraged me, and I needed the writing practice. Not because I thought I would win. Then I received notice that I won, and there was no turning back: I was going to Argentina. Below are some excerpts from emails I sent home. If after reading this, you want to contact me, my email is [jamsil18@evergreen.edu](mailto:jamsil18@evergreen.edu). (To learn more about the Gilman Scholarship, go to <http://www.iie.org/programs/gilman/index.html>). --Silas James*

**M**y first impression of Buenos Aires is that it is a beautiful city but also very ugly at the same time. After a few days of being surrounded by bright lights, fantastic architecture, beautiful people, and fancy stores, I changed my mind and think it is just beautiful. But the night before last I realized my first impression was right: there is a dark (to use an overused cliché) underbelly. When walking home from dinner I saw the shortest, dirtiest most hunched old woman nestling herself into a crack in a wall filled with garbage. She was digging through it looking for paper to sell to a recycling plant of some kind that I have not seen yet. The poverty here is staggering; a huge gap exists between the rich and the poor. Streets lined with grandiose buildings have giant potholes full of garbage.



The irony of a city with terrible air being called Buenos Aires is a fitting representation of the duality of this beautiful stinky, sprawling city: I love it but at the same time I hate it. I want to stay, but I can't wait to leave and then I can't wait to come back again. The more comfortable I get here, the more I realize how distinctive the personality of this city is.

The porteños (the name for the people of Buenos Aires, which I'm not sure is a completely positive reference) are interesting to watch, especially in the fast-paced downtown area where our apartment is. How do I begin to explain them? They are proud. I was told this before coming here, but I did not grasp

the implications of this fact at the time, and probably still do not yet. They are very polite. When I ride the subway, old women insist I take their seat. Often when I am in a shop, the owner will emerge from a back room with a chair and insist that I sit while the staff brings things for me to look at.

Portaños are also metropolitan; they are very concerned with appearances and are always on their cell phones. Our Spanish teacher Liliana is a good example. When we get to class, she removes her giant sunglasses and greets us with a kiss. When we are doing written work in class, she sits there sending text messages on her cell phone, and if it rings she picks it up without hesitation and speaks to whoever is calling. She is probably about 50, but she still wears the tightest pants and tiger striped shirts. She is also the sweetest, most demanding instructor I have ever had. If she sees me yawn in class, she will hop up and make me a tiny cup of coffee.

How does it feel to be an American in Buenos Aires? I feel ok; people are very welcoming. But there is a deeper, less obvious whispering echo as we leave or when we first enter a non-tourist place. I can feel people looking at me trying to figure out what is wrong with my legs, but this is no different that in the States. I must say that I am more aware of being foreign than I am of being "disabled."

I also don't feel white like I did in Trinidad, but I do feel like an "other;" people here are a little bit darker but I think that it is just because they get more sun than I do in Seattle. I think if I were here long enough, I would be the same color as they are. I feel pitied but also privileged. I am privileged because I am an American who stays in a tenth floor apartment with a view of the obelisk. I am privileged because my walking with a cane makes people offer to let me use bathrooms that are usually reserved for staff. I am privileged to have the doors of our taxis opened by homeless people for the chance that we will give them 25 or 50 centavos. I'm not sure what to do about this. I do think that being aware of it is a start but not the end.

# First Gen Faculty Interview with Bill Ransom



Creative writing faculty Bill Ransom is teaching *American Literature: The Presence of Place* with Matt Smith this fall. When not teaching, Bill can often be found in the southwestern United States writing novels. Thankfully, he found some time to talk to KEY about his experiences as a first generation college student.--Grant Miller

English and Sociology Education, did graduate work in American Minority Literature at University of Nevada, Reno, and received an MA in The Theory and Practice of Writing with a minor in Folklore from Utah State University. For a short time he was in the nursing program at Peninsula College, and has a strong background in chemistry and biological science.

Bill's family settled in the Puyallup valley in the 1890s. He was born in the same room that both his grandmother and mother were born in. His grandfather labored as a saw-filer for local mills, and his father was a professional boxer, who later became a Pierce County deputy Sheriff and eventually Chief of Police in Buckley, WA. His mother worked at the Puyallup Laundry for much of Bill's childhood. She later became a clerk-typist for the aerospace industry, and shortly before she died, she became the first female buyer in the industry.

Bill never thought he could afford to go to college. But during his senior year of high school he began to receive athletic offers, which allowed him to attend Washington State University on boxing and track scholarships. He graduated from University of Washington with a B.A. in

**“Show up, take off the headphones, sit in front, and take notes—you’ll do fine.”** Bill Ransom

Bill's mentors range from a couple of great nuns, some outstanding Jesuits, to Frank Herbert—the author of the *Dune* series—with whom he coauthored three novels. Bill wishes he'd known earlier that creative writing was a viable job option in life. He believes had he taken a few writing workshops, he would have saved a

lot of time and frustration. However, the social sciences, folklore, the hard sciences, and twelve years as an advanced life-support EMT gave him the background and discipline in observation essential for creative writing.

When I asked Bill what advice he would give KEY students, he responded with: “Worry, fretting, anxiety, all are your enemy. Evergreen offers plenty of people to help you. Don't let frustration affect your work—seek out the formal support systems or a sympathetic faculty member at the first sign of trouble.” And most importantly, “Show up, take off the headphones, sit in front, and take notes—you'll do fine.”

## KEY invites you to get out of your dorm and have fun!

### ◆ **Tuesday, October 17, 2006, 7:30 pm Wynton Marsalis performs in Olympia**

Dress up a little, get on a bus, and head downtown. Meet KEY at the box office of the Washington Center for Performing Arts and enjoy an evening of jazz. **Wynton Marsalis**, winner of 8 Grammy awards for his classical and jazz albums and recipient of the 1997 Pulitzer Prize for his contributions to jazz will be in Olympia with his world-class jazz combo. Ten tickets are available for the first 10 KEY students who sign up and put down a \$10 refundable deposit. Call x6464 to get on the list and then drop off your deposit.



### ◆ **Friday, October 20, 7:30 pm Shakespeare comes to the TESC COM Building**



Be one of 10 KEY students attending the Seattle Shakespeare Company's **The Winter's Tale**. Don't miss Shakespeare's fable of love, jealousy, forgiveness, and sheep! Call x 6464 and get on the list; be sure to stop by to drop off your \$10 refundable deposits. (Deposits are required and refunded the night of the show; they are to ensure your attendance!)

### ◆ **Tuesday, November 7, 7:30 pm TESC Geoducks play St. Martins College at CRC.**

Bring your pots and pans and cheer the Geoducks on to victory at the best game of the year!



# KEY mail—3 Steps to Staying Informed



KEY has important news to share with KEY students via our weekly **KOP (KEY Opportunities and Possibilities)** electronic newsletter. KOP will be delivered to your campus email addresses (because those addresses don't change).

Below are instructions for how to **set up** your campus account and how to set it to **forward** to your personal yahoo, hotmail, gmail, etc. account. You may be thinking you don't want to forward your campus email to your personal email because of anticipated junk mail, but you can fix that too! Read on:

## 1. How do you set up your campus account?

Go online to [my.evergreen.edu](http://my.evergreen.edu) and type in your username and password. **Your username will be the first three letters of your last name, the first three letters of your first name and the 2-digit day you were born.** John Smith, born April 13, 1980 would look like this: smijoh13. Your default password is the day of the month you were born, the first three letters of the month you were born (in lower case), and the last 2 digits of the year you were born. John's would look like 13apr80. After your initial start-up, you'll be required to change your default password. Starting a new email account may take 24 hours for the server to process. Now you are set with your campus email—and you will be a better informed Greener and KEY student!

**2. Don't want to have to check two email accounts? Then follow the steps below and have your campus account forward to your personal email account.**

Go to [my.evergreen.edu](http://my.evergreen.edu) and sign in with your campus account name and password. Next a screen will appear asking you to *Choose the Following*. Click on *Change Email Preferences*. You will get to choose if you want to forward your mail or not. Choose **Forward** and type in your personal email address and click on *Set Email Preference*. That's it! Now all the important KEY emails will come to your personal email address. Note: these changes can take 24 hours to happen and another 24 to undo if needed.

**3. Don't want to get all of the other Evergreen emails? Opt out!**

Now that you are getting campus mail forwarded, you may find you receive a lot of mail from TESC Crier and TESC Talk. To be taken off a list, simply send a blank email to the **unsubscribe/leave** email address listed on the bottom of any email you receive from these list serves. Presto you are done! If you have any problems, come on by. You don't want to miss any important emails from KEY!



## Don't Miss out on KEY Fall 2006 Events!

### Wednesday, October 11th

KEY Open House and Calendar Distribution  
1:00-3:00 pm KEY Offices

### Wednesday, October 11th

Meet and Greet with KEY in Housing  
7:00-8:00 pm Housing A-Dorm

### Tuesday, October 17th

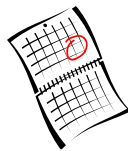
WA Center for the Performing Arts  
An Evening with Wynton Marsalis  
7:00 pm (*tickets required through KEY*)

### Wednesday, October 18th

Time Management Workshop  
1:00-2:30 pm SEM 2 E1107

### Wednesday, October 25th

KEY Fifth Week Gathering  
1:00-3:00 pm SEM 2 D1107



### Thursday, November 2nd

Got Spirituality? Is There a Place for Faith at TESC  
7:30-9:00 pm Housing A-Dorm

### Tuesday, November 7th

TESC vs. St Martins Men's Basketball Game  
7:30 pm CRC

### Wednesday, November 8th

Scholarship Workshop  
6:30-7:30 pm Housing A-Dorm

### Wednesday, November 15th

Scholarship Workshop  
1:00-3:00 pm SEM 2 D1107

### Wednesday, November 29th

Academic Fair  
4:00-6:00 pm CRC

**Winter Quarter Registration begins December 4**

### Holidays

Thanksgiving Break November 20-26th

Winter Break December 18th-January 7th