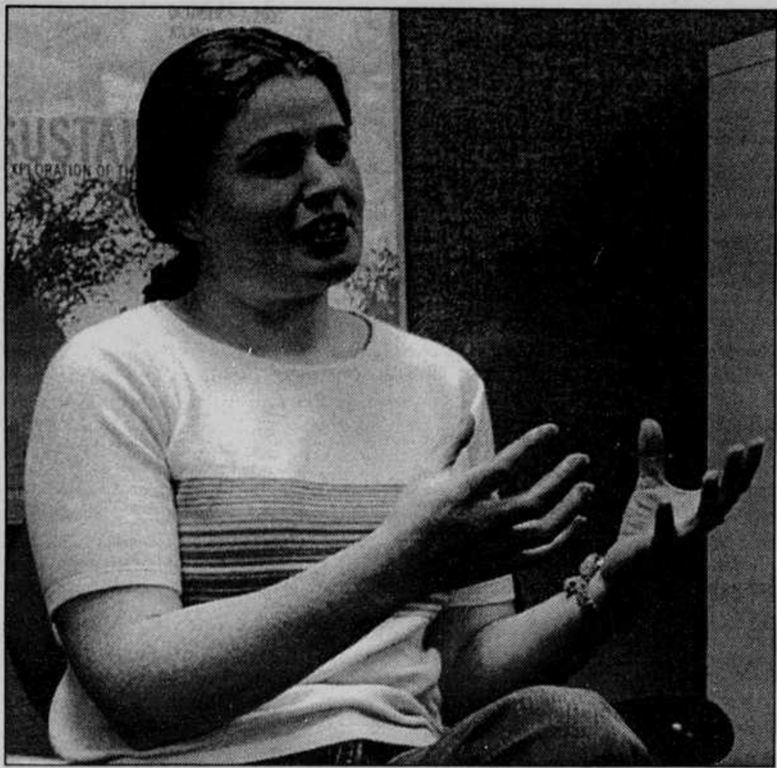
Leadership academy to teach business success



Erik R. Bishoff Online & Photo Editor

Continuing Education Program Coordinator Shanda LeVan describes the Sustainability Leadership Academy, which will focus on business economics and strategy.

The new Sustainability Leadership Academy will offer 21 seminars

STACY AUSTIN
FREELANCE REPORTER

The University's Continuing Education Program is getting ready to unveil a new academy designed to help professionals and students be more successful in the business field.

The program — called the Sustainability Leadership Academy — will offer 21 seminars, making it one of the most comprehensive Sustainability and professional development programs of its kind in the nation, according to a program press release.

Topics include "The Natural Step," "Eco-Effectiveness" and "Zero Waste;" the coursework will consider present economic problems and ways to achieve stability. These education seminars help provide people with the understanding, tools and techniques needed to make a business successful, according to the release.

The University Sustainability Leadership Academy "seeks to offer seminars in assisting businesses and public organizations in transitioning to (the new circular, or closed loop, economic paradigm from the linear)," Program Coordinator Shanda LeVan said.

LeVan became involved in the Academy when she took two seminar courses during the 2003-04 school year.

Although LeVan holds a bachelor's degree in Environmental Science she said she still learned new ideas and benefited from what she learned with the program. Now, LeVan helps coordinate and schedule seminars.

The Academy's seminars are organized into five major tracks: basic, core, technical, business and local government. The basic track helps those new to the field by introducing them to the basic elements of sustainability. The core track offers assistance in the basic foundations of sustainability, including personal leadership. The technical track gives seminars in a number of specialized topics for individuals interested in sustainability in operation practices. The business track offers seminars in various aspects of businesses. The local government track is taught in collaboration with the League of Oregon Cities, and offers seminars about the other tracks.

The program, which offers a certificate of completion, can be started at any time, and can be completed within one year.

The Academy starts in the fall; registration is currently open. Seminars are held in Eugene at the Baker Downtown Center and in Portland at the Portland Center. If organizations have a large enough staff, the Academy can go on-site and tailor the course to its needs.

The Continuing Education Program is targeting the Academy to senior executives and mid-level managers, but people from many professional backgrounds attend. Heather Fisher, the Academy's Registration Coordinator, said courses are "definitely available for students," along with non-profit leaders, environmental health and safety managers, facility managers and others.

Stacy Austin is a freelance reporter for the Emerald.

Oregon Bach Festival receives $800,000 contribution

Two festival patrons pledged $1 million in total through Campaign Oregon

KATE WEBSTER
FREELANCE REPORTER

Two local Oregon Bach Festival enthusiasts commemorated the 35th anniversary of the festival with a donation they hope will make a positive difference for the festival.

At a dinner for festival patrons June 27, Pete and Mary Ann Moore honored their 15-Ïyear association with the festival by pledging $1 million to the University's Campaign Oregon: Transforming Lives. Some $800,000 of this contribution will be allocated to the festival, and the rest will be dedicated to athletics and scholarships at the University.

The Moores are active ticket buyers, patrons and board members of the Oregon Bach Festival who said they recognize its importance to the world and its ability to affect people's lives.

The festival seeks to raise $10 million through Campaign Oregon, yielding about $400,000 each year to support the festival's operating budget, which includes two key aspects that particularly interest the Moores: the operations of the world-class festival and fueling growth of artistic and educational programs. Areas within that have been in need of a large amount of funding are salary improvement, expansion of youth programs, and publicity and marketing for the festival.

The $1 million pledge from the Moores also supports the ultimate festival goal of cross-continental relations and friendship through music.

Contributions to the festival have been made and will continue to be made by "many people in this world who want to be remembered by building bridges between cultures through music," said George Evano, the festival's director of communications.

The Moores are not only giving a gift that will transform the lives of people all over the world, but are also positively transforming the lives of the musicians and staff within the festival, festival stage manager Michael Nutter said, adding that he is grateful to the Moores in explaining how their contribution personally affects his life.

"A gift like this gives us stability about an uncertain future and makes us aware that the community itself sees the value in what that future can hold," Nutter said.

The Oregon Bach Festival offers master classes for conductors and musicians, programs for children

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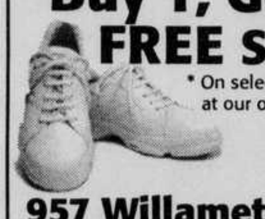
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