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LOCAL NEWS



PHOTO COURTESY WARNER PACIFIC COLLEGE
 Graduates of the now-closed Heald College Portland celebrate their academic achievements during a graduation celebration Friday that Warner Pacific College hosted at Mt. Scott Church of God. The southeast Portland school is helping displaced Heald students transfer their credits to Warner Pacific and other colleges.

Filling the Gap

Displaced Heald students look for options

BY ISAAC HOTCHKISS
 FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

When they received an email stating their school was suddenly closed, Heald College students like Zach Shaut didn't know what to think. "I thought it was a joke at first," said the second year Business Administration student with an emphasis on Entrepreneurship. Shaut had hoped to gain the

skills to eventually open his own hot rod business. Now he was suddenly sitting in an information session wondering what's next.

Heald College and its parent company Corinthian College shuttered April 27 citing government regulatory pressure on for-profit universities. The decision hung 16,000 enrolled students out to dry, including 300 students and 80 staff on their Portland campus.

At least one door has opened up, however, as Warner Pacific College has agreed to lower residency requirements and waive fees for Heald students only. This

will enable a student to bring many more transfer credits to the school than normal.

"We're working with a lot of students who want to continue without skipping a beat," said Celeste Cameron, director of enrollment at Warner Pacific.

The southeast Portland campus was even considering absorbing a Heald staff member—Adam Spitzer, an admissions advisor. Spitzer said he was overjoyed at the chance to continue in the same field of employment.

"If I can advocate for students, that would be phenomenal," Spitzer said.

Heald reportedly has worked

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Obama to Visit; Promote Trade Deal

President Obama will help raise money for a fellow Democrat to win the White House in 2016 and buck some members of his own party to campaign for free trade legislation during a visit to Portland on Thursday and Friday. Obama will go to Nike headquarters in Beaverton to talk about how workers



Barack Obama

would benefit from "progressive, high-standards trade agreements that would open up new markets and support high-quality jobs" for businesses large and small, a White House statement said.

He will also attend a private fundraising event for the Democratic National Committee's 2016 White House Victory Fund.