

TRUST FUND SCHOLARSHIP applications are still available at the Education Office for the 1997/98 academic year for FULL-TIME and PART-TIME tribal member students.

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT A COMPLETED APPLICATION IS APRIL 30, 1997.

Call Marion at 1-800-422-0232, ext. 2284 to get an application.



The Native American Club held its first election of club officers on March 20. Marion Mercier and Marty Branch of the Education Division attend the club meetings once a month to discuss college and conference opportunities with students. Pictured in back row: Ben Bishop and Erica Mercier. Center row: Manny Mercier, Rachel Towner, Brian Krehbiel (Treasurer-elect), and Sol George (Sergeant at Arms-elect). Front row: Jason Greenlaw, Brianna Leno, (President-elect), Brandy Leno (Secretary-elect), and Tara Leno. Not pictured is Joe Mercier (Vice President-elect).

Many adult education opportunities available

HONORS and RECOGNITION DINNER: This event is just a few months away and our program is trying to identify GED graduates from Summer 1996 through June 1997. Let us know who you are so we can include you in our plans. (We also accept this information from loving friends and relatives.)

GED CLASSES: Local GED classes will be offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 to 7 p.m., starting April 1 in Grand Ronde. Classes are cosponsored with Chemeketa Community College and open to the community and tribal members.

PORTLAND AREA SURVEY: The Education Division is still in the process of identifying tribal members in the Portland area who would be interested in a Hard Sole Moccasin demonstration and class, and/or a Drum Making class. We have heard from several tribal members, but need a larger number of responses. If you are interested, please call Gayla or Hollie at 1-800-422-0232, ext. 2275.

SITE VISITATION SCHEDULE:

Portland on April 15 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the CTGR Tribal area office, 1110 S.E. Alder St.

Salem on April 16 from 10 a.m. to noon at Chemeketa Community College, 4000 Lancaster Dr.

Eugene on April 23, location and time to be announced.

Site visitation within the state is also available by request. For more information call Gayla or Hollie at 1-800-422-0232, ext. 2275.

WORK SCHEDULE: Gayla Tulensru, the Adult Education Coordinator, will now be working Monday through Friday. The local Adult Education Program has always had a drop-in policy for clients, and it is encouraged to stop in if you are in the area. However, making an appointment is still the best way to guarantee that adequate time will be available for you. It also saves you, the client, the inconvenience of missing Gayla if she is working off-site.

Making our Visions a Reality: Strategies for 2000

The National Coalition for Indian Education (NCIE) and the Tribal Education Contractor's Association (TECA) issued their **CALL TO CONFERENCE** for the 2nd Annual Joint Conference, "Making Our Visions a Reality: Strategies for 2000" which will be held in Seattle, Washington, on **April 30 through May 2, 1997**. The agenda is being finalized, but some of the workshops to be offered are:

- Tribal and School Collaboration
- Providing a Bridge to Help Make Higher Education a Reality for Native People
- Graduate Health Programs and Scholarships
- Developing Strategies for Parent and Community Involvement
- Tobacco Use Prevention and Consumer Program
- Carl Perkins Program
- Tribes, Telecommunications and Education
- Unique Educational Experience for Educators at University of Arizona
- Making Mathematics and Science Fun
- Scholarships, Committees and Boards
- National Indian Adult Education Forum
- Native American Higher Education Forum
- Exemplary Programs Traveling Circus and Road Show
- National Indian Education Agenda
- plus more workshops

The NCIE/TECA are planning a tour to the Puyallup Tribe's River Boat Casino, Chief Leschi School, and possible boat tour of the Seattle water front. Also, as a special treat, the Cherokee Nation Adult Education Program representatives, Sandy Long and Beverly Sizemore, will conduct a Cherokee Basket Making Seminar on Wednesday evening.

For registration information call Bob Tom at (503) 390-9494. For agenda information call Dean Azule at 1-800-422-0232, ext. 2276. See you in Seattle!

Experience Career EXPO '97

Chemeketa Community College, Salem Campus
April 17 from 9 a.m. until 7 p.m.

- Practice interview techniques
- Learn about people in non-traditional careers
- Learn about businesses in this region
- Talk to actual employers
- Attend workshops, seminars, tours, and demos

High school students: please call Marion Mercier at 879-2284 to register.

Minority scholarships

Applications have arrived for the **UNDER REPRESENTED MINORITIES ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARSHIPS 1997/98**. American Indian/Alaskan Native, African American, and Hispanic American college students who are, or will be enrolled in an Oregon State System institution in 1997/98 may qualify for a scholarship. The scholarship will be granted to a selected group of undergraduate students on a competitive basis. **The deadline to apply for this scholarship is May 1.** For more information call Marion Mercier at the Education Office at 879-2284.

Staff attends RETAIN

By Marion Mercier

RETAIN (Retention in Education for Today's American Indian Nations), Conference was held in Tempe, Arizona in February. Marty Branch and I attended the four day conference. The RETAIN Conferences are the beginning of a national effort to address the retention issues of American Indian and Native Alaskan students in higher education. The overall focus of the conference is to identify and refine methods and practices that are the most effective in helping students successfully complete college. Conference participants represented community colleges, tribal colleges and universities, Tribal education programs, parent committees, tribal leaders, and most important, students from all sectors of the United States and Canada.

The session forum allowed for dialogue, strategy sharing, solution processing, and formulating recommendations regarding retention issues. Session topics included recruitment and tracking models; motivation and role models; institutional support; academic intervention; culturally-based curriculum; community-based programs; and others.

A recommendation that surfaced in several of the sessions was the need for tribes to recognize and encourage student achievements as well as being supportive financially. Another recommendation that came out of the conference is to have first year freshman students attend either a summer bridge or college preparatory program, or at least attend a week long college orientation session.

The most often heard recommendation that came from the students was for the college and university staff to become more culturally aware of and sensitive to issues of Native American students.

I feel this conference was beneficial in that it was reinforced that we are doing some things right with our program, and we were able to get new ideas on methods of improving retention strategies. I left the conference with a renewed sense of camaraderie with Indian educators from all over this nation and also with the challenge of helping to improve the future of today's Indian students in Higher Education.

Another highlight of the conference was getting to meet one of our Higher Education Program students, Marcee Peterson, who attends Glendale Community College in Glendale, Arizona. Marcee is a second year student and plans to transfer to a four year institution next year.