April 2012

Prescott College is committed to supporting your student’s educational success, the kind of success which forges lifelong bonds. Trails Home, the parent newsletter, is one way we hope to keep you informed and share useful information about the Prescott College Community. You may also want to visit the Prescott College web pages for parents at www.prescott.edu/parents.

Alumni and Parent Gathering

Sunday, June 3, 2012
11-1 p.m.

Please join Prescott College Trustee Gerald Secundy and Prescott College President Kristin R. Woolever for an Alumni and Parent Brunch on Sunday, June 3, 2012.

Enjoy a complimentary brunch and refreshments while engaging in a conversation about experiential education at Prescott College.

Seating is limited. Please R.S.V.P. at http://pasadena.kintera.org or call Marie Smith in the Alumni Office at (928) 350-4502.

Home of Prescott College Board of Trustees Member
Gerald Secundy
222 S Grand Ave.
Pasadena, CA

Student Initiative Council Dance-a-Thon!

by Joshua Keultjes
Student Initiative Council President

On Friday, March 23, Prescott College’s Student Initiative Council (SIC) held its first annual Dance-A-Thon. This 12-hour event raised much-needed funds for the upcoming Spirit Week, held on campus the week of April 15. The Dance-A-Thon turned out to be a huge success with over 100 attendees. This project could not have happened without the support of all those who donated their time, energy, and money to make this event a success! Big thanks to DJ Bad Santa, DJ Educator, DJ Girl Detective, Chris Paul, Nate Jackson, and all the other artists who rocked the house and kept the dancers dancing!

Awards were given for the following categories:
Highest Number of Pledges: Miriel Maning
Best Dressed: DJ Educator
Best Dance Moves: Eleanor Nelson
Longest Dancer: Miriel Maning

Again thanks to all the volunteers, dancers, and DJs who made this a great event!
Prescott College Spirit Week  
April 16 to 21, 2012

Monday, April 16
Tie-Dye and Say Goodbye to Hunger, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Crossroads Courtyard

Tie-Dye and Say Goodbye to Hunger is a food drive supporting the Northern Arizona Food Bank. Bring a canned food item to the tie-dye booth on the Crossroads Courtyard between 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Monday and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesday, and tie-dye a free shirt or bring your own gear!

Tuesday, April 17
Tie-Dye and Say Goodbye to Hunger, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Crossroads Courtyard

Outdoor Movie Night, 7 to 9 p.m.
Welcome Center parking lot

Showing: 2012: Time for Change

This movie presents an optimistic alternative to apocalyptic doom and gloom. Directed by Emmy Award nominee Joao Amorim, the film follows journalist Daniel Pinchbeck, author of the best-selling 2012: The Return of Quetzalcoatl, on a quest for a new paradigm that integrates the archaic wisdom of tribal cultures with the scientific method. As conscious agents of evolutions, we can redesign post-industrial society on ecological principles to make a world that works for all. Rather than
breakdown and barbarism, 2012 heralds the birth of a regenerative planetary culture where collaboration replaces competition, where exploration of psyche and spirit becomes the new cutting edge, replacing the sterile materialism that has pushed our world to the brink.

**Wednesday, April 18**
Prescott College Gear Giveaways and PIZZA at Community Lunch! 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

**Thursday, April 19**
Alumni Dinner Fundraiser, 5 to 7 p.m.
Sam Hill Gallery
Faculty Tim Crew's Lecture: Field Observations of an Agro-Eco-Educator, 7:30 p.m.
Crossroads Center

**Friday, April 20**
Spirit Week Carnival and Senior Salute Party, 12 noon to 5 p.m.
Welcome Center parking lot
Enjoy FREE pizza at noon and test your skill in our 40 ft maze, on the rock wall, bounce house, and MASSIVE slide! Music and gifts too! Bring your family for extra fun.

**Saturday, April 21**
Dance-A-Thon Part Two, 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.
Dance Festival and Spirit Week Celebration!
Mariposa
The Student Initiative Council (SIC) is proud to host Dance-a-Thon Part II. This event will feature local Djs and jammin music. Come and ROCK the house and keep the dancers dancing!

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**Video Internship with Sierra Club Available**

Which Prescott College student is going to have the best summer ever? There's still time to apply for the Sierra Club's Best Internship on Earth, an incredible opportunity to spend June, July, and August exploring the great outdoors and documenting the journey for the Sierra Club and The North Face. As the 2012 Outdoor Youth Ambassador (aka "intern"), students will get a $2,000 gift certificate from The North Face, and Sierra Club will cover all travel expenses and pay a generous stipend. The application deadline is April 2. [Application and more info here.](http://www.sierraclub.org/soc/internships)

**Faculty Lecture**

**Thursday, April 19, 7:30 p.m.**
Prescott College Crossroads Center

Environmental Studies Faculty Tim Crews
Field Observations of an Agro-Eco-Educator

**Saturday, April 21, 2012**

**Earth Day on the Prescott Courthouse Plaza**

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Celebrate the environment with your community! Enjoy family activities, live music, food, complimentary Starbucks Coffee, and information booths about solar energy, water-smart practices, green building, clean air, recycling, landscaping projects, organic foods, and more.

Contact Nancy Hans for more information at (928) 717-1116. This event is co-sponsored by the Open Space Alliance and Prescott College.

**John Muir Chautauqua by Doug Huffman**

April 21, 7:30 p.m.
Prescott College Crossroads Center
Prescott College Crossroads Center

Doug Hulmes performs a portrayal, or Chautauqua, of John Muir, presenting an environmental perspective of the West. Performing as Muir brings to life ideas that began during centuries past. Come to Prescott College for this presentation and to celebrate Muir's 174th birthday.

50 Years of Shared History Exhibit at Prescott Public Library

In March 1962, the Prescott College Founding Fund was established with goal of raising $1 million. With the slogan “It’s up to you in ’62! To Open the Door in ’64!” Congregationalist Reverend Dr. Charles Franklin Parker and a team of volunteers brought the local community together. Prescott College opened its doors to students for the first time in the fall of 1966. Today, Prescott College remains a fixture of the local community, sharing 50 years of history with its hometown and namesake and practicing its unique brand of experiential education.

The Prescott College "50 Years of Shared History" exhibit will be on display at the Prescott Public Library. Viewing throughout the month of April. Please join us for a reception at the Prescott Public Library on Wednesday, April 25, 2012 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Creating a Housing Community at Prescott College

Beginning in the fall of 2012, new on-campus students will be placed in housing according to the students' interests in themes. Extensive research in higher education shows that this theme-based style of living-learning community contributes significantly to the success of students entering college for the first time.

These first-year themes will be offered:

Wilderness and Society
Students choosing this theme will have extensive field experiences in their first semester to help them explore questions such as the following: What value does wilderness have to modern society? How can we travel and recreate safely and responsibly in our wild lands?

Wilderness and Wellness
This theme is also for students seeking extensive field experiences in their first semester. Students will address questions such as these: Is a deep connection to wild places a fundamental component of being human? How can experiences of wilderness and adventure contribute to our health and vitality?

Food, Justice, and Sustainability
As one of the fundamental needs for human survival, no discussion of sustainable living is complete without a consideration of how we feed the earth’s human population. For students choosing this theme, explorations will be made of the environmental
impact of the food we eat, and how the availability of adequate food reflects larger systems of economic, political and social power.

**Communities and Commons**
How to share the finite resources available to people has been a fundamental issue throughout human history, and many of our social systems have been devised to allocate those resources, in ways both equitable and disparate, in some cases ensuring the sustainability of those resources and in others guaranteeing their depletion. This theme is framed by key questions including the following: Is it inevitable that self-interest will ultimately win out over collective interests when we are allocating common resources? What can we learn from different cultural models about ensuring the sustainable use of natural resources?

**Culture, Power, and Identity**
Who are you, and what does your personal identity have to do with the way that power is distributed between groups, by race, gender, sexuality, class and ethnicity? This section looks at how human societies both build unequal systems and also strive for equality and the challenges that must be overcome in that quest. What does it mean that race is a social construct? How do we understand the very different ways that people access power and advantage through gender? This section seeks to create a space where those parts of identity that are not the norm in a typical college community can find a voice, and students can learn from readings, speakers, and from each other through specific foci such as "The Psychology of Race," "Image and Power in Mass Culture," and "Normalizing the Body: Gender, Race and Disability."

**Art and Social Change**
As we strive for a more sustainable and just society, having great ideas is usually not enough, as we need to find creative ways to effectively communicate them to a very diverse audience. In this theme, students will explore the role that creative expression and the ethical artist can play in expressing both the challenges we face and the best solutions. Key questions will include the following: What role can the arts play in widening the conversations on critical topics to new participants? How can the artist work to engage reason and emotion in ways that produces results that are greater than the sum of their parts?

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**Get on the Money**
Prescott College has teamed up with SALT, a new membership program that helps manage student loans and money. Parents and students alike may benefit from this program, which provides free tips and tools on money and student loans. SALT is free and confidential.

With SALT, you can do the following:
- Keep track of student loans.
- Get loan advice from an expert counselor.
- Look for a job or internship.
- Search for a scholarship.
- See how to save money wisely.

Activation emails have been sent to Prescott College students with individual PIN numbers and a link directly into SALT.

For more information, visit [www.saltmoney.org](http://www.saltmoney.org).

**Faculty News**
On-Campus Undergraduate Environmental Studies faculty member Dr. Mark Riegner received the 2011 Harry R. Painton Award of the Cooper Ornithological Society. The award, offered every two years, recognizes a paper published in the journal *Condor* during the past four years that “made an extraordinary contribution to ornithology.” Mark’s paper, “Parallel evolution of plumage pattern and coloration in birds: implications for defining avian morphospace,” appeared in the November 2008 issue of the journal (Vol. 110, pp. 599–614). The award announcement, with a description of his research, recently appeared in the February 2012 issue of *Condor* (Vol. 114, p. 238).

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**Prescott College Is Growing by Degrees**

Our new on-campus Master of Arts Program:
The On-Campus Master of Arts Program in Social Justice and Human Rights is designed to prepare students to tackle challenges of economic, social, political, and environmental inequality. The curriculum enables the development of the practical and analytical skills, experiences, and connections required to collaborate toward social justice at local, national, and international levels.

**Expand democratic participation**
Students are supported in connecting their social justice interests and passions to areas of concentration including human rights advocacy and research, grassroots community organizing, and strategic media and communications. These concentrations are examined in the contexts of movements to build power in directly affected communities and expand democratic participation in social decision making.

**Challenges of the 21st century**
The curriculum combines a strong focus on critical social theory as a powerful tool for understanding complex relations of history, politics, and power with a commitment to learning through direct action and in collaboration with directly affected communities organizing to confront the global crises and challenges of the 21st century.


**Our new on-campus Bachelor of Science Degree in Environmental Studies:**

**Leader in Field Research and Science**
Based upon our existing Bachelor of Arts program, this new Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies curriculum allows students an established and progressive program grounded in scientific research, data collection, and analysis. This strong focus on research and analytics adheres to our True Prescott style of experiential learning and gives students a high quality, comprehensive Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Studies.

**Students pursuing the B.S. in Environmental Studies will take courses in:**
Natural History and Ecology of the Southwest
Chemistry
Calculus
Physics
Biological Sciences
Physical and Earth Sciences
Analytical Methods
Advanced science-based courses selected from areas such as Applied Ecology, Place-Based Studies, Environmental Policy or other areas as driven by student interest
Personal Values and Social Systems
Senior Project

Additional facility improvements planned for 2012-13 will double the lab-science instruction space and create a new Natural History Center with room for scientific collections. Additional improvements are two new classroom/lab spaces for teaching undergraduates and the community and renovating the current Earth Science lab into a more specialized Chemistry lab.

Prescott College is thrilled to launch the Southwest Experience and Early College (SEEC) program offering summer courses for college credit to high school students ages 16-18 years old.

Modeled after the College’s undergraduate courses and taught by Prescott College faculty and instructors, students will experience their learning in the field through real-world application.

A SEEC course facilitates not only new academic skills, deep learning, and understanding of environmental and cultural issues and perspectives on nature, people, and our environment, but also contributes to a student’s self-confidence, ability to function successfully and lead a team, builds strong communication skills, and is fun!

SEEC students might find themselves paddling down the Colorado River while studying geology, or tethered to a rock face leading a climb. Perhaps they will be standing in the shadow of an ancient dwelling in Mesa Verde capturing the mystery of a culture or in the midst of a Native American Hopi ritual. Regardless, these courses are designed for up-close and personal academic study infused with travel and adventure that takes students into the heart of learning.

Summer 2012 includes courses in geology, natural history, ecology, cultural studies, and photography blended with hiking, rafting, climbing, and kayaking expeditions. Read more at http://www.prescott.edu/learn/early-college-for-highschool-students/index.html.

### Juried Student Art Exhibition at Sam Hill Warehouse

The Prescott College Art Gallery at Sam Hill Warehouse announces the opening of the spring student art exhibition. The purpose of a juried student exhibition is to provide students with the opportunity to present their art in a professional manner. This exhibition is on view March 30 through April 19. Opening reception is March 30 from 6 to 8 p.m. All events are free and open to the public.

Event Contact: Jen Chandler at (928) 350-2341 or jchandler@prescott.edu.

### Congratulations Sam Hill Art Gallery

The Prescott College Art Gallery at Sam Hill Warehouse has been nominated for a Prescott-area Buckey Award for Outstanding Arts Organization. Additionally, the Prescott College Visual Arts Program has been nominated for the Arizona Governor’s Arts Award in the Arts in Education-Organization category.

### Your Gift to the Annual Fund for Academic Excellence Provides Needed Support for:

Academics
Instructional Expenses
The Prescott College On-Campus Undergraduate Program has 77 full faculty members and an average student-faculty ratio of 7:1. The limited residency programs offer an even higher "touch" model of delivery, allowing students to work one-on-one with mentors and advisors in their fields of study.

Library Resources
In recent years, the library has significantly expanded access to electronic resources. The library now offers access to 86,000-plus e-books and 25,000-plus full-text journals. The library faculty has integrated instruction for how to access and effectively use these resources into the first-year curriculum for all low-residency undergraduate students.

Scholarships
Institutional aid for on-campus students has expanded from less than $300,000 in 2003 to nearly $5 million in 2011. Our capacity for offering Federal Student Aid has risen commensurately from under $10 million to nearly $16 million within the same period.

Please Add Your Support with a Gift to the Annual Fund.

Gift Levels
Gold & Turquoise Circle - $10,000 and up
President’s Circle - $5,000 - $9,999
Humphrey's Peak Society - $2,500 - $4,999
Thumb Butte Society - $1,000 - $2,499
Founder's Club - $500 - $999
Bradshaw Mountains Club - $250 - $499
Ponderosa Pine Club - $100 - $249
Granite Club - $25 - $99

Give Today at:

Send to:
Prescott College
Advancement Office
220 Grove Ave.
Prescott, AZ 86301
development@prescott.edu
(928) 350-4505 or (877) 350-2100, ext.4505
Additional giving options can be found at www.prescott.edu/give.

Current Parents Mentoring Prospective Prescott College Parents

"I'm so glad you offered a program like this. Thank You!"
~Prospective Prescott College Parent
The primary purpose of this program is to build a connection between prospective parents and current Prescott College parents. Current Prescott College parent mentors assist with information through the sharing of their insights and experiences.

For more information on participating in the Parent Mentor Program and joining the Prescott College Parents’ Association, please contact msmith@prescott.edu.

Parent Articles of Interest

For the latest articles of interest to college parents today, connect with University Parent Connection's media information. Click on the link at http://www.universityparent.com/connection.

Additional articles on grades, stress, student success, time management, and more can be found at http://www.campuscalm.com.

Scale of Strengths for Work and Life

One of the most effective and rapid measures of job satisfaction, and life, is whether or not you are using your strengths. You can look at this as: “The genie doesn’t like to stay in the bottle.”

Try this brief survey that can help you see if your strengths are being used in various situations. While the overall score is meaningful, what may help you even more is to note which of the 14 questions rank lowest for you, and how relevant this is to your situation. As always, actively thinking about your situation is helpful.

If you’re not sure what your strengths are, contact me and I can send you some links to surveys on strengths.

Here we go…

The following questions ask you about your strengths, that is, the things that you are able to do well, or best. Please respond to each statement using the scale below:

1 2 3 4 5 7

Strongly disagree Strongly agree

1. _______ I am regularly able to do what I do best
2. _______ I always play to my strengths
3. _______ I always try to use my strengths
4. _______ I achieve what I want by using my strengths
5. _______ I use my strengths every day
6. _______ I am able to use my strengths in a lot of different situations
7. _______ I use my strengths to get what I want out of life
8. _______ My work gives me lots of opportunities to use my strengths
9. _______ My life presents me with lots of different ways to use my strengths
10. _____ Using my strengths comes naturally to me
11. _____ I find it easy to use my strengths in the things that I do
12. _____ Most of my time is spent doing things that I am good at doing
13. _____ Using my strengths in something that I am familiar with
14. _____ I am able to use my strengths in lots of different ways

Reprinted with permission: Robert Biswas-Diener: “Positive Psychology Coaching”
The total possible score is 98, so a total score of 50 or greater indicates reasonable use of your strengths. But look at the different scores for each of the items — that’s where the contemplation comes in.

Another helpful survey to complete might be one called “Job, career or calling? Which is it for me?” If you would like to complete this brief survey, please send me an email and I will forward it to you. It takes 15 minutes and provides great insight into how you approach your work.

Want to know more about career transformation?

I help people who have achieved success in their careers, who are ready for a change, and who need clarity on what’s next for them. I work with clients all over the world using phone, email and Skype, or in-person, helping them transform their careers.

My clients include executives, managers and professionals from business, not for profits, academia, attorneys, international development, banking, consultants, engineers, physical and social scientists. For a complimentary initial consultation, contact:

Jess Dods MBA
jess@jessdodascoaching.com
413-977-9273| skype: jessdods
www.jessdodascoaching.com

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**Lifelong Learning Center**

Are you ready to learn a new language, become certified, or enjoy growing your mind, body, and spirit? The place to begin is with the Lifelong Learning Center's spring catalog for 2012, which can be found at [www.prescott.edu/lifelong-learning/index.html](http://www.prescott.edu/lifelong-learning/index.html). See you soon!

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**Make Sure We Have Your Updated Info!**

We can’t stay in touch with you unless we have your current info – mailing address, e-mail, and phone number. You can update your info online at [http://pcparent.kintera.org](http://pcparent.kintera.org) or by calling the Parent Programs Office at (928) 350-4502.

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**Donate by Simply Shopping at Amazon**

Prescott College thanks you for using our associate’s link for all your Amazon purchases. Everything from textbooks, to hair pomade, to stationery, to plasma TVs … did I mention textbooks? If you haven’t already, save this link as one of your browser favorites: [http://bookstore.prescott.edu](http://bookstore.prescott.edu). When the link opens, click on the

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**Graduation Dates Spring 2012**

- Friday, May 4, 2012
  Baccalaureate

- Saturday, May 5, 2012
  Resident Program Graduation

- Sunday, May 20, 2012
  Adult Degree and Graduate Graduation

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**SAVE THE DATE!**

Campus Tour • President’s Keynote Speech and Reception
Faculty Presentations • Class Presentation • Dean’s Reception
Parent Association Meeting • More!

Prescott College Parent Weekend

May 12-13, 2012

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**CANCELLED**
Amazon logo to your right. So far this year, Prescott College has made over $1500. Thank you for your continued support!

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"Career Center Counselors advise seniors to make connections with alumni...”

**Students will benefit from working with a Prescott College Alumni Career Mentor!**

The Prescott College Alumni Sharing Knowledge Career Mentor Program matches students with alumni mentors who can assist with career-related decisions.