

Appendix 2

DATE	Panels/Event	LOCATION	PANELISTS	ATTENDANCE	FACULTY	STAFF	COMMUNITY	WAB	HTT	FIG	STUDENTS+
9/30/04	Pres Debate	Lillis 182	G. Vincent S. Schuman	220	3	3	10	5	7	7	185
10/6/04	Gay Marriage	Dyment	D. Schuman D. Bryant G. Clark D. Vetri C. Martin T. Alderman L. Harris	110	5	6	5	7	2	2	84
10/7/04	Pres debate	Columbia	S. Schuman D. Close	80	4	2	5	2	3	3	61
10/12/04	Realty TV	Dunn	J. Upshaw A. Stavitsky J. Chappa S. Hodges	30	4	2	1	0	5	4	14
10/13/04	Pres debate	Columbia	T. McMahon S. Schuman	65	3	2	5	3	2	2	40
10/20/04	Good Film	Dyment	T. Simmons K. Karlyn L. Johnson M. Harmon M. Hlms W. Adams	35	3	2	2	3	0	0	25
10/26/04	Election 04	Dunn	D. Frohnmayer M. Burrows J. Bozlevich I. Gassama S. Cohen C. Martin B. Avery	65	5	5	3	2	7	7	43
10/28/04	Pro/Con film	Lillis 182	S. Schuman E. Casey G. Landt	60	4	2	8	2	3	3	38
11/3/04	Fad Diets	Dyment	J. Hollan D. Scurlock K. Olmos N. Tublitz	25	2	3	0	3	0	0	17
11/16/04	UO Dollars	Dunn	V. Kolpin D. Keller J. Williams J. Moseley	55	4	8	4	3	10	10	26
11/22/04	Culture Shock	Tingle	L. Vijayaker Subramani S. Garcia A. Antonelli S. Bwabye K. Wiegman M. Misley	20	1	2	0	0	0	0	17

Appendix 2

DATE	Panels/Event	LOCATION	PANELISTS	ATTENDANCE	FACULTY	STAFF	COMMUNITY	WAB	HTT	FIG	STUDENTS+
1/12/05	Marijuana	Walton	Close	70	3	3	5	5	3	5	59
			Paris								
			Cohn								
			O'Neill								
			Lively								
			Michaels								
1/18/05	Satire	Dunn	Goodsteln	110	5	6	5	7	2	2	84
			Stavitsky								
			Dance								
			McGhee								
			Dillan								
			Aoki								
1/24/05	Mus Mon	Cloran	SM students	13	1	1	1	0	0	1	10
1/25/05	Health War	Ramey	Barnhart	22	1	1	2	2	1	2	20
			Friedrich								
1/26/05	Cancer	Dyment	Schuman	65	5	5	4	6	3	5	55
			Sprague								
			Martin								
			Leasor								
			Fickensher								
			Von Hippel								
2/1/05	Who Is God	Dunn	Gianotti	68	6	4	5	4	6	7	53
			Hurwit								
			Clark								
			Patterson								
			Freinkel								
			S. Schuman								
2/7/05	Mus Mon	Cloran	Wells	25	1	1	0	0	0	1	24
			Aoike								
			Newell								
			Chinnock								
2/9/05	Love	Dyment	Schoonover	45	6	3	0	5	3	5	37
			Todd								
			Cogan								
			Hodges								
			Martin								
			Ryan								
2/14/05	Mus Mon	Cloran	SM students	23	1	1	0	1	0	2	22
2/22/05	Oil Green	Dunn	Todd	45	8	3	3	1	5	7	33
			Bothun								
			Hutchinson								
			Murphy								
			Reynolds								

Appendix 2

DATE	Panels/Event	LOCATION	PANELISTS	ATTENDANCE	FACULTY	STAFF	COMMUNITY	WAB	HTT	FIG	STUDENTS+
4/1/05	Abduction	Hult Center	PDQ Bach	50	0	0	2	15	10	12	48
1/5/05	Abortion	Ramey	Card	110	4	5	10	7	12	15	95
			Shoemaker								
			Ripplinger								
			Warren								
			Harris								
			Coburn								
			Mudd								
4/11/05	Mus Mon	Cloran	Pemberton	27	0	1	0	0	0	3	27
			Newman								
4/13/05	The Draft		Eid	30	5	3	3	5	1	4	22
			Coleman								
			Cohen								
			Martin								
			Gear								
			Cramer								
			Watkins								
4/19/05	Gender	Dunn	Martin	40	4	3	4	7	3	5	32
			Farley								
			Hatmaker								
			Telsey								
			Ciasullo								
			Miller								
5/2/05	Mus Mon	Cloran	SM Students	20	0	1	0	0	0	2	20
5/4/05	Sleep	Dyment	Han	35	2	3	3	8	1	4	30
			Datzman								
			Florence								
			Irbe								
			Lyda								
			Balbuena								
5/5/05	Theatrical	Dunn	Improv	20	0	1	2	0	1	3	18
5/12/05	Theatrical	Robinson	Parables	12	0	1	0	0	3	3	12
5/17/05	Non-Violence	Dunn	Hawkinson	25	2	1	0	0	3	3	23
			Ryan								
			Bloch								
			Clark								
			Chabarek								
5/24/05	Dinner	Dyment	35 panelists	68	28	6	8	15	14	18	32
			Aolke								
			Newell								
			Chinnock								
5/25/05	Beauty	Dyment	McNeely	45	6	3	0	5	3	5	37
			Smith								
			Jewell								
			Sugiyama								
			Orbell								

Appendix 3

About The Residential Academy, 2003-2005

Life is changing on campus where UO students live. A pilot project called The Residential Academy encourages students in the residence halls to dream up, organize, and produce intellectually stimulating activities. The most visible feature of the program has been a series of panel discussions, Community Conversations, about subjects as diverse as abortion, chaos, cartoons, evolution, genetic engineering, and Islam. In 2003-4 these panels, broadcast on educational access television channel 23, brought nearly a hundred professors and community leaders into the halls to interact with students up close, and it gave students an opportunity to take charge of their own education outside the classroom.

From President Frohnmayer, who savored the “delightful experience” of meeting informally with students where they felt “freer to raise questions and challenge my ideas” to Eugene Police Captain Steven Swensen, for whom “the Community Conversations student group represents the highest ideals that we associate with those who pursue knowledge as a reward unto itself,” panelists have embraced this opportunity to be part of life in the residence halls. In the panel on *Oregon’s Tax Crisis* State Senator Floyd Prozanski got to “hear from students about their concerns,” and Vice Provost Greg Vincent thought the panel *What is Race?* “demonstrated why students should have a residence hall experience.” Clark Honors College Literature Professor Louise Bishop agrees that the “relaxed atmosphere of the dorms encourages conversation” and “supports intense exchange.” For Biologist Nathan Tublitz these “panels represent the best of our university—thoughtful and informative discourse in an atmosphere where respect and tolerance for diverse viewpoints is paramount.”

These testimonials show how people from very different domains within the university and the community share an experience which “contributes to everyone’s enrichment” (Louise Bishop). Editor Jackman Wilson of the *Register Guard* talked about his experience as “thoughtful and stimulating,” while law professor Ibrahim Gassama appreciated the “extraordinary timing” of panels on the Just War concept and the United Nations, issues “not fully played out yet but at the heart of international law today.” Philosopher Cheyney Ryan called the panels “vibrant examples of educational dialogue. . . a true learning experience for everyone.” Father David Orique of the Newman Center praised the opportunity to learn “to dialogue intelligently, especially with those with whom we disagree, whether in academia or the larger society,” as did Dan Bryant, senior minister of the 1st Christian Church of Eugene, who appreciated the “wonderful opportunity to dialogue on critical issues of today.”

To make all this happen, student groups in two halls get together weekly with faculty and staff to decide what topics to explore, who to invite to be on panels, how to publicize and produce them, and what else to do together to stimulate intellectual activity where they live. They do this without the payoff of grades or money. Asked why, they talk about “intellectual activity,” “accomplishing a lot,” “being in charge,” “learning to connect and

communicate,” and “getting to meet other students, professors, and staff.” Most of all they talk about having fun together achieving a common goal.

Beyond the Community Conversations series, students of The Residential Academy do community service, from food drives to garden projects, mentoring, and community clean-up. One student organized an initiative to collect food purchased with leftover points from the residence hall meal plan, which has led to hundreds of pounds collected for Food for Lane County.

Another element of the program has been Public Speaking, which has allowed students to earn academic credit by meeting one evening a week to give short speeches, ask questions, moderate, watch their own speeches on video, attend special events, read about speaking effectively, discuss speeches of distinguished visitors, and prepare their own panel presentations.

In 2004-5 the newest elements of the program include THINK student-led discussion groups, each of which formulates its own syllabus and discusses readings with invited guest faculty and community leaders. The subjects to examine will be chosen by the students themselves, working with faculty and staff advisors in the halls. Other new elements include Musical Mondays, informal concerts in a residence hall Lounge, and Theatrical Thursdays, dramatic presentations and discussions.

Support for the Residential Academy, directed by Sharon Schuman, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Literature in the Clark Honors College, comes from Undergraduate Studies, Housing, the Clark Honors College, the Oregon Humanities Center, and a grant from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. More information about its activities is at the website http://honors.uoregon.edu/community/residential_academy/.

The Residential Academy, with the enthusiastic support of faculty, staff, and community leaders, is changing the face of life on campus, demonstrating that learning and having fun are not mutually exclusive at the University of Oregon.

Appendix 4 Residential Academy Events 04-05

Fall 04

Weeks 1-2: 9/27-10/8

The first weeks of Fall 04 were extraordinary. The over-enrolled Public Speaking class started up in Dymont Lounge, with diverse students from four countries, freshman through senior. Tuesday the 15 new members of Hamilton Think Tank began planning for its first panel in Dunn Lounge (Reality TV 10/12), Wednesday the new members of the Walton Advisory Board hit the turf running to produce a panel 10/6 in Dymont on Gay Marriage attended by over 100 students, faculty, staff and community members. They jammed the lounge to hear a judge, 2 law professors, 2 clergymen, a UO administrator, and an attorney present all sides of the issue at a high level of discourse. Thursday of week one 9/30 was the first Presidential debate, which Greg Vincent and I moderated a discussion of in Lillis 182 for over 200 students who came to hear the face-off in a non-partisan setting. It was the largest gathering of debate watchers, according to the front page of the Daily Emerald. Week 2 Dan Close and I presented the second Presidential Debate in Columbia 150 for 80 interested students and community members. These activities epitomize what the Residential Academy is all about.

Week 3: 10/11-10/15

The third week included the last Presidential Debate 10/13, hosted by me and Tim McMahon of Teaching Effectiveness, on the big screen in Columbia 150, for 61 students, faculty and community members. The second panel of the fall Community Conversations series, "Reality TV," moderated by Jim Upshaw of Journalism, included Al Stavitsky of Journalism, gender studies student Jessica Chappa, and psychologist and FIG Faculty Sara Hodges. About 30 students, staff, faculty, and community members joined them for an entertaining conversation that featured audience members coming up to the mike to ask questions and make comments on our very own version of Reality TV, which aired on educational access channel 23 Wed 10/20 at 8:00. The Public Speaking class was bursting at the seams with 21 students eager to watch their own performances on video in the Knight Library.

Week Four: 10/18-10/22

On 10/20 the Community Conversations "What Makes A Good Film?" panel drew 35 interested students, faculty, staff, and community members to hear Todd Simmons and Melanie Harmon of UO Communications, Kathleen Karlyn of English, Leon Johnson of Art, and students Matt Hins and Woody Adams, present clips of and talk about great films, from the classics to experimental movies, documentaries, video streams, and Animee. The high point of the evening may have been Leon Johnson's two sons who blew everyone away with astute remarks. The 8-yr-old's comment said, "The panelists showed a good amount of zeal." We held an information session Wed 10/27 6:30 in Dymont for a new initiative, THINK student-led discussion groups advised by Residence Life Director Sandy Schoonover and me. Th 10/28 at 7:00 students held a showing and discussion in Lillis 282 of two opposing movies on the Iraq conflict: "Uncovered," and "Farenhype 911."

Week 5: 10/24-10/29

The "Election 2004: What's at Stake?" panel 10/26 drew 65 very interested students, faculty, staff, and community members. President Frohnmayer moderated with his even hand, setting just the right tone of gravitas for what could have been a fractious evening. Two articulate spokesmen of the Republican Party of Lane County, chair Bob Avery, and director of communications, Jay Bozievich, presented their perspective in depth, while former Oregon Legislative Representative Mary Burrows gave a practical perspective on the issues, Chicora Martin of LGBT lit a fire under everyone, Ib Gassama of the Law School inspired us with his International take, and Shaul Cohen give us a geographer's view of what is at stake.

Week 6: 10/31-11/5

The students of the Hamilton Think Tank and the Walton Advisory Board finalized the Community Conversation topics and dates for Winter 05. They also generated ideas for panelists. We also had another good week at Public Speaking, where students on Monday embraced the challenge to give speeches that reference Lincoln's Second Inaugural. In the FAD DIETS panel on Wednesday 11/3 (aired Wed Nov 10 on Channel 23 at 8:30). John Hollan, Asst. Dir. of Residence Life was moderator and exhibit A, a survivor of 71 pounds lost. Several of us joined him for a low-carb dinner under his watchful eye, just before the panel. Biologist Nathan Tublitz, a last-minute replacement for Mark Carrier, who knocked out his front teeth (!), had fascinating information about how the body processes energy. Donna Scurlock, M. D., and nutritionist Kristin Olmose explained why these diets (and all diets) fail 99% of the time.

Weeks 8-9: 11/14-11/26

The Residential Academy ended the term with a bang. Nov 15 inaugurated the first in a series of informal concerts, Musical Mondays, in which UO School of Music students preview parts of upcoming recitals for students in Cloran (Hamilton). The first mini-recital featured viola, violin, and piano, presenting Hindemith, Faure, and Schubert to an audience of about a dozen, ranging in age from 3 to 58 years old. Then the Community Conversation series wrapped up Nov 16 with a panel on "UO Dollars: Paying More or Getting More." 25 students, faculty, and staff listened as Provost John Moseley explained how we got in the fix we are in (going back to Measure 5). With considerable passion he advocated against freezing tuition as long as the legislature and taxpayers are unwilling to support public education. Bookstore Mgr. Jim Williams, a big hit, gave away \$5 bills to whoever could answer questions like "Who owns the UO Bookstore?" and "Who is my boss?" Student Dan Keller spoke about the stresses for out-of-state students and their parents accumulating debt. Van Kolpin moderated and gave the economist's perspective on tuition inflation nationwide. The next week we had a "bonus" panel on Monday 11/22 in Tingle Lounge (Hamilton), called "Culture Shock and Awe." On it were students from Italy, Spain, Uganda, and the US, as well as Surendra Subramani, from Overseas Programs, and Lou Vijayaker, Asst. Dir. of Housing (moderator). It was a delightful romp through the stresses of adjusting to life abroad or life here in the US, organized in part by Italian Scholarship student Antonella Antonelli to cap off her term in the US taking part in Gina Psaki's Italian Culture residential FIG in Hamilton. Week 9 three student-led THINK discussion groups, each involving 6 participants, were selected to be advised by me and Dir. of Residence Life Sandy Schoonover next term, one focusing on connections between eastern and western philosophy, the other two creating handbooks for new students, one on community service opportunities, the other on outdoor activities reachable from campus without a car.

Winter 05

Weeks 1-2 1/2-1/14

The first two weeks culminated with the first Community Conversations panel, "Marijuana." Seventy people packed Dymont Lounge to hear Dan Close masterfully moderate a group which included Margie Paris of the law School, who gave a riveting overview of the history of US criminalization, Law School Grad Brian Michaels, who had late-breaking court decisions to discuss, Psychiatrist Alan Cohn, who certifies medical marijuana users, paraplegic Kevin Lively, who testified to the drug's ability to return him to the work force, and drug counselors Jerry Gjesvold, a former addict, and David McKula, both of whom, without an ounce of condescension, impressed upon us the dangers of this powerful drug. The audience of faculty, community, staff, and students was engaged completely, reflected in uniformly positive comments on the Response cards, once of which said, "the best panel yet!" The students of WAB were sporting new buttons, in a show of spirit. Both WAB and HTT, each with about a dozen active leaders, have been meeting to plan panels and to begin brainstorming for next term. Public Speaking is also off to a good start with speeches, and the new THINK student-led discussion-groups have launched themselves in Hamilton and Bean Complexes.

Week 3 1/17-21

HTT presented a panel on "Satire: The Daily Show and South Park" Tues 7:30 in Dunn (Hamilton) to 30 students, faculty, and staff, and WAB prepared for the Cancer panel in Dyment. The Satire panel was ably moderated by student Abram Goodstein and included two other students, one who loved the Daily Show, the other who hated South Park. There were also three faculty: Keith Aoiki (Law), Al Stavitsky (Journalism and Communication), and Eric McGee (Political Science), all of whom addressed the question why young people turn to an entertainment medium for their news. In their meetings HTT and WAB brainstormed about panels for next term. WAB narrowed to three subjects each, which will be further refined. Both groups are also helping get out the word for the second Musical Monday mini-recital in Cloran Lounge, Hamilton, as well for a presentation on the "Health Effects of War," in the Ramey Room of Carson Complex, presented by the Nobel-Prize-winning "Physicians for Social Responsibility"

Week 4 1/24-28

The week began with Public speaking and a Musical Monday concert in Cloran), featuring an Bach violin partita and a Hindemith viola sonata. About 10 people sat on the sofas and easy chairs to take in the performance, complete with explanations of the pieces and refreshments after. Two students from the hall came forward to help organize and perform in future Musical Mondays, which was ideal. On Tuesday two physicians from "Physicians for Social Responsibility" gave a 30-minute power-point presentation on the "Health Effects of War." The 22 students in attendance got to hear what it sounds like when first one b-b, the 8, then a gallon, make the racket of filling a tin wash basin, to demonstrate the size and potency of the world's nuclear arsenal. On Wednesday, 65 students, faculty, staff, and community members gathered in Dyment for the Cancer panel (broadcast 2/1), which I moderated. Karen Sprague explained the science of cancer, in terms we all could follow, Peter von Hippel described how current cancer research links to Fanconi anemia research, Galen Martin gave an environmental perspective on causes of cancer, Larry Fickenshur gave a physician's perspective on treatment, Ryan Boles gave a camp manager's perspective on kids dealing with cancer, and student Mark Leasor inspired us with his story of chemotherapy, surgery, and survival. Several of the panelists came early to have dinner with students in Carson. The week ended Friday with the first monitoring meeting between me and the 5 students leading the THINK discussion groups in the halls.

Week 5 1/31-2/4

"Who is God?," moderated by the incomparable Timothy Gianotti, drew over 65 students, staff, and community members, who really packed Dunn Lounge in Hamilton. Art Historian Jeff Hurwit began with slides of images of God from Ancient Greece, which raised more questions than they answered, I talked about Milton's political conception of God in *Paradise Lost*, English Professor Lisa Frankel spoke about being raised Jewish, born again at 16, and a Buddhist in adulthood. Minister Gary Clark and student Laura Patterson both spoke of the personal relationship a Christian has with Christ, and many audience members asked probing questions in a conversation which Gianotti referred to as a "God Laboratory." broadcast February 9 at 8:30. This week the students of the Hamilton Think Tank and the Walton Advisory Board also selected the Community Conversation panel topics for next term and began the collaborative process of deciding what fields to have on the panels, how to achieve balance, and how to reach out to professors, community members, and students to be panelists.

Week 6 2/7-11

The Public Speaking class started a new round of "Speeches to a Large Audience." Before speaking, they watched and discussed a video of the Dali Lama addressing thousands in Portland, Oregon, in 2001. Moments after that class ended there was a Musical Monday concert in Cloran, where two seniors from the School of Music, Lillie Wells, violin, and Derek Newell, cello, along with pianists Mio Aoike and Gayle Chinnock, blew away the packed audience of 25 with the chamber music of Bach, Prokofiev, and Shostakovich as it was meant to be performed--intimately, live. Two weeks later

Lillie won the UO concerto competition with the Prokofiev, but we were the first to hear it! On Wednesday the Community Conversations panels continued with the ever-popular LOVE panel, moderated this year by Sandy Schoonover, Director of Residence Life, and featuring Lit. Prof. Francie Cogan of the CHC, who threw us back into the 19th century; Chicora Martin, Director of the LGBT Education and Support Services, who spoke about the legal and social challenges gay citizens face in expressing love; Philosophy Prof. Cheyney Ryan, who spoke of love as a creative process rather than a static, individualistic, state; HC Biologist Dennis Todd, who gave a socio-biologist's perspective, Psychology Prof. Sara Hodges, who entertained us with psychologically proven dating tips; and student Emily Casey, who spoke about the four Greek words for love. There were many questions, if not definitively settled by this diverse panel, aired 2/16 on channel 23, engagingly explored. The week ended with THINK group meetings, the report from one of which I present here for the flavor of this student-led enterprise:

On Friday, the group discussed the relationship between the classical elements of Empedocles (i.e. earth, air, fire, water, Aether) and their impact on the strategy designs of Machiavelli and Musashi. At one point in *The Prince*, Machiavelli uses a river to metaphorically describe his concepts of Fortuna and virtu. Similarly, Musashi uses ground, wind, fire, and water to symbolize different styles of strategy in *A Book of Five Rings*. All styles in *A Book of Five Rings* culminate into the style of the Void, which the group found to describe traits that resemble Western conceptions of abilities endowed by Aether. Machiavelli's ideal leader would presumably have mastered each strategy type to transcend any one strategy. EVERYONE came to the meeting; EVERYONE was prepared. It was very productive.

Daniel Patton

Weeks 7-8 2/14-25

We had the 4th Musical Monday concert in Cloran Lounge, Monday night, where School of Music students presented Beethoven, Prokofiev, and Brahms (for violin, cello and piano) to a very appreciative audience of 20, many of whom stuck around for brie and crackers. Public Speaking students also finished the second round of speeches Monday in McAlister (Walton), and prepared for the last round, a series of three panel discussions modeled on Community Conversations. Meanwhile, the last Community Conversations panel of the term took place Tuesday at 7:30 in Dunn Lounge, Hamilton. Dennis Todd, Honors College Biologist, did a great job as moderator, setting a context for the timeliness of "After Oil: Living Green." Physicist Greg Bothun lit a fire under everyone with his convincing power-point presentation of the coming end of oil on earth. Geologist Alec Murphy got us thinking about the geo-political implications of a future when equatorial nations, currently impoverished, will have abundant, endlessly renewable solar energy, while the present giants of oil and nuclear power shrivel. Architect John Reynolds talked about how we can help delay the crisis by not building tracts that necessitate cars, and how we can try to balance density with livability. Finally, Green Chemist Jim Hutchison inspired students to make the discoveries that will enable us to build things without wasting either energy or material. The program aired the next night on channel 23, and luckily we will have a copy for others to watch when they want to. What I can't adequately convey was the high level of articulateness and contagious passion in the room, as well as the incisive questions from a packed audience of 45 which included a number of faculty and staff as well as students and community members.

Spring 05

Week 1, 3/28-4/1

The term was off to a hilarious start, with 50 students, organized by WAB, getting to pay \$5.75 each to attend the opera spoof "The Abduction of Figaro" last Friday, April 1, at the Hult Center, courtesy of UO Housing (RHA), which subsidized the tickets. Who says intellectual stimulation can't be fun? They got to be part of a packed audience which gave PDQ Bach's creator, Peter Shickley, and five world-class opera singers from New York who joined the Oregon Mozart Players in Silva concert hall, an adoring welcome, many laughs, and a standing ovation. Public Speaking is also off to a great start, with a diverse group of undergraduates of all levels, several international students, and three graduate students. The THINK groups putting together pamphlets on community service and trips qualified for funding from Housing to help publish their project.

Week 2, 4/4-4/8

The highlight of the second week was Tuesday's panel on "Abortion," moderated by Sociologist Douglas Card, who took every opportunity to seek common ground. This was the first panel in Carson, where the Ramey room offers a larger venue for an audience. We needed it and the adjacent Blue room for overflow as about 80 people from campus and the community gathered to hear Planned Parenthood Public Affairs Director Kellie Shoemaker, Oregon Right to Life representative Esther Ripplinger (who had an abortion at 19 and is now pro life), Jocelyn Warren, CSWS researcher, who knew exactly what studies supported what finding, Jeanine Mudd, RN, who makes a powerful case for the sufficiency of life from the moment of fertilization, Leslie Harris of the UO Law School, who could speak both as a legal expert and as an adoptive mother, and Jackie Coburn, who brought moving video footage of the two-year-old son she gave up for adoption rather than having an abortion. It was an intense, but respectful evening. Before the panel Esther Ripplinger joined students from the Hamilton Think Tank for dinner in Carson.

Week 3, 4/11-4/15

This week started with Public Speaking in McAlister and the 5th Musical Monday concert in Hamilton, where 25 students showed up to hear their fellow residents from Cloran perform piano sonatas. Lillie Wells, who had performed at an earlier Musical Monday, got rave reviews in the *Register-Guard* for her stunning concertmaster solos in Silva for the Eugene Ballet performance of *Shaherazade*. A high point of the week was the Community Conversations panel on "The Draft," where student moderator John Eld led a diverse discussion of obligatory and non-obligatory service, before an audience of 25 students and community members. Israeli veteran and UO Geology Prof. Shaul Cohn spoke about the effects of combat, Retired Army Lieutenant Colonel Eric Watkins spoke about the pros and cons of a professional military force, retired Army Colonel Ed Gear spoke about the need for diverse perspectives in any conversation about the role of the military, UO Political Scientist Jane Cramer spoke about the "democratization" of violence and the hopes for future problem-solving without war, Emeritus English Professor and Korean veteran Edwin Coleman spoke about the options for African American high school kids then and now, and Environmental Sciences Prof. And conscientious objector Galen Martin spoke about the importance of thinking through a moral view of war now, not later. Spontaneously the panelists continued their conversation by email afterwards.

Weeks 4-5, 4/18-4/29

This week's highlight was the Community Conversations panel on "Gender: Nature v. Nurture" Tuesday 4/19 at 7:30, in Dunn Lounge, Hamilton. It was a unique opportunity for 40 students, staff, and community to hear diverse perspectives on a hot topic. Moderator Chicora Martin of LGBT set a respectful tone and deftly created a speaking order which invited all present to share that sense of respect. Before the panel a record number of panelists (4) dined with students in Carson and developed a rapport among each other and with members the audience, which was clearly evident in the

discussion that ensued. Marli Miller of Geology started off with a person story of transformation, rendered all the more human by the presence of her two daughters, 7 and 11. Her presentation inspired a winning essay in the Diversity Competition held later in the year. Also on the panel were Marcus Farley of the Men's Center, who talked about mens' special needs to see gender from a more complex perspective; Jonathan Hatmaker, Youth Pastor at Eugene Christian Fellowship, who explicated excerpts from the Old and New Testaments dealing with gender relations and answered some pretty tough questions about the literalness of the Bible; Nadia Telsey, a self-defense instructor interested in empowering women; and Ann Ciasullo of the English Department, whose intelligence, wit and insightfulness about gender myths made me want to sign up right now for any course she is teaching. Questions and discussion continued well beyond the official end of things, and the Hamilton Think Tank student organizers had the satisfying experience of knowing that their efforts were really worth the trouble. At Public Speaking class Monday in McAlister, Kristen Bitter of the UO volleyball team gave a great five-minute "technical speech to a lay audience" on what it takes to be a "smart fan." At my request she revived it for the closing dinner with panelists in May, to everyone's delight.

Weeks 6-7, 5/2-5/13

Public Speaking students gave persuasive speeches on Gay Marriage, Latin American development issues, and the Filibuster, the 6th Musical Monday concert drew 20 students in Cloran Lounge, Hamilton, and we initiated Theatrical Thursdays with a visit of "Absolute Improv" to the basement of Dunn (for 15 students). HTT and WAB selected panels for next term (below), and the "Sleep" panel Wednesday 5/4 in Dymont Lounge, Walton, drew 35 sleep-deprived students, staff, and community members. We had two very knowledgeable sleep experts, MDs from the Sacred Heart Sleep Lab, and a local Sleep Disorders Clinic, who were peppered with questions, as well as James Lyda from Counseling, who gave a hilarious blow-by-blow description of the all-nighter, student Dan Florence, who really had figured out how to get by on 6.5 hours, and HC Lit Prof Monique Balbuena, who somehow linked sleep, class, geography, and inter-cultural awareness in an entertaining and stimulating 6 minutes. The panel was broadcast May 11. In the second Theatrical Thursday 5/12, there was a pre-dress-rehearsal discussion of the "Kafka Parables" in Robbins Lounge before about a dozen students went to see for free the new production in Robinson Theatre:

Community Conversations Fall 05

Week three: Wed 10/12 WAB: Assisted Suicide v. Death with Dignity

Week four: Tu 10/18 HTT: Are Professors too Liberal?

Week five: Wed 10/26 WAB: China

Week six: Tu Nov 1 HTT: Fifty Years From Now

Week eight: Wed 11/16 WAB: Hate speech v. Free Speech

Week nine: Tu 11/22 HTT: Radical Religion

Weeks 9-10 5/23-6/3

The Residential Academy Pilot Project's public functions concluded with a stellar last class for Public Speaking on Monday, a "Thank-You, Panelists!" dinner for over 65 in Dymont Lounge on Tuesday, and the last Community Conversations panel, "Botox and Beyond: Extreme Beauty," also in Dymont, Wednesday. In a tribute to their enthusiasm for the panels they served on, over a third of the panelists for this year (33) converged with as many students and some staff for a Fajita dinner, where the achievements of the Residential Academy were on display. With student hosts John Eld, Pres. of the Walton Advisory Board, and Merete Egloff, Pres. of the Hamilton Think Tank, we had welcoming words from Housing Director Mike Eyster and a brief program of presentations from students involved in the programs of the Residential Academy. Public Speaking students James Jacobsen and Lois Douglas moderated the program, with presentations from fellow public speakers Dunya Chirchi, on "No Official Language for the U.S.," Kristen Bitter, on "The Smart Volleyball Fan," FA Annaleah Tubbin, who created the Theatrical Thursdays program and presented a brief dramatic monologue,

THINK discussion leader Daniel Patton, who led the group on Machiavelli and Musashi, and THINK leaders Dan Keller and Emily Casey, who led two groups to produce pamphlets on outdoor activities and community service opportunities reachable by bus from UO. The evening was filled with interesting conversations (you should have heard the chat between the Marajuana legal activist and the two conservative ministers). Before dessert, Asst. Res. Life Director John Hollan, Walton Complex Director Bue McNeely, handed out 19 framed certificates to the students who have led these efforts all year . We also recognized behind the scenes support from Donna Shimmer of Undergraduate Studies, Janis Langis of Housing, and Kate Kevern of the Honors College, by presenting mounted Community Conversations posters signed by the students. Everyone in the packed room seemed to have a great time, and this felt like a good way to celebrate the end of the pilot project. The last panel of the year, "Botox and Beyond," held the rapt attention of 35 people who could have been outside on the balmiest night of the year. You had to see Dr. Julian the tatoos artist and Dr. Jewel, the plastic surgeon, sitting side by side and sharing observations about concepts of beauty! I hadn't understood how genital mutilation could be considered beautiful until GTF Courtney Smith explained it. The pictures Larry Sugiyama of Anthropology brought were provocative, especially in the x-ray comparisons of foot-binding (which we consider barbaric) and high-heel wearing (which we love), both of which have the same disastrous effects for bones in feet and spines. Political Scientist John Orbell batted last with an overview of UO research about how pretty men earn more and pretty women don't tell the truth. Complex Director Bue McNeely, who, as an RA four years ago helped launch the Residential Academy, masterfully moderated the panel, introducing the subject, connecting the speakers, and inviting the audience into the conversation during the question period.