



# ELCAMPESTRE

From CAMP to Camp: Enriching Our Community



APRIL 2011-JUNE 2011

ELCAMPESTRE is the newsletter for OSU's College Assistance Migrant Program and will be published Fall, Winter, and Spring Term.

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## HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE THROUGH INTERNSHIPS: *Scholars have managed to go beyond the textbooks and further their knowledge*



### Cindy Hernandez, CAMP 2007

She had her mind set on Africa but little did she know she was going to take on a whole different adventure. Hernandez hoped to embark on an experience abroad during her undergraduate studies and as her senior year came to an end she managed to accomplish this through an internship. After applying for an internship in Africa and some scholarships that would support her studies abroad she found that there was a more suitable internship elsewhere. Graduating with a focus in Human Development and Family Sciences she learned about an internship with Holt International Children Services in Guatemala. Once applying, she also applied for some scholarships and not only did she land the internship in Guatemala but was also granted the Gilman Scholarship in the amount of \$2,500. About a month later she received some more great news: her scholarship had been increased to \$4,000 and the program would cover her housing expenses during the 6-month period she'll be in Guatemala City and Quetzaltenango.

She adds that this experience seems like a better fit for her. Hernandez lastly mentions that Holt is a program that is working toward strengthening the court system that determines the fate of the children in crisis.

"Throughout the prolongation of the internship I'll be assisting in the development and implementation of child management systems. Holt concentrates on family values and working as a sponsorship program that works closely with orphanages. Instead of admitting children into adoption institutions they focus on preserving families together. They want to help these families raise their children by providing education, family and parenting counseling as well as financial resources."



"My dream is to become a pediatrician. I've heard plenty of gossip about medical school, the competitiveness, the time and effort you must put to your studies, the determination and passion I must hold in order to get accepted to

a medical school. This is my second year at Oregon State (to be my third), and one of the biggest steps that I am taking to the interest of pursuing a medical career is attending a Summer Medical and Dental Educational Program (SMDEP) in Yale. This summer I'll be packing up my bags and flying down to the other side of the country, to a small town in Connecticut called New Haven. I first heard about this internship from Wendy (former CAMP Outreach Coordinator) my freshman year when I applied, but was not accepted. I was determined to go, and so I reapplied again this year. The process of applying was as if it were a scholarship. I had to obtain two reference letters and write a couple of essays here and there. About three months later I received the news from three different schools, and decided to attend Yale. Here I am, 5 days away from leaving Oregon for 2 months to experience one of the best things that has ever happened to me. I am a little scared to experience a new environment, but I am also super excited to learn and gain experience about the medical field."

Marlene Cervantes, CAMP Scholar 2008

# ...sky's the limit

## OSU CAMP Scholars Go Abroad



We all agree that when we first arrive at OSU, as freshmen, we have many goals and aspirations. During our stay here we come across barriers and challenges that make us change some of our plans, if not all. We take different routes throughout our journey and all of a sudden we realize four or five years have passed us by in a flash. We then realize we have reached the end of our journey and have accomplished more than we could ever imagine. Those aspirations that seemed so unattainable have been achieved and we come to a new point in life in which we know that life holds many unknown possibilities.

Some of us join the workforce or pursue other endeavors. As for these four CAMP scholars, they decided to continue their education and pursue their Master's Degree in their respective fields. To date, the past 3 years marks the largest quantity of CAMP alumni attending graduate school.

**Pictured clockwise:** David Cortez, OSU-College Student Services Administration; Ruben Mendoza, OSU-Animal Sciences; Salvador Jaime, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse Clinical Exercise Physiology, and Geraldine Casimiro, OSU-Contemporary Hispanic Studies



**Juan Villegas**

**Pictured at:**  
Guggenheim Bilbao

**Abroad Location:**  
Santander, Spain

**Year:** 2011



**Oscar Chairez**

**Pictured at:**  
Soccer Game

**Abroad Location:**  
Santander, Spain

**Year:** 2011



**Laura Pérez Yépez**

**Pictured at:**  
Gondola ride in Venice

**Abroad Location:**  
Santander, Spain

**Year:** 2011



# ALUMNI...WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



## Alejandra Paniagua, CAMP 2005

I graduated from Oregon State University in June of 2011 with a B.A. in Interior Design. Shortly after I secured a position as a lighting designer at Radiance By Design. I have the joy of working on commercial and residential projects, by creating lighting plans, renderings, and specifying lighting systems to achieve creative lighting solutions for our clients. In the past year I have gained a multitude of knowledge that will allow me to grow as a designer. My hope is to continue learning and growing not only as a designer but as a person.

## CAMP Recognition Ceremony, class of 2010-2011

Each year we like to hold a ceremony for the present cohort and present them with a certificate of completion (of their first year in the program) in front of their families and friends. This year the ceremony took place on June 4th in the MU Ballroom and we over 200 individuals.



Given each cohort brings more and more family members, as well as friends, it is rewarding to see the numbers in attendees increase as the years progress. The presentation of completion and recognition awards was followed by dinner catered by a local Mexican restaurant as well as the viewing of a slideshow which contained memoirs created by the students throughout the year. This slideshow was created by Nazario Rivera and Maira Rodriguez, who took time from their busy schedules to contribute to this event. Overall it was a great evening and we hope to keep encouraging students to invite their family members to enable them to partake in their first year university experience and rejoice in their accomplishments.

### **Recognitions:**

- Academic Achievement-Omar Avila
- Community Service-Alex Arreguin
- Outstanding Leader-Carmen Lopez
- Si Se Puede- Erica Teran & Vania Flores Vega
- Internal Award-Derron Coles
- External Award-Jonathan Fernow
- Peer Mentor-Cristina Delgado



### **Abril**

Christopher Navarro

### **Mayo**

Omar Avila  
Melissa Espinoza  
Sheslly Zamora-Martinez

### **Junio**

Cristian Cabrera

### **Julio**

Ivan Estrada

### **Agosto**

Jacob Cida  
Vania Flores  
Estefani Nuñez  
Elizabeth Oropeza-Castro  
Annalisa Sanchez Lopez

# AMAS' UPDATES

We should be fully enjoying the spring weather, but it has barely arrived in this part of the country. But, I am enjoying the “green” (not UO) part of the nature. In this newsletter issue, I would like to highlight some of things that are happening in CAMP and there are in no specific order.

Back in March, we selected the 35 scholars for 2011-12. They come from all over the state. For the first time we are glad to add Chiloquin and Mt. Angel to our list of high schools we serve. My staff and I will be meeting the new scholars, for the first time as a group on July 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> during the University’s START Bilingüe. Also, we’ll be starting soon with the process in hiring the Outreach Specialist position. My hope is the new staff will be able to joins us sometime in July. We are excited to have the new person on our team.



Last week, we went through a site program performance evaluation. An external evaluator spent two days interviewing some University personnel, CAMP staff and participants as well as reviewing student files for eligibility compliance, internal financial bookkeeping, and information on delivery of services we provide to our students. The preliminary report indicates that we are performing well as a program, but I am very interested to see the final report and its recommendations. As a staff, we’ll examine, in more detail, the report this summer and take action on the recommendations. As a program we continue to strive for the best.

We are also getting ready for the Oregon Migrant Student Leadership Institute that will take place the last week of July and the first two weeks in August. The Leadership Institute is the result of our close collaboration with our state Migrant Education Program (MEP) and the 19 regions the MEP is representing in Oregon. We have received most of the applications and close to 180 migrant high school students will be coming to OSU during those three weeks. A staff of 22 individuals will be working directly with the participants. Sixteen of the staff members are CAMP students who are currently enrolled at OSU and some of them are recent graduates.

There are few more weeks left in this academic year. Around this time there is always some excitement as well some sadness. This year, I am excited that since the inception of the grant in 2004, we’ll have the largest graduating group, but also sad that most of them we’ll be leaving OSU and perhaps some of them we’ll never see again. I am very proud of this graduating cohort. They were a unique group. They will be missed greatly.

Lastly, our annual CAMP Recognition Ceremony event is around the corner. On June 4<sup>th</sup>, current students, graduating students, families, OSU faculty and staff and other invitees will celebrate the accomplishment of our students. The keynote speaker at the event is someone who is the product of the HEP and CAMP programs, which makes the event more appropriate. With this celebration, we’ll officially bring the academic year to a close. Over the years, we at OSU CAMP continue to make a difference in the lives of our participants and beyond.

*Amas*