Papa Oscar Moves on to be Director of CASA Latina/o de OSU

“Papa” Oscar, as the students have come to call him as an endearing nickname will now be working at the CASA Latina/o de OSU, an office located in Kerr dedicated to helping the Latina/o population here on campus. Oscar Montemayor has worked with CAMP as an academic counselor and teacher for over 20 years, and his students will miss him in Waldo Hall. Alexandra Dos Reis says “I’m really sad he’s leaving CAMP, but I know he is doing something better for him, and he will always be ‘Big Papa’”. As students showed up at the Thursday Welcome back BBQ the first week of school, they immediately went to hug Oscar and thank him for all that he has done for them individually.

CAMP students that had the pleasure of having him as a teacher and CAMP counselor are truly blessed they had a mentor like Montemayor. Although he will still be with us at Oregon State University, he will be doing more things with all the Latino students at the CASA Latina/o de OSU. We are sure that Oscar will always have students visiting him at his office and he too will make an effort to attend CAMP events when possible. His expertise and dedication will surely change and bring about positive change for the office of CASA Latina/o de OSU. We are all excited for his new role as a Director, and wish him the best of luck with his new position!
WE ASKED:
If you were stranded on a Caribbean island, in tropical rainforest climate with unlimited food and shelter what three items would you take with you?
I’m assuming that I would be landing on the island with a change of clothes, so with that said, I would take my Leatherman “Wave” Edition pocketknife, a machete, and toilet paper.

What is your favorite pass-time activity? This is a hard question, there’s a lot of things I like to do, but being with family and helping my mom cook would be number one, I also enjoy hunting and fishing and going on horseback rides during the summer nights back in The Dalles on the family farm.

If you had 10,000 dollars what is the first thing you would do with it? With 10 G’s one could do quite a bit, but I would use it to start some sort of scholarship fund for migrant Latino students who are in pursue of higher education, majoring in an Agriculture related field.

What do you hope to gain from this position? Aside from gaining experience in working with students, I think the most important thing I want to take away is new friendships, and leaving an image for students to never give up with their goals in life, and to be remembered here at OSU as a positive leader who motivates others to move forward and overcome any obstacle that comes in their path.

SUMMER ADVENTURES
Angelica Perez came to Oregon State University as a CAMP student 4 years ago. Little did she know she would embark in a once in a lifetime adventure. Thanks to the help of her facebook friend’s “likes” she was able to get a scholarship that helped pay for part of her trip to China this Summer!

Perez, stayed in China for two months, in Beijing and Dalian. Perez said she choose China because she is a senior in Business and is particularly interested in International Business. Perez thought that this trip would help her understand another culture, she was also interested in visiting one of the wonders of the world, The Great Wall of China, and wanted to learn the language as well and visit a country where most products that we have in the U.S. are made.

While in China Perez, explains she did not experience much of a culture shock, but rather she found some things different than what she was used to seeing in the United States. She mentioned that babies did not have diapers, that instead they wore ‘funny pants’ that had openings for them to do their business. She also added that the restrooms were just a hole on the floor (so people had to squat), and she would wait to use the westernized version of restrooms whenever possible.

On her trip she had the opportunity for many adventures among them was of course visiting the Great Wall of China, bungee jumping, visiting a Zoo, riding the subway, and exploring how people live their everyday lives in China.
The Oregon Migrant Leadership Institute is a program for Oregon’s high school migrant students. The focus of the institute is to expose the high school students to college life and encourage them to attend and develop their leadership skills. Not only does the institute promote higher education but the students are also encouraged to work towards their goals and future and to embrace their heritage while they do it.

The Migrant Leadership Program takes place during the summer, with four weeklong sessions, this year they had the most students they have ever hosted. This summer 2012 the staff did an amazing job! Check out the OMLI website to read more about each of the staff and look at more pictures, as well as find excellent technology resources and writing tools that you can use for any school project!

David Cortez one of the staff members shares about his experience highlighting that he took on multiple roles as an OMLI staff member he was a mentor, chaperone, RA, facilitator, presenter for some panels, and an instructor.

Students that come through this program are given excellent skills that they can hopefully take back to their communities and share with other students. The experience the Oregon Migrant Leadership Institute provides for the students is of high caliber, and this program’s hopes to bring in more and more students every year and only advance in making the Institute better and better every time!


Pictured: Eder, Pedro, Arturo, David, Cheridy, Amas, Jessica, Gabby, Crystal, Oscar, Jonathan, Efrain, Guillerma, Esmeralda, Melissa, David, German and Romeo.
What some Camp Peer Ambassadors have to say...

Pictured: Eloy Hernandez, Laura Mondragon, Melisa Lopez, and Alex Arreguin.

“I am looking forward to get to know the group and build that chemistry, from going to the Blazers game with them they are going to be a great group to work with”
-Laura Mondragon

“My favorite part about being a CPA is interacting with my mentees Mireya, Alex, Clarisa, Cassie, Eddie and Gabby. I’ve gained new relationships from this experience”
-Alex Arreguin

“I serve my mentees by being a part of their life I meet with them weekly and help them with any academic or personal matters”
-Eloy Hernandez

Announcements/Upcoming Events

- Peer Mentor Potluck Nov 30th 5:30-7pm TBD
- Ski Trip Jan 26th Sat/Sun Ski Bowl
AMAS’ UPDATES

Welcome to our tenth issue of “El CAMPestre” newsletter! As I write this section of the newspaper, we are going into our fourth week of fall term classes. As usual, time keeps ticking away and also the rain has returned back to this beautiful campus after the unusual sunny and warm fall weather. I just wanted to recap our CAMP activities since the last issue. First, on July 8th and 9th we were busy during the START Bilingue hosting our 4th cohort of this grant cycle. We were able to meet their families and ensure they were registered for fall term classes. Then, for the fourth year in a row, we hosted the Oregon Migrant Leadership Institute (OMLSI) in July and August as a result of our working collaboration with the Oregon Migrant Education (MEP) program and the Forest Grove School District. Close to 150 migrant students from throughout the state participated in the four weeklong sessions. For more information about the activities and participants’ experiences visit: www.omli2012.weebly.com. This was the largest group of migrant students we have hosted on campus.

On another note, this year, we have 37 new CAMP Scholars from 24 different high schools throughout the state. The Dalles Wahtonka High School is the largest group with six students. All of us spent four full days in September as part of our Orientation Program and ended up with a nice carne asada dinner at the Hatfield Marine Science Center. We also started this term with another carne asada meal the first week of classes. We like to eat in CAMP! This cohort appears to be eager and succeed in college, and so far, they have been busy with their college classes and activities.

This year, CAMP is going through few changes. Oscar Montemayor, CAMP Academic Counselor, transitioned to the CASA Latina/o de OSU Coordinator position on September 24th. Oscar has been with CAMP for over 20 years and he had a very positive influence on our students and many affectionately called him “papa” Oscar. I will miss his willingness to take on any project he was asked to do and his work with our students. We are currently in the process of recruiting to fill the vacancy of that position and soon we should have another person to complete our CAMP team. Also, I want to take this opportunity to welcome to CAMP, Yesi Castro as the new editor for this newsletter and Abner Mondragon, the new CAMP Peer Ambassador Coordinator. Both are past CAMP students and have tons of energy and will to make a difference in CAMP and with this cohort. I am fortunate to have them in my team. So, we begin to another successful academic year.

2012-2013 CAMP Scholars
Pictured from Left to Right: Manuela, Jose, Edward, Johnny, Edward, Laura, Alejandro, Taylor, Jose, Paloma, Anesat, Jessica, Eduardo, Gerardo, Eric, Clarisa, Magali, Jorge, Casandra, Mayraflor, Josue, Mayra, Tony, Sergio, Dalila, Nataly, Adriana, Cristian, Daisy, Mireya, Amparo, Gabby, Brianna, Azalea, and Dallana.