



# Pioneer Pages

Volume 1, Issue 1

October-December 2007



## ACICS-4 More Years!

Pioneer Pacific College is accredited by the Accrediting Council of Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS). ACICS is a national accrediting body that works in conjunction with the US Department of Education and various other state and national agencies to ensure educational institutions meet or exceed the stated criteria for educational quality. ACICS is recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

In 2007, Pioneer Pacific College was up for re-accreditation and underwent an evaluation of our educational practices. In this process, the College responsible for an inten-

sive self-study and ACICS sends a team of evaluators to review systems and processes. Preparation for this visit took countless hours by administrative and academic officials.

In the end, ACICS granted Pioneer Pacific College four more years of national accreditation.

Accrediting agencies allow Colleges and Universities to voluntarily adhere to a set of published administrative and academic standards to promote quality assurance and institutional enhancement.

Don Moutos, President of Pioneer Pacific College said, "Maintaining our accreditation ensures that

our students are attending an institution that takes pride in providing current and compliant standards and practices in education."

Pioneer Pacific College is also authorized by the Oregon Department of Degree Authorization to confer academic degrees. The College is approved by the US Department of Veteran's Affairs and the Oregon State Department of Education for the training of veterans and the US Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, for attendance by non-immigrant alien students.

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## Welcome Oregon Culinary Institute



Oregon Culinary Institute became part of the Pioneer Pacific College family of schools in 2006. The Culinary Institute, located in the Goose Hollow neighborhood of Portland, provides both

Diploma and Associate of Applied Science degrees in Culinary Arts as well as a Certificate in Baking and Pastry. At OCI the focus is on hands-on education that provides the best possible foundation for a career in the food service industry.

Campus President Eric Stromquist and Director of Education/Executive Chef Brian Wilke bring years of

culinary and hospitality experience as well as a dedication to providing quality, career-based education.

OCI has an open-to-the-public restaurant. For Restaurant reservations or to find out more about what OCI has to offer visit them at [www.oregonculinaryinstitute.com](http://www.oregonculinaryinstitute.com) or call 503-961-6200.

### DID YOU KNOW?

- OCI offers weekend cooking classes and team building opportunities.
- Four course meals at the restaurant are priced at just \$9.00 for lunch and \$14.00 for dinner! Alcoholic beverages are not included.
- Easily accessible from the MAX line.

## Career Services Update



The Career Services Department at Pioneer Pacific is dedicated to helping our students find a job that's right for them after graduation. Students can also enlist the Career Services team to help find employment while in school. Each campus has a Director of Career Services and you are encouraged to drop by and find out more about what they have to offer.

Wilsonville Campus:  
Gary Jelinek  
503-682-3903

Health Career Institute:  
Barbara Wallace  
503-682-1862

Clackamas Campus:  
Jeanne Gustufson  
503-654-8000

Springfield Campus:  
Donna White  
541-684-4644

Oregon Culinary Institute:  
Nina Tuthill  
503-961-6200

**Did you Know?**  
Each Pioneer Pacific campus has program advisory committees in order to

help the College stay on top of career trends. Advisory committees are made up of working professionals and meet twice a year to discuss job trends, curriculum and business needs.

**Would you hire this person?** If you can't answer with a resounding "YES!" when you look in the mirror then drop by the career services office at your campus and ask for some tips on looking the part.



**"I've come to realize that teaching is the thing I love most. It seems to be my niche."**

## Instructor Profile

John P. Christensen is an eight year veteran at Pioneer Pacific College. An established General Education Instructor, John says, "The mission of Pioneer Pacific means to extend hope to people who are often looking for a new start. Pioneer offers them a new chance, a new start. I can think of no more noble mission than that. John notes that he comes to work everyday because

of the students and his colleagues. To him, "they make each day new and exciting and give much more to me than I give to them."

John's professional life has been varied, he's worked on a farm, building roof trusses and served as a Presbyterian minister and teaching. Teaching is his passion.

He serves on the Faculty

Development Committee, the General Education Curriculum Committee and Alpha Beta Kappa.

After attending Whitworth University where he obtained a BA, he earned his MDiv from San Francisco Theology Seminary.

Outside of Pioneer, he loves to read, hike, snowshoe, camp and fish.

## Other News...

Pioneer Pacific College donated text books to the new Muteesa University in SW Uganda. Donated books will be used to set up a library for this new University. The books were donated as part of the Beaverton Rotary Club service project. By the end of this year, the project will have shipped 12 containers of books.

The Portland Metro Campuses held Student Appreciation days in September. We'd thank the following people for donating items to these events:

- Traeger Grills
- McDonalds
- Starbucks Coffee
- KPTV and KPDX
- Jammin 95.5

**THANK YOU !**

### HCI Massage Clinic

If you're stressed out over school, work or life in general why not take a relaxing break and get a massage in the Massage Clinic at HCI. Visit the campus or call 503-682-1862 for an appointment.



## Graduate Profile

Gail was married and a mother of two at a very young age. She had been employed at Target as a guest service team leader prior to inquiring about Pioneer Pacific College. Her goal was to get a college education and make a livable wage for herself and her children.

With her mother's and grandmother's encouragement, she enrolled in the Medical Assisting program at the Springfield campus. She continued to work full-time while attending

classes full-time. She had some health issues while enrolled in college that resulted in several major surgeries forcing her to take two terms off. She maintained her positive attitude and soon was back in school, continuing to work toward her career goals.

Career Services received a call from Lane Surgery Center requesting resumes from graduates in the Medical Assisting program for a back-office medical assisting position.

The clinic manager reviewed several resumes and interviewed several individuals. She called Career Services and said they hired Gail. After three weeks of employment, Gail's manager commented, "The doctor and staff are very pleased with Gail, thank you for referring her to us."

Gail is assisting with surgeries, is very happy with her position, and enjoys working with the staff and physicians.



Gail Van Deirse

## Happenings-Pioneer Calendar

**October 5**-NCCT Testing in Springfield

**October 8**-Term 0246 Ends

**October 9**-New Student Orientation

**October 10**-Term 0247 Begins

**October 26**-NCCT Testing in Springfield

**October 26**-Springfield Campus Graduation Ceremony Guest Speaker will

be Oregon Superintendent of Public Instruction, Susan Castillo.

**November 3**-OCI Graduation Ceremony

**November 17**-Portland Metro Campuses Graduation Ceremony

**November 21**-Last day to withdraw

**November 22 & 23**-School Closed Thanksgiving Holiday

**December 18**-Term 0247 ends

**December 24 through January 4**-Winter Break School Closed

**January 7**-New Student Orientation

**January 8**-Term 0248 Begins



### WINTER BREAK

**December 24 through January 4th. Classes resume on January 8th.**

## Pioneer Pacific Launches New Website

Pioneer Pacific College launched a new website at the end of September. The new site features a section for current students and faculty. Students can access the College Calendar, link to the instructor website, order Pioneer Pacific merchandise, access the on-line library resources and so much more.

Marci Hosier, Director of Marketing said, "The new site is clean, easy to navigate and provides a direct link to a number of features for the prospective student, current students and alumni."

Students are encouraged to use the Pioneer Pacific website regularly to keep up with what is going on.

While the look of the site has changed, the address has not. You can access the new and improved Pioneer Pacific website at [www.pioneerpacific.edu](http://www.pioneerpacific.edu).





# PIONEER PACIFIC COLLEGE

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Fax: 503-682-1514  
Email: [inquiries@pioneerpacific.edu](mailto:inquiries@pioneerpacific.edu)

***There's a better life out there -  
We'll help you find it!***

VIST PIONEER ON THE WEB

[www.pioneerpacific.edu](http://www.pioneerpacific.edu)

## Financial Aid Updates



The past few months have been an exciting time for Financial Aid at Pioneer Pacific College and at colleges throughout the Country. Recently, the U.S. Senate passed the much anticipated re-authorization of the Higher Education Act. The House of Representatives has yet to vote on the bill but it is anticipated that this will happen within a few months after Congress returns from their summer vacation. The major highlight of the re-authorization bill is the proposed increase in the Pell Grant from a maximum of \$4,310/year to over \$6,000/year over the next three financial aid award years. Additionally, there have been some major changes in student loan regulations and we would encourage you to contact a Financial Aid staff mem-

ber if you have questions about loans received when enrolling at Pioneer Pacific. We are happy to speak with current and former students.

Pioneer Pacific College has dedicated Financial Aid staff members that are committed to answering questions and providing a stress-free Financial Aid experience. Each location is open from **8:00am to 7:00pm, Monday through Thursday**. Fridays are reserved for processing of financial aid applications and paperwork.

Financial Aid contact information:

Wilsonville Campus:  
FA Director-Cyndi Hustrulid  
FA Officer- Monica De Villar  
503-682-3903

HCI Campus:

FA Director-Cristin Zulaski  
FA Officer-Cassandra Frutos 503-682-1862

Clackamas Learning Site:

FA Director-Kami Bieker  
FA Officer-Amber Lockhart  
503-654-8000

Oregon Culinary Institute:

FA Director-Natalie Henniger  
FA Officer-Nila Markheim  
503-961-6200

Eugene/Springfield Campus:

FA Director-Pam Harrison  
FA Officer-Wyndi Krueger  
541-684-4644