

January 2006 ASPLU Regents Report

Fall semester has been successful from ASPLU's perspective. Student programs have been high in frequency and creativity. Stronger relations between other student leadership groups, both at PLU, and at other local institutions, have been built over the semester. Best of all, ASPLU has strongly represented the interests of the student body this term.

Because of the sheer quantity of things accomplished this Fall, we thought it might be more helpful to list off just some of ASPLU's accomplishments, and then provide more detail at the January Board Meeting:

- The Hurricane Relief Task Force donation drive checks were sent off to the Red Cross and ELCA Disaster Relief Fund. Both checks exceeded \$5000.00.
- On October 12th, 10% of the student body wore orange "ORPHAN" t-shirts for an educational awareness program about HIV/AIDS in Africa. Related programs followed.
- Outdoor Recreation Directors attended a regional risk management conference sponsored by leaders in the industry of outdoor adventure programs. ASPLU is currently in the process of implementing many of the things that were learned at the conference.
- The ASPLU Senate has passed Senate Bill 20, legislation that has authorized the expenditure of \$25,000 to contribute to an institutional commitment of \$50,000 for Names Fitness Center equipment improvement. Much of this equipment will be installed and made function this coming semester.
- The ASPLU Financial Aid Literacy and Lobbying Ad-hoc Committee has been formally created, and will begin committee work beginning in the Spring.
- ASPLU Events put on a program entitled "The Harry Potter Party," held the night prior to the official opening of the movie. Over 200 faculty, staff and students came together for this fun and entertaining event.
- The Diversity Coalition, a diversity coalition comprised of student leaders from all the diversity clubs on campus, has been revived. Our ASPLU Diversity Director has been active, and instrumental in this process. The coalition has decided to kick-off a programming series called "ASPIRE 2 INSPIRE," focusing on diversity issues affecting our society. We look forward to the services this coalition can once again provide the student body.
- Healthy, Uncensored, Mindless, Procrastination (HUMP) events in The Cave were increased to a frequency of every Wednesday evening (as opposed to every other Wednesday). Attendance has held an average of 150 students every HUMP night. In addition, The Cave has provided programs five nights out of the week, on average.
- ASPLU's Global Awareness Team, which was created this academic year, has continued its work to raise issues of global concern with the student body. A documentary on the tragedy of children being forced to flee from their homes or else be kidnapped and raised in the militia in Sudan, entitled "Invisible Children," was shown. Discussions have followed.

The aforementioned list is just a taste of what ASPLU has been focusing its energy on. Vibrant and educational co-curricular campus life, we believe, is one input required for students to have a successful undergraduate experience. That input is one of the many prominent foci that ASPLU, in conjunction with the rest of the campus community, is attending to.

As always, we gladly accept any comments, questions, or suggestions that you all may have.

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ASPLU President

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