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Gifts at Work

Laura J. Graham 07
Linfield University

Linfield Magazine Staff

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Building up science education

Construction of the McMinnville campus's new science complex continues on time and budget, with an expected completion date of December 2022. The complex includes construction of the new W.M. Keck Science Center, a wholesale renovation of neighboring Graf Hall and some improvements to nearby Murdock Hall. Altogether, the project encompasses 84,000 square feet of new and updated collaboration and research space.

The project received a generous boost in April thanks to a \$1.6 million grant from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust. The Trust has a long history of supporting science education at Linfield. For more than 45 years, it has awarded grants benefiting student and faculty research projects and faculty positions.

"For decades, we have had the opportunity to witness up close the impressive growth of Linfield's science programs and the life-changing work and research they have inspired," said Steve Moore, executive director of the Trust. "This new complex will provide opportunities for generations of students to engage in STEM fields in groundbreaking new ways."

Filling stomachs to fill minds

On-campus food pantries help students facing food insecurity

By Laura J. Graham '07

“There are these heartening moments in the food pantry where students come in and thank me for stocking. And then I get to see the relief on their faces when there is a full food pantry there for them.”

— Isabella Dixon '25, Wildcat Food Pantry student coordinator

In an era of high inflation, food insecurity continues to grow for people throughout the country. Linfield students are no exception. In a recent survey, 2 in 5 students at Linfield reported experiencing hunger at least once a month because they couldn't afford food. The Wildcat Food Pantry opened its doors in fall 2019 in an effort to help.

The pantry stocks more than 40 different kinds of non-perishable foods and various hygiene supplies. Students are allowed to enter once per day and take up to five items per visit. The pantry is open 24 hours per day, seven days a week. A similar space, dubbed the “Snack Shack,” is available for School of Nursing students on the Portland campus.

The demand for these resources has been immense. The three most popular items are ramen noodles, peanut butter and granola bars. In its first six months of operations, the McMinnville campus pantry was used more than 600 times.

“During my first two years at Linfield, I would frequently visit Dillin Hall only once a day due to my meal plan or because I just didn't have the time for breakfast or lunch due to classes or other responsibilities,” Sean Atkinson '22

remembers. “This would result in frequent hunger and the occasional day without eating. The food pantry has opened a whole new world of sustainable and healthy food options that I can get any hour of the day for no cost.”

Alumni and local businesses have been there to meet the need of students like Atkinson. Since its start, more than 30 donors have contributed to the food pantry, raising \$11,000 this year alone. People have supported the Wildcat Food Pantry through monetary donations on giving day and throughout the year, in addition to purchasing items directly off the pantry's Amazon wish list.

Isabella Dixon '25, an international business major from Missoula, Montana, serves as the Wildcat Food Pantry student coordinator and fills her week with shopping, inventorying products and sourcing food that accommodates all diets.

“There are these heartening moments in the food pantry where students come in and thank me for stocking,” Dixon recalls. “And then I get to see the relief on their faces when there is a full food pantry there for them.”

STOCKING UP: Isabella Dixon '25 refills the shelves of the Wildcat Food Pantry with non-perishable food and hygiene items.



Inspiring the unwritten.



Dan Roth '00 has spent his career empowering others to tell meaningful stories. He's worked with nonprofit organizations, government officials and industry leaders as a senior-level communications director.

Now, he's helping students start their yet unwritten story at Linfield by including the university in his estate plans.

"I draw a direct line from my professional successes to the opportunities Linfield afforded me. As I make my estate plans, I want to ensure future Linfield students will be able to benefit from the same education I received, which has led to a lifetime of curiosity, engagement and critical thinking."

INVEST IN FUTURE STUDENTS TODAY.

Learn more about including Linfield in your estate plans.



Craig Haisch '95, Senior Director of Development
503-883-2675 | chaisch@linfield.edu

Lessons in Ireland and the classroom

International experience makes student 'better teacher, better human'

By Laura J. Graham '07

Speaking a new Spanish language dialect in Chile. Learning organic farming techniques at a vineyard in Sicily. Experiencing Irish history by hiking the Cliffs of Moher. Even as many study-abroad sites cancelled programs last year amid the pandemic, Linfield students nonetheless managed all this (and more) in the 2021-22 academic year.

Siria Larmay '21, a mathematics and elementary education major from McMinnville via Guatemala, was eager to immerse herself in another culture.

"I wanted to study abroad to learn about another educational system and culture," she said. "I believed this would not only make me a better teacher but a better human."

And, thanks to financial support from the International Programs Study Abroad Scholarship and other donor-supported endowed funds, Larmay was able to make her dream come true.

Larmay was among the 25 Linfield students who studied internationally during the fall 2021 semester. It was the first cohort of students to return abroad since March 2020.

Linfield offers all students the opportunity to study abroad with semester, January Term and year-long programs at 15 universities across the globe. Linfield makes this opportunity as affordable as possible for all students by paying for round-trip airfare for each student's first experience abroad. Even so, additional expenses associated with study abroad can present a hardship. Donor support allows for additional financial aid to make these experiences possible.

"The financial support I received from Linfield gave me peace of mind financially," Larmay said of her experience at the National University of Ireland-Galway. "It allowed me to focus on my new experience and maximize my learning opportunities."

Larmay has already seen the positive effects of her experience and how she, a non-traditional college graduate, can better relate to her students at McMinnville High School.



IMMERSED IN CULTURE (AND GREAT FOOD): Although Siria Larmay '21 studied abroad in Ireland, she took advantage of her international experience to visit other countries including Germany, Hungary, England and Spain.

"Going to school with younger people from different cultures gave me an opportunity to relate to them as peers. This has benefitted my interactions with my students and how I connect and build relationships with them," she said. "I have also already implemented some educational strategies I learned in Ireland."

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