OSU program prepares high school students for college life

by Bend_Weekly_News_Sources

CORVALLIS â€“ This summer Oregon State University will host â€œA Taste of College,â€• the two-week college prep program for high school students in grades 10-12.

The program, held on the OSU campus and open to Oregon and out-of-state students, runs from June 24 through July 6. Now in its third year, â€œA Taste of Collegeâ€• was developed to create a seamless transition from high school to college. Participants will live on campus in a residence hall, sample summer classes and explore the universityâ€™s facilities, including OSUâ€™s Hatfield Marine Science Center in Newport and the tsunami research lab on campus.

Students also meet with OSU advisers and staff to learn the basics of getting into college and being successful once there. Skills emphasized in the program include critical thinking, study skills, college writing and leadership skills. Students who complete the program will earn two college credits.

Dave Moore, high school program specialist for OSU P-12 outreach, said â€œA Taste of Collegeâ€• attracts students from diverse backgrounds, and from both rural and metropolitan high schools.

â€œThe program not only provides a head start for students looking forward to their college career, but often acts as a confidence builder for those unsure about attending college,â€• Moore said. â€œWeâ€™ve seen participants come away from this program with valuable skills and life lessons, real excitement about the prospect of attending college, and increased confidence in their ability to succeed.â€•

Moore oversees students each day to make sure their questions are answered and OSU resident assistants supervise them in the evenings and on the weekend. Students have time to study, do library research and work in the computer labs. Time is also set aside for students to socialize with new friends on campus. During the two weeks, students post their observations and photos online in a blog.

â€œA Taste of Collegeâ€• is offered through OSU P-12 Outreach, a branch of Extended Campus.

Program cost is $950 and covers tuition and fees for two OSU credits, all meals and lodging, field trips, instructional materials, and staff costs.

Registration for the 2007 program begins April 1. For more information and application forms, visit the Web site at http://p12.ecampus.oregonstate.edu/atoc/ or contact Dave Moore at 800-667-1465,

dave.moore@oregonstate.edu.

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