



PaCE ACADEMY

PREPARATION and CAREER EXPLORATION



Dr. Steve Sylvester and Biomedicine Class

The first Pre-Employment and Career Exploration (PACE) Teen Conference was held in May 2006. This was a pilot project co-sponsored by the Center for Youth Workforce Preparation and Educational Service District 112 Youth Workforce Programs. One hundred eight teens attended the all day conference. Conference proceeding focused on: (1) preparing for summer employment; (2) exploring potential careers; (3) planning for post-high school education and training. Students attended 60-minute Interest Sessions, large group activities, Job Fair, meetings with WSU Vancouver staff and community professionals.

FAST FACTS 2006-2007

- **203 middle school/high school students have attended the PaCE Teen Conference and Summer Academy since it began in 2006; of these, 152 completed program evaluations.**
- **Nine middle schools and 25 high schools from Clark, Cowlitz, Pacific, Multnomah and Clackamas Counties were represented.**
- **WSU Vancouver faculty & staff served as lead instructors. Additional support provided by: City of Vancouver, Clark College, Clark County 4-H, Columbia Machine, Delta Society, Greenstone Architecture, iQ Credit, Legacy Salmon Creek Hospital, Look Both Ways LLC, PBS Engineering & Environmental, Port of Vancouver, Project Service Leadership, PWB Technologies, US Forest Service, Volunteer Connections, Washington School for the Deaf and many more.**

In October 2006, planning began for an expanded, weeklong experience renamed WSU Vancouver *PaCE Academy*. The WSU Vancouver Center for Youth Workforce Preparation and the WSU Vancouver Digital Technology & Culture Program served as co-sponsors. Soon, additional faculty and staff from WSU Vancouver, Clark College and community partners joined the effort.

By April 2007, six educational Tracks were confirmed: *Art with Computers; Exploring Other Worlds, Journalism & Media, Biomedicine, Engineers Make It Happen and The Brain and Body*. Each morning 95 middle/high school students worked with college faculty and learned in their selected areas of interest. Each afternoon students gathered for a Global Session focusing on such issues as *Internet Safety, Preparing for College, Community Engagement and Exploring the Opportunities*. The week culminated on Friday with families and friends attending the Student Showcase to see student demonstrations and presentations. The Recognition and Closing Program capped the week of learning, exploring and fun.

Student comments include:

“I think we should get sessions like this into our schools”;
“I felt that I learned more about what college would be like”;
“I want to be on the student planning committee”;
“I was gonna take welding but now I’m gonna take Mechanical Engineering”.

WSUV PaCE Academy 2007

Student Evaluation Summary

95 Students Attended

72 Students Completed Written Evaluation

Because of my participation PaCE 2007:	Back . . . before I participated in PaCE 2007				Now . . . after I have participated in PaCE 2007			
	Circle one number for each statement				Circle one number for each statement			
	No	Sometimes	Usually	Yes	No	Sometimes	Usually	Yes
1. I have clear educational goals after high school	7%	25%	29%	39%	3%	12%	32%	53%
2. I have clear career goals after high school	13%	21%	32%	34%	8%	19%	22%	51%
3. I feel I can evaluate my own education and career decisions	10%	21%	40%	29%	5%	11%	36%	48%
4. I know how to ask critical questions	8%	25%	28%	39%	2%	14%	29%	55%
5. I know where to find information about education and careers	9%	27%	29%	35%	0%	13%	21%	66%
6. I know how to clearly state my thoughts about my own education and career interests	3%	23%	36%	38%	0%	10%	33%	57%
7. I am interested in my selected track as a career.	24%	27%	27%	22%	11%	10%	32%	47%
8. <i>Track specific question – see Individual Track Summary</i>								
9. <i>Track specific question – see Individual Track Summary</i>								
10. <i>Track specific question – see Individual Track Summary</i>								
11. <i>Track specific question – see Individual Track Summary</i>								
12. I am interested in attending Washington State University Vancouver	41%	24%	15%	20%	28%	15%	22%	35%
13. I am interested in attending Washington State University Pullman	43%	26%	20%	11%	26%	18%	23%	33%
14. I am interested in attending Clark College	51%	24%	14%	11%	44%	19%	13%	24%
15. I have changed my educational goals	56%	32%	6%	6%	33%	20%	21%	26%
16. I have changed my career goals	59%	27%	10%	4%	44%	17%	12%	27%

Student Information:				
Current age: 29% = 12 18% = 13 15% = 14 12% = 15 10% = 16 10% = 17 6% = 18	Grade: 28% = 7 th 16% = 8 th 13% = 9 th 24% = 10 th 6% = 11 th 13% = 12 th	Gender: 55% Female 45% Male	Home is: 11% farm 17% rural non-farm 14% town under 50,000 58% city over 50,000	Described self as: 5% African American 5% Native American 8% Asian/Pacific Islander 5% Hispanic 69% White/Caucasian 8% Racially mixed