



DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

FALL 2024

Message from Fr. John Donato, C.S.C.

Dear Colleagues,

In this newsletter, we celebrate another season of life within our University of Portland as a Catholic, Holy Cross community of learning.

A few highlights this Fall semester include the inaugural opening of the Center for Gender and Sexuality, re-opening of a new StockUP food pantry for our students access, renewing a UP tradition "Homecoming Week" (a week-long celebration of Pilot events), launching of the 2025-2026 housing signup process for rising juniors, seniors, and graduate students, and many varied campus programming activities and events for students engagement.

As we approach Thanksgiving, let us be reminded of our community spirit within our UP campus and the city of Portland. My sincere thanks and appreciation for all you have contributed to our community, in continuing to engage with and support our students. I am grateful for each and every one of you.

Wishing you comforting peace, joy, and a rejuvenating rest in the upcoming holidays with your loved ones.

With gratitude,

For John

UPDATES

Center for Gender and Sexuality (CGS)

- On October 9th, the [Center for Gender and Sexuality](#) (CGS) welcomed over 100 guests to the grand opening of the Center (on the Lower Level of Orrico Hall), which kicked off the OUTober programming campus-wide. [Student's photography from the event](#) >
- Workshops and discussions were held throughout October by faculty and staff for students. Topics included: Healthy Relationships Workshop; International Pronouns Day; Sexual Health and Wellness; Fiction, Faith and Sexuality; Meditation for Affirmation, and a film screening of “Hocus Pocus”. CGS welcomed over 250 UP community members to all our OUTober events!



Transgender Day of Remembrance

On the eve of October 9th, CGS and [Gender & Sexuality Partnership](#) (GSP) held a candlelight vigil in front of the Bell Tower. Over 30 faculty, staff, and students shared prayers, recited poems, spoke affirmations, and held space and silence for victims of transperson violence for the past year.

[More CGS programming on Engage](#) >

Campus Ministry

- In collaboration with our Residence Life, Campus Ministry sent almost 200 students on retreat at the end of September. Students from all nine active residence halls enjoyed weekends at Camp Howard, where they were able to grow closer in community, share in recreational activities, and dive deeper into faith and spirituality.



- In celebration of the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, [Fr. Tyler Kreipke, C.S.C.](#) [blessed pets](#) of students, faculty, and staff. St. Francis was known for his care of creation, and, in the spirit of the saint, Fr. Tyler helped us celebrate this important day!
- In collaboration with the [Latinx Student Union](#), Campus Ministry celebrated the beginning of the month of November and the Día de los Muertos with our traditional ofrenda, an altar of remembrance for family and friends who have died. Campus Ministry has also collected names of deceased loved ones and placed them in a basket before the main altar in the Chapel of Christ the Teacher, where they will be prayed for throughout November.

Follow [Campus Ministry on Instagram](#) >

Campus Safety and Emergency Management (CSEM)

- [Michael McNerney](#) (Director of CSEM) partnered with [Colin Stewart](#) (Special Assistant to the VPSA) to leverage AI technology to execute an emergency management tabletop exercise with UP's President's Leadership Cabinet members.

- CSEM reinstated the Hall Liaison Officer Program, increasing engagement between line staff and students in residence.

Follow [Campus Safety on Instagram](#) >



Moreau Center for Service and Justice (MCSJ)

- On September 4th, [Clare Kennedy](#) (Program Manager for Community Partnerships) and [Claire Moore](#) (Student Employment) hosted the first Student Employment and Service Fair. This collaborative event brought together many of our [Community Service Work Study](#) nonprofit partners (to name a few: Portland Tennis & Education, St. Johns Swapnplay, Do Good Multnomah, Catholic Charities of Oregon), on-campus employers, and campus resources to connect directly with students. There were 30 different groups in attendance who were able to speak with 350 students who came seeking resources, services, and employment opportunities. This event strengthened relationships with local nonprofit partners and supported students in finding unique employment and volunteer opportunities that serve the Portland community.
- During fall break, 8 students and 2 staff members participated in the [Social Justice Immersion](#) traveling to the Yakima Valley in Washington. The group stayed on a farm and community center on the Yakama Reservation, engaging with over ten local organizations and cultural centers. Group visited Heritage University, toured JustLiving Farms, volunteered with Nuestra Casa to support ESL classes for farmworkers, and learned about the Ttáwaxt Birth Justice Center's work on maternal health disparities among Native women. This experience deepened their

understanding of social justice issues and allowed for deep reflection and bonding.



- MCSJ rebuilt UP's connection with [L'Arche Portland](#), a community of adults with and without intellectual disabilities who share life together intentionally. UP students attended varied events on and off campus such as: a Garden Work Party, a Halloween Party, and a Benefit Celebration (in partnership with University Events). Student volunteers connected with community members and supported at this benefit event, raising \$60,000 for the L'Arche Portland community - building a kinder, more human world through mutual relationships and creating a sense of belonging.

Follow [Moreau Center for Service and Justice on Instagram](#) >

Residence Life

- Residence Life launched the [2025-2026 housing signup process for rising juniors and seniors](#), featuring lower costs, new flexible meal plans, dedicated junior and senior communities, and other incentives exclusively for our upper-level students.
- The [2025-2026 Resident Assistant hiring process](#) is now open. Please encourage rising juniors and seniors to apply!
- Residence Life staff were key collaborators in the work to develop and deliver UP's first Homecoming Week. Thanks to campus partners, and in particular [Stephanie Galati](#) (Fields Hall, Assistant Hall Director) who dedicated many hours in creating incredible marketing, events, and schedules! [Video reel on Homecoming 2024](#) >

- On November 11th, [SR Ross](#) (Associate Director of Training, Support, and Development) presented a session "*Caring for ourselves and our teams - Disability Justice Principles for Supervisors*" at NASPA's regional conference in San Diego.

Follow [Residence Life on Instagram](#) >



Student Activities

- ASUP Executive Board and Senate gathered on September 21st for a successful retreat.
- 560 students braved the rain on October 26th and attended Campus Program Board's Halloween carnival event "Nightmare on the Willamette".





- Vote UP hosted “Vote Early Day” on October 29th wherein 75 students, faculty and staff participated.
- Along with hosting frequent open mic events, KDUP has made a triumphant return to on-air programming this semester. Their next student showcase event will be December 6 at 6 p.m. in the Corrado Hall basement. ***Follow [KDUP on Instagram](#) | [Listen Live](#) >***

Health and Counseling Center (HCC)

- In partnership with the School of Nursing and Health Innovations (SONHI), HCC hosted clinic days specifically to support UP nursing students in completing their requirements for clinical rotations. This was the first time offering these collaborative clinics and the response was excellent!
- The counseling team has adopted a new model of care allowing for easier access to same day appointments and increased availability to meet student needs. Most students seeking a counseling appointment are offered appointments same day or next day.
- HCC hosted their first Doctorate of Nursing Practice student for clinical rotations this fall. HCC medical staff are thrilled to support SONHI and contribute to training the next generation of nurse practitioners.
- Over 300 flu and COVID vaccines were administered to students, faculty, and staff this fall through HCC hosted vaccine clinics.
- Students continue to have expanded access to mental health services through the HCC partnership with [BetterMynd](#). BetterMynd appointments are available over telehealth on weekends and evenings, providing flexible options to students with busy schedules.

Student Wellness Center (SWC)

- SWC started the academic year strong by offering new students and their families an opportunity to have fun with, and learn from, campus student support providers at our Fall Wellness Fair (*photo below, at left*).
- SWC provided [Green Dot](#) Bystander Intervention trainings for student leaders in Residence Life, Anchor Leaders, and Learning Assistants. Over the course of August through October, they exceeded the number of students who received the full Bystander training compared to the entire last academic year. They have also been piloting healthy relationships programming in collaboration with [Colin Stewart](#), Athletics, and the Center for Gender and Sexuality.



- There is a new [StockUP](#) food pantry for our students, which opened in September and is hosted twice weekly for open hours as well as access by appointment. SWC initiated food and hygiene drives in October and will continue to do so as we head into the holiday season. [StockUP FAQs](#) >

[Wellness Education and Prevention Programs on Engage](#) >

NEW TO THE DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

Campus Ministry

- Office Manager (CM and MCSJ) - Daniela Bedoya

Campus Safety and Emergency Management

- Associate Director - [AJ Christensen](#)
- Dispatcher - [Josie Wood](#)
- Officer - [Reynold Catala](#), [Matthew Gerber](#)

Health and Counseling Center

- Associate Director - [Isabella Vickers](#)
- Medical Office Administrator - [Karen Gaunt](#)
- Mental Health Provider - [Caz Novak](#)

Moreau Center for Service and Justice

- Program Manager - [Erin Savoia](#)

Residence Life

- Associate Director - [SR Ross](#)
- Corrado Hall - [Allie Vaught](#)
- Lund Family Hall - [Gina Del Chiaro](#)
- Mehling Hall - [ReRe Smith](#)

Student Activities

- Office Manager - [Katie Hamrah](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **November 18:** Division of Student Affairs Formation & Professional Development (1-3 PM, Franz 120)
- **November 18:** ASUP President's State of the Campus Address (4:30 PM, Shiley Hall 319)
- **November 20:** [MCSJ Community Room Open House](#) (3-6 PM, St. Mary's Student Center Office 108 - behind ASUP)
- **November 22:** Holy Cross Wine and Cheese Social (4-6 PM, Dundon-Bertchold Hall - Franz Lounge)
- **December 2:** Presidents' Christmas Tree Lighting (4:15 PM)
- **December 6:** Division of Student Affairs Christmas Gathering (12:05 PM Mass at CCTT; Luncheon at Bauccio Commons Board Room) -- **RSVP by 11/20**
- **December 16:** UP Staff Christmas Gathering (3-5 PM, Bauccio Commons Dining Room)

Holidays: Thanksgiving (November 28-29, begins at 4 PM on 11/27);
Christmas Break (December 23 to January 1, offices open 1/2/2025)

Reminder from HR: December 23 is UP's campus closure day (full-day).

HAVE AN EVENT OR STORY TO SHARE?

Email studentaffairs@up.edu



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