Engage
Inspire
Empower
Video chats
with OSU
students
about why
and how
to go to
college

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:
Program Staff, Coordinators 2
Coaches, How to Get Involved 3
Sample Lesson Plan 4
Sample Lesson Plan, How to Get Involved 5
Program Goals, Pilot Programs 6
The 4-1-1: Winter Retreat 7
Mission, Contacts 8

A Welcome from the Director

“Beaver Hangouts exemplifies OSU’s dedication to providing all Oregon students an equitable opportunity to achieve a college education. In a short time the program has grown to more than 60 coaches connecting with over 1000 K-12 students across the state. Beaver Hangouts has proven to be remarkably scalable and cost-effective, largely due to the many outstanding OSU students who dedicate volunteer hours as coaches. Program growth would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of our two AmeriCorps coordinators, Kali Doten and Marisol Moreno Ortiz. Thank you everyone---and let’s keep Growing!”

Kyle Cole, Precollege Programs Director
College Access Corps Coordinators

Marisol Moreno Ortiz
Marisol received a B.A. in English, with a Minor in Writing at OSU in 2014. She holds a M.A. in English from PSU and will begin a second Master’s program in Fall 2017 in Library Science. She volunteers at the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library on the weekends. Marisol’s love for poetry led to the publication of her poems, “Rose City,” in Pathos Literary Magazine and “Along the Railroad,” in Doll Hospital Journal. She is passionate about learning and believes everyone should have the opportunity to continue their education. Beaver Hangouts has been a new experience to increase her skill-set and become a leader. Being a first generation college graduate motivates Marisol to provide resources to future first generations.

Kali Doten
Kali is also an OSU Alumna, receiving a B.S. in Zoology in 2013. She will pursue a M.A. in Environmental Arts and Humanities in Fall 2017 at OSU. Trained as a wildlife ecologist, Kali has held many field and lab positions contributing to stream ecology and conservation research. Her commitment to environmental justice is shown through her involvement with local organizing efforts aimed to educate and mobilize her community toward justice and her graduate school plan. As a first-generation college graduate, Kali knows how vital Beaver Hangouts is in promoting a more equitable post-secondary education system. Beaver Hangouts has improved her intercommunication and leadership skills.

CAC Coordinators are AmeriCorps volunteers that develop and maintain partnerships with schools and organizations, and coaches. The bulk of their service includes recruiting, training, and mentoring coaches, coordinating their schedules to match classroom needs, and programming development. Building off of the work of previous coordinators, Marisol and Kali have expanded the program’s reach.

College Access Student Coordinators

Mai Le is a Junior in Biochemistry and Biophysics and has been a Beaver Hangouts Coach since her Freshman year at OSU. She works as a lab assistant in the College of Pharmacy and also volunteers with OSU’s Multiple Sclerosis program.

Theresa Dinh is a Junior in Biology and has coached since her Sophomore year. She does research in a Biophysics lab and volunteers with the Event Medical Services program.

Sabrina Gadbury is a Senior in Bioresource Research and Pre-Medicine and is new to Beaver Hangouts this year. She is doing research in a Nano-toxicology lab and also volunteers for a local clinic.

Joseph Le is a Senior in Biology Education and has been a coach since his Junior year. He works for Precollege Campus Tours and Mobile Science Camps and has been an Outdoor School Camp Counselor.
College Access Coaches

The College Access Coaches are the face and success of the program. Beaver Hangouts would not be what it is today without their civic engagement. Our gratitude to them is beyond measure.

Coaches share their enthusiasm and experience as a college student to youth all around Oregon by video conferencing with K-12 classrooms. Coaches offer deeper insight into college-preparedness by incorporating their experience of transitioning from high school to higher education into the lesson plan. In order to increase students’ confidence and knowledge about attending college, coaches mentor their classrooms once every other week to lead discussions and activities about academic success, financial aid, goal setting, time management, and career exploration.

Coaching provides a unique opportunity for college students attending Oregon State University to serve a broad population of underserved K-12 students, who may not otherwise have access to information about college. For many K-12 students, Beaver Hangouts is their primary source of information about higher education.

Not only do Coaches have an impact on Oregon’s youth but they themselves develop their leadership and public speaking skills for future careers by working closely with the College Access Corps Coordinators and Staff of Precollege Programs. There are currently over 60 coaches active this year. You can learn more about each of them on our website.

Coaches: HOW TO GET INVOLVED

College Access Coach applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

Requirements:
◊ Must be an Oregon State University student
◊ Minimum commitment of one term and one hour every other week
◊ Experience with Skype or Google Hangouts a plus

Applications can be found on our website at beaverhangouts.oregonstate.edu.
While lesson plans are a great resource for activities and discussion topics, they are meant to guide Coaches through each session, not dictate the course of the session. Students have a diverse set of interests and may have more pressing topics they want to discuss for that week. Coaches should rely on both the lesson plan and the K-12 students’ interests to shape each lesson.
Testimonials

“I learned not to fear college, and if I try, I can achieve anything.”
- Owen, 8th grade

“My favorite part of Beaver Hangouts is to be able to see when kids realize that they are in charge of their future. When they realize that they can go to college even if everyone is telling them no.”
- Beaver Hangouts Coach

“Beaver Hangouts answered my questions about college and showed me how important it is for my future.”
- Lilly, 7th grade

“I know there were several students who found your words valuable and took away good information.”
- 12th Grade Teacher

“I love watching the kids get excited about college—it makes me get excited to be here! It’s also so amazing to be able to impact so many kids in such an immense way.”
- Beaver Hangouts Coach

Teachers: HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Classroom/School applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

Requirements:
- Must be a school, class, afterschool club, or non-profit in Oregon
- Have access to video conferencing software, such as Skype

Applications can be found on our website at beaverhangouts.oregonstate.edu.
Program Goals for 2016-2017

Our goal for the 2016-2017 academic year is to have 100 coaches serving 50 classrooms and 1000 students. By increasing the number of classrooms, we increase the number of students reached with this program. Also, by increasing the number of coaches, we help more OSU students develop applicable skills, and gain a better understanding of, and responsibility to, their communities.

Coming to the end of Winter Term 2017, 60 classrooms, and about 1088 students have been served with the amazing and hard work of our coaches. Many of the K-12 students are from underserved areas and might not receive guidance in college access, and learning about the daily life of a college student from a current college student. Beaver Hangouts’ goal is to help as many K-12 students as possible feel that college is available to them and give them confidence to strive to attend the college of their choice. In addition to those program goals, we have a few pilot programs in the works...

BH Community College, Native, and Spanish Programs

Beaver Hangouts recognizes the needs of different communities across Oregon and we aim to cater to those needs through our new programs tailored to community college transfer students, Native American students, and Spanish-speaking students. College Access Coaches video chatting with each program have special connections and direct experience with students from that community.

For instance, Miguel Gaspar (above), an Oregon Coast Community College alumnus currently at Oregon State, facilitates Beaver Hangouts sessions with prospective transfer students.

In addition, bilingual or immersion classes in Ontario are paired with Spanish-speaking coaches, Gabi Tinoco and Alex Ruiz (below), and lesson plans are delivered in Spanish.

Above: Raven Waldron and Ame Manon-Ferguson, OSU Native American students involved with the Eena Haws Native American Longhouse Cultural Center, lead sessions with Native K-12 students in Salem.

By tailoring lesson plans and delivery methods to provide diverse sets of students with college information, we hope to broaden the door to higher education attainability in Oregon. Our Precollege Programs Coordinator, Jean, envisioned these pivotal pilot programs. It has been a joy to see them come to fruition and witness the impact they have had so far.
The 4-1-1: Beaver Hangouts Winter Retreat

Coaches and coordinators convened during Winter term to celebrate their service in Beaver Hangouts at the second annual Beaver Hangouts Retreat. The Retreat not only offered a space for Coaches to gather with good company and good food, but also provided opportunities for them to refine their coaching skills and to learn about the importance of their service. College Access Corps Coordinators, Marisol Moreno Ortiz and Kali Doten, facilitated discussions about educational justice in Oregon and the legacy of White Supremacy in the United States to establish a context for programs such as Beaver Hangouts. Coaches engaged wholeheartedly in dialogue on topics that many people shy away from – privilege, race, and inequity. By learning about, and confronting systemic social issues,

Coaches also had the chance to address common challenges they face when video conferencing their classrooms by role playing difficult scenarios in “BH Theatre”. Student Coordinators, Mai, Theresa, and Joseph, along with experienced coach, Shaylin, led the skits by performing a problematic coaching session, and Coaches had the opportunity to step in and offer their suggestions to fix the issue. Bonding over technological problems and student disengagement, Coaches brainstormed ideas to manage such issues to prepare them for the rest of the year.

"This retreat focused on a lot of the social justice side of our service, which I really appreciated." - Mai Le, Coach and Student Coordinator

"...we went more in-depth about why people are who they are, and how it came to be so (like poverty, people of color)." - Nate Coddington

The space allowed coaches who usually work alone or in pairs throughout the term to bond with others over their service. The Retreat showed many Coaches just how much they could learn from each other. Marisol and Kali did a great job of organizing and facilitating the event.
Office of Precollege Programs
Oregon State University
110 Snell Hall
Corvallis, OR 97331

BEAVER HANGOUTS
Our mission at Beaver Hangouts is to provide all students with an equal opportunity for college access and readiness through the use of technology. We serve a variety of K-12 schools and programs all over Oregon. Our main focus is rural and underrepresented populations. Over 50% of the students in the schools we currently work with qualify for the Federal free or reduced-price lunch program. Beaver Hangouts is designed to provide college access information to all K-12 students by volunteer OSU students, anyone is eligible to apply.

CONTACT US

Kyle Cole
Director of Precollege Programs
kyle.cole@oregonstate.edu
541-737-8262

Jean Garcia-Chitwood
Precollege Programs Coordinator
jean.garcia-chitwood@oregonstate.edu
541-737-6422

Marisol Moreno Ortiz
College Access Corps Coordinator
Beaver Hangouts Program
marisol.morenoortiz@oregonstate.edu
541-737-9428

Kali Doten
College Access Corps Coordinator
Beaver Hangouts Program
kali.doten@oregonstate.edu
541-737-9428

Program email:
beaverhangouts@gmail.com

Website:
beaverhangouts.oregonstate.edu

Facebook:
facebook.com/beaverhangouts

Twitter:
Twitter/beaverhangouts