1992

Paul Mai
Sylvania Campus
Business Administration

Artangia Presley
Open Campus
Steps to Success, Skills Center

Melissa Fern
Cascade Campus
Psychology

Diana Weurtz
Rock Creek Campus
Mathematics

Paul Mai

Paul, 21, escaped from Vietnam with his family when he was five years old and lived in a resettlement camp in Arkansas, then moved to Texas. The move to Oregon was fifth or sixth on the list. After PCC, he plans to transfer to a four-year school and earn a degree in international business. Paul is president and founder of PCC’s International Student Club and is also student government vice-chair at Sylvania Campus. The oldest of six children, Paul lives at home because, “My family still needs me.”

Two terms ago, his father began full-time studies at PCC.

Artangia Presley

Artangia, 25, returned to school in 1990 with powerful hurdles to leap. A high school drop out and single mother with three children, ages 5, 7 and 9, Artangia received state assistance and had never had a “real job.”

Her diligence and self-discipline has paid off.

She has landed her first job as office manager for the Black United Fund. Artangia completed her GED, then enrolled in the business-clerical program at the PCC Skills Center. After completing the seven-month program, she followed up with an on-the-job work experience. Artangia was hired by the Black United Fund this spring.

Melissa Fern

Melissa begins first-term studies at PSU this summer. She graduated from PCC spring term and plans to earn a doctorate in clinical psychology. The 33-year-old maintained a 3.95 GPA at PCC.

Melissa intends to set up her own practice and has strong ideas about providing affordable counseling services to those with lower incomes.

Melissa is light years from her former line of work. Before enrolling at PCC, she spent her time crisscrossing the country as a long-haul truck driver.

Diana Weurtz

Diana, the mother of two school-aged children, is a first-time college student. The 32-year-old has plans to become a high school or community college math instructor. Diana is in her second year of studies and has maintained a 4.0 GPA.

Her children, ages 9 and 12, and her husband, who is an engineer at Intel, encouraged her to go to school.

“Before I entered college, I didn’t realize I had such high personal expectations,” said the straight-A student.