



# AUAP CWU NEWSLETTER

Report #4 ~ May 2024



## May Topics & Skills

### American Studies

- World War 2/Great Depression
- Cold War
- Civil Rights Movement
- 1960s Counterculture
- Student presentations
- Discussion of American culture with CWU students

### Global Issues

- UN Sustainable Development Goals
  - Sustainable Cities
  - Quality Education
  - Gender Equality
  - Clean Water & Sanitation
  - Health & Well Being

### Career Development

- Building an American style resume
- Start writing International Experience Portfolio
- Discussion with CWU students about work experience and job hunting

### TOEIC

- Comparative/superlative adjectives
- Subject-verb agreement
- Singular/plural nouns
- Inferences
- Part 3 listening practice
- Writing TOEIC style questions

### Integrated English Skills

- Writing and summarizing interviews for Discovery Project
- Global Service Learning team project presentations

## Special Projects Summary

Term 2 started with a lot of energy and renewed motivation. Students are active and pushing themselves to use English as much as possible these days.

**One on Ones:** Students had the opportunity to meet with the Program Director for 30 minutes to process their AUAP life and set goals for Term 2. Students are positive and happy with their efforts to speak English and make American friends. Most students are trying English Only Days every day!

**Video Chat:** Students concluded the Video Chat project this month. Many groups continued to meet online while some took the opportunity to gather face to face with their group. The topics of discussion this month centered around SDGs, economic development, and geopolitics.

*"I believe these activities were good experiences. I had only ever talked to American friends who I knew deeply, and using Zoom to talk to them was new activity for me. I also think sending email to them was good. It's because I got opportunities to learn how to write formal style of email in English."*

*"It was very fun. I could talk new people and I think I improved my English skill through these two meetings, but little difficult for me because more difficult to tell my opinions than face to face."*

**CWU Student For A Day:** Students paired up with a CWU student to shadow for the day, attending regular CWU classes and spending at least one hour of social time together.

**Global Service Learning:** For the third GSL activity, students worked as a team to create a fictional service-learning activity at CWU or in the Ellensburg community. Groups spent several AUAP classes researching facts and creating a PowerPoint. Teams considered important event planning details such as determining the location, transportation, supplies, rules, and schedule of their event all within a \$1,000 budget. Students also created a poster to advertise their event. The four groups showcased their ideas in a 12-minute PowerPoint presentation followed by a 8-minute student led Q&A session.

For GSL #4, students were divided into three teams, each working on a long-term service project. This month the SOURCE group helped CWU students with logistics during the event and the Community Garden group met with the garden planner to choose a tree that will be planted in the "Food Forrest" and be taken care of by future AUAP students.





## DAVE Classes

**Global Issues-** Students met with a CWU Business Administration class. AUAP students interviewed the CWU students about their perspectives and opinions on various global issues and challenges, including broader topics like war and peace. This unique class was a great experience for students to find new ideas but also to discover that sometimes both sides shared similar ideas about global issues.

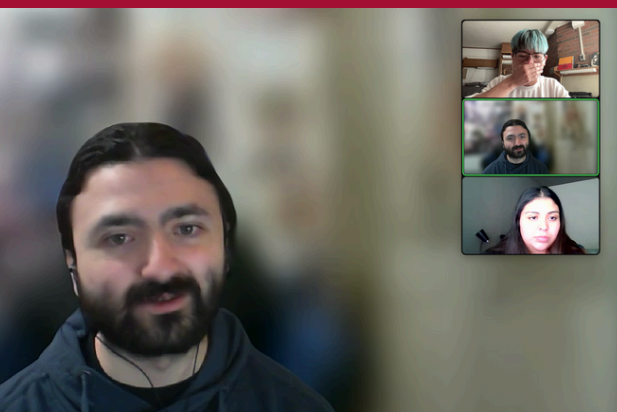
*"I learned that everyone has their own opinion. I had heard before that many students in America didn't know the SDGs, so I thought that there were many people who didn't know about environmental issues, etc., but I was surprised to find out that this was not the case."*

*"What I was most interested was that when I asked my partner how people our age could help, he said it was by driving electric cars. I felt that this answer was unique to America, which is a car-based society."*

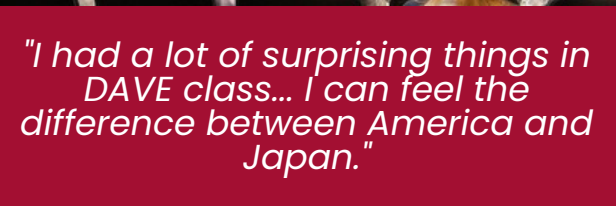
**Career Development #1-** AUAP students were paired 1-1 with CWU students in an Intercultural Communications class. They discussed their ideas about what is important in a job interview, and both groups of students practiced answering job interview questions thoroughly and smoothly. AUAP students received feedback from the CWU students on their resume drafts.



**IES (3 classes)** - This month, students had three chances to meet with a class of CWU Education majors. The first portion of these classes was dedicated to CWU students' teaching demonstrations which provided them with firsthand experience teaching English Language Learners. Central students' lessons focused on adjective usage and senses involved a mini field trip outdoors for students to brainstorm various things they could see, hear, smell, and touch while paying attention to descriptive adjectives. In a follow-up lesson, students were given candy from 3 countries (Canada, U.S., and Mexico) and asked to use adjectives to describe the candy. The second portion of these three classes involved AUAP students receiving guidance and feedback on ideas for their GSL #3 activities. Students had many creative ideas, but CWU students helped give advice on key aspects of planning, logistics, and details on how to enhance the activities. After the three class meetings, CWU students were invited to attend the GSL #3 presentations to see how the students' final projects turned out.







## DAVE Classes Continued...

**American Studies**– Students teamed up with a Cultural Anthropology class to discuss cultural differences and values by participating in an activity called “Walk to the Line.” The activity gave students a chance to compare values related to food, family, society, and themselves as individuals. Small group discussions helped debrief cultural values and perceptions.

*"I learned about different values. Traditional is more important in both countries, because America is diversity, and there are many races of people. They each have their own roots and traditions, which they treasure."*

*"I think Americans value family and individual freedom because when I ask American people they say they like their family and almost all American people like to express themselves."*

**Career Development #2**– Japanese Career Panel: Four local Japanese guests, all of whom are Japanese natives living and working in Ellensburg shared their wisdom and experiences. The panelists (Dr. Yoshiko Takahashi, CWU Dean; Mr. Kikuchi, business owner; Ms. Sorey, a teacher's assistant, and Ms. Tanikawa, a social worker) explained their studies and career paths, and then students asked many thoughtful questions about fields and industries, skills, cultural differences, English ability, etc. Students were able to connect their own experiences and challenges with the advice from the panel.

*"Mr. Kikuchi's advice helped me study English and my major. He made his own company, also he said that business English is easier than other specific subjects so it encouraged me to study English more."*

*"Ms. Sorey's advice is that speaking English will expand the world. I think that's very nice. Living in America is not always easy, but I thought it was cool to be able to carve out a path on my own. I want to spend the rest of AUAP thinking about what I can do now and how I can use English better. It was a very good opportunity to hear her story this time."*



*"I had a lot of surprising things in DAVE class... I can feel the difference between America and Japan."*





## Student Services

Finally, it has started warming up in Ellensburg! Flowers are blooming and we have been soaking up the sun. Everyone is enjoying the beautiful weather!

**Mid Cycle Break:** At the end of April, AUAP students had 3 day weekend. Some students went to Vancouver, B.C. and some went to Wenatchee (east of Ellensburg) with their CWU friends. The rest of them stayed in Ellensburg and enjoyed doing nothing!

**AUAP Photoshoot:** We had a group photo shoot session in the middle of May and it was such a beautiful day. Unfortunately Wellington, the CWU mascot, could not join us, but students still enjoyed being photographed in front of Wildcat statue.

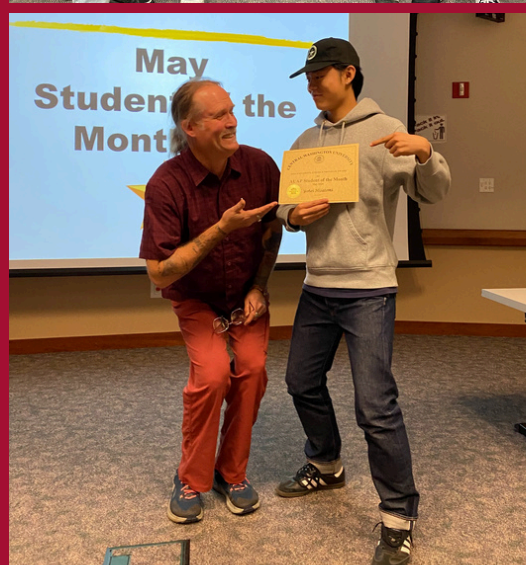
**IPA 1-1 meetings:** Students had the second 1-1 with their IPA. This is a great time for them to make a deeper connection with their IPA. Moreover, this is a perfect opportunity to see how much their English has improved compared to the first 1-1 right after they got to CWU! IPAs are always impressed how far students have come by the second One on one meeting.

**House Cup Challenge Winners:** Beginning of May, there was an announcement for House Cup Challenge #4 winner after the 3-week challenges. Team Super Cool won the challenge for the first time! Since their first victory, they have been consistently a strong team!

**AUAP Student of the Month:** It is hard to choose a student for this award since all of the students have been trying really hard since Day 1. Keep it up your great work, everyone!

**Northern lights:** Because of geomagnetic storm activity, we were able to see Northern lights in Ellensburg. It was a fun surprise for students who have never see the Northern lights.

**Memorial Day Holiday Weekend:** During this 3 day weekend, all students got to go new places. 11 of them went to Vancouver, B.C. together and 1 student decided to go explore in San Francisco. Students who went o Vancouver enjoyed shopping, delicious foods, and exploring one of the biggest cities in Canada! The student who went San Francisco said the famous Golden Gate Bridge was way better/bigger than he expected and absolutely loved it!



Fun fact: ↑ They share the same birthday ☺





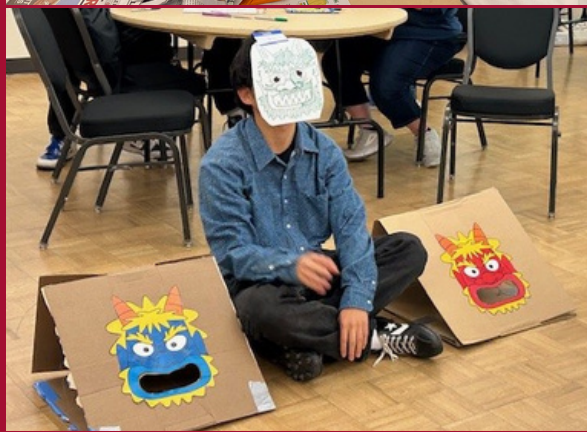
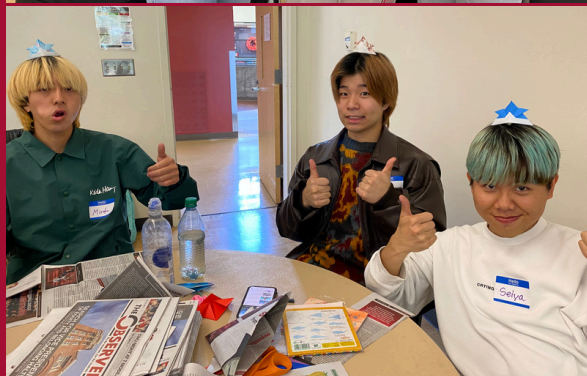
## Volunteering

Another busy month for AUAP students with lots of options for volunteering. Students engaged in the community through:

**International Cafe** - There were 2 International Cafes this month. One of the cafes was hosted & led by CWU students in Japanese class. They shared the history of Origami, and after that students made the various shapes of animals with Origami.

The final International Cafe of the school year was hosted by AUAP and UESL students! The theme was "Japanese Festivals". They gave a short presentation on Japanese festivals and holidays. After that, each group had an activity table based on their festival/holiday themes. AUAP students chose 1. Origami Kabuto Hat for Day of Children, 2. Making an Orga mask & throw balls at Orga for Setsubun, and 3. Shooting target for Summer Festival. It was a great opportunity to share their culture with CWU students! AUAP students did an excellent job giving brief presentations about the holidays/festivals. Everyone had a blast!

**CWU SOURCE** - Every year at CWU, there is an event called SOURCE (Symposium of University Research and Creative Expression) where CWU students showcase their work such as research projects, presentations, clothes they made and more. 4 AUAP students have volunteered at the event and saw CWU students' masterpiece. It was a great opportunity for them to see what CWU students have accomplished in their class.



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