

# WSU PUYALLUP HIGHLIGHT

July 21, 2006

## Collaborative WSU partnership teaches technology in four Rwanda schools



(Above left: Brian Newman (left) and Leah Rommereim (center) at APRED Ndera; At center: Carey Roos at back in the classroom at Lycee De Kigali; Above right: students at Fawe School for Girls learn about computer assembly.)

As part of a WSU team to help rebuild Rwanda's technology infrastructure, Carey Roos, WSU 4-H Technology, traveled and taught in four schools in Kigali, Rwanda this summer. He was part of a 7-person delegation for the Rwanda Business Information Technology Initiative (BIT). The WSU delegation represented a collaborative effort between WSU's Center to Bridge the Digital Divide (CBDD) and the 4-H Youth Development Program. The Washington State 4-H Program, headquartered at WSU Puyallup, is involved in activities that promote and support the mission of positive youth development. Maria Beebe, CBDD Global Networks Director, developed the project two years ago when she started talking to African countries about using young adult peers to teach technology to students. This year, the teaching focused on computer construction using Gorilla 1000 computers, hands-on software instruction, and presentation exercises.

Roos was joined by CBDD faculty and staff Colleen Taugher and Lisa Holmes. The 4-H student members co-leading the delegation to Rwanda were Brian Newman, Leah Rommereim, Nia McFadden and Re Carlson. The group began sessions with games and other interaction exercises to get the students engaged and open to different teaching methods. At the Fawe School for Girls, Roos used the 4-H Pledge (Head, Heart, Hands, Health) for a morning student assembly. At Lycee De Kigali, the students inside the classrooms were equally matched by other curious youths who stood outside and wanted to talk. Katarama Boarding School and APRED Ndera were rural schools outside Kigali. With funding from the US Department of State, the CBDD is assisting the government of Rwanda to integrate technology into secondary schools. This helps Rwanda meet its strategic planning goals for 2020 by helping to shift the economy from subsistence agriculture to information-based businesses. The Washington State 4-H Program is delighted to be a partner in this remarkable effort to re-build a devastated society through strengthening the future of its youth. 4-H has a 104-year tradition of building a better future one young life at a time.

### ***WSU Puyallup: Solutions for the Region- Programs for Its People.***

*Weekly Highlights is provided by the people and programs of WSU Puyallup. To include a highlight in an upcoming announcement, please contact either Tanyalee Erwin, [terwin@wsu.edu](mailto:terwin@wsu.edu), 253-445-4504, or Jon Newkirk, [jnewkirk@wsu.edu](mailto:jnewkirk@wsu.edu), 253-445-4568. If your email is set to text messages only and you wish to see the graphical version of this Highlight, please email Tanyalee and she will send this Highlight as an attachment.*