



## *Oregon Association of Student Councils*

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May 19, 2005

To Whom It May Concern:

We just recently completed a successful Spring Conference for student leaders and advisors from around Oregon. One of the chief reasons for our success was our keynote speakers. **Susie Vanderlip** opened the second day of our conference, and she had the students' rapt attention from the moment she made her dramatic entrance as a Hispanic gangbanger, to her sincere de-briefing message at the end.

I am always on the lookout for **quality** female speakers to bring to our conferences. We have so many fabulous male speakers, but with so many young women in our program, I feel a responsibility to be sure that not all our messages come from males. Yet, I've struggled, trying to find a few quality female speakers that I know students of both sexes can relate to. Susie brought that quality to our conference. She is a total professional in everything she says and does, and it's obvious that her caring and concern for people is totally sincere.

Susie does a great deal of her work in the prevention arena, but her words resonate with young leaders also. In fact, one of our advisors observed, "She really spoke to what a couple of our students were discussing the day before." Susie carries a strong leadership message. A big part of her message is about leading a healthy lifestyle—both physically and mentally, and she certainly models that.

Another thing I appreciate about Susie is that when you hire her, she puts in a good day's work! In addition to her keynote, she presented two different workshops that day—one for students and one for advisors. Plus, she made herself accessible during breaks to talk with everyone.

I will definitely be inviting Susie back to Oregon to work some more of her magic!

Sincerely,

Nancy Moen, Executive Director  
Oregon Association of Student Councils