

**BURDEN INTERIORS**  
Pamela Burden, Allied ASID

TO: *Haytham Farag PC*

DATE: *7/01/09*

FROM: *Samy*

pages: *2*  
(includes cover sheet)

RE: *Samy's Party Photos*

*Attached please find letter  
from Jane Rider from OIT  
Hard copy is being mailed.  
Thank you*



May 27, 2009

Naval Discharge Review Board

Dear Board Members,

I currently serve as Director of Student Development at Oregon Institute of Technology. I have held my position the last seven years. I have twenty four years experience working with student services. Responsibility areas include, advisement of student government officers, campus activities, clubs and organizations, new student orientation, the outdoor program, multicultural and international student services and our Diversity Center. I have a number of responsibilities related to the effective administrative of our department. Yet over the years, the facet of my position I have found most rewarding is that of advising our many student leaders and staff members. We quickly learn to spot those students who have the traits, skills and abilities to be successful leaders. In early 2007 I met Thomas Burden as he was interested in starting a soccer club on campus. In meetings and discussions it quickly became apparent that he would be an excellent candidate for one of our student staff or student officer positions. Tommy brought previous college leadership experience, having served as a Resident Advisor at an Alaska college. I encouraged him to pursue running for office or a position as a staff member in one of our student programs. He did so, running for the non-traditional senator position on ASCIT and he was elected for the 2007-08 school year and re-elected for the 2008-09 academic year.

Last year the ASCIT team worked on a variety of initiatives among them planning a demanding week of numerous events tied in with the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the college. Tommy had many creative ideas and at year's end wanted to coordinate a Taco Feed lunch with a local restaurant located just off campus and quite popular with our students. He was dedicated to making this event happen and coordinated an amazing event attended by over 500 students, faculty and staff -- easily the highest attendance of any event in recent memory. Tommy also helped out with a number of the other 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary events and during the summer helped to coordinate a special orientation event specifically designed for students who are non-traditional in terms of their age, marital/family and/or veteran status. He facilitated a round table discussion and was helpful to students throughout fall quarter as they brought issues and concerns forward to the officers of ASCIT. He has served on a number of university committees and commissions over the past two years and can always be counted on to show up for meetings on time and prepared despite his class demands.

Tommy currently holds a position on our Outdoor Program staff and he has brought energy and new initiatives to his work with this student run group. He has a good sense of humor, is creative in coming up with new ideas and is hard working with respect to various projects he has championed. He has worked on a variety of events and initiatives with the group, served on various committees and can always be counted on to keep his commitments. Tommy is now working to coordinate an end of the year Outdoor Program event and has proved to be highly dedicated to those events and activities he truly believes in. Tommy is honest, ethical, straight forward and genuinely invested in representing his fellow students. He meets deadlines, follows various rules and regulations and is well respected by his peers. I believe Tommy has grown immensely in the past two years and will continue to serve his fellow students as he progresses toward graduation. If you need any other information or assistance please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jane Rider'.

Jane Rider  
Director, Student Development  
Oregon Institute of Technology