

*The History of Campus Day*  
From *The Simpsonian* and others as noted

- 1889 June 1889  
p.43: "The student bee on the college campus prior to the opening exercises was highly beneficial. The rubbish so conspicuous at previous commencements was not a menace to the many visitors of '89."
- 1911 v.41: no.31 May 6, 1911  
"A unique precedent was established Tuesday of this week when the entire student body voted to suspend classes and put in the day cleaning up the campus and buildings." Students decided at class meetings Monday night to cancel classes. Faculty had no idea until they arrived on campus Tuesday. Professors pitched in. Seniors task was laying out and digging and planting flowerbeds. Juniors raked the campus and burned trash and leaves. Sophomores worked on the tennis courts, and Freshmen were responsible for cleaning up the athletic field. Commercial filled two old wells and helped the other classes. Preps cleaned Mary Berry Hall and the surrounding vicinity. Chapel was held at 10am, and then the students went back to work until noon. "It is hoped that 'clean-up' day will become an annual event in the future."
- 1912 v.43: no.31 May 4, 1912  
"Yet several students have been asking whether or not 'clean-up' day with all its good features will not soon cause its own destruction, if the tendency of some people to make the day a holiday is not speedily curbed."
- 1913 v.43: no.32 May 5, 1913  
Seniors spaded a path on the SE part of campus, sowed it with grass and seed. The girls repaired the flowerbeds and replanted, and the boys moved the fence that was in front of the chapel. Juniors raked the SW part of campus. Other classes did work where it was needed. The "S" Club was busy getting the athletic field ready for a meet. As in the past two years, picnicking followed when the work was completed – students were done by noon. There was a chapel service held at 10am.
- 1914 v.44: no.39 April 27, 1914  
Faculty vetoed Campus Day. Students decided on Flunk Day instead and anyone going to classes was to be punished. "Mr. Paul McDade who attended astronomy class was one of the victims of the 'kangarooing' process." Professor Jenner sent for the town marshal, who came and went without taking any action. Students picnicked in the afternoon.
- 1915 No record.

- 1916 v.46: no.27 April 17, 1916  
“Annual Flunk Day is celebrated” Occurred on April 12, 1916. The article reports it is an annual event, though there was no mention of it from 1915. Professors had a meeting and decided to allow the day. All students went out to the movies the night before (was Prohibition era). Seniors cleaned the SE side of campus, Juniors the North side of the library and the administration buildings, Sophomores the SW side of campus, and Freshmen were responsible for the area North of the Science Hall. Academy students worked around the conservatory and on the athletic field. All students raked and burned leaves and filled in and sowed grass seed. The purpose of the day was to prepare the campus for Commencement. “It is one of the few days when we can really do something worthwhile for Simpson.” The students also sold pictures of the day at the college bookstore for 5 cents each.
- 1917 No record.
- 1918 v.48: no.28 May 6, 1918  
“Simpson celebrates 7<sup>th</sup> Clean-Up Day” Students planted trees with Professor Jenner. Girls working in “ruins of Ad building” found “a sealed bottle hidden between the bricks of the wall. ...they discovered papers containing the records of the deeds of prowess together with the names of the members of the class of 1901.” Other clean-up day tasks were trimming trees, spading flowerbeds, and raking.
- 1919 No record.
- 1920 v.50: no.30 May 24, 1920  
Students cleaned up the campus. Did not picnic this year due to bad weather; the day was postponed from the week before due to bad weather.
- 1921 v.51: no.29 April 25, 1921  
First year that clean-up day was called Campus Day. Announced in *The Simpsonian* ahead of time for the first time (before had been chosen by students in class meetings the night before). Was to occur on Wednesday, April 27. This was the first year the event was planned by the Student Council and not all students (the council had just been implemented that year or the year before). The campus was divided in sections and assigned to the various classes. Will take class role/attendance. This will be the first year all students eat on the campus instead of splitting off to go on picnics.
- v.51: no.30 May 2, 1921  
Bad weather caused delay of Campus Day. Was held on two days instead. The following day, Thursday, was clean-up part, and the “flunk” part was delayed to some afternoon the next week. Started on Thursday at 1pm and were done by 3pm. Students went to the movies that night instead of the night before.
- v.51: no.31 May 9, 1921  
Tells of annual faculty roast by students.

- 1921 From the 1921-22 *Student Handbook*:  
 Campus day (formerly called “Flunk Day”) is a holiday that comes along in the spring, about the time a young man’s fancy turns. The day must be bright and inviting; and when such a day is found the Student Council declares it “Campus Day.” The morning is used in raking the campus and cleaning up the surroundings in general. “Time off” is taken, however, for a mock chapel, when well known students sit in the faculty’s chairs on the platform and make their customary remarks, slightly exaggerating their idiosyncrasies and adding touches of flashing wit, gentle sarcasm and human sympathy. The remainder of the day may be used for picnics or fishing, as the case may be.
- 1922 v.52: no.23            March 27, 1922  
 Took place on Friday, March 24. Objective this year was to clean up the campus for Pi Kappa Delta convention being held at Simpson. Students who did not attend clean up were given unexcused absences. This was the first year they didn’t hold chapel, but a mock chapel and picnics will be held later in the spring when the weather will be better. Students picked up debris and filled in the dumping ground at the heating plant. Faculty renovated space on campus between domestic science building and Mary Berry Hall. Sophomores worked on the library section, Freshmen were responsible for the area East of the administration building. “Refreshments were served by the W.A.A at ten o’clock and sandwiches, hot coffee, cocoa, doughnuts, and candy were sold.”
- 1923 v.53: no.28            April 23, 1923  
 Campus Day will take place next Wednesday. Attempting “to designate this occasion under the more dignified title of Campus Day.” Students still called it ‘Flunk Day’.
- 1924 No record.
- 1925 v.55: no.26            April 6, 1925  
 “Duty before pleasure” will be the motto for the day.
- 1926 v.27: no.27            April 12, 1926  
 Same as year before
- 1927 v.27: no.31            April 25, 1927  
 It snowed in the afternoon. Otherwise, same as before. Cleaned campus, had mock chapel.
- 1928 v.29: no.28            April 16, 1928  
 Campus Day will be sometime next month.
- v.29: no.29            April 23, 1928  
 First year Campus day was not announced beforehand.

- 1929 v.30: no.24 March 18, 1929  
In report of Student Council meeting, discussed cutting Campus Day. Voted to have it.
- v.30: no.25 March 25, 1929  
Campus Day went the same as always. Sophomores dropped a pile of leaves on the Freshmen territory and the classes got in a leaf fight.
- 1930 v.31: no.23 March 14, 1930
- 1931 v.32: no.23 March 23, 1931  
Student Council considered charging admission to Mock Chapel.
- v.32: no.26 April 20, 1931  
Charged 10-cent student government fee to cover costs of Campus Day. No admission was charged for Mock Chapel.
- 1932 v.33: no.23 April 18, 1932  
Leaf fight between the classes has become an annual event. Headline of article reads "Fight Features Last Campus Day", but no mention in the article of this being the end of Campus Days
- 1933 No record.
- 1934 No record.
- 1935 v.36: no.21 April 8, 1935  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian*. Mentions Campus Days of the few years previous, though there was no mention of the day in those year's *Simpsonians*. Afternoon was left open, but had an all college dance in Hopper in the evening.
- 1936-37  
From the *Student Directory*:  
Campus day is a holiday that comes along in the spring, about the time a young man's fancy turns. The day must be bright and inviting; and when such a day is found the Student Council declares it "Campus Day." The morning is used in raking the campus and cleaning up the surroundings in general. "Time off" is taken, however, for a mock chapel, when well known students sit on the platform and pose as faculty members, and make their customary remarks, slightly exaggerating their idiosyncrasies and adding touches of flashing wit, gentle sarcasm and human sympathy. The remainder of the day may be used as fancy dictates.
- 1938 v.39: no.19 March 28, 1938  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian*.
- 1939 v.40: no.20 April 10, 1939  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* titled *Campusianan*.

- V.41: no.21      April 1940  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* titled *Snoopsonian*.
- 1941 v.42: no.20      April 1941  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* titled *Bullonian*.
- 1942 v.43: no.20      April 1942  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* titled *Simpletonian*.
- 1943 v.44: no.21      April 1943  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* titled *Sapsonian*.
- 1944 v.45: no.12      April 1944  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian*.
- 1945 v.46: no.10      April 1945  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* titled *Campusionan*.
- 1946 v.47: no.22      April 1946  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* titled *Stinksonian*.
- 1947 v.48: no.23      April 1947  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* titled *Scandalonian*.
- 1948 v.49: no.26      March 22, 1948  
Voted in Student Congress to keep Campus Day. Alternative was to cancel it for an additional day for Spring Vacation. Voted down by decisive majority. Still having Mock Chapels on Campus Day.
- v.49: no.29      April 1948  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* titled *SimpBULLonian*.
- 1949 v.50: no.27      April 1949  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* titled *Snafusionian*.
- 1950                      May 1950  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* titled *ScunCHoneAn*.
- 1951 v.51: no.27      May 1951  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* titled *Slipsonian*.
- 1952 v.81                      April 1952  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* titled *Sim-phoney-an*.
- 1953 v.82                      May 1953  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* titled *Sim-phoney-an*.
- 1954 v.83                      May 1954  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian*.

- 1955 v.84: no.18 April 1955  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* titled *Sapsonian*.
- 1956 May 1956  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* titled *Stinkersonian*.
- 1957 April 19, 1957  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* titled *Simpletonian*.
- 1958 v.87 May 1958  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* titled *Student-phoney-an*.
- 1959 v.89: no.20 May 1959  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* titled *Simple-phoney-an*.
- 1960 v.90: no.21 May 1960  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* (upside-down).
- 1961 v.91 May 1961  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* titled *Simpson Times-Examiner*.
- 1962 v.92: no.0 May 1962  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* titled *Samponian*.
- 1963 v.93: no.25 May 8, 1963  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* titled *Simpfonian*.
- 1964 v.94: no.25 May 6, 1964  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* titled *Simpfonian*.
- 1965 v.95: no.24 May 1965  
Special Campus Day edition of the *Simpsonian* titled *Simpfonian*.
- 1966 No record.
- 1967 No record.
- 1968 No record.
- 1969 No record.
- 1970 No record.
- 1971 v.101: no.18 April 30, 1971  
Had Campus Day. Somewhere between 1965-1971 Campus Day became unannounced. In the Senate minutes, there is mention of Campus Days in past few years, but no record of it occurring in the *Simpsonian*.
- 1972 No record.
- 1973 No record.

- 1974 v.104: n.17 May 10, 1974  
Campus Day announced ahead of time. Turned Campus Day into a weekend long event called V-D Weekend (named for Gary Valen, history instructor, and Don Dittmer, mathematics instructor). Was Woodstock-like in the country with bands, camping and beer.
- 1975 v.105: no.17 April 25, 1975  
Announced ahead of time. Campus Day will occur Saturday, May 10. Sponsored by CAB.
- v.105: no.18 May 2, 1975  
Schedule for V-D II May 8-12.
- v.105: no.20 May 16, 1975  
Student cleaned and planted trees on campus on Saturday, partied all weekend and had Monday off from classes.
- 1976 v.107: no.8 April 30, 1976  
Had a dance on Wednesday night. Campus Day was on Thursday. Each housing unit cleaned the area surrounding it. Had Olympics in the afternoon. Had two bands perform on campus that night. Had classes on Friday, with another band performing that night. Campus Day was announced in the Simpsonian ahead of time.
- 1977 v.109: no.7 April 29, 1977  
Campus Day will be Thursday, May 5. Bands will perform on campus Wednesday night and Thursday night.
- 1978 v.111: no.9 April 21, 1978  
Campus Day was not announced ahead of time this year. Students cleaned their rooms, residence halls, and the campus. Judges looked at rooms with their door open in the residence halls for the room contest. Students were judged on room décor, cleanliness, and the “white glove test”. Students received cash and certificates for their efforts. Had Olympics in the afternoon, followed by a Frisbee clinic sponsored by a professional Frisbee team. Had two bands perform on campus that night.
- 1979 No record.
- 1980 v.115: no.9 May 9, 1980  
Campus Day was not announced in advance. Students cleaned campus and afternoon activities took place on the Quad. Activities consisted of a tent pitching and unique shelter contest, carnival booths, student showcase, ice cream social, a movie was shown, and students had a campout.
- 1981 No record.

- 1982 v.119: no.10 May 7, 1982  
Letter to the editor from two students complaining about the date of Campus Day not being announced ahead of time.
- 1983 v.121: no.8 April 29, 1983  
Campus Day was the previous Wednesday. Students laid sod, painted the stadium, washed windows, swept sidewalks, and raked leaves on campus.
- v.121: no.9 May 6, 1983  
Still having threat of doing away with Campus Day because of participation. This threat seems to occur every couple of years.
- 1984 v.123: no.7 April 20, 1984  
Work assignments will be made according to housing units. Work planned includes painting transformers, benches, and poles; tearing out reflective pool by the library; repairing the fountain at BSC or turning it into a planter box; washing windows; redoing rock display by the football field; raking, etc. A picnic, volleyball game, Frisbee tournament, and other activities are planned for the afternoon. May have a band perform on campus that night.
- 1985 v.124: no.19 April 5, 1985  
Reminder that Campus Day will be coming.
- 1986 v.125: no.19 April 11, 1986  
Had Campus Day. Two photos in *Simpsonian*.
- 1987 v.126: no.20 April 10, 1987  
Had Campus Day. One photo in *Simpsonian*.
- 1988 v.127: no.23 April 17, 1988  
Had Campus Day on April 4. One photo in *Simpsonian*.
- v.127: no.24 April 14, 1988  
Letters to the editor regarding Campus Day. Appears to be the first year they worked in the community and not on campus. Students picked up trash and sticks in city parks.
- 1989 v.128: no.25 April 13, 1989  
There were a few years when Campus Day was discontinued (most likely during several years when there was no record of the day occurring). Commuter students were notified on WHO radio at 6am on the morning of Campus Day. Projects included putting the finishing touches on the sand volleyball pit, installing a back stop on the SE corner of the intramural field, transplanting plants from the courtyard between Amy Robertson Music Center and Smith Chapel, cleaning up campus parking lots and theme houses, straightening the rock garden near the football field, raking leaves at President Jennings's house, and "other tasks". Some teams also helped out at local churches. Marriott served lunch. Had a faculty chili-making contest. In the afternoon they had a sand volleyball tournament on the new pit, as well as



other games and events. Some of the games were inner tube and gunnysack races, Simon “sez”, tug-o-war, a pie-eating contest, and a water balloon toss.

- 1990 v.120: no.20 March 1, 1990  
In previous years, the Student Body President had asked select individuals to be Campus Day co-captains. This year the Student Body President asked for volunteers. In past have had 10-15 teams.
- v.120: no.26 April 19, 1990  
Campus Day was on April 12. Students cleaned up lawns, churchyards, and parks in the community. There was a large turnout of both students and faculty. The afternoon picnic was on the square and was open to students, faculty, and members of the community. In the afternoon, they played volleyball and relay games. Music was broadcast from the front of BSC all afternoon, courtesy of Rich Ramos.
- 1991 No record.
- 1992 v.123: no.23 April 2, 1992  
Campus Day occurred on Tuesday, March 24. They had 50 teams! Approximately 430 students and faculty participated. They raked 57 yards and did other yard work in the community. Some teams also painted the senior citizen’s center. Marriott provided the afternoon picnic on the courthouse lawn and games played included volleyball and BINGO. This article makes reference to last year’s campus day, though there was no record of it in that year’s *Simpsonian*. Prizes for the top 3 teams were jackets, sweatshirts, and t-shirts. The college covered expenses, with a little money coming from Senate.
- 1993 v.124: no.18 March 11, 1993  
Campus Day will occur again this year. Will rake leaves in the community, followed by the afternoon picnic and games. Activities this year will include tug-o-war, sand volleyball, bingo, Frisbee, golf, and karaoke.
- 1994 v.124: no.23 March 31, 1994  
Campus Day was community clean up as we do it today. The Student Body President solicited captains. Campus Day will occur sometime after Spring Break.
- 1995 v.125: no.25 April 13, 1995  
“Approximately 300 students, faculty, and staff raked 53 yard in the community and 9 college yards.” Teams also washed windows, pruned hedges, trimmed branches, cleaned window wells and birdhouses, washed dishes, cleaned out someone’s refrigerator, fixed a roof, built a deck, added on a garage, and spayed and neutered dogs. The wind chill that day was ten below zero. Prizes for the morning were sweatshirts. Prize for the entire day’s activities was a limo ride and dinner in Des Moines.

- 1996 v.126: no.25 April 18, 1996  
 Campus Day was Wednesday, April 10. “Morning yard work in teams, a picnic in Buxton Park”. Went back to doing a Mock Chapel. In afternoon had a sand volleyball tournament, pie-eating contest, egg toss, tug-of-war, and played Simon Says. Prizes for the first place team were Simpson sweatshirts, for the second place team Simpson boxers, and for the third place team Simpson t-shirts. 47 teams participated in the morning cleanup, and 5 or 6 participated in the afternoon activities. The prize for winning the afternoon activities was for the team to attend a murder mystery dinner at Summerset Inn. Second place prize for the afternoon was a pizza party. The two winners of Mock Chapel received an hour-long massage and Simpson sweatshirts.
- 1997 v.127: no.24 April 3, 1997  
 Campus Day was Thursday, March 27. Teams did yard work in the community. 52 teams signed up; 49 actually participated. First place prize was a barbeque at the president’s house and a t-shirt, second place received long-sleeve Simpson t-shirts, and third place winners were awarded Simpson caps. The prize for the entire day’s activities was a limo ride to Farley’s Family Fun. Approximately 400 students were involved in Campus Day.
- 1998 v.128: no.15 February 12, 1998  
 Teams will do yard work in the community. There are 65 teams signed up. They will have a picnic in Buxton Park and games in the afternoon. This year they added a slam-dunk competition and having Mock Chapel again. Ideas they are tossing around for grand prize are a limo ride with pizza and then either being treated to paintball or laser tag. Other prizes include meal with the college president, t-shirts, hats, Simpson sweatshirts, and many others. There is no further mention after the actual day.
- 1999 v.129: no.20 March 4, 1999  
 Article promoting involvement.
- v.129: no.24 April 8, 1999  
 Students cleaned up 92 yards, and also did work at the Aquatic Center and Moats Park. Prizes for first place were sweatshirts and dinner with Interim President Bruce Haddox. Second prize were t-shirts. Third place received hats. The winners overall received a \$300 gift certificate to Best Buy for the team. Second place overall got a free trip to a paintball farm. All who participated got a Frisbee. It was a very cold day on Wednesday, April 1.
- 2000 v.130: no.22  
 Added a new game this year – “Diving for Coins” – to the afternoon activities. Also had a pie-eating contest, egg toss, slam dunk contest, dodge ball, and big wheel races. Prizes for first place were Simpson t-shirts and dinner at President LaGree’s home. Second place prize were t-shirts. Third place received \$10 gift certificates per person to the bookstore. All captains and co-captains get mugs and pens. The overall winner will received a \$300 gift certificate to Target. Second place overall won a free paintball competition. The picnic was at Buxton Park, not on the square as usual.

v.130: no.24      April 6, 2000  
Took place in early April.

v.131: no.3      September 21, 2000  
Campus Day may be in the fall semester instead of the spring. This was the decision of the administration and Student Senate because it improves scheduling possibilities. In a poll conducted by the *Simpsonian* on-line, 69% of students want Campus Day left in the spring, while 31% were in favor of having it in the fall.

2001 v.131: no.17      February 15, 2001  
Will have Campus Day in the spring.

v.131: no.24      April 12, 2001  
Campus Day took place the previous Wednesday.

v.131: no.25      April 20, 2001  
Only 30 teams participated this year; 45-50 teams normally participate. Only about 20% of the student body participated.

v.132: no.8      November 8, 2001  
Campus Day in the fall this year. Took place the previous Tuesday. Had near-record participation and warm temperatures. Structure of the day was the same as that of the past few years – raking lawns in the community and having the afternoon campus picnic and Olympics games.

2002 v.133: no.7      October 17, 2002  
Date to be October 30. Announced by letter and e-mail. Survivor theme with raking in morning, picnic, and games with prizes in afternoon. T-shirts for all morning participants.

Editorial on Campus Day date being announced in advance.

v.133; no. 9      November 07, 2002  
Editorial about participation in Campus Day.

v.133; no. 10      November 14, 2002  
Photo. Campus Day finally occurred November 13 after two postponements due to weather.

Editorial against raking.

*Web exclusive*      November 20, 2002  
Eighty+ yards were raked this year and approximately 570 people participated on 50 teams, an increase from last year's numbers. There were a variety of themed teams this year, including teams made up by the members of the basketball team, different LAS's and other professors who set up their own teams.

- 2003 v.133; no. 20 March 6, 2003  
 “Campus Day's future up in air” A president-appointed task force to make the annual Campus Day more cohesive with Simpson's evolving structure. According to Simpson College President R. Kevin LaGree, the task force is challenged to "design Campus Day to become less disruptive, particularly for the academic, aesthetic and intellectual life of the college." Town Hall meetings are taking place at student senate, faculty and staff meetings this month. Also, an e-mail survey this past week brought back more than 100 suggestions from around campus. The committee, composed of faculty Sal Meyers and Warnet, staff Mimi Bartley and Stephanie Krauth and students juniors Abby Smith and Cory George and senior Jake Abel, will convene after spring break to put together a plan based on the suggestions they've heard. The plan is to be presented to LaGree April 24, the last day of spring classes.
- 2004 v.134: no. 21 March 25, 2004  
 "The Last Great Rake” Senior Cory George, student body president, and senior Abby Smith, the student body vice president, are in charge of coordinating the event this year. Last year the two served on a committee that evaluated Campus Day to see what students, faculty and staff wanted the day to be, and how it could be changed to better meet their wishes. Several of the committee's other suggestions are being implemented this year, but raking will remain the focus of Campus Day for one more year.
- One of the most noticeable changes is setting a definite date for Campus Day. It will be on Wednesday April 7 regardless of the weather. Two additions to this year's Campus Day are a party at BSC the night before and a later start on Wednesday. They said the party would be similar to a Stand Around with music, games and food.
- Breakfast will be held at Pfeiffer this year instead of in BSC, and it will be later than in the past. Another difference this year will be the absence of competitions. George said the day wasn't meant to be competitive, it was meant to be about helping others. After raking, lunch will be held in Cowles from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. This meal takes the place of Pfeiffer's regular meal, so it is open to everyone. All of these changes are leading up to major change in Campus Day next year: no more raking. "Next year there will be a choice of two or three options," said Smith. Campus Day falls in the middle of Greek Week; points were given to those with teams and participating.
- v.134: no.24 (labeled 12) April 15, 2004  
 “Campus Day surpasses all expectations” 250 students at pre-rake party night before. Food, inflatable games, music. 49 teams raked yards. During Greek Week; Greeks got points for participating. No competition or judging.
- 2005 v.135: no.23 April 14, 2005  
 “Groups pick fun activities for Simpson's Campus Day” Volunteering was visible around the community of Indianola with approximately 350 students signed up to participate in Campus Day 2005. The number of students signed

up was significantly more than last year. Those teams comprised of ten people gathered to work on a projects at various locations around Indianola and on campus, including Wesley Woods, The Village, Irving Elementary School and humane society.

The kick-off event was also changed. They had Storm Celler pizza and bingo at 9:30 in BSC and a midnight breakfast on Tuesday night at Pfeiffer. Finally, it seems like the Campus Day theme, "If you've got it, flaunt it," encouraged students to be proud of the tradition.

v.135:no.24

April 21, 2005

"Students, staff flaunt 'it' on Campus Day" More than 400 students, staff and administrative members participated last week in Campus Day, themed "If you've got it, flaunt it." This year more than 40 teams participated, made up of 5 to 30 members with the same goal: serving the Indianola Community.

Campus Day started big when around 300 students attended the kick-off event, bingo, to try to win prizes such as 20-inch TV-DVD set, an iPod Shuffle and a PlayStation Portable.

The Campus Day committee found plenty of jobs for the teams to do such as they recruited more people to Wesley Woods when they called the day before and asked 40 more people. The activities weren't limited to raking as they have been in past. This year students were given choices to what activity they wanted to do, from volunteering at Kiya Koda Humane Society to yardwork for Indianola residents. In fact there were a couple of teams that created their own Campus Day activity. One such activity was the cleaning and general maintenance done on the Carver House.

Instead of telling everyone that Campus Day is all about raking, this time the committee let students tell them what they wanted to do. Another change this year was that students didn't need an advisor to form a team. They could form an all-student group and perform the tasks they wanted to.

2006 March 30, 2006

Editorial: Great tradition, bad timing

Most

Simpson students know Campus Day has been a tradition for over 100 years, an event intended to give back, to connect to the community through volunteering.

They also know it has become an excuse for students to hit the bars and throw parties. ...Just because students opt to party Tuesday night and sleep all day Wednesday doesn't mean they don't care about volunteering. In fact, many students spend all year volunteering all around Indianola and the Des Moines metro area. Campus Day comes late in the year, when projects and papers are piling up, finals and graduation quickly approaching and stress levels are up. It seems most students see it as an opportunity to catch up on homework, sleep or socializing. Instead of giving back, they opt to simply give it a rest.

Though the college has taken steps to increase involvement - taking on new projects and moving back the start time - the solution seems to be moving Campus Day back to its original date in the fall.

An earlier date would mean students are under significantly less stress than at the end of the year. This could get more people involved, including more first-year students.

An early Campus Day would also mean getting students - especially new students - involved with community and volunteering, providing the opportunity to continue the work they begin in the fall throughout the year. Campus Day could even replace one of the many service projects, which are mandatory for freshmen during their first few days. This would mean not only increased involvement, but an opportunity for freshmen to meet and interact with more people than those in their residence halls and LAS class - and isn't building a stronger Simpson Community what Campus Day is about?

No matter when Campus Day is held, there will be many students who choose to celebrate the break from classes and not participate. By placing the day back in the fall semester, where it began, the college would see increased involvement, more long-term volunteering and a stronger connection with new and returning students in the Simpson Community.

March 30, 2006

It's that time of year again. Campus Day is quickly approaching and while some students see it as a great opportunity to do community service, others view it as a mid-week break and a time to party.

Wednesday, April 5 is Campus Day and the theme this year comes from Tom Brokaw, "It's easy to make a buck. It's a lot tougher to make a difference."

According to sophomore Heather Gaffey, co-chair for the event, 20 teams have turned in applications, which is about half the number of teams who participated last year. Gaffey said they are starting later in the day and have been sending out e-mails and putting up signs to get more students involved.

Students participating will be served breakfast from 9 to 9:45 a.m., where they will pick up their free T-shirts and packets of information about the community service they will be doing from 10 a.m. to noon. At 1:30 p.m., there will be an intramural kickball tournament.

"All next week is going to be a party," junior Krista Guillaume said. "People don't seem excited. You get an e-mail and a T-shirt, that's it. Also, who doesn't like a day off in the middle of the week?"

2007 March 29, 2007

Simpson's annual service day, Campus Day, will take place Wednesday, April 4. The day will kick-off with breakfast at Pfeiffer at 9 a.m., and service projects will begin at 10 a.m. This year marks the 118th Campus Day, the first having taken place in the spring of 1889.

Senior Evan Schaefer, undergraduate assistant for Campus Day, is thrilled about the day of service and says that more than 40 campus teams and will participate this year. Some organizations volunteering this year are the Simpson Track and Field team, the Multicultural Student Alliance, and all Greek sororities and fraternities. There are also many other teams that have formed including a group of first-year students calling themselves the "Kresge Kittens." Schaefer also mentioned members from the alumni board were invited to participate as well.

Besides picking up sticks, mulching, raking and picking up garbage and litter around campus, junior Heather Gaffey, co-chair of Campus Day, said students will also be working with housing and maintenance. Some teams will also be doing service projects around the Indianola community, working with businesses such as Kiya Kota, The Indianola Humane Society, The Village, Good Samaritan, Somerset Park and a host of others.

As for the itinerary, lunch will begin at 11 a.m. and in the afternoon Intramurals will be sponsoring a kickball tournament for teams to compete for prizes. ... Director of Security Chris Frerichs said the night of April 3, the eve of Campus Day, will be treated as a weekend night, and all security staffing and operations will act accordingly. Frerichs feels in some ways that some students have lost sight to the meaning of Campus Day and feels the night before is a night of unnecessary partying and alcohol consumption. Overall, Schaefer feels the perception of Campus Day has a positive light.

April 12, 2007

Is that a snowflake? Students brave frigid weather...Students pick up cedar chips to spread around trees as part of Campus Day on April 4. Students and other members of the Simpson community faced below-freezing temperatures and snow to help with the community service. Despite the weather, all but one team showed up for the event. This was one of the largest turnouts, with more than 600 people participating.

2008 March 27, 2008

On April 2, the 87th annual Campus Day will be held at Simpson. It is a tradition that has been taking place since 1911. Campus Day is a time for the student body to help the campus and community. Senior Heather Gaffey has been a chair for this event for three years now. There are various teams that get involved in this occasion, including teams consisting of everyone from alumni, faculty members, various teams from athletics, woman's resources and interfaith. According to senior Emily Salberg, senior class president and another chair of the event, Campus Day is a day filled with fun activities and it is important to the community. Students are also going to receive free shirts

for their hard day's work if they sign up for a team in time.

From approximately 12:45-5:00 p.m. on Wed., April 2, there will be an intramural kickball tournament located at the intramural fields. The kickball games will take place after the normal Campus Day activities. [Director of Intramurals] Nicole Darling says that kickball has been the main intramural event for the last three or four years. Darling said that there really isn't much of a connection between the activities taking place in the morning on Campus Day and the kickball game, but that the game is more of a chance for those who participated in the morning's activities to unwind with a little friendly competition. Last year there were around 11 teams made up of 10-12 players.

2009 April 2, 2009

The long-held Campus Day tradition at Simpson College continued this year as nearly 600 students, faculty, staff, and alumni volunteered Wednesday [April 1] both on campus and in the Indianola area... This year's Campus Day was organized by the Student Affairs committee, a subcommittee of the Student Government Association... 62 teams registered for the event. The day began in Pfeiffer, where the event kicked off with breakfast and announcements. Students, faculty and staff completed a variety of service projects, such as cleaning up Lake Aquabi, volunteering at the Village and helping with work at Wesley Woods. Many groups on campus have "claimed their territory" when it comes to Campus Day and do the same project each year. The football team went to Wesley Woods and the athletic trainers spent time at the Village, while many other groups like SGA, the Environmental Awareness Club and Sigma Alpha Epsilon spent time cleaning up adopted highways. Some opportunities this year included helping residents in the Indianola community with yard work.

2010 April 7, 2010

This year's Campus Day was the first year during the afternoon, a welcome change for students and faculty. Lunch started at 11:30am and service projects were from 1-3 pm. The later starting time allowed for more outdoor projects and an overall more positive experience. Some of the projects this year were working at the Village, Wesley Woods, and volunteering at the Indianola Public Library and other parts of the community.

2011 April 6, 2011 (Campus Day email, *Indianola Record Herald* April 13, 2011)

RLC hosted Campus Day Eve BINGO in Brenton Student Center at 9:00 pm, followed by a midnight breakfast hosted by CAB -- the first 350 people got breakfast for free. On Campus Day, registration and lunch was from 11:15 to 12:30 pm in Cowles Fieldhouse. Service projects were again in the afternoon, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. This year had various events after Campus Day as well, like Kickball in Buxton Stadium and Quench at the Chapel. Sixty three teams -- 650 members of the community total -- signed up to perform projects on and off campus, including raking leaves, property clean-up and mulching.



2012 April 12, 2012

Why is it that many groups of students each Campus Day spend time cleaning the college grounds or President Byrd's lawn?

The Friday after Campus Day, that's the discussion I had with classmates who expressed frustration at being assigned to pick up fallen sticks on fraternity row or mulch Byrd's house on Simpson's traditional day of service. What many don't realize, however, Ramos said, is that over the past five years, there's been an increasingly greater effort to find service projects for groups within the Indianola community. This year specifically, there was an even greater benefit to Simpson, as the on-campus service helped the grounds crew prepare for the upcoming and month-earlier graduation, Ramos said. The college itself acknowledged on its website that while some of the 600 students who participated in Campus Day completed service at places such as Camp Wesley Woods and cleaned highways, most of the services was directed on campus. However, after hearing from students who felt their time could be better directed, there's a valid argument to be made that perhaps it's time to stretch Campus Day even further into the community. In a time when the college is driving to develop a strong brand, there's a great statement that could be made by stretching service throughout the greater Des Moines area. If you hope to benefit the off-campus community during next year's Campus Day, talk with you group to develop your own original project. That being said, I hope that Campus Day organizers continue the trend seen over the past few years of developing more off-campus projects, furthering the message that Simpson is strongly invested in serving the community. There was also a Campus Eve Drag show.

2013 April 2, 2013

Campus Day Eve Events:

Drag Show sponsored by PRIDE club from 8-9:30

Midnight breakfast

Campus Day

11:00 check in

11:30 lunch in Kent to celebrate President Byrd and Nancy Byrd's retirement.

Service projects from 1:00-3:00.

*Indianola Record Herald*, April 10, 2013 "Nearly 700 help with Campus Day" by Steffi Lee

Community service never ends for Simpson students, faculty and staff members.

On April 3, nearly 700 students and faculty spent their time participation in Campus Day, Simpson's longest-running community service tradition.

Established in 1889, Campus Day motivates everyone to participate in service at Simpson and the Indianola community. Every year, classes are cancelled for one day in the spring semester so faculty and staff can positively impact Simpson and its surrounding areas.

A majority of the teams contributed to Simpson by mulching and raking. Others helped off-campus by working on yards in the community and on highways.

"We started Campus Day at Simpson College right at the beginning because Simpson did not have enough money to pay for people to do projects on campus, so they made the students do it," said freshman Ruth Ann Roberts, who helped coordinate many aspects of Campus Day, such as ordering T-shirts.

“Over the years, we’ve just kept up the mentality, not so much that we need the students to do it, but because it’s a good way for Simpson to give back not only on our campus, but to the community.

*Simpsonian*, April 11, 2013 “Campus day draws over 700 participants” by Conner Juilfs

At Simpson, student and faculty continued to build on their reputation by having over 700 people participating in its annual Campus Day event. Campus Day, a tradition since 1889, is a day during the spring semester that is dedicated entirely to volunteer work not only around campus, but also around the community of Indianola. All classes during the day are cancelled for students to be able to partake in this event. According to the Campus Day committee, 67 teams consisting of many members all made their way to different places around town to clean and become environmentally friendly. Teams ranged from Accounting Rulz, led by accounting Professor Shane Cox, to Dunn Library, led by librarian Mary Peterson, to the Simpson women’s basketball team, led by junior Morgan Terpstra. These teams reported to the Campus Day committee to let them know how they would like to be involved; some didn’t care where they’d be assigned, while others specifically requested a location. Teams reported to campus buildings, organizations around Indianola and also to residents’ homes. Campus Day committee member and freshman Ruth Roberts has strongly expressed her support for this event and what it offers. “I feel like Campus Day lets our students take pride in Simpson’s campus on a completely different level than just supporting our sports team or claiming Simpson as their alma mater,” Roberts said in an e-mail interview. “Getting that many students and staff out of the classroom and into the community to do work is extremely impressive and everyone involved should be proud.” Newsweek ranked Simpson College in the “Top 25 Best Schools for Do-Gooders”. These Division I schools include St. John’s University, Syracuse University and Marquette University.

2014 April 10, 2014 *Pride hosts annual Campus Day Eve drag show* by Larissa Backhaus Freshman Ian Applegate, also known as Ginger Snap, won this year’s drag show and therefore will be hosting next year’s. Men in wigs with short dresses and women in baggy pants with facial hair were a common theme on Tuesday evening in the Black Box during Simpson PRIDE’s annual Student Drag Show. Over 100 people attended PRIDE’s drag show to raised money for the AIDS Project of Central Iowa. This year they raised \$40 for the cause from tips alone. Simpson freshman students Zoe Carlson and Brenda Soto attended the Drag Show to support friends who were competing. Carlson said, “It was super fun just to see everyone goofing off and enjoying themselves and I loved how everyone in the audience was really involved and into it.” Soto agreed, “It was a fun and eye-opening experience, and it was cool that it was open to everyone and not just exclusive to the LGBT community.” Last year’s winner **Christ** Heineman hosted the drag show. Heineman had four different costume changes and two performances throughout the show. The four judges for the show were Nick Proctor, Mara Bailey, Emilie Mathis, and Beth Beggs. Beggs said, “The Drag show was a blast. It was great to be a part of an event where such a large audience

was having so much fun.” There were six different performances in the drag show that included singing, dancing, and whatever else the performers decided to incorporate. They included Barbie Goes Latina (Ulices Flores, Mariana Quinones, and Estefania Anaya), Aaron Carter (Erica Barz), MackleLez (Beth Shaefer), DJ Jazzy Jeff (Jazmine Johnson) and Dirk von Jerk (Ana Abraham). The winning performer was Ginger Snap (Ian Applegate) who danced to “It’s Raining Men.” Because he won the show, Applegate will now be the host for next year’s drag show. Carlson said, “Ulices Flores in a bra and Jazimine Johnson’s condom throw were some of the best things I’ve seen in my 18 years on this earth!” Quinones, who was part of the Barbie Goes Latina, enjoyed participating in the show. “I really enjoyed the experience, and it was really fun. I think it went really well, and there was plenty of people supporting it.” She said, “I am really glad to see the Simpson community supporting these kind of events which are not only about having fun but advocating for good causes. More events like these should be promoted on campus.” Beggs said, “It’s important to remember that the drag show is more than just a fun event. The money raised during the drag show benefits the AIDS project of Central Iowa.” The Drag Show was part of PRIDE Week at Simpson College. PRIDE week also included poet Katie Wirsing, Parachute-Palooza in collaboration with WTF, a safe sex workshop with Project HIM, and a \$100 prize raffle for attending at least two of the four events. Beggs said, “From the host’s four costume changes to the dance-off breaking a three-way tie, I was impressed with the effort and creativity that went into creating such a fun show. I can’t wait to see what Ginger Snap comes up with for next year’s show.”

[There was a poverty simulation on Campus Day morning.]

2015 April 9, 2015

*Wesley Service Scholars hold poverty simulation on Campus Day* by Brittany Rempe

“The WSS hoped to raise awareness about poverty and open students’ eyes to the issue...participating students received roles as part of a family, some parents and some children. They experienced the realities of poverty over the four week simulation.” 50 students participated and 15 faculty and staff helped out with the simulation.

*Simpson Football has solid turnout on Campus Day* by Erich Bogner

“More than 600 people volunteered on Simpson’s campus and in the community...The football team usually goes to Wesley Woods to help clean the area up before the camp opens for the summer.” Other groups participating included the volleyball, women’s soccer, basketball, and cross country teams, as well as the sororities and fraternities.

2016 April 6, 2016

Campus Day 2016 began with the usual volunteering on campus and around the community, but a few new twists were added. All together there were 73

volunteer teams with 33 working off campus. One change from the usual Campus Day routine was that Simpson used local mulch instead of importing mulch from Florida, which is more cost effective and has a smaller carbon footprint due to not having to be transported as far. Additionally, Campus Day 2016 included the first SC Cares Day of Giving Campaign, which raised \$62,000 from 400 donors in the 24 hour event that reached out to the Simpson community. Also during Campus Day was the first ever privilege march, in which over 60 people participated

2017: April 5, 2017

The plan for Campus Day 2017 was much the same as usual. However, the weather had different ideas and prevented Campus Day 2017 from happening. The Simpson grounds received an inch of rain the night prior to Campus Day, which saturated the ground and made yard work more detrimental than helpful. The abundance of rain led to the majority of Campus Day being canceled, with only some indoor projects proceeding as planned. Although the service portion of Campus Day was canceled, the second SC Cares Day of Giving was successful.

2018: April 4, 2018

Campus Day 2018 was on April 4<sup>th</sup>, and it included the traditional Campus Day activities of volunteering on and off campus. The third SC Cares Day of Giving was the most successful of the campaigns to date. Through this campaign, 527 donors contributed \$79,983.60.

2019: April 3, 2019

Campus Day 2019 took place on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Campus Day continued to serve their campus and communities in similar ways to the past. There was a community dialogue about the topic “What are the individual and collective responsibilities for advancing issues of social justice?” The SC Cares Day of Giving campaign had 474 donors and raised \$89,947.

2020: No record

2021: No record

2022: April 6, 2022

Campus Day 2022 was the first Campus Day since 2019 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. There were 44 teams and nearly 450 students, faculty, staff, and alumni that signed up. After the period of service was finished, there were food trucks and a glow beach themed party in Black Box.

2023: April 5, 2023

Campus Day 2023 was similar to the past Campus Days in terms of the service projects accomplished. Group registration numbers have reached about 100, meaning groups went up 30-40 more from 2022. Frank Cruz, the senior class president, worked with other organizations to not only focus on service, but to have fun while doing it.

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