

April 6, 2009

Dear Students,

We have received news that a member of our community, Laura Silva, as well as her brother-in-law, Tony Silva, died yesterday in a tragic climbing accident in the Gorge. Laura is the wife of Bobby Silva, also a student at Multnomah and an IT employee, and together they lived in married student housing. Bobby suffered no injuries in the accident and is currently at home with his family in Gresham.

We want to solicit your prayers for Bobby and the rest of the family members during this time. You just received an email from Jim Saemenes and Ted Rydmark, inviting you to the fountain for a prayer vigil at 3 and we hope you can make it. We will be offering a support group this afternoon in the A-frame at 4:00 p.m. hosted by our department. John Mayner, Director of Enrollment, who is close to Laura and Bobby's families will be joining us. He can give an update on how Bobby and the rest of the families are doing.

In addition, we have individual counseling available to students in our department through the counseling center. You are encouraged to come by our office in upper JCA or call 251-5311 to set-up an appointment if that is any interest to you.

The families are planning a joint memorial service for Laura and Tony (tentatively) set for this Thursday, April 9th, at 10 a.m. at Good Shepherd Community Church, 28986 SE Haley Rd., Boring, Oregon. More information will be shared with you as it is available to us.

For more detailed information, please click on the following news story:
http://www.kgw.com/news-local/stories/kgw_040509_news_rock_climbing_death.a7601d67.html

Our prayers are with each of you who have been impacted by this loss and we desire to come together and support each other through this difficult time.

Sincerely,

Matt

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