Hey Animal Planeteer!

My name is Felicia Kloewer and I’ll be your FIG Assistant for the 2012-2013. And yes, that’s a Captain Planet reference. To get started, I’ll tell you a little bit about myself. I grew up in Beaverton, OR where I went to Beaverton High School. This is my third year and I’m double majoring in advertisement and journalism. I have many dreams; I wanted to be a photographer for *National Geographic*, a travel writer, and now I’m looking at entering advertisement agencies. Although my major is in journalism, I’m passionate about environmental studies.

Your FIG professor is Debbie Schlenoff; Debbie’s research has included work on the co-evolution of predators and prey and on the formation of the nervous system during development. In addition to working at the University of Oregon, Debbie is involved with numerous conservation organizations. In short, she’s super knowledgeable!

Now I’m sure you are wondering about the FIG. First off, Debbie and I hope you are excited for your first term at UO! If you choose this FIG because you love animals and the environment, these classes are perfect for you. If you chose this FIG because you didn’t know what to choose, well you chose the right one! The two courses in this FIG are: ENVS 201 Introduction to Environmental Studies: Social Sciences and BI 132 Introduction to Animal Behavior along with BI 199 College Connections.

In the ENVS 201 your professor is Galen Martin, who will lecture you on topics about global warming, the salmon crisis, and other local environmental issues. In BI 132 and college connections you professor is Debbie, who will teach you all about the different categories of animal behaviors along with unique animal facts. The college connections class is for you to talk about the two FIG courses, ask questions, raise concerns, or to use for other activities. Throughout the term, Debbie and I will work together to help meet your needs. There will be a field trip to the Oregon Zoo. Both Debbie and I are willing to take suggestion of other field trips, activities, or assignments you think would benefit you during your first term.

Next is **Week of Welcome** on **Friday, September 21, 2012**. Our FIG will be meeting in **Columbia 150 at 10am**. Make sure to bring your student handbook because it’ll come in handy. If you need directions or get lost you can contact me for assistance. The following **Sunday, September 23, 2012** will be the **University Convocation**, where the University of Oregon President will give a welcome speech. We will be going together in a group, so make sure to meet up with me at the posted meeting spot.

During the summer, we would like you to read *Collapse* by Jared Diamond; if you’re familiar with the book *Gun, Germs, and Steal*, that was also by Diamond. We would like you guys to read it before school starts with a few notes on parts you liked, had questions on, etc. and be prepared to discuss the book in our first college connections class.

Lastly, and most importantly, I would like you to e-mail me a **small biography** of yourself. Include your name, hometown, major, favorite animal, and why you came to UO. Include as many or as little pictures as you like, but at least **send me one picture of your face!** The most important part is to make sure you e-mail me, that way I can keep in contact with you.

**My e-mail:** feliciak@uoregon.edu

**My cell phone number** (503) 709-6614

**Facebook Page:** Animal Planet FIG

Feel free to contact me; I am here to help whenever you need, so don’t hesitate to chat with me. I hope you are ready for an awesome first term here at the UO. I look forward to meeting you!

Sincerely,

Felicia Kloewer