



News Release

May 4, 2011
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Century's Top English Student Has Come a Long Way

People at Century College who interact with Kell Blute Moe, this year's Outstanding Student in English, tend to say the same thing about him – he is an amazingly hard worker who has come a long way.

A member of the Karen (kuh-REN) ethnic minority in Burma (located in Southeast Asia between India and China), Moe has been in the United States since 2006. Currently, he is completing his third year at Century and will graduate this summer. Eager to help his people (there are nearly 4,000 Karen refugees in Minnesota), Moe plans to continue his education at Metropolitan State University to earn a degree in Human Services Administration.

Moe lived in the Tham Hin refugee camp in Thailand under appalling, prison-like conditions for many years after he and his family were forced out of Burma by the Burmese military. In his life, he has been faced with poverty and many difficulties, but a fierce desire to succeed and help his people keeps him focused on achieving his goals.

Moe is currently working as a Karen interpreter for the St. Paul Public Schools and the HealthEast Care System. “After I graduate, I hope to organize services for my community,” said Moe. “The Karen community is relatively new in St. Paul, and we need strong and educated leaders. I want to be an effective leader for my community.”

Moe is a familiar figure in the Century College Writing Center, where he toils for hours to write and polish his class papers. Quiet and respectful, he serves as an inspiration to his fellow students.

“What makes Kell Blute Moe truly an outstanding student is how far he has come,” said Prof. Beth Mayer. He has embraced every educational opportunity available to him at Century College. Because of his diligence and dedication, I have watched Kell’s writing ability, reading comprehension and communication skills grow steadily.”



Photo: Kell Blute Moe