

Instructor loses job; enrollment drop cited

By Happie Thacker
Of The Print

One of the casualties of the recent drop in the enrollment in the police science department is Durwood Thomas.

Thomas, who has been teaching full-time at the College for four years, was made department chairperson after only six months of full-time employment.

"I'm being fired because of a reduction in force (302 students were enrolled in the fall of 1976 compared to 146 students in the fall of 1977) and because I'm the low man on the totem pole," Thomas said.

Earl Zinck, the other instructor and department chairperson until Thomas took over that position, has been here for eight years.

"I'm really sorry to go, Thomas said. "I have felt that I have the backing of the fire and police community and I felt we had a good working relationship and I hate to leave because of this relationship."

Some of the reasons cited by Thomas for a reduction of students in law enforcement are that some veterans' benefits are running out, the job field is saturated and there has been a reduction of crime dramas on television.

"This trend is statewide," Thomas said. "I've checked Chemeketa, PCC and Linn-Benton Community College and their law enforcement enrollment is way down, too."

Thomas is well qualified to hold a teaching position in law enforcement and may go on to teach elsewhere.

He spent 10 years as a sheriff's deputy, five years in the Clackamas County district attorney's office as an investigator, seven years working with juveniles within 52 schools and he has an associates degree in police science from Clark Community College in Washington, a bachelor of science degree in general studies—corrections, from Oregon College of Education (OCE) in Monmouth and a master's degree in education, also from OCE. He is

also a graduate of the Federal Narcotics School.

"I've enjoyed teaching and the contacts with students," Thomas said. "I think I've got a rapport and a feeling for students. I like students and I like to help them and steer them in the right direction."

Thomas doesn't feel that decisions about the hiring and firing of instructors should be made by something as impersonal as a contract.

"I think the people ranking above an instructor should sit in on his classes once in a while and ask for things like a syllabus," he said. "If you've been here one year and are doing the job right and have the respect of your peers and the community then that should be taken into consideration. I don't care how long someone else has been here, if they're not doing the job... that's how the decision should be made."

Since being department chairman, Thomas has made several changes in the course requirements and offerings in the police science curriculum.

He now requires that students take two terms of English composition to improve their writing communications skills as well as a new course in technical report writing in law enforcement.

Thomas has also added courses in family crisis intervention, which is taught by a psychologist, a course on violence and aggression and has modified and expanded the courses on the Oregon criminal code, interviewing, statements and interrogation.

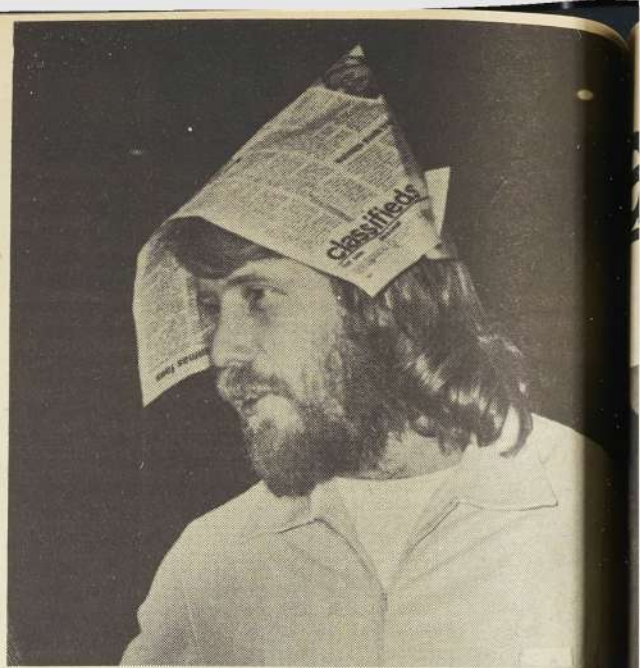
"Before I came," Thomas said, "they tried to teach the whole Oregon criminal code in 33 hours. I've made that a two-term class."

"I've done these things to upgrade the program and I personally feel that the sin of growing old is not being able to change with the times. I hope I'm able to change with the times and able to adapt. I have to if I'm going to stay in this field," he said.

"I'll be working and changing things here until the last day I work, which will be June 12," he said.

After capping ceremony held here last Saturday, graduate nurse Elden Eichler clowns around with his own version of a cap for graduation.

Photo by Lorraine Stratton



Therapeutic talks planned

Therapeutic touch, emphasizing the "laying-on of hands", will be the subject of a presentation and two-day workshop given by Dr. Delores Krieger, a professor of nursing at New York University School of Education, Health, Nursing and Arts Professions.

"Therapeutic Touch as a Professional Health Practice" will be presented by Krieger at the College on Friday, February 17, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. and the two-day workshop will be Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 18 and 19.

"Therapeutic touch by the "laying-on of hands," looks absurdly simple but is profoundly complex," Krieger said. "The act consists of the simple placing of the hands for about 10 to 15 minutes on or close to the body of an ill person by someone who intends to help or to heal that person."

"It is an ancient practice, recorded in the hieroglyphics, cuneiform writings, and pictographs of the earliest literate cultures, and it persists to this day," she said. "However, it continues as it has been throughout the centuries: a little-understood enigma of a signally human interaction."

Krieger's therapy seeks to create a feeling of curing that physical closeness or touching, like stroking a fevered brow or holding someone's hand, can convey. She rarely touches a patient and keeps her hands about an inch away from a patient's body, she said, "because we're dealing with energy fields that surround

the body, and touching isn't necessary."

"It is perhaps because touch is so primitive that it is so powerful a therapeutic tool," Krieger said. "For instance, one can hardly imagine the most basic of nursing skills being performed without the act of touch."

The 54-year-old Krieger, a longtime student of Eastern philosophy and transcendental thought, said she became interested in the "laying-on of hands" about 10 years ago when she was introduced to the work of Oskar Estebany and Dora Kuntz, two prominent healers. They convinced her that what they did could be done in hospitals, she said.

The Friday presentation will be in the Community Center Mall at the College. Seating is available for 250 and tickets may be purchased at the door as early as 6:30 p.m. Pre-registration is available by calling 656-2631, extension 209. Persons pre-registering must pick their tickets up by 7:10 p.m. or risk losing those seats. Admission is \$2 general and \$1 for CCC students.

Krieger will also present a two-day workshop on therapeutic touch Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 18 and 19. Registration for the workshop is \$75 and will include lunch both days. For registration information contact Pat Krumm, 656-2631, extension 209.

The presentation and workshop are sponsored by the College nursing department and the Oregon Nursing Association, district number 26.

College security officer leaves; accepts job with O.C. police

By Scott Starnes
Of The Print

Gordon Huiras, once a member of the College's campus security force, has been selected by the Oregon City Police Department as a probationary officer.

"I was one of the seven potential officers to be selected by the Oregon City police department," Huiras said.

One hundred forty seven participants took the written examination which constituted 50 percent of the test, and was held at Oregon City high school. Out of the 147 reserves being examined, Huiras said, the city civil service, which sponsored the test, eliminated all but 20.

"The remaining 20 then proceeded to take a physical agility test, which was either pass/fail, but the testing had no bearing on total cumulative points," Huiras said.

"Although, in order to remain in the testing, we all had to pass the agility test."

"The remaining 50 percent of our scoring was based upon an oral interview in front of a board consisting of persons appointed by the civil service," Huiras said.

After the oral interview, nine applicants remained, including Huiras, and were then interviewed by the Oregon City chief of police, two lieutenants, and the city recorder, he said. "Later, we received notification from the Oregon City police department if we had been accepted," he said. Huiras placed first over the other six officers appointed to the police force.

"I will complete my associate degree in criminal justice at the end of winter term," Huiras said.

According to Huiras, he also has a general studies degree at the College.

Besides being Associated Student

Government president and vice-president, during the 1974 to 1976 years, Huiras was involved with campus security for a couple of years.

"Two years ago," Huiras said, "I became a reserve in the Oregon City police department. I was then promoted to reserve sergeant last year and put in some 500 hours of volunteer work, such as patrolling. The practical experience I received has benefited me a great deal," he said.

Now that Huiras is a probationary officer on the force, he said that he would be spending his first year with an experienced officer who would act as his trainer.

"Sometimes during this year, I am required to complete a Board of Police Standards and Training course (BPST) before I am to be issued my certificate stating that I am a certified police officer," Huiras said.



Gordon Huiras . . . leaves security services

Fish story

The College's speech squad will be travelling to Kelso, Longview, Wash., Feb. 10 and 11 for the Lower Columbia College Fifth Annual Smelt Classic.



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Wednesday, February 1, 1977

