

First women chosen for advisory group

Student integrates county police committee

By Happie Thacker
Of The Print

Although women are slowly working their way into all areas of employment, including law enforcement, some people feel they still have to be better, smarter and work harder than their male counter-parts to get ahead.

"We take the same civil service exam but for a woman to be accepted or even to be viewed or really looked at, she really has to know her stuff," said Twila Sowle, the first woman to be appointed to the Clackamas County Law Enforcement Advisory Council (LEAC).

As one of two student representatives to the LEAC, Sowle provides student input to the council which is made up of chiefs of all law enforcement agencies in Clackamas County.

"We discuss what this college needs and what's needed in the field," she said. "We are also working to update the college's programs and act as a sounding board for what students and in-service officers need."

Sowle, who will be completing her first year of law enforcement training in June, plans to go on

to a four-year institution after completing her associates degree at Chemeketa Community College in Salem.

She cannot complete her program at the College because it doesn't offer the chemistry program she needs.

After graduating she hopes to become a criminologist or a crime scene technician.

"Law enforcement is something I always wanted to do but it was just something that I couldn't talk about," Sowle said. "While other women were reading cookbooks I was reading about dangerous criminals."

Sowle admits that grades are more important to her than they are to male law enforcement students.

"I have an 'A' average," she said, "and I intend to keep it that way, even if I have to stay up all night studying. If there are two applicants for the same job and they both have master's degrees they have to take the one with the higher GPA (grade point average)."

Sowle is encouraged by the fact that the law enforcement field is opening up for women

and that they now have opportunities for advancement that didn't exist before.

According to Sowle it was only recently that women in Multnomah County were even allowed to apply for advanced positions in law enforcement.

"They didn't post the openings so that women could see them and know that there were openings," she said. "Now they're posting them, allowing women to apply."

"It's always been this way in Clackamas County" she said. "It's just that before there were no women qualified to apply."

She feels that television is responsible for the increased number of women entering the law enforcement field with shows like "Charlie's Angels" making the work seem glamorous and exciting for women.

However, student concern over job availability is contributing to an overall drop in enrollment in law enforcement curriculums and Sowle is working with the LEAC to develop new programs that will encourage people who are already working to return to school to upgrade their skills.

They are also working to develop programs such as sergeant's training and mini-workshops in areas like photography and fingerprinting as well as developing programs that will be of value to students entering the field.

"I've been working to get self-defense taught here for three terms instead of two like it has been," she said. "We're not getting the credits that we need."

Self-defense is very important to women like Sowle because, at 105 pounds, there is only so much she can do physically to subdue a large attacker.

Sowle is confident about her ability to succeed in the law enforcement field.

"The field is starting to open up and men are beginning to view women as co-workers be-

cause more women are being employed and they're being forced to accept us."



Twila Sowle
... Appointed to committee

Student candidates face filing deadline

Students interested in running for student government executive positions for next year should pick up their petitions in the Student Activities office in the Community Center.

Petitions are available for the offices of Associated Student government president, vice-president, secretary and business manager.

These petitions must have 30 signatures and deadline for filing them is Friday, April 21.

There will also be interviews for all candidates by the editorial staff of the Print starting April 24 at 2:30 p.m.

All executive positions carry a fulltuition waiver with the president receiving \$75 per month expense reimbursement.

Applications are also available for three appointed positions next year. These positions are activities director, publicity director and assistant to the president. These positions carry full tuition waiver.

College hosts vocational students

Selected vocational high school students from the Portland metropolitan area will demonstrate their respective technical and vocational expertise in the eighth annual Vocational Industrial Clubs of America (VICA) Skill Olympics to be held at the College this weekend.

According to Larry Noonan, chairperson, auto department, the College will provide the necessary facilities for the various skills involved.

"The skill operations involved will be carpentry, electronics,

plumbing, body and fender etc." Noonan said. "Students involved in the carpentry skills will construct a corner of a wall and a stairway, the body and fender students will straighten out sheet metal and paint it. All together, there will be 30 different skills involved."

As the projects become completed, several persons from industry will judge each individuals work. "We expect judges from the Bricklayers and Carpenters unions, Tektronix, Sunn Electric Corporation and various

automotive dealers in the metropolitan area," Noonan said.

The actual contest will begin this Friday, Noonan said.

Friday evening, the Oregon VICA chapters' banquet will be held at the Milwaukie Elks Lodge, Noonan said. "350 to 400 people are expected to attend."

Saturday, Verne Duncan, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, will attend the awards ceremonies.

Enrollment management

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and student development, publication media, electronic media and registration changes.

"To bring that sagging FTE up we're going to have to have a grass-root approach, a concerted effort by everyone," Larry Wright, board member, said. "We have a great college and fine staff, we just need to get them out to the high schools and meet their counterparts. Letting people know what you have has to be done on a one-to-one basis."

"I like the notion, but I don't think we're far along enough to draw a conclusion," Roger Rook, board member, said. "The general concept seems fine to me. After we've had some experience I'll be able to form some conclusions."

"This should be a priority to the board and needs full-hearted support," Ralph Groener, board member, said. "We have a very fine counseling staff, but they have to have tools to work with."

"My concern is that we had an enrollment dip, or at least a leveling off," he said. "They (the recruitment committee) had to take the bull by the horn and see what they could come up with."

"I feel that we really need to go ahead with a compulsory program like this because if we don't have the people here, we won't be able to do anything for them," Dr. John Hakanson, College president, said. "It's another way to communicate with people in the community and let them know in considerable detail what programs we have."

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