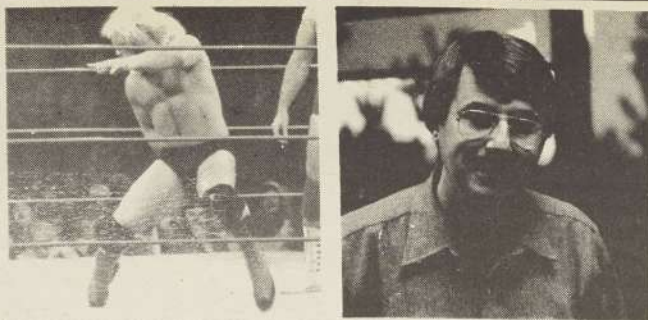


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Clackamas Community College

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Budget cuts slice general funding

By Doug Vaughan
Of The Print

Due to a shortfall of revenue, Clackamas Community College President John Hakanson announced plans to reduce the College's general fund budget by more than \$420,000.

Included in reductions were the layoffs of nine employees. The cutbacks were necessary because the anticipated revenue for the fiscal year will be lower than projected, Hakanson said.

“We anticipate a slight rise in enrollment this year. Instead, we are experiencing a decrease of about three percent. In addition, district property values have increased at a rate less than we had anticipated, further reducing revenues below projections,” Hakanson explained.

Citing a third reason for the reductions, Hakanson said, “Any money that is saved this year will be available next year, and we need to get all the money we can and get it working for us next year, and you can bet we'll do that.”

The cuts are not a direct relation to the failure of the Nov. 8 tax levy, but the amount of the reductions does correspond with the failure.

“The cuts would have not been as deep if the levy would have passed, but we still would have had a shortfall in revenue this year,” Hakanson said.

As part of the reduction, which represent three percent of the general fund, the hiring of freez which began in early October will continue. Also two administrative positions were eliminated, along with staff reductions in several other areas. The child care center, travel, development, and reductions were made in staff travel, development funds, postage and purchasing.

“We have made every effort to absorb a continual decline in State support over the past few years and still maintain the level and diversity of our programs,” Hakanson said. “Our budget has risen an average of less than one percent per year over the last three years. But, the reality of the current revenue shortfalls left us with no choice other than to begin reducing programs and services.”

Hakanson added that the College still faces a need for maintenance and update of equipment at the College to fit current and future employment trends.

“For example, if we allow our vocational programs to become obsolete, we can expect further declines in enrollment. But we cannot address those needs until we stabilize our current budgetary situation.”

“We can reduce a lot more if we need to, but I do not want to cut. In order to pass the budget we might have to. We'll just have to see,” Hakanson said.

The specific budget reductions as stated in a memo sent out by Hakanson's office are as follows:

—Limitations on purchasing, travel, postage and similar functions are a part of the general reductions totaling \$50,000.

—\$146,000 was cut from Instruction. Included in that was the vacancy of the assistant dean of instruction position. The assistant dean was assigned a faculty position. Also, the child care center was eliminated, reducing four full-time staff members. A reduction of one full-time staff member in the audiovisual department was approved. And shifts were made in faculty loads to accommodate enrollment patterns and reduce part-time faculty.

—College Services had \$82,300 cut. Included were reductions in maintenance and custodial services, which involved a reduction in custodial staff to two full-time positions. Also, a high level administrator was replaced at a lower salary level.

—\$41,200 was cut from Student Services. There was a reduction in transfer funds from general fund to student activities fund, as well as general cutbacks in materials and services. An admissions office position will remain vacant, and one full-time staff position in Student Activities was eliminated.

—Special Programs suffered a cutback of \$36,800. Reductions in both the community recreation and women's resource center staffs were made. Also, a special programs assistant and development office secretary position will remain vacant.

—Community Education suffered a reduction of \$58,000. There was reassignment of two positions. An employment and management development secretarial position will remain vacant. Also, the “Gold Card” tuition policy will be reviewed by the President.

—\$10,000 was cut from the President's Office. It consisted from a reduction in general advertising and related public information services, and a continuation of a part-time position in college printing.

It is the first time in the College's 17-year history that a broad based reduction has included staff layoffs.



HOT ROD!—Firefighter Steve Bowen (left) and student Gary Stenulson (right) test out different fire extinguishers on a demonstration car-fire at

Smuckers Center Tuesday, Dec. 6. The demonstration was a cooperative effort for the automotive and fire science classes.

Photo by Joel Miller

