

Students need goals to succeed

by Lyn Marie Thompson
Photo Editor

In May of 1986, representatives from 30 colleges in Oregon and Washington attended "Student Success Strategies, the First Northwest Regional Conference of the National Council and Student Development" in Portland.

This conference was different from most other conferences in that its purpose was not simply to inform, but to send those who attended back to their college with an action plan that would have an impact on their institution. The plan was to make campuses more student success oriented.

The action plan began here at Clackamas in October of '86 with the appointment of a Student Success Committee by Dean of Student Services, Jim Roberts. The committee was appointed to "draft recommendations for the revision of the college's student success strategies." The committee has drawn up a purpose and philosophy statement, worded as follows:

"Purpose: To recommend additions to and revision of college policies, practices, and systems to provide an improved climate for student success. Examination and discussion should include, but not be limited to, the following areas:

- (1) Curriculum (degrees, requirements, general education courses)
- (2) Assessment Testing and Practices
- (3) Basic Skills Support
- (4) Placement and Pre-Requisite Policies
- (5) Counseling and Advising Procedures
- (6) Retention and Follow-up Practices
- (7) Guided studies (monitoring of high risk students)
- (8) Faculty and Staff Development Philosophy

Clackamas Community College is open to all students with the potential to achieve a clearly stated educational goal. It is the proper function of the college to

assess student potential, preparedness, and progress in order to provide the guidance and direction that will maximize the student's chances to achieve that goal."

"We tried to get a pretty broad representation to look at Student Success issues," commented counselor and committee co-chairperson, Bernie Nolan. There are representatives from the students, administrative staff, classified staff, and counseling.

"Student Success has been defined in that each student has to have a goal. A student is successful if he meets his own goal," stated chemistry instructor and co-chairperson of the committee, Dave Arter.

The committee's first goal was to design and distribute a questionnaire that was to be answered by all staff and a randomly selected group of students. The questionnaire covered the topics of mandatory assessment and who it should be required of; who pre-requisites should be determined by; whether or not attendance should be strictly monitored or not; and other student success oriented areas.

The committee took the replies of the 299 staff members and 194 students given the questionnaire, evaluated the information, and used that information to begin the process of building a list of recommendations to be sent to the Instructional Council and then on to the President's Council.

"The results of the survey seem to show that there is a fairly solid consensus among the staff and students alike on the direction that we can take," commented Arter.

As of now, the proposed recommendations that the committee has are:

- (1) Have a written policy on assessment including:
 - a. time limits on tests
 - b. who is to be tested
 - c. cut-off scores

d. include other data besides placement scores

e. begin moving toward mandatory assessment for all full-time students, students who have completed "x" number of credit hours, or are taking math or English classes. Exceptions may be made by counselors.

f. implement a research project to validate our assessment instruments

g. establish a method for reviewing the assessment process.

(2) That instructor evaluation of students prior to next term, as is currently being done in math and English, be expanded to include reading. The process needs to be computer supported.

(3) That a process be established to provide class equivalency lists with other community colleges in the state, particularly technical math, and remedial classes.

(4) That on a space available basis and with consent of instructor, a student will be allowed to sit in on a class for self-assessment."

Both Nolan and Arter are hopeful that the committee will bring about a more positive, student success oriented atmosphere on campus. "You don't feel like your hands are tied. You feel like there is a chance that this is going to happen. That there is going to be some changes made and we're going to be a part of it," said Nolan.

Arter summed it up in saying, "We're encouraged that the recommendations that we make aren't just going to disappear into the void, but are going to be discussed, and to whatever extent they survive this decision making process, acted on. I'm real encouraged that this process is taking place at all. It demonstrates that we're not just here to be a campus, we are committed to having successful students, to facilitating the success of our students."

Clinkingbeard takes trip of a lifetime

by Lyn Marie Thompson
Photo Editor

Carolyn Clinkingbeard, a 64 year-old student here at Clackamas Community College,



Carolyn Clinkingbeard

Photo by Lyn Thompson

recently toured Europe...alone. She is now preparing to write a book on how to tour Europe cheaply, based on her own experience.

Originally, her daughter was to accompany her on the trip, but last February, she changed her mind. Clinkingbeard, however, was firm on her decision to go, even if it meant going alone.

"It was the trip of a lifetime," said Clinkingbeard. "I'd always wanted to go, and I just decided it was time to spend my savings and go."

She began her preparations a year and a half before actually leaving, reading travel books in the library, establishing pen pals in Europe, making reservations, and buying supplies.

In contacting the World Federation of Churches and International Pen Friends, she was able to establish friendships with people in various countries in Europe. She was able to give them estimated times of when she would be in their areas, and spent time with them on her tour.

When she wasn't staying with friends, she stayed in youth

hostels throughout Europe. The International Youth Hostel Organization has hostels in almost every country, and are open to all who carry a membership card. Even though the hostels are mainly used by those 27 and under, Clinkingbeard found them comfortable and made friends with other residents. "It's kinda like camping indoors is what it amounts to," commented Clinkingbeard.

Youth hostels: "It's kinda like camping indoors..."

Clinkingbeard bought a Eurorail pass for traveling from country to country, and soon learned to master the subways and buses in each city.

When asked about the high points of her trip, she mentioned a Bavarian castle. "I've had a picture of this castle, the one that was the inspiration for the castle at Disneyland, on my wall for 25 years. I've always wanted to see it. I got to see it. I have a thing for castles."

She also said that she had wanted to "do" Venice for a long time. "But," she said, "I was disappointed. It was really different than I had pictured it. There was a lot of litter, and the outsides of buildings looked ugly and run down. But the insides of the shops were luxurious."

To keep her costs down, Clinkingbeard bought few souvenirs, and didn't eat in restaurants very often. "Europeans are great for picnicking," she said.

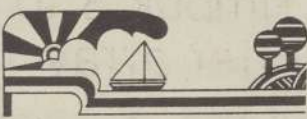
"I've always wanted to see it. I got to see it. I have a thing for castles."

One of the more unusual things she learned while on her vacation was, "There must be a dozen ways to flush a toilet."

Her book will not only tell travelers how to travel cheaply, but will also include tips which most travel books forget to mention. Among these are keeping the majority of your belongings in a train station locker while you sightsee for a minimal fee; exchanging your money before Sunday evenings because the exchange booths close then; carrying spare change to use public restrooms; buying a map of the city as some streets change names each block; and learning to speak a foreign language, preferably French, because most French either can't or won't speak English.

Upon being asked if she'd ever go back and do it again, Clinkingbeard eagerly replies, "Anytime I get the money!"

Clackamas Community College



Clackamas Community College

Student Health Service

Located in Trailer A
Hours: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Monday - Friday

To arrange an appointment with medical staff, please call ext. 250 or 236, or stop by Trailer A during working hours. No charge to CCC students.

Medical Staff Hours:

Dr. Ronald Powell
Thursday, noon - 2 p.m.

Pat Krumm, A.N.P.
Monday, 10 a.m. - noon

Erna Lewis, A.N.P.
Tuesday, 1 - 3 p.m.

Mary Fitzgerald, M.A., N.C.C.

Tuesday, 10 a.m. - noon (by appointment only)
Alcohol Treatment Specialist for Clackamas County
Mental Health Dept. Free drug or alcohol counseling or evaluation. Confidentiality respected.

Visit the Health Resource room and check out our pamphlets and information on various health subjects. Another feature is a "self-help care" area with minor first aid items for CCC students and staff.

We'd like to make a point...

Classified Ads are available to both students and staff free of charge. Forms may be picked up at the Student Activities Office or Trailer B.

Deadline Friday 1p.m. prior to publication.

