



**New light
on
Portland
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**"Shamsud-Din"
pausing
art show
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Clackamas Community College

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Alcohol program to be instituted

by Thad Kriesher

Contributing Writer
In light of the recent national concern over the topics of drug and alcohol abuse, the Federal government has passed new requirements in the Re-authorization Act of 1965. This act allows for the authorization of all federal financial aid programs by congress every five years. In order for these programs to remain in effect, the institution offering them must pass certain eligibility requirements.

The new requirements state, among other things, that for an institution to be eligible for federal financial aid dollars, the institution must certify that they have in place a drug abuse prevention program available to any officer, employee, or student at the college. In order for the college to comply with federal regulations, the drug abuse prevention program must be in place no later than July 1, 1987.

The law is, however, vague in the areas of just what kind of program the college must have, and what services it must offer. It merely states that the college must have such a program

available.

Currently, the only existing drug abuse program at the college, according to Director of Student Activities Debbie Baker, "consists of brochures, fliers and those type of things over in the health center, and Mary Fitzgerald who is on loan to us from the county two hours a week to see students with alcohol/drug problems."

An alcohol and drug abuse committee consisting of students and staff has been formed to look into the formation of a program, and to answer the many questions surrounding it.

Chief among these is whether or not the existing program is enough to comply with federal regulations. Committee chairwoman Baker commented "We may be (in compliance). The new federal regulations are so sketchy. It says we need to have a program both available to students or staff. It does not define what that means."

The committee hopes that an upcoming alcohol and drug abuse workshop in Lincoln City Feb. 22-24 that will be attended by members Dale McGriff, Vince Fitzgerald, Erna Lewis,

and Debbie Baker will help to shed some light on the subject. Other topics on the agenda will include how to link staff into a program and education of staff on how to identify the problem, and what to do about it.

However, even if the college is now in compliance, yet another complication exists. This is the fact that Mary Fitzgerald is only here at the county's leisure, and could be removed at any time by the county. Furthermore, Fitzgerald is not available over the summer.

As for whether or not a problem actually exists at Clackamas is unclear. Baker states that "The general trend everywhere is that there is an alcohol and drug problem. What they're finding is that you don't think the problem is as big as it really is until you start investigating it... I know staff have indicated to me periodically that students have come to class and they just know that they're on something. But in terms of predicting how many students might be or what the trend is here at Clackamas, we haven't done any kind of study to predict that."

If the college does not comply with the new federal requirements

by the set date, the consequences will be grim for those students depending on federal aid to attend classes. All federal aid (PEL Grants, National Direct Student Loans, Guaranteed Student Loans, College Workstudy, and Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants), will be totally cut.

Although it is not the only motive behind the recent move to instate a drug abuse program, Committee Chair Baker said that "It certainly made it more prevalent that we need to work on it faster. In terms of starting something, we've done that... But in terms of really taking a hard look at it, a more realistic viewpoint, the federal regulations stimulated that in terms of doing more about it as opposed to waiting." She went on to say of the new regulations that "I'm not sure that I think that's fair. What I think the federal government is saying is that there's a problem, and we're trying to find ways to help combat it.... I don't know that there is an easy solution to alcohol and drugs anywhere. You know, it's not just a Clackamas Community College issue, it's a nationwide issue, and certainly there hasn't been a solution to it for years and years."

Financial aid changes highlighted

by Dean Grey

Editor

The 1987-88 school year has shown changes in the Financial Aid process. The following are the highlights and some of what is available in the way of Financial Aid.

To those without Financial Aid the changes have no effect, but to those who do, the main changes will be in determining dependency status. The guidelines for an independent filing are more strict than in the past. This means that "there will be more dependent students," said Financial Aid Coordinator Kathy Scheer.

Another change is that all Guaranteed Student Loans (GSL) will be given on a "need basis." This will affect the total GSL population of the college. "GSL volume for Clackamas College will be much less than it has been," stated Scheer.

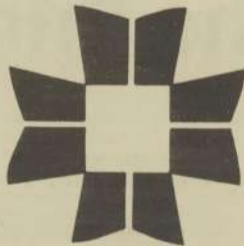
According to Scheer, "For the first time College Work Study, Perkins loans, and Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants will be available to half time students."

The Higher Education act of 1965 is the Congressional Act that authorizes all federal financial aid programs. This Act must be re-authorized every five years. For 1987-88, the re-authorization of federal financial aid programs brought some major changes. Here are the highlights:

Dependency Status - All students under age 24 are considered dependent unless they meet one of the following criteria: 1) student is a veteran of the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, or Coast Guard with an honorable discharge, 2) student is a Ward of the Court or an orphan, 3) student has legal dependents other than a spouse. If the student is under 24 years old, they can only be considered independent if they can prove they were not claimed by their parents on parents income tax return for 1985 and 1986 and can document that they (the student) earned \$4,000 for 1985 and 1986.

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CLACKAMAS
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



A seven member board voted on the new logo for the college on February 12. The vote was 5 to 1 with one member missing. Acting as chair for the meeting, Roger Rook voted against the logo. According to him, the logo didn't show the progression of the college. The ideas of a new logo began spring term 1986. The cost, which was originally estimated at \$10,000, turned out to cost only \$9,000.



Debbie Baker participates in sweetheart blood drive. ASG thanks everyone who participated in donating the 108 pints that was collected.

