

## ASG officials review past year



Photos by Beth Coffey  
ASG President Frothingham  
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Lisa Graham

The ASG candidate application deadline is April 15. The elected positions open are President and Vice-President. Council appointed positions are the Assistant to the President, Administrative Assistant and Entertainment Coordinator along with two openings in the student Neale Frothingham. "As a

Current elected officials were asked what their experiences have been as ASG officials and what responsibilities they had to carry. All were candid and open.

"It's been an absolutely fantastic experience," said President Neil Frothingham. "As a finance major, I've learned more about management, budgeting and about how to be a competitive employee in the job market than I would have learned in six years of college."

Frothingham said that he sees ASG as playing an increased role in college decisions. "The Presidents Council and the Board of Education are looking more strongly at student opinion," he said. As an example he mentioned the recently approved plans for a \$4050 upgrade in lighting in the Barlow parking lot. This came about, he said, from student concern voiced through the ASG.

## Stance set on semester conversion

by Michelle K. Taylor  
Assistant Opinions Editor

The CCC college board is currently working on reaching a decision on whether the college should convert from the quarter system to the semester system.

The board is trying to decide whether they should stay with the current quarter schedule and suffer the consequences of being off schedule from other state colleges in Oregon. Their other decision is to convert, in 1990 as planned, to the semester system and risk losing students who might be inconvenienced by the schedule of the semester system.

"The semester system (might not) fit the schedules of community college students," President Keyser said when commenting on the possible negative effects of the proposed conversion,

The ASG guide states the president's responsibilities as "managing and directing all functions of ASG." Frothingham defined these responsibilities in his own terms. "I see myself as being a consumer advocate," he said. "The consumer in this case is the student. My job is to see that the student gets the cost of the dollars spent."

Vice-President Dumolt said ASG has "been great, a lot of hard work." Describing his job, he said "you don't always have the time to do what you need to do. It's not a push-over. You're having to deal with lots of other people and you're having to work with other colleges. You're the reason why things do or don't get done."

A quality that Dumolt said he found necessary for ASG was an ability to "get along with other people regardless of what you might think of them." He also stressed the skill of time management. "You have to be able to juggle study and ASG along with work and other activities outside the college."

As Assistant to President, Anne Holler said that she has learned just how much influence students can have on the college. She mentioned that politicians seek out opinions of student governments. "Students can have an effect on their schools and student government can have an effect on the community," she said. "I think it's really important that students become more aware of what's going on outside (the campus). Whatever is going on out there is going to effect them here in some way."

Qualified for the job of Assistant to the President, she said, is "anybody interested in having some fun, meeting some new people and working. Sometimes you have five different projects due and you're tearing your hair out and not sure which way to jump." She concluded, "It's a good place to make some new friends and to learn a lot. And I don't mean necessarily, of just how a student government runs, but also how the college

government runs. You also learn to work with people you never thought you could."

As Entertainment Coordinator, B.J. Blumenkron said that it is a job that comes with many responsibilities. The ASG guidebook states the job as being responsible for coordinating all "student planned activities that contain social, educational, and/or entertainment qualities." The job demands a great deal of time, she said and specified that in order to make the job work, the yearly calendar planning should be done during the summer.

This year, Blumenkron said that she saw her responsibilities as providing entertainment for a wider range of audiences. "When I came into office the cry from the students, young and old, was 'there's too much young!'"

To remedy the problem, Blumenkron decided to "entertain the majority. To do that I



ASG Vice-President Dumolt

had to offer as many programs as possible." Because of limited funds, Blumenkron decided to put a premium on artists from within the state and "put the money from our community college and put it back into our own arts community." Blumenkron said that her plan was well received by artist and was successful in increasing the number of artists brought to the campus.

"Learning is better designed in a short time frame," Keyser also said.

Many community college students are older and are working and raising families as well as going to school. Keyser feels that

*"I'm opposed to the semester conversion"*

these students may encounter problems if the college was to go to the semester system.

"I am opposed to the semester conversion," Keyser said. He also said that he felt that the semester system was not a good idea for any college - two year or four year. Keyser and Bonnie Robertson, a member of the CCC college board have sent a

letter to the state board of higher education expressing their opposition to the proposed semester conversion.

In the letter Keyser and Robertson stated that the conversion would be very costly to the college financially and may not save any money for the college at any point. They said that the college would not be able to serve the community as well if the college was on a semester system. If the college did not convert and the state colleges did, then many students would have problems transferring. The letter also said that this educational issue was not one of great importance to many Oregonians or students. The conversion may make the path towards college success unnecessarily more challenging.

The college board will make their final decision about the conversion next fall.

## Computer breakdown Improvisation saves day

by Steven Zolkowski  
Staff Writer

At 8:30 Wednesday evening, the back lobby of Barlow Hall was quiet, except for three persons carefully shifting a crate into the building. When the three by four by three foot cardboard box was finally settled onto the floor of the computer room the technician checked the tilt and crush gauges on the side of the container.

"These babies don't like to be jiggled around too much," he said, "Or those little plastic tilt and crunch windows release a red dye - and then we take the whole unit back without even unpacking it."

The "unit," surrounded by a metal shipping case coated with anti-static and shock absorbing plastic was pillowed on all sides by almost twelve inches of foam rubber. "It" was not a bomb.

"It" was a 590 megabyte hard disk drive. The hard disk is the computer's permanent memory and address book.

When the campus' mainframe computer went down during registration, everyone - staff, faculty and students - noticed how important our data processing department is to college operations. Student records, class scheduling and billing are just a few of the activities tied together by the computer to keep everything running smoothly.

What began as a day and a half shut-down of the mainframe could have continued much longer except for the hard work and ingenuity of "T." "T" is Inouye Tsuyoshi, Data Processing Officer at Clackamas Community College.

"When the disk went down, I backed it up (copied the information stored on the disk) and began using just two of our three disks in a limited capacity," "T" said.

Using the computer equivalent of chewing gum and baling wire to run a three cylinder engine on two cylinders, "T" got the system back up and running on Tuesday. Wednesday night he and a Data General Technician rebuilt the engine.

First, the technician upgraded the two good disk drives. "This should make your whole system run 15 to 20 percent faster when it's under heavy use," the tech commented before he and "T" prepared to shut down the entire system.

From a box about the size of a dishwasher the tech pulled out a drawer of integrated circuit boards. These circuits formed a cover for a hard disk drive unit about the size of a couple of shoe boxes.

"What happened to the old one?" I asked.

"Bad spindle," the tech replied. "The hard disk is like a phonograph player. It has a head, that reads and writes data on the disk. And the disk is driven by a small electric asynchronous motor. The disk turns on a spindle. The spindle went bad," he concluded. "At least, that's what I hope," "T" added.

"How do you know it was the spindle?" I asked.

"It's a smart drive," the tech said. "It has about 18K of internal memory that can run self-diagnostics. That was what the error code indicated."

"And what would one of these cost me for my computer at home?" I asked. "About \$30,000," "T" said. But he added, "It's under warranty. Except in the contract we only get labor costs between nine and five and that would mean shutting down the computer during registration again."

It was about 10:00 p.m. The technician went back to the terminal after bolting in the new unit. He typed in a few commands. He went back to the drawer and placed the circuit boards over the hard disk drive. He jammed his hand between a board and the drawer, pinching one of his fingers. I read silent curses across his smiling face. The printer ticked a line across the page.

I walked over and read it quietly, laughing aloud.

"It says, 'Do you want help?' doesn't it?" the technician asked. "I thought you'd like that," he teased.

## News Briefs

### Ticket increase

Fines for traffic tickets have been increased from the current rate of \$3 for all violations to \$10 for handicapped parking violations and \$5 for all other violations. All violators have an opportunity to go to the traffic appeals board if they are ticketed.

### Give Blood

Blood Drive—April 13, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Community Center.

### Concert for CCC

Music concerts for CCC staff and students return this Spring starting Wed., Apr. 6, Noon to 1 p.m. with nationally known pianist and composer John Nielson. Free in the CC Mall.

### Romanticism a hit

Last Wednesday the Friends of CCC Library hosted a slide-tape show, poetry reading and music relating to the age of English Romanticism.

This show was presented along with a display in the library which was given to them for a week by the Oregon committee for the Humanities.

About 130 people were present Wednesday night for the presentation. Which was put on for the Humanities experience classes and the English and Art Departments.

Because of the success that came with this display and performance, the Friends of the library are thinking about doing other shows of this kind.

