

Hooley retires after 37 years in education

Assistant Dean of Humanities takes an early retirement

by Jeff Kemp
Staff Writer

As with all things in life, the presence of the hard-working John Hooley at Clackamas, assistant dean of humanities, will come to an end. It's going to be especially hard for Clackamas to recover from the loss of a man that has dedicated 37 years of his life to the field of education.

This year is Hooley's final go around. He claims that his early retirement has been sparked by the needs of some very weary vegetables.

"My first project in July will be to repair my garden. It has kind of piddled away over the years," he joked.

Hooley, who started working in a school at the age of 18 as a janitor, said that he has really enjoyed the last 25 years, especially being able to observe the classes and watching the instructors do their jobs.

"It will be kind of a dramatic change for me," Hooley noted.

Hooley is a wise old owl when it comes to knowledge about the teaching profession. When asked what he thought was the single most important thing he learned over the years, Hooley explained that a strong positive motivation toward his students was his biggest lesson.

"I always tried to tell a student that he or she could succeed. I tried to point out their strengths and not so much their weaknesses,"

he said.

After being an administrator for 18 years and managing 21 different departments, Hooley feels like he's done his part at making the college a better institution.

"The best thing I've done here is hire people like Dian Connett and Rene' Rathburn. That's the biggest difference between Clackamas and some of the other smaller colleges. We have some women in powerful positions. And not just women, but strong, outspoken women," Hooley explained.

Hooley, who said he never hired a secretary who didn't think they were smarter than he was, claims he has had some of the best.

"Gale Miller, Melissa Banks, Jeani Preble and Carole Yates have all just been wonderful for me," he said.

Both of Hooley's children will be graduating from college this spring and both with degrees in English. Hooley said that now that his children are ready for the "real world" he's ready to get out of it. Maybe he's afraid that there's only room for a few brilliant people at any one time.

"My family thinks that I'm too young to quit. I think they're a little concerned about me," Hooley said. "But I think they respect my decision. Ultimately, everyone does what they think is best for themselves."

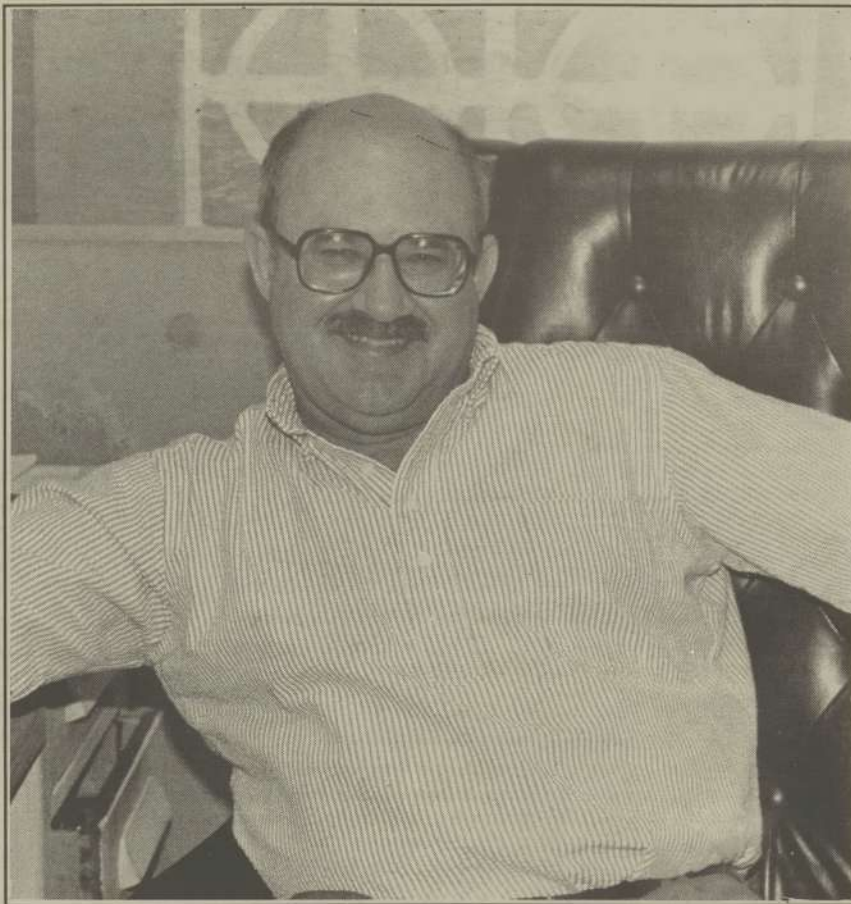


Photo by Anjanette Booth

Assistant Dean of Humanities John Hooley is looking forward to retiring after 37 years in the education field. Hooley has been in administration for 18 years and has been head of 21 departments.

Political Science curriculum to be expanded

by Nicole Turley
Staff Writer

Instructor Dean Darris is helping to expand the Political Science curriculum at Clackamas for the 1993-94 school year, as well as offer students an open-minded view of political science in his classes.

Along with the American Government course he has been teaching part-time at the college for three years, Darris plans to teach a new honors political science class next year.

"Political science has not been a popular discipline for years at the college," said Social Science Department Chair Marlene Tufts. "We wanted to expand the courses offered at the college."

Both Tufts and Darris hope this expansion of course offerings will get more Clackamas students interested in what they view as an important topic for everyone to know. "It is a very useful course," Tufts said.

With great enthusiasm, Darris is looking forward to teaching the new honors course for next year.

"The reason we're doing an honors sequence is to do some real political science at CCC rather than just American civics stuff," Darris said.

During Fall Term of next year, the honors class will focus

on ideology. This means the different schools of thought regarding politics such as conservative, liberal and radical. Darris says he not only wants students to learn about the different schools of political thought, but also he wants his students to understand and be able to logically explain their own beliefs regarding politics.

"I want you (the student) to become open-minded, then make conclusions," Darris said. "I want to equip students with the ability to explain their own beliefs," he added.

Winter Term, the sequence will continue with an introduction to politics, and the Spring Term segment will cover international relations. Students must have a minimum 3.25 GPA to be eligible for the honor sequence, but his American Government class is open to all.

Darris has a very open-minded approach when teaching political science. "I don't take a political position," he said. "I'm not here to do your thinking for you; I engage you guys in a discussion and the purpose of discussion is to make you guys better thinkers." Darris went on to say that the one of the most important things to him is that students be able to freely express what they believe.

"The only position I won't tolerate is ignorance," said Darris, who makes it a priority to listen to the beliefs and ideas of all his students. "All I care about is that you can make sense of it and that you can defend it."

Tufts said Darris is very successful at making students better independent thinkers and is confident he will have the same success when he teaches the honors sequence next year.

"He is a terrific teacher," Tufts said. "He seems to really

want to encourage students to learn about the system we're living in and encourage them to think for themselves."

Darris attended Mt. Hood Community College and Portland State University, where he received his masters degree in public law and political theory. One year after he graduated he worked as a law clerk for the state of Oregon. Then he gave up the higher paying job to become a teacher because he really enjoyed teaching.

"I'm sure not in it for the



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