

## Instructor's integrity, ability questioned

by Andrea Smith  
Staff Writer

When a doctor performs unnecessary surgery, nobody hesitates to file a malpractice suit. It's the same when a lawyer botches a case. The client has a suit against the attorney as soon as humanly possible. If people buy faulty merchandise at a store, they take the item back and demand a refund. Why, then, do students settle for instructors in college that aren't teaching them anything?

The vast majority of instructors at Clackamas are sincerely interested in educating their students. I've found most of the teachers to be knowledgeable, competent and compassionate to the educational and personal needs of their students. Unfortunately, there are a few who are too tired and/or apathetic to teach anything of value.

One of these in the latter category is, to my dismay, an "instructor" in my major field. I had heard warnings not to take his class, but being an optimistic person, I decided to give the man a fair chance. I thought that even if I

disagreed with him, I would do well to get an opposing, yet educated, perspective on my opinions. I went to class with the intent to listen, discuss and learn something from the lectures. What I got was a brainless banter of right-wing rhetoric based on nothing but the instructor's personal opinions and the "Rush Limbaugh Show." What makes this particularly ironic is that I am a registered Republican, and have always held views that are on the "conservative" side of the political spectrum.

I would not mind the bias toward one ideology over another if I had learned anything

teach me. I obviously did not get my money's worth.

This "instructor" also made inappropriate remarks and spent valuable class time stereotyping people, which in itself is offensive and should not be tolerated. For example, in our brief discussion of the subject of education, this "instructor" said that public school teachers are not able to perform their duties because so many children are disrupting the other students in the class. He said the teacher is so busy with "Pedro and Rodney" she doesn't have time for the children who want to learn. It's conceivable, I suppose, that "Pedro and Rodney" are both from

He may as well have said African-Americans and Hispanics are the problem students in our schools. The idea that this man is being paid by a college to spread his own personal bias is so incredibly ridiculous and offensive, I can't even think of a word to describe my outrage.

As you may have guessed, I dropped the class. I'm making an extra trip from Tigard to Oregon City every Thursday to attend a course where I am learning what I need to know. I don't always agree with the viewpoints of my new instructor, but he is obviously an educated, competent teacher. He respects his students. I learned more in 10 minutes of his class than in six hours of the other.

I didn't want to merely disappear from class without taking a stand. I would like to encourage every student who is dissatisfied with an instructor to do the same. Don't accept unproductive use of your time and money. Your name on a class roster is a vote for the teacher. There are some teachers who should be voted out.

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in the process. After reviewing six hours worth of class time notes, I was amazed to find I had only 11 words of usable information written down. I paid this person to

middle-class white families and I am being excessively sensitive, but I don't think so. The use of names generally considered ethnic makes the intent of the statement clear.

## College Président welcomes students

### ■ Keyser encourages participation

Welcome to Clackamas Community College.

Our purpose statement is "Creating Lifetime Opportunities for Student Success." This means that all staff at Clackamas are primed to assist you with the attainment of your educational goals.

If you haven't set these goals, we want to encourage your exploration of those which make the most sense for you. Your success is our first priority. Of course, every person is their own best teacher and learner. So, please help us meet your needs by asking questions and raising tough issues.

Our governance system at Clackamas relies heavily on students to shape the direction of the college. Your student association, led by Deanne Duvall, is a major player on all deliberations concerning tuition, planning and evaluation of our programs and services.

The student association has a number of opportunities for student involvement in helping us solve problems. Please take advantage of opportunities for involvement, both in the classroom and in the "extended classroom" beyond.

You are encouraged to help shape the future of the college and our educational programs by letting student government leaders and college staff know your ideas for making Clackamas the best possible teaching and learning environment.

Thanks,

John Keyser  
President, CCC



President John Keyser, Clackamas Community College, works hard "Creating Lifetime Opportunities for Student Success."

**MEASURE ONE:  
A FIVE PERCENT  
SALES TAX FOR  
OREGON ?**

**NOON, WEDNESDAY,  
OCTOBER 27  
GREGORY FORUM**

## Oregon schools make impression on Californian

by Garry Egan  
Staff Writer

Sometimes you might catch me smiling for no reason. Sometimes as I am driving away from campus, I look back and observe the green, manicured grass or the blooming flowers.

Since this is my first article, I will tell you a little bit about myself. I was born in San Jose, California, in 1968. I lived in San Jose most of my life until I moved to Los Angeles in 1986. I enrolled in several California Community Colleges and saw first hand what I call *The California Contrast*. I moved to Oregon January 15, 1992.

Because of the large population, California's schools are very crowded. If you need special help from an instructor, good luck. All the teachers I ever came across usually had only one hour per week to assist students. It was almost impossible. While it is true that California has some beautiful campuses, for the most part, the funding just is not there for regular maintenance. The flowers are trampled on, the grass is brown with tire marks, the bushes have beer bottles and litter surround-

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ing them.

I was ecstatic when I viewed the Clackamas campus. This school has customer service that makes AT&T look bad. Talk about friendly! What a pleasant surprise! I was greeted and helped thoroughly. This campus is just beautiful. On my way to class, the sound of water splashing, at the west side of Barlow, fills the air and a light mist of water cools me down.

Let's contrast the financial aid departments of California and Oregon. In California, I applied for financial aid in January, 1988. I received a written response in December of 1988. The response was to inform me that there was a delay and to expect another 3- to 6-month delay. Six months later, I was notified that I didn't qualify.

In Oregon, I applied for financial aid on Feb. 5, 1993. I received my actual award letter on Feb. 27, 1993. Oh my Lord! What efficiency! So, some may ask, "What does Oregon have to gain by letting an 'outsider' native of California receive financial aid?" I plan to be very successful. My diploma (eventually AS, BS, and MBA) will reveal that I was educated within the Oregon college system. My allegiance will now be to Oregon, for life. They have given me the gift to complete my education and enhance my life as well as others.