

Political Science department implements honors program

by Andrea Smith
The Print Staff

In a continuing effort to expand the course offerings available at Clackamas, an honors program was introduced for the 1992-93 school year. After a successful initiation, the program is expanding.

Last year, three honors transfer sequences were available: Writing 121, 122, 123 with Kate Gray; Sociology 204, 205, 206 with Joe Uri; and Philosophy 101, 102, 103 with honors college coordinator Don Hartsock.

Of the 14 community colleges in Oregon, Clackamas is the only one with an honors program.

"It's rare for a community college to put that kind of energy and resources into a program like this one," Hartsock said. "We are fortunate to have it."

This year, the Political Science department joined the honors college with its own sequence designed for students who desire an understanding of the concepts involved in political theory.

Another innovation in the program is that a part-time instructor was chosen to teach the honors class.

Dean Darris began teaching in Winter Term of 1991. His role in the department, as well as the demand for his classes, has increased during the past four years.

Darris, who graduated top of his class from Portland State University's political science program, earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in political theory, public law, and American government.

He was recently named Chair of the Political Science Department at Marylhurst College, where he also teaches part-time.

Until this year, Clackamas had only one International Studies course and three American Government classes available in the catalog. Darris is adding Comparative Politics and Political Theory to the menu.

Students in Fall Term's honors class were given a deep

understanding of Liberalism, Conservatism, Fascism, Anarchy, and Socialism. This term the class is studying the theories of Plato, Aristotle, Hume, Rousseau and Marx to name a few.

"The class is incredibly demanding. The students are learning how to think rather than just memorizing information," Darris said.

"Those who have survived the class understand that political theory is not as simple as some people lead them to believe."

The newest class, available in Spring Term, is one proposed by students who wanted to specialize in areas beyond the scope of the honors course. The new class will be patterned like an upper division seminar course.

"The honors students wanted more. They demanded more. The seminar class is a reward for those students who have demonstrated excellence in a very difficult discipline," Darris said.

"The reward for doing well is more responsibility," Darris continued.

"And with more responsibility comes more accountability to raise the standard of excellence. Frankly, I have been pleasantly surprised by the few who have stayed with it. They are becoming scholars."

Darris will be teaching three classes next term. The seminar class is limited to 15 students and is available by instructor consent only.

The honors class in Spring Term, PS 205 International Relations, requires a 3.25 cumulative GPA. The PS 202 U.S. Government: National Government Institutions class is open to all students.

"If a student just wants a taste of political science, the PS 202 class is the perfect choice," Darris said.

"People leave the class knowing exactly how and why government works the way it does. It is not a class about my opinions. Who cares what I think? I want my students to know what they think and why," Darris concluded.

Washington instructor becomes part of Clackamas teaching staff

by Jeff Kemp
The Print Editorial Staff

Joan Ryan is the newest member of Clackamas Community College's business program.

Ryan, who most recently instructed at Clark Community College in Washington, joined the college's faculty Winter Term as an instructor for business administration, business technology and supervisory training.

The upbeat Ryan said that working for Clackamas has been a welcome change after commuting from her home in Vancouver to Lane CC in Eugene for 12 years.

"I miss Lane but Clackamas is a great place to work. So far I just love it," Ryan said.

Ryan, who has a bachelor's degree in business education from Southern Oregon State College, earned a master of science degree in business education and master of business administration from Oregon State University. Ryan will be completing her

Ph.D. in management from California Coast University this year.

Ryan said that teaching has always been something she has always aspired to do.

"I've always wanted to be a teacher. I've known that since the 7th grade," Ryan admitted.

Ryan was most recently named Post-Secondary Teacher of the Year by the Western Business Education Association in 1991-92. She also received the same honor in 1990-91 from the Oregon Business Education Association.

In 1988-89, she was named the Outstanding Instructor of the Year by Lane CC for 1988-89.

When asked what got her first interested in the complexities of business, Ryan said that she was turned on to it by a "great teacher".

"I strive to be an impact on my students like she was on



Photo contributed by Joan Ryan
Joan Ryan

me," Ryan explained. Ryan is encouraged about the student response at Clackamas, referring to the student body as "wonderful".

She said that the students' enjoyment of her classes is just as important as the material covered in it.

"In order to be successful in the real world you have to enjoy the kind of work you do," Ryan concluded.

Coming Attraction

by Jeff Kemp
The Print Editorial Staff

If you weren't fortunate enough to make the movie of the week last Friday, "A Far Off Place", don't fret.

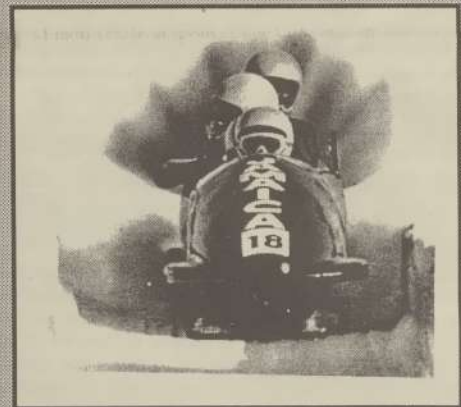
This Friday, the Student Activities office is offering the blockbuster hit "Cool Runnings" for just \$3 in the Gregory Forum at 7 p.m.

The money goes right back into ASG, so it's a great opportunity to see a popular motion picture at virtually no cost.

It is a funny comedy based on the true story of Jamaica's first Olympic Bobsled Team. Jeffrey Lyons of Sneak Previews calls it "Funny, totally original and very refreshing."

This Walt Disney creation stars John Candy, Rawle D. Lewis, Malik Yoba and Doug E. Doug. "Cool Runnings" is rated PG, so bring the family!

Don't miss out on a great deal. Bring your family, friends or even a date. Tickets are available in the Student Activities office.



Cool Runnings will play in the Gregory Forum this Friday at 7 p.m. Admission is \$3.

We'll Give You \$5.00

Receive \$5.00 for participating in a dental screening. OHSU School of Dentistry is looking for volunteers 18-45 years of age to be screened for a series of future research studies. For qualified volunteers, future studies may provide dental cleanings, oral health care products and from \$5.00 to \$20.00 compensation per visit. For more information call Sue or Greg at 494-2947.

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