Drafting department gains world-wide respect

by Tina McFarland The Print Editorial Staff

This is the first of a two-part report on specific advantages of Clackamas' Drafting Department. Next week's topic will cover the use of Virtual Reality in computer-aided drafting.

Although many people here do not know it, Clackamas Community College is known and respected around the world. Quite a reputable teaching staff comes from Clackamas.

In fact, many of the instructors here have developed course material. Not only that, but some of those instructors have even written and published text books.

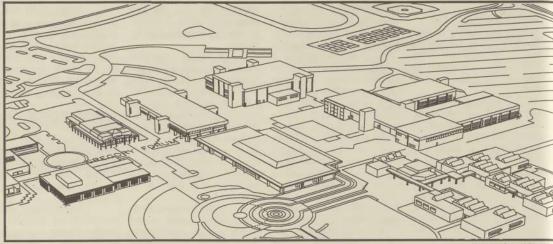
One of the departments that is particularly well-known for its texts and course material is the Drafting department.

"The department is known throughout the world. We've gotten letters from India, Malaysia, China, Israel (to name a few) all requesting information on starting courses there and wanting to get the book," said Terence Shumaker, drafting instructor and co-author of AutoCAD text books.

"The book" Shumaker was talking about is a text book entitled "AutoCAD and Its Applications" written by Shumaker and David Madsen, drafting department chair. This text, however, is not just an ordinary AutoCAD text. It is a book that is currently a best-seller in North America.

This AutoCAD text has been adopted nationwide by ITT Technical Institute as part of its course material. Shumaker said the ITT contract was so large that the publisher put an ITT emblem on the books produced for that school.

Not only that, but it is currently being sold in the U.S., Germany and French-speaking parts of Canada, as well as in France. And, the publisher hopes



ourtesy of Terence Shumaker

This 3-D model of the campus was developed by students in Terence Shumaker's Computer-Aided Drafting class.

to publish the book in Spanish also.

Although no Spanish publisher has been found yet to buy the rights, Shumaker said the plan is to get the book marketed in the Southwestern United States as well as Mexico.

"We're very excited that the German publisher heard about the book and thought it was good and wanted to buy it," Shumaker said.

In order to translate a book into a foreign language and market the book in that country, the publisher must sell the rights of the book to a publisher of another country who then finds someone to translate the book. The whole process involves quite a lot of research on both parts.

According to Shumaker, the AutoCAD text is so popular because it is easy to understand. The publisher, Goodheart-Willcox, is known and well respected for its vocational and technical text books. Both Shumaker and Madsen have written other textbooks for that publisher.

Shumaker stated that instructors write text books because they have "developed course material that works," and publishers are always looking for new textbook authors.

To have a textbook published, the author must take a proposal to the publisher which includes the subject matter and examples of illustrations and graphs, as well as tell the publisher why this book is any different from all the other textbooks on the same subject.

"You have to do your homework on the other books and how to handle yours differently," Shumaker said. When an author writes a textbook, he is under a time line that is imposed by himself and by the publisher.

"You never know the complexity of a project until you get into it. And you always find it is more complex than you anticipated," Shumaker said.

"When you write a textbook, you can forget about a social life," he added.

Writing the book and having it published is only half of the story. The other half consists of revising the text and working around any bugs that may be in the pre-release software.

Each time the AutoCAD software is upgraded, which is

about every 18 months, the text must be updated. The authormust look for new material in the updated software and decide how to weave it into the already-written text.

According to Shumaker, this Drafting department is one of the most published departments in the U.S. All of the full-time drafting instructors and two of the part-time instructors have written, co-authored, and/orpublished textbooks. The total number of texts published in this department alone is 20, and with good reason.

Autodesk, an authorized professional training program for AutoCAD, provides 3-D model design for the AutoCAD program here. There are 300 licensed Autodesk training centers in the world, and Clackamas is one of the top-10 training centers in North America.

Last year alone, in the results for the number of people trained by Autodesk training centers, Clackamas was tied for first place in the world. Shumaker attributes this success to the department's dedication.

"It's because we've always strived to maintain that progress," he said. "It's a definite increase in personal reputation," he added.

So what is AutoCAD?

Much to contrary belief, AutoCAD has nothing to do with the automotive industry. It is drafting, done with the help of a computer.

"Anything that is built had to be drawn first. AutoCAD is a generic drawing package that draws the initial design on a computer," Shumaker said.

Several years ago, the college's architect took AutoCAD here to "convert from pencils to computer." When the new buildings were put in, such as Gregory Forum and Dye Learning Center, they were designed in AutoCAD.

"The majority in the field use CAD. Few still use the board (pencil drawings). Freehand is still valid, we still teach it here, however, in a couple years we will probably switch completely to CAD in this department," Shumaker said.

The CAD program here is a two-year program that, upon completion, sends students into the work force.

"We place just about 100 percent of our students. We actively help them get jobs. In fact, there are several companies in town who won't advertise for openings, they will only call us. "A lot of people advance

"A lot of people advance rapidly in their jobs because they have learned so much here," Shumaker said.

Speaker shares benefits of massage

by Cori Kargel The Print Staff

"To become self-aware, we have to slow down ... (think about) listening to our bodies, listening to our souls, listening to our spirits."

These words of wisdom were offered by guest speaker Kitty Lawrence at the Feb. 16 Focus on Women Issues Breakfast. Lawrence, a licensed massage therapist, spoke about the different types and benefits of massage, herbs and spas.

"It's not just a woo-woo alternative. More and more now, it's becoming respected," Lawrence said.

"Let's pay attention to our feelings. They're a great source of incredible wisdom and guidance forus,"she encouraged.

Lawrence, an instructor at the Oregon School of Massage, has nearly 18 years of massage experience. She also grows and uses her own herbs-in "wonderful, potent potions," and teaches others how to do the same. Most

of these natural remedies are in the form of herbal teas custommade for specific conditions. For instance, strong ginger tea can be used as an energizer, while chamomile tea soothes and relaxes.

Lawrence expressed the belief that physical and mental health concern the entire body, not just individual areas.

"More and more we have become dominated by the idea of dealing with symptoms," Lawrence said. "We don't really listen to what our bodies are telling us."

As part of her presentation, Lawrence talked her 50-person audience through an energizing relaxation session. Speaking in a soothing, slightly hypnotic voice, she encouraged them to do things including closing their eyes and imagining their personal energy flowing through their bodies.

Karen Hicks, the Clackamas archivist and part-time reference librarian, heard about the breakfast through a staff flyer. "It was interesting to see all these other people who were interested in alternative methods," Hicks said.

"I thought it was interesting. I enjoyed the talk," added Dorothy BanHorn, another member of the audience.

In addition to herbal remedies, Lawrence also gave her listeners some basic advice about skin and outer body care. She listed salt scrubs, olive oil and oatmeal baths among her favorites.

Lawrence encouraged her audience to be proud of and comfortable with their bodies, both inside and out. She recognized that both society and individuals place too much emphasis on physical appearance. "Somehow we feel that the only body that's acceptable is that of a 17-year-old athlete," Lawrence scoffed.

All in all, Lawrence emphasized caring for and listening to the body as a whole. "We have lots of different ways of tuning into what's gonna help us," Lawrence concluded.

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