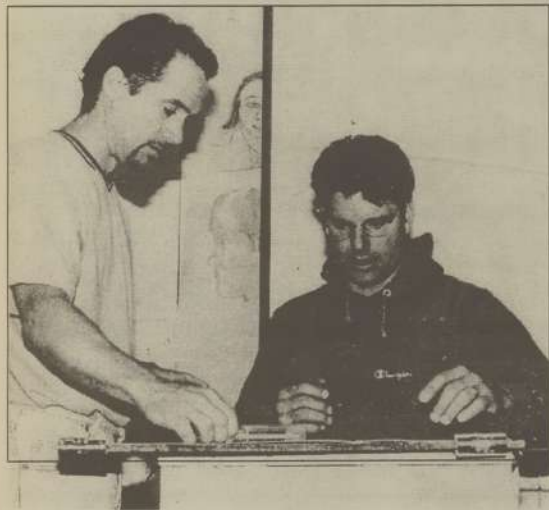




TIMOTHY BELL / Clackamas Print

David Andersen imparts his wisdom to third year art student Shawn Flye.

A life teeming with art: painter David Andersen

ROBERT SCHOENBERG
Staff Writer

For most of his life, David Andersen collected insects. He kept insects fresh by keeping them sealed up in jars he placed in his refrigerator. The reason for this is that when the bug is pinned to a card for display, the moisture in the fresh bug seals it to the pin. If the bug is dried out, it slips down the pin.

After four years and only a few credits from his degree in entomology, Andersen slipped away from his pin.

"If there was one thing you could do every day for the rest of your life, what would it be?" Andersen asked of himself, "I had decided that I wanted to paint."

He was an undergraduate at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. He dropped the classes he needed to get his entomology degree and he began to study drawing and painting with the excellent instructors at BYU. He worked to get a BA in arts and a Master of Fine Arts degree. While doing this he began to teach drawing and painting and running BYU's art gallery. From the very start of his career, he was painting, while receiving praise and commissions. He was very busy.

"I worked very, very hard," he said. "I applied for grants and scholarships. I painted and taught classes."

When opportunities to work elsewhere came up, he applied for them. He got a job at The University of Texas in El Paso, taught studio (painting and drawing) and ran the art gallery. More importantly, he was able to meet many of the premier artists in the Southwestern United States who made their home in New Mexico, near where he was teaching in El Paso, Texas. From these meetings he began to form a network of artists that he can rely on when he needs a favor from someone.

"If I have an exhibit going and need a sculptor/painter to display some works, I can make some phone calls. Or if I need someone to do a workshop, I can have someone here in no time at all, they are just another phone call away," said Andersen.

From there he went to The University of Nevada, to teach and run their gallery. His wife then began her studies at the University of California San Diego. Andersen followed, taking some jobs teaching painting, drawing and photography.

Recently his wife finished her studies at San Diego and Andersen learned that there was an opening at Clackamas. He was familiar with the area and knew that it was an ideal place to live, especially for fishing. In the last several weeks, since taking the position of painting and drawing instructor, he has been fishing six or seven times. This is a lot of fishing, even for a native-born Oregonian. Fishing is an important part of his life and it is reflected in his paintings, which teem with fish. They also swarm with the insects that he still knows so well.

He maintains a much smaller collection of insects, but he never collects from the field anymore.

"I feel I was forever removing some of the energy that I shouldn't be taking from the planet," he said. "I can squash a black widow spider, but I won't be collecting them anymore."

Clackamas tutors bring success to students in need

JARED BAZZANT
Staff Writer

Barbara Bechtold, 45, a dislocated worker, was laid off from a warehouse company earlier this year. The state is aiding Bechtold in completion of a certification program called Production Warehousing where she is now learning a variety of work skills.

"I know how to do it [math] now," said Bechtold, smiling. "Last time I took math was in junior high. If I didn't have the tutoring, I would probably flunk out of this."

"No, you wouldn't," says Amyann Edwards who sits by her side at the table. Edwards is Bechtold's tutor in math.

"Amyann lets me work problems. I've learned a lot," said Bechtold.

"My role is to remind them of what they already know," said Edwards.

Edwards told of students coming to her in tears, wanting to drop out of school. She was able to give them encouragement.

"It's nice to get them out there, and get them done," Edwards said.

Bechtold says she has "totally" improved, and is determined to work.

Edwards and Bechtold are one of the success stories of the tutorial services at Clackamas. The tutoring program has greatly expanded over the past year. According to statistics in the 1996-97 year, 1,655 students received tutoring, up from 1,295 the prior year. Total tutored hours increased by about 1,000. This year the tutoring staff numbers more than 80 tutors—higher than ever before.

Tutors can work one-on-one, in small groups, or in a lab with students. Tutors review concepts or explain processes to improve the student's academic achievement and assist the student in becoming capable of independent academic success.

In 1994 students passing tutored classes with a grade of "C" or better was up to 91% according to tutorial data.

Tutorial services provide tutoring in

over 90 different subject areas for 21 departments. The tutorial program is funded by a Carl Perkins Grant. Gail Pincus, head of tutorial services says continued need of tutors and students needing tutoring will be necessary to receive further aid from the grant.

Pincus heads the recruiting and teaching of the tutors on campus. They take part in a class with open discussions of ideas, learning tutors' roles and solving problems that can arise in teaching situations.

"The peer learning relationship is also interactive and contributes to the tutor's personal, educational and professional development," said Pincus.

"I like to help students feel good, to see students improving from tutoring. While tutoring, I learn also," said Malek Fakhry, a student from Senegal, West Africa, who tutors French.

Good experiences and opportunities are created from both sides.

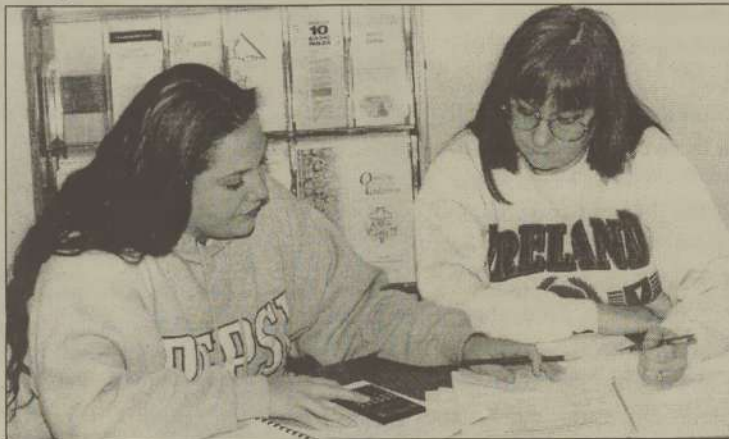
"My personal educational philosophy is that our business as community college educators is to develop talent," said Pincus.

Tutorial services include math and computer science labs, The Oregon Literacy Volunteer Program, and many others.

Pincus remains excited and positive about the success of the tutorial programs on the campus, and regards it with great value and importance.

"I view the tutor as a member of the instructional support team here at CCC that impacts the environment in a positive way to help students succeed," said Pincus.

Tutoring services are available to all students in need. Interested students should call Gail Pincus at ext.2804.



ALEX MAHAN / Clackamas Print

Tutor Amyann Edwards (L) aids Barbara Bechtold's success in math.

Recruits needed to fight illiteracy

MIKE GARCIA
Staff Writer

Joe VanZutphen and the volunteer literacy tutors he is recruiting are quickly becoming aware of a sad fact as the year moves on—supply is running far short of demand.

In a survey by Oregon Literacy, Inc., some eye-opening statistics were reported.

"Almost all adult Oregonians can read and interpret simple texts and can read and answer simple math problems," the survey states. "But once the tasks become more complex—such as using a bus schedule or filling out a catalog order form—their skills falter."

Out of all adult Oregonians, researchers found that 40% could not use an advertisement to find the least costly product. 65% could not determine a correct medicine dosage using a dosage chart and a child's age and weight. 82% could not use a bus schedule to select an appropriate bus, given time of travel, origin and destination.

It's not easy to imagine the problems that functionally illiterate adults go through until they are related to real-life situations like these. Many don't have money to throw around, and these inconveniences might make the situation worse.

Why has illiteracy become so widespread? Some of our high schools

aren't doing a good job teaching children to read well. Approximately 25% of students drop out. There is a significant number of immigrants who are not able to easily get past the language barrier. Some people may have more than one of these strikes against them.

"Somewhere, somehow, these people have fallen through the cracks," VanZutphen said.

The purpose of Oregon Literacy is to keep them from being passed up by the rest of the world. Volunteer tutors from Clackamas, Portland Community College and Mt. Hood Community College have teamed up with the organization to bring some of these adults back up to speed.

Unfortunately, the operative word here is "some". The waiting list for literacy tutors is still growing faster than they can be recruited. VanZutphen's job is to point out the benefits of the program for respective tutors.

Besides the satisfaction of helping others learn and the opportunity to make more friends, volunteer literacy tutors are gaining job experience and possibly recommendations in applying for other jobs. Tutor work especially looks good on the resume of an education major.

In general, literacy tutors only spend two to four hours a week tutoring and the time is set up to accommodate them, not the students.

Tutors also get first choice of location. If someone is unable to leave campus, then only students who are willing to come to Clackamas will be assigned to him or her.

Students who know other languages can be very useful ESL tutors but those who are only proficient in English can expect plenty of work as well.

"There's never a shortage of students," VanZutphen said.

Participants in the volunteer literacy program can receive state certification after a certain number of hours tutoring and a couple seminars. Each new tutor receives a \$5 gift certificate from the Oregon Literacy Bookstore.

Interested students should call VanZutphen at ext. 2724 or find him in room C138. The toll-free Oregon Literacy Line is 1(800)322-8715.

“Somewhere, somehow, these people have fallen through the cracks.”

Joe VanZutphen
Literacy Tutor
Coordinator