

Environment benefits from H.E.E.L. and ASG



This year H.E.E.L. and the student government have already started planning one of the biggest environmental weeks yet.

Jacob Boenisch
ASG President

The environment has been and will continue to be one of the largest areas of representation for the Associated Student Government. In addition to having a senator dedicated solely to environmental issues and a coordinating officer, we have a club dedicated to the preservation and protection of the environment. Helping Everyone's Environment Live works hand-in-hand with ASG in our environmental program. A few of our major events this past year have included:

•Environmental Week 1997: This has traditionally been a week of learning and promoting environmental awareness on campus. Last year this event proved to be the largest ever thanks to many organizations that participated: SOLV, Ron Tonkin, Metro, National Wildlife Federation, Portland General Electric, GreenPeace, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and many others.

•Waste Audit: During spring 1997 we performed a waste audit to evalu-

ate the types of material going out as solid waste, and just how much of this material was recyclable. After a 24-hour audit of the entire campus, we ended up with 1,173 pounds of garbage -- 48% of that was recyclable. This audit led to an increase in the college's recycling efforts.

•Native Plants Rescue: What happens to native plants when land is developed? Usually, they are destroyed. Thanks to several native plant rescue trips, over 200 native plants and flowers were saved from destruction.

This year H.E.E.L. and ASG have already started planning one of the biggest environmental weeks yet. Also H.E.E.L. and ASG will continue to work at getting more recycling on campus. H.E.E.L. meets two times a week: Mon.10-10:45 in Barlow 108 and Wed.11-11:45 in Pauling 102. If you have any concerns or suggestions about the environment please come and share.

CCC math teachers attend national conference in Georgia

LAURA ARMSTRONG
Staff Writer

Eight instructors from Clackamas attended the annual AMATYC (American Mathematics Association of Two Year Colleges) National Meeting Nov.13-16 in Atlanta, GA.

Math Instructors Jacque Arellano, Barry Bergman, Alice Hayden, Janet Kondo and Kathy Taylor attended. Brenda Herman, math and computer science instructor, Jack Scrivener, math and science instructor, and Don Hutchison, department chair of math, also attended the meeting.

AMATYC meetings were set up into three basic sessions. There were two-hour workshops, four-hour minicourses, and one hour presentations. The meeting covered a variety of topics concerning math in two-year colleges.

"I always enjoy AMATYC meetings because they are directed specifically to two-year colleges," said Herman.

Many sessions dealt with national standards for lower levels of college mathematics. They also dealt with things to do in classes and ways to teach.

"I think we all use or incorporate some standards in our teaching. We do collaborative work and use technology like calculators and computers," said Herman.

The conference will be held in Portland next year. There is a steering committee which plans for next year's meeting. Instructors from various two-year colleges are on this committee.

"I've got some good ideas for teaching statistics. I'm also on a committee to plan next year's convention," said Bergman. "I was able

to talk and ask questions about planning. It was definitely positive to talk to people involved."

The conference gives the attendees the opportunity to work with other teachers and to hear many new ideas about mathematics. About 1,300 instructors attended the meeting.

"It was a good meeting. The most outstanding moment was when I went to one particular session that had to do with a very interesting problem with TI-92 calculators," said Arellano. "Right now that's where my calculus class is at the moment. I'm hoping to use that problem in class next week."

Herman was very interested in a presentation about a liberal arts math class. Like the other instructors, she is mostly interested in the math area that she has been teaching at Clackamas.

The AMATYC meeting proved to be a stimulating experience for those who attended.

"It was fun, but a bit exhausting to be back Sunday afternoon and gear up for teaching Monday morning," Bergman said.

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Math Conference
1998
Conference set for Portland

Some students lack maturity, waste funds

To Clackamas Print Editor:

In the past terms I have not seen the problems I have this term.

This term, going into the restrooms, I keep finding that some students are writing on the walls. My belief is that only children write on the walls; if students feel the need to write on walls, then they do not belong in college. For college is a place where people go when they are ready to begin a life as an adult. This type of immaturity costs students. It costs to repaint restroom stalls, which the college has no choice but to pass on to students in the way of higher tuition. The cost of paint, not to mention labor cost of maintenance, is not a small fee.

I am hoping that you would please write a small column in the Clackamas Print on the subject. I am hoping that the students that are at fault might start to understand that it is not just the person next to him or her that is going to pay the extra tuition, but also their parents or themselves. I, for one, do not wish to pay the extra money repainting restrooms when the money is better spent on learning or equipment for learning.

One other problem this term is new students that are very disruptive in class. I had to drop one class because of this problem. The instructor has had her hands full with trying to teach the students that want to learn with trying to handle the students that think

it is better to cause problems than to learn. I mean if they don't want to learn than why take up the time of the instructors who want to teach, or the time of students who do want to learn?

I will also be sending a copy of this letter to Student Government.

I would like to thank you for taking time to read this and hope to see a small column on these subjects.

Thank you
Collette Kramer, student

“If they don't want to learn then why take up the time?”

Collette
Kramer
Student

Letters to the editor

Student feels financial aid department is not up to par

To The Editor,

I am writing this letter because of a problem that I feel needs to be fixed at Clackamas Community College. I am a 25-year-old second-year student here at CCC and my experience overall has been a positive one. Up front I can say from personal experience that CCC is twice the school that Portland Community College will ever be. I know this because I attended PCC several years ago. However, there is an area that falls well short of PCC and in my opinion falls into the unacceptable category. This area that needs to be fixed is the financial aid department. I have worked in customer service and retail for over five years and have never seen a customer get treated the way I have been occasionally treated by several members of the financial aid department. After all, isn't CCC a business and aren't the students its customers? Let me make myself clear on the goal I am trying to obtain by writing this. I am not on a witch-hunt and I do not want to see anyone lose their job. I just want the financial aid department to know that they must treat students with courtesy and respect.

Financial aid involves large amounts of paper work and can be very confusing at times. This is especially true when I am dealing with paperwork at the same time as I am in classes. But the amount of paperwork would not be a problem if we were given some help. Instead, I am given the paper work and told to fill it out. I fill them out fol-

lowing the directions as best as I can, yet when I go in to turn in the document, I am treated like a two-year-old when I do not fill it out right. In one instance I filled out a document only to be told that I had filled out certain areas incorrectly. When I asked why the document instructions were not specific enough to tell me "exactly" what information was needed, I was told in a demeaning tone of voice that there was not enough room to print exact instructions on the document. Seems to me if you don't have enough room, you should print a second page...duh! I dread going into the financial aid office or to the window because I know I will have to defend myself from being talked to like I'm some ignorant redneck. Even worse, when you have to go to the entrance or exit counseling sessions you are talked to as if there is a 99% chance you will default on your loan. I'm sure there is a large number of students who default annually, but I'm guessing it's a little less than 99%.

The point I am getting across is that I just want to be treated like a customer. Treat me with respect and courtesy. I am not the only student who feels this way. In fact every student I have talked to feels similar to the way I feel. I want my memories of CCC to be of how good the school was, not how bad the financial aid department treated me.

Signed,
One frustrated student
Aaron Dennis

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