

The tunnels: a revealing excursion into the dark underbelly of the campus

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Underneath hundreds of cubic tons of dirt, rock and concrete lies one of Clackamas' most infamous secrets: the tunnels.

According to Paul Rothi, associate dean of Computer Information Management, almost 2,100 feet of tunnels lie underneath Clackamas. They are primarily used to carry gas, steam, electrical and telephone lines to and from the Barlow, McLoughlin, Randall, Community Center and Pauling buildings.

When preliminary construction on the Barlow building began in 1969, it was decided that a tunnel system would be used to help service Barlow and other future buildings.

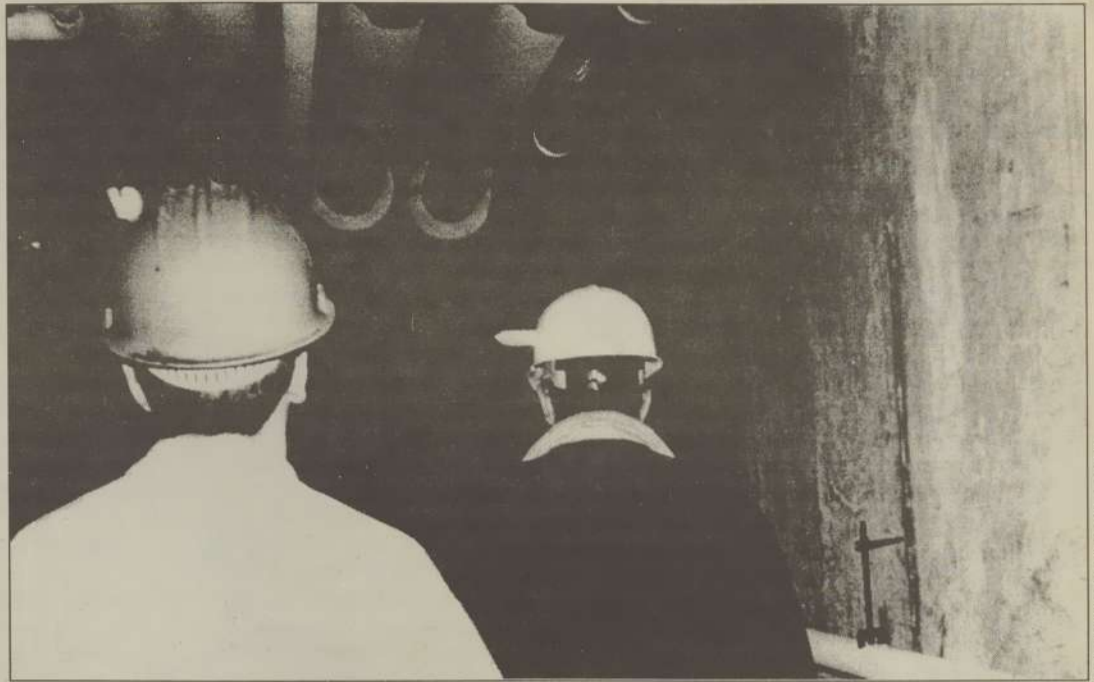
The idea to place tunnels under Clackamas was a committee decision, according to Associate Dean of Plant Services Carol Patterson. Clackamas officials and architects originally got the idea by looking at existing cities which have been using underground tunnels for hundreds of years.

"The tunnel was designed to support Barlow and the other adjoining buildings—Randall and McLoughlin primarily. It did expand after those buildings were built. The whole thought was that this will lead all of the gas, steam and electrical back to a central plant in Barlow," said Patterson.

"It also serves as the air plenum—the air supply to these buildings, so it limits what you can put in that space. We can't put combustibles in there. If we had a fire in the tunnel it would automatically suck in the smoke into all the air systems and into these buildings," said Patterson.

The tunnels are used by Plant Services everyday, so they can inspect pipes and perform needed maintenance on anything that is malfunctioning.

However, there is one drawback to using the tunnels the



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Into the depths: the Clackamas Print's John Thorburn and Brad Zimmerman lead the way into the Clackamas tunnels' mysterious gloom.

way Clackamas does.

Recently Plant Services discovered that some insulation had failed, which created condensation, which in turn created some mold. This created a possible mold contamination situation. Plant Services responded quickly by closing some fire seals and shutting down some air handling units. The insulation was approximately 28 years old.

"There was a failure in the system. Condensation from the pipes created mold. There was no way to remove the mold without removing the insulation. So we're in a holding pattern right now. The intent is to replace the insulation," said Patterson.

"When we found the condition and found we couldn't contain it, we shut down the air handling units, and shut the fire doors, so it couldn't go into the system. We removed [the insulation] after hours, so there wasn't any chance of it spreading. We had to do something immediately, to avoid contamination," added Patterson. Patterson said that she thought all of the insulation would eventually be replaced due to age. It will cost approximately \$500,000.

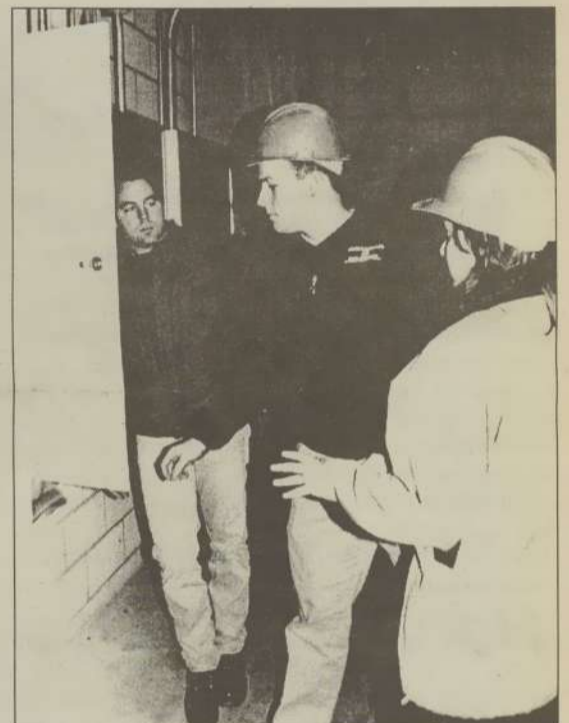
As useful as the tunnels are, there are no tunnels extending out to the Family Resource Center, Streeter or Dye Learning Center, nor are there any plans to build any extensions to any of the new buildings.

"When we added the newest buildings [FRC, Streeter and Dye], we considered extending the tunnels but it was far too expensive," Patterson said. "So, it was a marvelous convenience, and very economical, but far too expensive in today's prices. So we went to 'stand alone' buildings."



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ASG President Jake Boenisch learns the secrets of the tunnels from Stationary Engineer Mike Nanson.



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Intrepid students investigate the fusebox to the tunnels' electrical system.

New instructors: opportunitites

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A second program is somewhat classroom designed. New faculty would attend a monthly class to learn about Clackamas and ways to be successful here. Hand in hand with the Teaching Excellence program, the faculty at Clackamas will be better equipped to do their job.

Teaching Excellence is a "wonderful program put in place several years ago to meet the needs of instructors," said Goulard. "It's for everyone, not just the new instructors."

Many retirees are leaving now because they are benefiting from a high growth in their retirement fund. According to Goulard, retirees are within reach of a significant opportunity if they retire this year.

"We're at that age where our founding people are at that age," Goulard said. "We are losing some tremendously dear instructors who will be missed by all members of the CCC community."

More information about position announcements and the required application forms are available from the Job Line at Clackamas: 650-6655.

Career Center: a resource for students' futures

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A good starting point is the resume workshop. Here students can put their experience on paper in a way that will make their resumes, forms and cover letters stand out from others.

There is a bulletin board with local job listings, as well as seasonal employment opportunities, and a large collection of State employment listings and many of the larger companies here in Oregon.

The Career Center's hours of operation are Mon. 8 a.m.-7 p.m., Tues.-Fri. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. To set up a one-on-one appointment with Ethel Swanson, please call 657-6958 ex. 2396; for Rosemary Jane call 657-6958 ex. 2409. Although an appointment is not necessary to stop by, though, for you to stop by to chat and look around at what the center has to offer.

The Career Center is located just behind the Cashier's desk in the Community Center.

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