

Minority Outreach club caters to student needs



SALENA DE LA CRUZ / Clackamas Print

Saida Johnston is the president and founder of Minority Outreach, a club designed to increase the exposure of minorities on campus.

SALENA DE LA CRUZ
Sports Co-Editor

Imagine being in a new country and wanting to learn the culture, but being unable to understand.

According to Saida Johnston, Minority Outreach Senator of the Associated Student Government (ASG), this has been a regular occurrence for the Latino minority on campus and the situation has become precarious and in need of immediate attention. Johnston contends funding for Latino services and programs is non-existent or sparse at best.

Johnston introduced an idea to ASG to fund a new program called Minority Outreach, which would help to ensure minorities receive the help they need at Clackamas. Initial reaction by ASG was negative.

"That broke me. I went home and cried," said Johnston.

According to Johnston, she needed faith and a lot of it. She

prayed every evening for strength.

The following week she was ready to face ASG.

"I told them I'd give up my waiver if they approved the funding," she said.

Johnston said that then ASG knew she meant business and approved the funding to start the Minority Outreach Club, with Johnston as founder and president. Johnston, who speaks four languages, said she has often served as liaison between the college and minority students.

Johnston has named wide-reaching objectives for the club:

- To provide support to minority students on campus.
- To develop contacts and relationships with outside businesses and other schools.
- To raise awareness on campus for minority students.
- To maintain a reference area for club members.
- To assist members in holding student forums and fundraisers during

the school year.

- To secure a larger office for Latino Services Coordinator Tina Perez, to better accommodate the growing number of students in need of her services.

- To explore childcare grants for Latinos.

- To monitor local and national legislation affecting minorities.

- To create a campus minority website, already in the works by Danny Tiliano of the Chatino Club.

- To open doors into the Diversity Advisory Committee to further enhance minority representation at Clackamas.

"It's very exciting," said Johnston. "I hope the group accomplishes better treatment and more exposure for the Latinos."

Meetings for the Minority Outreach Club will be held monthly, times and dates to be announced.

For more information contact Saida Johnston at ASG ext. 2598.

Going up? Not the McLoughlin elevator

DIANA SCRIVNER
Staff Writer

Major repairs may begin this week on the McLoughlin Hall elevator, which has been broken since last April and has caused difficulties for students as well and faculty.

When school started and the elevator wasn't fixed yet, "it caused immense problems," said Bill Zuelke, department chair for counseling and advising and counselor for disabled student services. The college does not register disabled students differently than other students, according to Zuelke, so there was no way to contact disabled students who had scheduled classes on the upper level of McLoughlin Hall.

During the first week of school,

a staff member had to be scheduled to sit beside the elevator and take names of students who could not make it to class without using the elevator. If a class had a disabled student in it, the class was moved to another building. Eleven classes were moved, according to Zuelke.

"It took a good four weeks before we got it all cleared up," said Zuelke. "Disabled students have been really cool about the whole issue."

Getting supplies up to the offices in McLoughlin proved to be another problem. Staff members have had to do a bucket brigade type relay to get the reams of paper usually carried on the elevator up the stairs.

The problems started last April, when a student reported hearing a strange noise in the elevator. A

water leak at the bottom of the shaft was causing the hydraulic jack inside the cylinder to corrode. A protective sleeve was to be placed in the ground to protect the cylinder from getting wet.

During the work this summer, it was discovered that an underground stream ran beneath the elevator. The engineers in charge of the project determined they would need to drill deeper than the current shaft to protect the hydraulic jack.

"They're going to re-drill to clear the hole and get the sleeve in," said Kirk Pearson, director of plant services.

Drilling could begin this week, but it may take time to dig the 30-foot shaft.

The elevator was built in the 1970's and "it was time for a repair," said Pearson.

Petition defends Darris

SHELBI WESCOTT
Feature Editor

Questions and concerns arose last week when a petition was circulated in political science instructor Dean Darris' classes.

The petition, written by Elise Norman, ASG legislative officer, defends Darris' character and his treatment of students. Norman said she was asked to put something in writing by concerned students, who said they heard that allegations had been directed at Darris' teaching practices.

Kay Slusarenko, associate dean of humanities/social science, said there is "no investigation and no action is being taken to remove Dean Darris from his position."

Slusarenko said she has seen the petition, but feels that most of the students are "reacting to perceptions," and not to actual allegations.

Norman, along with other Darris supporters, feels that the petition was needed.

"I feel we went about this in the most appropriate manner," Norman said.

Darris and ASG Advisor Norm Berney met with college president John Keyser Monday afternoon to address concerns about the turmoil that has stemmed from Jennifer Rankin's removal as ASG President.

Keyser told *The Clackamas Print* that much of the turmoil has "come from the mudslinging from both camps," and added that "both Berney and Darris are well-respected employees."

A hearing to address Rankin's removal from office will be held soon, although a date has not been set. Keyser said that at that hearing "all the cards will be laid out on the table" regarding this controversy.

LCOP FUNDRAISER

Almost 3000 students have graduated from Clackamas' Life and Career Options program during the last ten years, including about 20 current college employees - but many students have never heard of it.

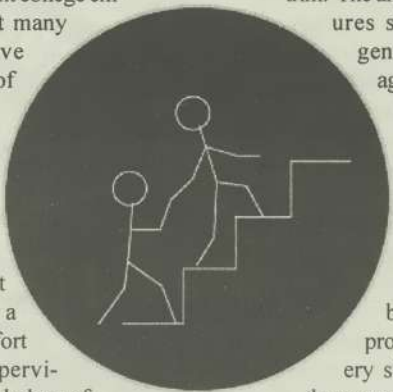
To increase awareness of LCOP, the Family & Human Services Department has organized a marketing effort under the supervision of Lori Sobelson of the drafting technology department.

Their first creation is an "LCOP pin" for fundraising. Lynne Maloney, department chair, and the other advisors and teachers hope LCOP alumni and will purchase it and wear it.

LCOP pins will be sold in the Community Center starting Nov. 10. The pin is about the size of a dime and is cobalt blue with gold trim. The unisex stick figures signify both genders and all ages benefiting from this practical but powerful educational program.

The stairs symbolize progress, as every single step in the program is valuable and is headed in the right direction, forward. The holding hands represent man-woman-child, leading and following in turn, as able; but holding on to each other, walking together, the same, One.

For more information about LCOP, call ext. 2527.





orders to go
503-655-9070

Oregon City
Hilltop

2 SUBS

\$7.49

Get any 2 standard subs for \$7.49
with this coupon!

ONLY VALID WITH
COUPON - Not valid
with any other offer.
Expires: 11/03/99

