

Online services to students:

In today's world of technology, everything you need can be found within the confines of your computer. You can order groceries, apply for colleges, participate in auctions, play games, read books...the list is endless. Now, Clackamas is making steps to offer new online services to students. Three new services are available through CCC and they are only a click away.

Online journal features student works



MATT SHERPERT
Staff Writer

January 2000 marked the first issue of *The Banyan Quarterly*, an online magazine published jointly by the college's English department, Social Sciences department, and Library.

The name comes from the Banyan tree symbol, which was conceived by College President John Keyser. According to Keyser, the tree represents the college's organizational strength.

"Like the Banyan tree, whose branches grow into the ground to become new trunks, the college is continuously growing into a stronger, healthier organization," said Keyser.

The publication is, in the words of the web-site, "An interdisciplinary, campus-wide scholarly electronic journal highlighting faculty-nominated student essays of excep-

tional scholarly value or artistic merit."

"It actually has a number of aims," said Dr. Brad Stiles, co-editor-in-chief of *The Banyan Quarterly* and English instructor. "We created this to give students a place to showcase works which the faculty nominate."

The *Quarterly* is online for purposes of accessibility. Having it on the World Wide Web gives many people the opportunity to access the works and read them at their own leisure.

"The online format makes it easy to deliver," commented Dr. Stiles. "You don't have to buy a copy."

The content of Fall, Winter and Spring quarters will mainly focus on essays and research papers. The Summer issue is reserved for creative works, such as short stories, paintings or music.

The essay topics range from history to popular culture. There are some essays on whether or not Jews

were mistreated by former President F.D.R., on letting go of lost loved ones, and even on members of the anti-war movement of the Vietnam era.

The papers are considered to be works-in-progress and can be published elsewhere, with all rights reserved by the authors.

"We wanted to establish a journal to showcase our students," remarked Dr. Jackie Flowers, co-editor in chief of *The Banyan Quarterly* and History instructor.

The Editorial Board is Dr. Bradley Stiles and Dr. Jackie Flowers, editors-in-chief; Shannon Stiles, design editor; Nora Brodnicki, contributing editor; and Anne Donaldson, Katie Hovanic, and Mary Moss, copy editors.

The *Banyan Quarterly* staff plan to increase distribution and the amount of writing disciplines included in the future. You can currently visit the *Banyan* at www.clackamas.cc.or.us/instruct/english/bg.

Women's book club chats away



MAGGIE JIRASEK
Staff Writer

Do you enjoy reading books with other people, sharing and discussing your ideas...but don't have the time to join a reading group?

The new online book club, Connections Cafe, which is part of the AAWCC Connections program (American Association of Women in Community Colleges) gives you some of the benefits of a reading group and talking to other people about what you have read, but you get to do it all in the comfort of your own home.

"The idea is to read books with other people even if you don't have the time to go to a reading group," said Kate Gray, English instructor and advisor of the club. "It's a fun thing to share your ideas."

Gray's job is to decide on which books are read and come up with questions for a threaded discussion.

"I chose a woman's bookstore in Portland, which is called 'In Other Words' to supply our books and I set up three to four weeks per book for reading and discussing," explained Gray. "The books are very diverse; we are going to read four nov-

els, one being a mystery, this term. All the books can be ordered from the store online."

Gray is also planning a small get-together at In Other Words, located at 3734 SE Hawthorne, for late February. The group will meet for coffee and good conversation.

"I think it's a good idea to meet so we can put names and faces together. The bookstore is going to provide the coffee," Gray said.

If you are interested in reading books and sharing your ideas, you can register to join the book club for only \$10 at either at the registrar's office or on the webpage.

To find the webpage go to the Clackamas homepage, click departments and then access Connections. Upon registering, you'll receive a password so you can join in the on-line chatting.

UPCOMING BOOKS...

Feb. 14 - 28 - *N is for Noose* by S. Grafton
Feb. 28 - Mar. 10 - *The God of Small Things* by A. Roy

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