

Open forum unveils new construction plans

STEVE NIELSEN
News Editor

Tentative plans for construction at Clackamas were unveiled in an open campus discussion last Monday in the Gregory Forum.

Representatives from Opsis Architecture were on hand to explain their rough plans for additions and renovations to the college, made possible by the Clackamas Bond voters passed in November.

One of the major projects is a new Communication Arts building that will house music, theater, and speech as well as a 7000 square foot theater with seating for close to 400 people. The theater would also be used as a multi-media lecture hall.

"It will really become a campus wide resource," said Opsis representative Jim Kalvelage.

Another new building, the Gate-

way building, named because of the prominent position it will occupy at the entrance to the campus, will house registration, financial aid, testing, nursing, science and physical science labs.

A new automotive building is slated as the first new building project. It's planned to be constructed on the east side of campus near Clairmont at the edge of the Barlow parking lot. A landscaped walkway will run through the repaved and realigned parking lot, connecting it with the campus. A new courtyard will also be built where the small automotive parking lot currently is.

The automotive building will be funded in part by partnership money from Oregon City High School. The high school will also share use of the building and a new pathway will connect that building to the high school.

In addition to these buildings, architects are planning renovations to six existing buildings, upgrades to parking lots and landscaping that will significantly change the face of the college.

Kevelage said his firm and the college are making every effort to address concerns about the needs of each department. The plans presented by Opsis are preliminary; they will continue to be changed and refined, he said. Currently those plans locate the English department on the new second floor of Barlow Hall. The Art department would occupy the area now used by automotive.

"That's one of the trickier pieces of the puzzle," said Kalvelage. "Trying to fit program needs into their existing containers and there's still going to be continuing discussion on renovated space. Everyone will be sitting at the table so we really make sure we come up with a strat-

egy everyone feels good about."

Architects based their plans for construction on the numbers that appeared in a fact sheet that was used to advertise the bond.

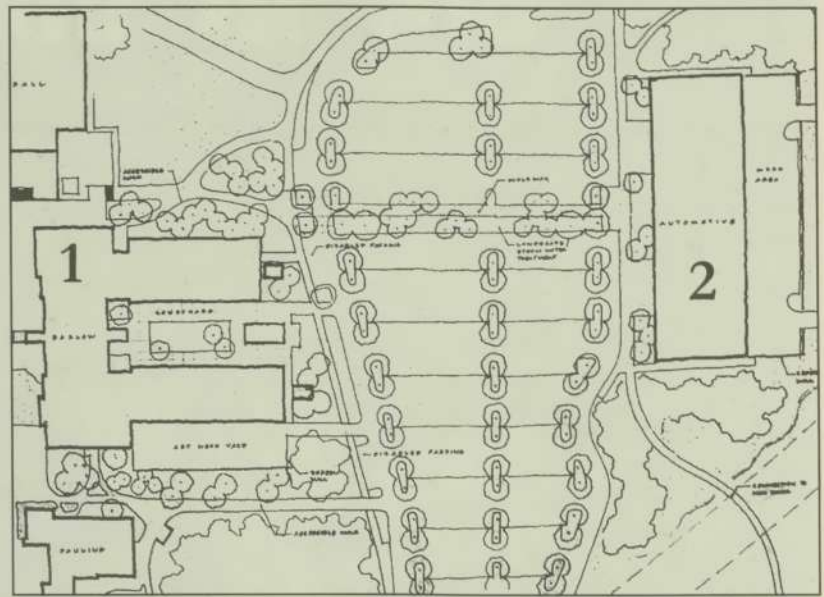
"We tried to match as closely as we could what was presented in this outline," said Kalvelage. "There has been a little bit of repackaging, as you can imagine."

New building construction will begin before old building renovations so programs can move into their new sites leaving older buildings open for remodeling.

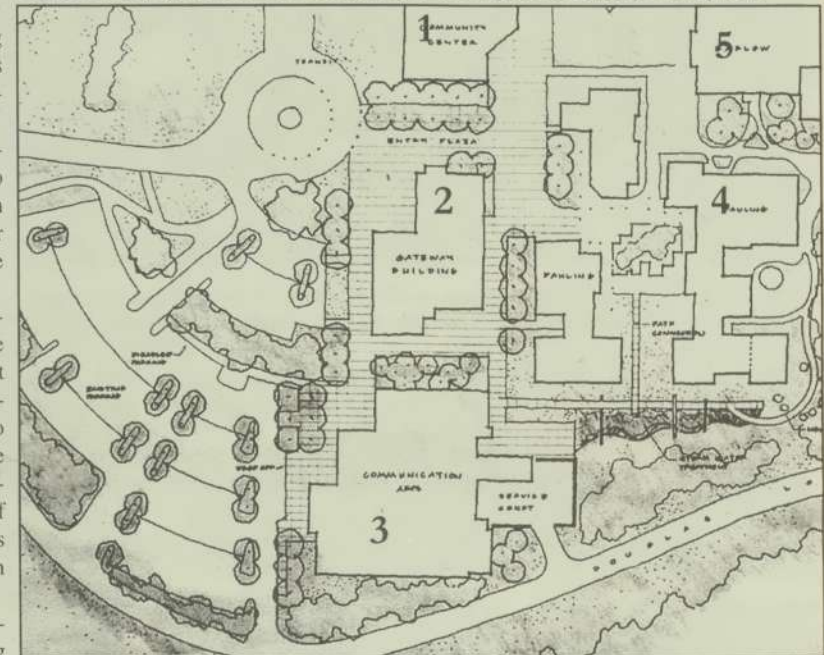
One of the architects' next steps is to get a construction company online for the new automotive building.

Some of the renovations won't be started for at least another year. Architects will continue to change and revise their plans to address the needs of individual programs and the college in general.

"I see this workshop as a beginning rather than an end," said Kalvelage.



Opsis Architecture's tentative plans show the new automotive building (2), Barlow Hall (1), and the new walkway running across the parking lot.



Plans show where the new gateway (2), and communication arts (3) buildings will be in relation to the community center (1), Barlow (5), and Pauling (4).

Salsa and Merengue Dance Classes

Salsa and Merengue dance classes are offered this term on campus with lessons from Chilean dance instructor and ESL Clackamas student, Rene Nunez.

Sessions will be every Friday, April 13 - May 18 from 1-2 p.m. in the Gregory Forum, except for the May 4 session which will be held outside the cafeteria, if weather permits, or in the Skylight dining room. The cost for each session is \$6. The funds raised are contributed to the Spanish club and provide financial support to students studying Spanish abroad.

Individuals can sign-up for single or multiple sessions by pre-registering with Spanish Instructor Irma Bjerre by calling ext. 2381.

Both the Merengue and Salsa are high energy, Latin American dances that are becoming more popular and making a comeback even in national dance competitions.

Letter to the editor...

Bad choice was real cause of death

Front page news: "Flaherty's death sparks interest in raves, ecstasy." The way this article and previous articles have been written has bothered me because no one has focused on what really killed Melissa that night - a bad decision is what killed her, her bad decision. I considered Melissa to be a friend of mine. Not the "I want to party" friend, but the sweet responsible caring "let's get together" friend. Melissa was a very sweet, loving young mother who made a very bad decision that night. Her desire to be with the "in" group and fit in made her make a decision that cost her her own life. What is it about ecstasy or any other drug that makes people think they are any different while they are on them. Don't they know that the people they meet and interact with while under the influence of these drugs know that they are on them and are not meeting the "real" person? Melissa was a good person but she was shy and self-conscious. Why? She was beautiful, smart, well educated, successful in her job and a loving mother. Why then did she feel so compelled to take this killer drug? Peer pressure, that's why. The desire to be "in" with the group. My message is this - drugs - all of them - are not safe when they're locked in one. I miss Melissa's beautiful smile and radiant presence; she was a lovely woman. Don't let the media's focus on the raves take away from what really happened that night - a bad decision. Have confidence in yourself, have faith, let people learn to appreciate you for who you are - make the right decision, be yourself. It may sound corny but it's true - say NO to drugs.

Kim Dullea
Clackamas Student



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