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President, students speak out

MAGGIE JIRASEK

Editor-in-Chief

"Ask the Presidents," a question-and-answer session with College President Joe Johnson and Student Body President Stefan Myers, gives students the opportunity to express concerns, ask questions, and throw out new ideas.

"We try to listen to students and their concerns," said Johnson while talking to students and staff in the cafeteria and answering their questions.

Two sessions have been held so far, Thursday Oct. 18 and Monday Oct. 21, with the goal to improve communication between students and the college administration.

"It's an opportunity for students and the administration to ask questions and get some answers," explained Becky Carnahan, assistant to the dean of instructional services.

It was not the first time in Clackamas' history that a college conversation took place. Former College President John Keyser invited students and faculty to join a discussion several times.

"We have done things

like that before, but the only thing that would make students come was free pizza," said Carnahan. "So, this time, we thought it would be a good idea to go to the cafeteria, where the food is already there."

According to Carnahan, the effort to gather students and faculty in order to share ideas and concerns will continue.

"We want to have a college conversation once every term if the students are interested," said Carnahan. "Next term we might try a different format. We will have students meet in the Forum, including students leaders, such as ASG members, clubs, newspaper staff and ambassadors."

During the 30-minute meetings, Johnson informed students about some of his ideas, such as establishing a web-based registration as well as his plans for bond-funded building projects.

"There will be a new automotive building, a new gateway building, remodeling will be done and new classrooms and labs will be added," said Johnson.

One of many concerns brought up by students was the fact that there are programs offered at many other



MIKE POLLOCK / Clackamas Print

College President Joe Johnson answers students' concerns while Student Body President Stefan Myers looks on during question-and-answer sessions held in the cafeteria Thursday, Oct. 18 and Monday, Oct. 21.

colleges but not at Clackamas, such as second-year American Sign Language. According to Dian Connett, dean of instructional services, the program is there but due to insufficient enroll-

ment numbers, a second-year American Sign Language program is not offered at this point.

"If we find students who can take the class at the same time and the same day, then

we can offer it," said Connett.

Johnson encouraged all students to ask any kind of question that they might have.

"If you see me on campus, come and ask me questions," he said.

Questions asked by students at the question-and-answer sessions with College President Joe Johnson:

-Why is the food in the cafeteria so expensive?
-Why is cheap daycare not available?

-Why does Clackamas allow financial aid for only nine terms?
-Will there be food ser-

vice available on Saturdays?
-Will there be more parking available?
-Do we need more

lighting?
-Are there programs that the college doesn't offer but that should be of-

fered?
-Should Clackamas offer more classes in the summer?

Student enrollment goes up as economy goes down

DAISY BAIN

A&E Editor

Enrollment at Clackamas Community College has gone up considerably compared to last year's fall term.

Within the second week of the term, full-time students at the college totaled 1,799. Fall Term Enrollment (FTE) totals 7,166 full- and part-time students this fall.

Many instructors have speculated that the recent attacks have played a part

in the high enrollment.

"As the unemployment rate goes up, so does our activity," said Scott Giltz, chairman of the manufacturing department.

The college has a new partnership with Portland General Electric at the Wilsonville campus.

With the economic down fall, many students are coming back for re-training.

"We are maximizing every possible corner in every classroom," said Diana Drebln, registrar.

Abnormally large class sizes are seen across campus. The criminal justice

department is one example.

"We only have two rooms," said Dian Connett, criminal justice department secretary. The usual number of students in each class is 25-35. Each room has a maximum capacity of 45 students and as of now an average of 55 students are in each class.

"We don't like to turn anyone away," said Connett.

The criminal justice department has been conducting an open seat load. Rather than the school itself deciding when the class is full, the de-

partment makes that decision.

The department has also offered many more evening and online classes to the curriculum, as well as a few new classes that have never been offered before.

The Harmony campus is also showing substantial growth. At the end of the fourth week one year ago a total of 801 students were enrolled. Currently there are 966, which is about a 17 percent increase.

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"We are maximizing every possible corner in every classroom."

Diana Drebln
Registrar