



FILE COPY

# ASG candidates speak out

## College holds Q&A session with students running for office

The prospective future leaders of the college met April 29 in the Skylight dining room on campus to discuss their aspirations in the student senate. The following are their comments from the recent forum.

**Presidential candidate Marlies Berney**

On why she is running for president, Marlies Berney said, "I really care about my fellow students." She said she is excited about the diversity of backgrounds seen in the student body and looks forward to representing students' needs as their liaison to the college board.

Berney, daughter of Norm Berney, former college faculty member and current candidate for the CCC board, told the crowd that her "honesty and hard work" will keep ASG on track. She has lobbied for funding in both Washington D.C. and in Salem, and said "servant leadership" is her character trait that makes her best qualified for the position.

"Serving takes going the extra mile and I really feel like I've done that for the past two years," Berney said.

"The reality is that our state really is in an economic crisis," Berney said. She expressed a strong desire to increase students' knowledge of the school's current budget situation. She said she wants students to take part in sessions where they can directly ask tough questions to the board. Berney said it is important for students to realize that, rather than cutting student programs, the college has been cutting jobs within the college. She also reminded students that they will have to understand that the school may not have all the things that it has had in the past.

Berney said her weakness is being uncomfortable with delegating tasks because she does not like to let go of a project.

**Presidential candidate Christopher Cox**

On why he should be elected, presidential candidate Christopher Cox said, "I have this wealth of wisdom on how I can help you...I can be your voice and I can be your ears. All you have to do is tell me what you need and I'll be there."

Cox said he believes he has a "strong enough will and loud enough voice" to express students' needs to the board and presidential council.

Cox said that his "dedication, fortitude and leadership" will benefit the campus. Further, he told the group that he has been gaining fundraising experience since his freshman year in high school, and said that he has already raised \$3300 from his "friends in high places," 100 percent of which will go to students next year. Additionally, Cox said that he has already started implementing steps toward increasing textbook and tuition grants, and he is currently in the process of establishing a fee grant to aid students on tuition waivers.

Cox said he wants to start an ASG newsletter in order to open lines of communication and implement a reader board where clubs can advertise their activities. He said he is able to offer other ideas on how to pay for classes, get textbooks cheaply and find healthcare.

Cox says his biggest weakness is his lack of punctuality, which he credits to his overload of 21 credits this term. He says that if elected president, he will take 10 to 12 credits so to be able to devote more time to his position.



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Presidential candidates Marlies Berney (left) and Christopher Cox met with other ASG candidates in the Skylight dining room last Tuesday and Wednesday from noon to 1 p.m. They answered questions from students and faculty on why they are running for office and what they plan to do if elected.

**Vice presidential candidate Christina Miller**

Christina Miller wants to be the vice president because she believes she will be successful at overseeing the affairs of ASG and at being a voice for students.

Currently the public affairs officer, Miller said her experience means she knows how student government works and that she will be able to get things done.

Miller said she can bring "directed energy" to knowing "the inner workings of the student government" and making sure things get done right.

She told the audience that she is "not shy" when it comes to talking with the ASG staff and that she "will butt into their business" in order to keep people on track.

Miller said it is important that students know what the campus can offer, and wants to use posters and fliers to raise awareness of student activities.

Miller said her passion is for community service, and she has been involved in tutoring, mentoring and organizing events such as blood drives.

According to Miller, her biggest weakness, in terms of this candidacy, is that she lives half an hour away and that she is not part of the Oregon City community.

**Vice presidential candidate Brandi Bean**

Brandi Bean told the crowd that it her "innate desire to help people" is what that makes running for vice president important to her.

She spoke of her past experience building houses in Tennessee with Habitat for Humanity.

Bean believes her characteristic that would benefit the college most is her organizational skills. She said she maintains a 4.0 GPA while being involved in other activities, including organizing the upcoming sock hop.

She said her "get-things-done attitude" and her sense of humor will benefit the group.

Bean said she wants to educate students on alternative ways of making tuition more affordable, such as applying for outside scholarships offered online. Some of her other ideas include an event and information phone line and a reader board.

Bean believes her "endless stream of creativity," "fresh face" and "new ideas" are some of the most important things she can bring to ASG.

"I will make a difference, I promise," Bean said.

She said her biggest weakness is that she prefers knowing everything about a project rather than delegating it to someone else.

**Vice presidential candidate Liz Pike**

Liz Pike said she wants to create unity on campus as vice president.

"Not only is ASG a team, but everyone on campus should be," said Pike.

"I see the need for more activity on campus...both scholastically and extracurricularly," Pike told the crowd. She said commitment is her character trait that will most benefit ASG. She also said that her prioritizing and multi-tasking skills will be vital in keeping order in the ASG office.

Currently serving ASG as the officer to clubs, she said the experience has given her confidence in her leadership abilities. She wants to open up lines of communication so students understand that the administration "is not the big bad wolf."

Pike said that the administration is "110 percent behind the students being (at Clackamas)" and therefore is doing whatever it can to not increase students costs. She believes it is important to continue lobbying in Washington D.C. because "if no one speaks up, no one will know what's going on in Oregon."

Pike said her biggest weakness is being unable to say no, which she believes can be fixed if elected vice president because she will be able to delegate projects.

Compiled by Tina Tate



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From left: Brandi Bean, Christina Miller and Liz Pike, vice presidential candidates, speak at the April 29 Q&A.

Elections will be held tomorrow and Friday. Cast your vote at [www.clackamas.cc.or.us](http://www.clackamas.cc.or.us). A computer is available for voting in CC 140.

<p><b>Five day forecast</b> Courtesy of weather.com</p>	<p><b>Wed May 7</b> p.m. showers 57°/43° 30 % chance of rain</p>	<p><b>Thu May 8</b> showers 62°/46° 30 %</p>	<p><b>Fri May 9</b> few showers 63°/48° 30 %</p>	<p><b>Sat May 10</b> few showers 63°/45° 30 %</p>	<p><b>Sun May 11</b> a.m. clouds/ p.m. sun 59°/47° 10 %</p>