

Q & A keeps presidents on toes

Shannon Armstead
THE CLACKAMAS PRINT

College President Joe Johnson, ASG president Marlies Berney and other college staff gathered in the Community Center on Feb. 4 to answer students' questions concerning the college.

The meeting began at noon and hungry students were offered free pizza, punch and coffee. The president stood at a microphone in front of the former financial aid office and began by addressing some commonly-asked questions.

"As most of you know, Measure 30 failed yesterday," said Johnson. "There are probably some questions about [its] effect on Clackamas. The same amount of classes [and programs] will be offered. We will not be cutting anything out. The adverse effect it has on students is that they will continue to see tuition rise."

Johnson commented that he had heard a lot of questions about parking and proceeded to explain that expansions are planned for the future.

"After the construction near the Communication Arts Center is finished, we will be expanding the parking lots," Johnson said. "We are also looking for ways to make it easier to get in and out."

Another issue Johnson discussed was the concern for campus security in regards to the recent car thefts.

"Car theft is an issue wherever you are, [but] Clackamas is trying to implement a reform of our security program to introduce cadets, so that

there are more people involved in actually monitoring the campus community," he said. "We are also planning on improving lighting so that people will feel safer."

After addressing these issues, Johnson invited students to ask questions. One student wanted to know what was being done about the absence of a student center.

"We moved everything out of [the Community Center] so that it could be returned to a student center," said Johnson.

At this point, Berney took the microphone to explain that the area formerly concealed behind the financial aid center would also be opened up for student use.

The discussion was then diverted to the high price of textbooks.

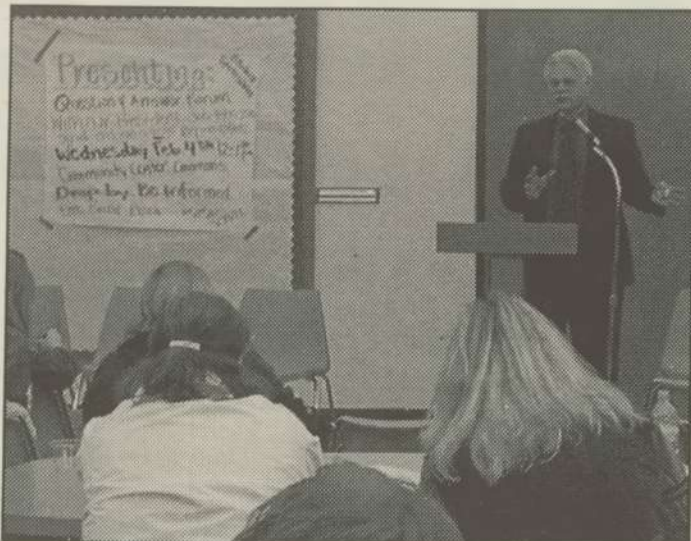
"Who thinks they spent the most this quarter on books?" asked Johnson.

One student responded with \$498, another estimated \$600 and one had paid roughly \$700 for her medical textbooks.

David Holcomb, the director of the bookstore, explained that this isn't something the bookstore can control.

"[The publishers] charge more to the U.S. market, which makes no sense," Holcomb said. "We are trying to work with the publishers to make them realize that this is unfair to the bookstores and the students."

"We are not blind to [the high prices of textbooks]. We are trying to explore some novel ways to drive the prices down."



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College President Joe Johnson addressed student questions in an open forum last Wednesday in the Community Center.

Meanwhile, it was noted that students are able to buy books at lower costs and sell for a higher return by utilizing the ASG's textbook buy-back at the beginning of every term.

The numerous club posters that are taped on building walls all over campus was of concern to another student.

"[The posters] are like visual pollution," the student said. "How many posters are allowed and what kind of content is allowed?"

An ASG representative responded that there are currently no limitations on the number of posters or

their content as long as it is a college club.

"We have not had any problems with [posters], but regulations are a work in progress," said the ASG representative.

Still other student concerns addressed by Johnson included special smoking areas, cafeteria prices, flea markets on campus and several other topics at the forum.

He wrapped up the meeting with thanks to everyone in attendance and asked that the students kindly finish the leftover pizza so that he would not be forced to.

campus SAFETY logs

All reports are taken from CCC's campus safety incident logs. Summaries are edited for clarity, not content.

2-2-04
2:30 p.m.
ASG staff reported a college club poster set on fire in McLoughlin area. No suspects.

2-3-04
1:27 p.m.
Student reported theft of property from her vehicle while parked in Community Center lot.

2-3-04
2:38 p.m.
Student reported theft of OR license plates from his vehicle while parked in Orchard overflow lot.

2-3-04
2:59 p.m.
Cadet reported a car prowler in the Barlow lot.

2-3-04
3:00 p.m.
Observed a white male adult pulling on door handles of drivers ed vehicles.

2-4-04
10:18 a.m.
Staff reported finding a disturbing note in a McLoughlin classroom.

2-4-04
10:46 a.m.
Staff reported disorderly conduct in the Café by several white males.

2-4-04
12:35 a.m.
Phoned for outside assistance in case involving suspicious activity by a student.

2-5-04
10:18 p.m.
Received a call regarding the Pauling Annex "D" Elevator stuck on the second floor and the alarm going off. Repairman sent.

2-5-04
10:59 p.m.
Asked two lovers to leave the lot as the campus is closed.

Bird flu takes lives in Asia, threatens U.S. poultry

Karlin Johnson
NEWS EDITOR

With symptoms similar to those of SARS and an ability to be transmitted through common domestic fowl such as chickens, the Avian Flu is threatening U.S. poultry populations, and causing human cases and deaths in Asian countries.

Avian Influenza was first identified in birds in Italy over 100 years ago, but as recently as 1997, cases of human infection were discovered in Hong Kong. The Hong Kong outbreak ended in 18 cases of infection and six deaths.

According to the World Health Organization, what could have been a pandemic at this time was likely stopped by the culling of Hong Kong's entire poultry population.

Since this outbreak, various other outbreaks have been documented worldwide, but few have resulted in

human infection.

Between 1983 and 1984, an epidemic broke out in the U.S., costing \$65 million to destroy the 17 million birds.

The U.S. has been threatened by the infection much more recently. Last Thursday, an outbreak of Avian Flu was identified in Delaware, which generates four percent of annual U.S. chicken production.

According to the Kansas City Star, the infection was found on a farm in Kent County, which supplies birds to a live-animal market in New York.

Immediately, 12,000 chickens were culled, transport of chickens was stopped completely, and 12 nearby farms were tested for infection, none of which showed signs of infection.

This recent Delaware outbreak caused Japan, Russia, Singapore, South Korea and Poland to ban U.S.

imports of poultry. Hong Kong and Malaysia have banned imports from Delaware only.

Usually originating in migratory water fowl such as wild ducks, the infection can easily spread from indirect or direct contact with domestic fowl such as chickens and turkeys.

Live-bird markets can be breeding grounds for the 15 different subtypes of influenza that can more easily infect domestic than wild birds. The types to become highly pathogenic have been of strain A of influenza, subtypes H5 and H7.

Although the amount of subtypes that are highly pathogenic are few, other subtypes are easily mutated and could become a higher risk.

Though studies change this information daily, as of now it is known that when the infection passes through humans and animals such as pigs, it is more easily passed to humans the next

time. It is uncertain yet if the infection is passing from human to human.

Those infected by Avian Influenza can experience symptoms such as fever, sore throat, cough and severe respiratory problems, similar to those of viral pneumonia.

Testing of animals and humans to find strains of influenza are very quick and dependable.

Anti-viral drugs, used for treatment and prevention, are available to those infected. However, supplies are limited and expensive.

Currently existing vaccines for other forms of influenza can reduce risk of mutation and exchanging of genes between humans and animals.

According to the World Health Organization, a total of 23 cases of human infection and 18 deaths have occurred between Vietnam and Thailand to date, with numbers changing daily.

Clean bill of health helps Small Business head home

Bethany Monroe
THE CLACKAMAS PRINT

After a temporary residence on CCC's main campus, the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) has moved back to the OIT building at Harmony campus.

The SBDC was forced to make a short-term location change after mold was discovered in their Harmony campus office in Milwaukie.

The Environmental Learning Center (ELC) at the Oregon City campus housed the SBDC while the mold problem was being taken care of.

According to Tim Shea, director of the college's SBDC, the OIT building (on Harmony campus) now has a clean bill of health.

Nestled away in the ELC building near Clairmont Hall, many students were not even aware of the SBDC's existence-or purpose.

The SBDC's main goal is to offer information and resources to business owners or those interest-

ed in starting a business. Any student with an entrepreneurial idea is welcome to seek advice from the SBDC's qualified business professionals.

Backed by tax dollars and the college, the SBDC is able to offer their counseling services for free. Classes and workshops, such as "Marketing Your Web Site" or "Customer Service" are available for small fees, Shea said.

Sixteen community colleges and three state universities cooperate with Oregon's chapter of the SBDC. By joining with the SBDC, the college is able to serve the community beyond formal academics.

According to Shea, the Oregon chapter of the SBDC helped start 1,100 new businesses and created 2,676 jobs in 2002 alone.

The SBDC, now back home at Harmony campus, is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For more information, call 503-656-4447 or visit their website at www.bizcenter.org/clackamas.

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