

Senator speaks at CC Summit

Smith addresses \$250 million for community colleges

Cyndee Mady
CO EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Presidents, board members, staff, students and business leaders gathered last Wednesday for a Community College Summit with U.S. Sen. Gordon Smith to discuss President Bush's \$250 million initiative that will allow community colleges to form an alliance with business to promote workforce and job training.

Lane Community College in Eugene hosted the conference and all 17 community colleges in the state of Oregon were represented.

"There was a mix of people representing each of the colleges," said David Dickson, associate dean for college advancement at Clackamas Community College. "There must have been at least 50 people around the table."

According to Dickson, Bush's State of the Union Address, which included the \$250 million initiative, inspired Smith to organize the summit in order to visit community colleges and hear exactly how representatives feel the initiative can be carried out with a maximum impact on the state of Oregon.

Dickson—along with Chuck Clemans, College Board member, and Lowell Miles, Foundation Board member and owner of Miles Fiberglass and Composites, Inc., in Clackamas and Oregon City—were the three delegates from Clackamas Community College.

Miles also holds the position of vice chair of the Workforce Investment Council for Clackamas County, which consists of business people who oversee the spending of federal money intended for the workforce.

As one of three business people statewide given the opportunity to speak on behalf of the



PHOTO COURTESY OF www.senate.gov

U.S. Senator Gordon Smith attended a Community College Summit last Wednesday at Lane Community College. Smith addressed making application for Bush's \$250 million grant for community colleges a state-wide process, rather than individual.

community college job training and workforce efforts, Miles had a mere three minutes to express his position in the format typical of such a formal conference.

Rather than applying for 17 separate grants, which would require separate application processes and competition among Oregon community colleges, Miles suggested filing one application statewide that would go straight to the Department of Labor to seek the funding. He also emphasized the excellent work community colleges do as training partners of business.

"Senator Smith was very interested in helping make that happen; he was also interested in

having the government give special consideration to communities where there has been a high level of unemployment," said Dickson, who silently observed Miles' remarks. "The feeling is that Oregon should get special consideration for these funds, because we have the greatest need to get people back to work."

Another concern was that funds from other community college grants—such as Carl Perkins, which partners high schools and community colleges, and Pell grants, which are part of a need-based aid program—would not be pilfered in order to accommodate this initiative.

"There was a promise by the Department of Education representative that this \$250 million initiative would not be funded by stealing money from other pots that would otherwise go to community colleges," Dickson said. "It would essentially be new money and that is very important."

Though \$250 million may

sound like an ample amount of money, once distribution occurs, the funds are more limited.

"You spread that out among 50 states and it's not a huge amount of money per state or per college," said Dickson, "but I think the community colleges were thrilled that the President of the United States recognized the role community colleges play in local communities partnering with business and providing training to prepare for the jobs that are being created in the workforce."

Dickson is pleasantly surprised with the recent recognition community colleges have received from the government.

"We often feel like we're America's best-kept secret; appreciated, but sometimes forgotten when it comes to the big political [spectrum]," he said.

According to Dickson, Oregon Community College Association will be maintaining close communications with the senator and the progress of this initiative.

"Senator Smith [was] interested in having the government give special consideration to communities where there has been a high level of unemployment."

David Dickson
Associate Dean for
College Advancement

campus SAFETY logs



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

- 2-7-04**
12:50 p.m.
Student reported a physical argument in Roger Rook Hall.
- 2-11-04**
2:30 p.m.
Patrolled main campus, found people shooting off a toy rocket in baseball field. Advised them not to do this on campus. They left.
- 2-11-04**
3:00 p.m.
Saw three people using Family Resource Center overflow lot to ride a go-kart. Advised them not to do this on campus. They left.
- 2-15-04**
10:45 a.m.
Found three white male juveniles skateboarding in courtyard of Harmony campus. Gave them a verbal warning. They left.
- 2-15-04**
1:10 p.m.
Staff reported disorderly juveniles in bus turn-around.
- 2-17-04**
8:00 a.m.
Car reported broken into at Family Resource Center lot. No theft. Vandalism of driver window.
- 2-19-04**
2:10 p.m.
Received a complaint regarding an adult male flying a plane. Asked him to take it somewhere else. He left.
- 2-20-04**
12:55 p.m.
Received a call from a staff member regarding ex-husband en route to campus, was afraid that he may do something in anger. He never arrived.

Forensics team finishes with a second place trophy and ten awards

Shannon Armstead
THE CLACKAMAS PRINT

The Clackamas speech and debate team participated in their last tournament of the term this past weekend at Spokane Community College.

Thirty colleges from across the Northwest took part in the tournament.

"Competition was tough," said one of the judges.

However, members of the speech team understand how these difficult tournaments benefit them.

"This tournament is a good preparation for nationals," said team member Alisa Poul.

Poul was referring to the National Speech and Debate tournament held in Hollywood this year during spring term.

"I think we are all looking forward to see how nationals turn out for the team," said team member

Justin Wallner, "and this is pretty much the last tournament before [nationals] with plenty of competition."

Despite the huge turnout of competition at the tournament, Clackamas returned home victorious with a trophy for second place in the sweepstakes competition and 10 awards for individual events.

Stacie Bariesheff won two of the 10 awards, placing fourth in Senior Extemporaneous Speech (her brother Russell placed second in the same category—novice division) and fourth in Senior Dramatic Interpretation.

"I was happy because I was the only person from a community college to break into the finals," said Bariesheff.

All in all, speech students enjoyed the tournament.

"We had a great time, and came home with the awards to prove it," said Poul.




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