

Instructor gets hands dirty teaching

Nelson discovers a new life, a better future in Portland

Shannon Armstead
THE CLACKAMAS PRINT

After years of experiencing life through different avenues of employment and schooling, Bruce Nelson has found a home and happiness in sharing with students what has grown to fascinate him.

Nelson moved across the country to Portland in 1975 after having received a Bachelor of African studies, a self-developed major.

"I bailed out of the East Coast to live with friends," he said. "It was like I started a new life; I wanted to get away from my parents and three thousand miles was far enough."

Nelson was unable to do what he had planned with his degree due to diabetes and so he spent several years doing minimum wage labor, including dishwashing and landscaping, to pay the bills.

Nelson's interest in plants was generated in part by his new surroundings, as well as his Portland roommates who shared the hobby.

"That is kind of how I become interested [in horticulture]," he said.



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Instructor Bruce Nelson developed an interest in horticulture while exploring Oregon forests.

"When I moved to Portland I was also amazed by the forests and the coast."

Nelson attended Portland Community College and Portland State University part-time for three

years to fill his requirements in classes such as physics, chemistry, biology and botany. Nelson then attended Washington State for four years to receive his Master of Entomology.

"It took me a little longer [to complete my degree] because I wanted to take extra horticulture classes that I just enjoyed," he said.

While Nelson was in Washington working on his degree,

his wife stayed in Portland and paid the bills.

"We got married and the following fall I went to Washington, he said. "For most people that [arrangement] would not work. But we had a great relationship and it worked."

After 14 years in the forestry care industry, Nelson began teaching part-time at Clackamas and later was hired as a full-time faculty member.

"Throughout high school and college I always thought I would be a teacher [and] I always enjoyed the classroom setting, but during undergraduate school there seemed to be something floating in the air that said it wasn't good to be a teacher," he said. "I finally just got over it and said to hell with it. I wish I had just gone with my gut feeling [when I was younger] but it worked out."

Nelson teaches 14 classes at Clackamas including plant and insect identification, principles of horticulture, organic gardening, disease identification and a short course on fruit trees. He also facilitates several horticulture workshops.

"If I can figure out a way to make [learning] fun for the students, it makes it more fun for me. I don't always succeed but that's my goal," said Nelson. "Life is too short to not have fun doing what you are paid to do."

Engineering instructor returns from Persian Gulf

Instructor returns to teach after 10 months

Bethany Monroe
THE CLACKAMAS PRINT

Military duties drew CCC engineering instructor Ed Landauer away from his college courses for nearly a year.

After spending more than 10 months in the Persian Gulf, Landauer is finishing his first term back at Clackamas since returning from his station in the Middle East.

"I was in Bahrain," said Landauer, a captain in the U.S. Navy. "It's an island off the coast of Saudi Arabia. It's an independent country. The Naval Forces Central Command is located there—that's who I work for."

While in Bahrain, Landauer taught engineering and leadership training at the Navy base. He traveled to Bahrain three times in slightly under one year.

"I went over and they sent me home twice—and they sent me right back," said Landauer.

While he was serving in Bahrain, one of Landauer's former students, David Willardson, taught his classes at Clackamas.

"[Willardson] went through our



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here about ten years ago and has a Masters degree in engineering now," said Landauer. "So, we hired him to take my place."

Landauer was able to resume his position as a full-time faculty member for winter term. Besides engineering courses, he also teaches math classes to round out his schedule.

Overall, Landauer enjoyed his experience in Bahrain.

"I've never been in a foreign country like that, the culture is so different from our own," Landauer said. "It takes lots of getting used to [and] a lot of learning. We [Americans] take a lot of things for granted."

As an Islamic nation, Bahrain's

culture is vastly different from the United States. While in Bahrain, Landauer witnessed Ramadan, a month-long observance in which devout Muslims fast every day.

"They don't eat anything from dawn to dusk," said Landauer. "It goes on for thirty days. Essentially, their rules are that nothing can touch their lips from daylight to dusk."

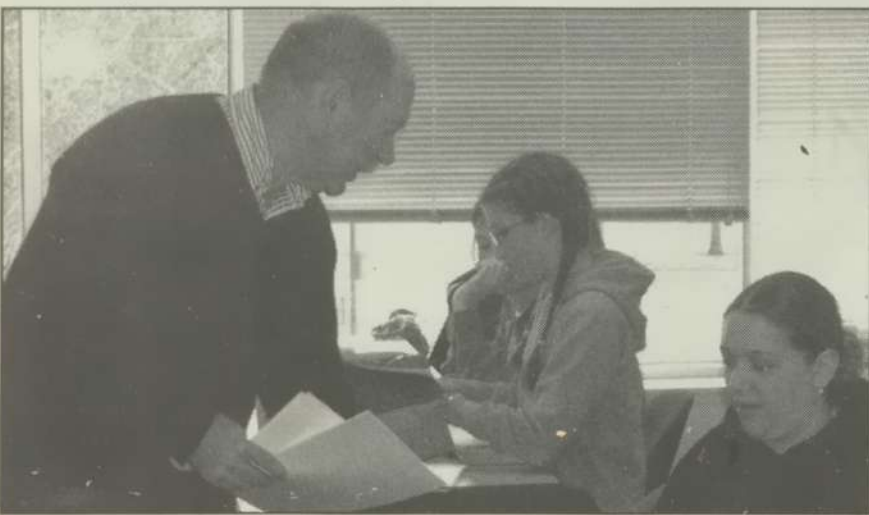
While the immersion in a new culture proved to be an interesting and eye-opening experience for Landauer, the time spent away from his family was a tough challenge.

"I didn't get to see [my family] for almost a year," said Landauer, who has two children. E-mail helped him stay connected to home while he was away.

Landauer's first four years of naval service were spent teaching engineering at a military base in Florida. Since then, he has been in the Navy reserves.

Although his naval career spans more than 25 years, Landauer has been teaching longer than that. Before coming to Clackamas 16 years ago, Landauer taught at Montana State University (MSU) as well as a high school. He holds master's degrees from MSU, Portland State University and the University of Central Florida.

Instructor Ed Landauer, passes out tests to his Math 65 students, after resuming his position as full-time faculty member. During his naval service, he spent four years teaching engineering at the military base in Florida.



program

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Art and music inspires student's mind, body, flow

Campus artist expresses creativity through body art

Truman Anderson
THE CLACKAMAS PRINT

Heavy metal meets Picasso describes the life and personality of student Josh Beam, an aspiring artist at CCC.

Beam has been drawing since the age of 12 and has been sculpting for about three years

on his own time as well as here on campus. Of the many styles of art that Beam has tried his hand at, stone carving and bronze casting are among his favorites.

His inspirations for the pieces he creates would have to be H.R. Giger for his fascinating forms, Constantin Brancusi and Zdislaw Bekinski.

"The dream worlds [Bekinski] creates inspire my mind toward greatness," Beam said.

After finishing his AART,

Beam would like to attend Pacific Northwest College of Arts where he plans to work toward his dream of becoming an independent artist with his own foundry so he can continue working on casting.

"I don't care how long I live, as long as I create good art in my lifetime," he said.

Besides art, Beam is extremely in tune with the music scene. He attends local shows in Portland and also plays in two of his own bands—Overdriven is a

metal band and Collective Consciousness is an indie rock band.

In addition to art and music, Beam uses his body as a form of self-expression. His body is a walking work of art with tattoos, a plug in each ear and a pierced septum.

"I do it so I can feel as if I am in a whole other world of being," said Beam.

Beam is a man of few words, but he lives by these words: "Wherever you go—there you are."

"I don't care how long I live, as long as I create good art in my lifetime."

Josh Beam
Art Student



BEAM