

College separates from Johnson

by **Michelle Wilson**
and **Tom Krause**
Editors-in-Chief

The college administration will soon announce a shake-up: College President Joe Johnson was offered a severance package last week.

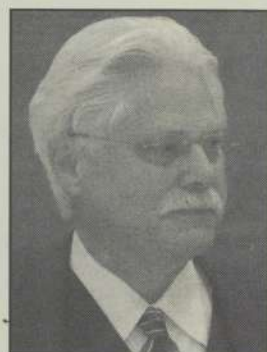
The decision was announced in a board meeting last Wednesday.

The separation agreement has been signed," said Dierdorff.

Dierdorff, originally vice president of college services, was appointed interim administrative head and authorized signator in an emergency meeting on Oct. 2. Johnson went on leave on Oct. 2.

There will be a work stoppage next week sometime about an approach to filling the position [of president], Dierdorff said.

Johnson has been given the option to make a statement to the college, according to Dierdorff.



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According to David Arter, president of the full-time faculty, even with the changing around and shifting of duties in administration, there has not been any major concern among the faculty.

"I think they're a little nervous just because there's not a lot of information," Arter said. "But ... people have been going around doing their jobs."

A meeting with the faculty is scheduled for noon tomorrow.

Dierdorff, Jan Godfrey, dean of student services, and Baldwin van der Bijl, dean of allied health, math and science, will be present to answer questions from the faculty.

"People have questions about what's going to happen: 'Who's going to be president?'" Arter added. "[The meeting] is an opportunity for the faculty to ask questions."

Van der Bijl and Godfrey have been covering the vice president of instructional and student services position in administration.

Dian Connett, the former vice president of instructional and student services, accepted a severance package from the college in October.

Timeline of Events

July – College President Joe Johnson is investigated following allegations that he used a school computer to view inappropriate Web sites and to send inappropriate e-mails.

August – Vice President of Campus Services Ron Stewart resigns after four weeks on the job. Bill Dierdorff is hired as interim vice president of campus services.

Sept. 7 – Vice President of Instructional and Student Services Dian Connett goes on leave, to return Sept. 25. Her leave is later extended to Oct. 23.

Sept. 12 – In a letter signed by 11 deans, Johnson is asked to step down.

Sept. 13 – In an independent investigation ordered by the college board, Johnson is cleared of any wrongdoing. A "climate survey" is established to survey the thoughts and feelings of the campus community.

Sept. 20 – Johnson gives his State of the College Address at the staff in-service.

Sept. 21 – In a faculty meeting, a spirited discussion results in no decision by the faculty regarding support of the deans' letter.

Sept. 27 – *The Clackamas Print* publishes a special edition reporting on the situation.

Oct. 2 – Johnson goes on personal leave from the college.

Oct. 3 – The Board of Education calls an emergency board meeting with the result that Dierdorff is appointed as interim administrative head and authorized signator.

Oct. 10 – A college-wide accreditation visit occurs, lasting until Oct. 13.

Oct. 20 – Connett signs a severance package; details of the agreement are released Oct. 27.

Nov. 8 – The board announces that Johnson has been offered a severance package. Board Member Larry Wright's resignation is also confirmed.

Volleyballers ready themselves for NWAACCs run



Contributed by Dick Clouser

The Lady Cougars pose for the camera and throw up their ones, signifying their first place finish at the Chemeketa Crossover Tournament earlier in the month. The volleyballers begin play at the NWAACC championships in Spokane, Wash. Thurs., Nov. 16. The championship games run through Sat., Nov. 18. The Cougars enter NWAACCs as the second seed in the Southern conference and have high expectations as they shoot for another trophy. Earlier in the week, Heather Gerke and Rhea Wortman were named to the All-Region 1st team, while Malia Mamahoa was named All-Region 2nd team. Those three, combined with the valiant efforts of the rest of the team, allowed the Cougars to have a successful regular season, giving them hope as they enter the NWAACC championships.

Giving Tree gives back to community

The Giving Tree, a gift-giving network created by the ASG, is granting students with children more time to request holiday gifts; students now have until Nov. 17 to pick up an application at the ASG office.

Gift requests must be for children 18 years or younger. "We felt that we hadn't got the word out well enough," said Mindy Brown, department chair for student leadership and outreach.

The ASG will hang tags describing a needed gift on the tree that will soon be erected in the Bill Brod Community Center. Any student is welcome to pick up a tag and turn it in to the ASG.

Last year's Giving Tree is estimated to have collected between 90 and 100 gifts.

"Just this year, I had one of the instructors of a young parent come in to get applications, and she just happened to catch me, and she said 'I can't tell you what a difference [the Giving Tree] makes for our students,'" said Brown. "That's why we keep doing it."

Anyone seeking further information can contact Brown at 503-657-6958 ext. 2250, or the ASG at ext. 2245.

- Compiled by Megan Koler,
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