

Board member joins Metro council

Kyle Steele
The Clackamas Print

Election Day was appropriate for Clackamas vice-chair Carlotta Collette since it was the day she was appointed to a vacancy in the Metro council.

Collette beat out 11 other residents in District 2 for the job. The position will require that she balance time between her roles on the Clackamas board and Metro.

"Metro is the Portland Metropolitan area's regional government, designed to address issues that are larger than any particular city or county," Collette said.

Functions covered by Metro are overseeing regional land-use planning, transportation planning and educating the community about the importance of sustainability. The committee's decisions affect about 1.4 million people in Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas counties.

This isn't the first time that Collette has worked alongside Metro; last year she co-chaired the Clackamas County Coordinating Committee, a group that lobbies for the interests of the county.

The coordinating committee and the counties involved project lists of goals for the local community, which are then passed on to Metro. The Metro board uses these lists to make more realistic objectives for the entire area.

"There is no conflict between the two roles," Collette said about Metro and her place on the Clackamas board.

Collette's work with the college started in 2005 when she was appointed. Then, in 2006, she was elected into the position. In that time, she has become vice-chair.

Through Metro, Collette is hoping to bring a greater emphasis to sustainability in the region.

"I have been an environmentalist my whole life," she said. "I am rededicating myself to reducing our carbon footprint as a region."

Sustainability is one of Collette's main concerns. She works with both the college and Metro to train workers in the sustainability field.

Her appointment on the Metro council will run until Jan. 9, 2009, but she will be eligible for the May 2008 election. If she wins, her term will be extended until January 2011.

SPRAY THOSE STALKERS

Emily Walters

The Clackamas Print

College can be a great place, but then again, there is no knowing what could be lurking around the corner.

It is advisable for every student to take certain measures in order to be protected from all kinds of crime while on campus.

Stalking is one of the major problems at universities, and even community colleges such as Clackamas, that troubles students on a regular basis.

The numbers are alarming – 13 percent of college women have been "stalked during one six-to-nine-month period," according to a study of on-campus stalking supported by grants from the Office on Violence Against Women, Office of Justice Programs and the U.S. Department of Justice.

Also, 15 percent of the stalking victims "reported the stalkers threatened or attempted physical harm" to them, while 10 percent said that "the stalker forced or attempted sexual abuse."

In many of these cases, the stalkers were fellow students.

Men, too, should be wary, because although cases involving males being stalked are less common, it does happen.

On a national level, according to an online Stalking Resource Center, at nvcv.org/src, "one in 12 women and one in 45 men will be stalked in their lifetime."

So what can people do to keep themselves protected from this type of harm?

"The safest thing to do is use a buddy system; walk in groups," said Matt Okerman, a campus security officer at Clackamas.

Females are especially encouraged to carry "weapons" in their purse for easy access if needed.

Learning how to use a firearm is probably unnecessary. Alternative methods are usually quite close to being as painful as a bullet, without being potentially fatal.

Pepper spray, for instance, is great because it allows a woman to temporarily disable an attacker from a short distance away before he or she is able to make physical contact.

Mace even has a new pepper gun that is police-strength. However, pepper spray can be harmful to the user as well, Okerman said, so use it with caution.

Another defense weapon is a Taser, although it is much more expensive, usually running at a few hundred dollars or more. Tasers should be saved for the most extreme cases, such as when a stalker is attempting physical harm to his or her victim very frequently, such as once a week or more.

Items for self-defense like these can be found online on Web sites like selfdefenseproducts.com.

But what about a way to get help from others when being stalked, whether they are fellow students, faculty members or security officers?

One option is to buy an electronic pocket whistle. Just one push of a button and it will emit a loud whistle for however long it is held down. These are particularly useful when in a remote area, where there may not be many people around.

In addition, when in campus parking lots, be extra cautious, especially at night.

"Pay attention to your surroundings," Campus Security Officer Ed Markell said. "Do not be talking on your phone ... or listening to headphones."

Okerman said, "Keep your hands free. Stay in lit areas."

In order to prevent anything from happening because of a stalker, report any suspicious behavior.

"Call the police. Report it," Okerman said. "If the situation is serious, you can have a police order filed."

If an individual feels that someone is stalking them, or she should call 911, he added.



Elizabeth Hitz Clackamas

Campus Safety Officer Peter Karpman patrols the school.

PT CONTRACTS: Undergoing negotiation

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"I was disappointed that we didn't complete things on Nov. 1 and 2," said Part-time Faculty Association President Rosemary Teetor.

Teetor, along with the part-time and administrative bargaining teams, spent the two days working on certain issues while leaving others unresolved.

"The big things are still the salary stuff and health insurance," said Counselor Tim Pantages, a member of the part-time bargaining team.

The remaining issues are the most

heavily debated and discussed by both sides.

Part-time faculty wish to close the salary gap between themselves and full-time faculty in the new contract.

"I think that's what they're focused on: Where are they compared to full-time faculty?" said Baldwin van der Bijl, vice president of instructional services.

The administration must balance this request with the realities of a budget.

"The budget pie is shrinking," said Vice President of College Services

Courtney Wilton, in reference to closing full-time enrollment at the college.

Teetor asserts that the contract negotiations affect this trend.

"There's a direct link between the negotiation of instructors and retention of students," she said.

Whatever may be the case, negotiations will continue until the issues are resolved. The plight of part-time faculty and the budget realities of the administration will continue to clash until a common ground is found.

The Giving Tree

* The Giving Tree is a service provided for the students by the students.

* You **must** be a registered student here at Clackamas Community College.

* The requested gifts **must** be for your children.

* It is sponsored by the Associated Student Government (ASG).

Applications for children to receive gifts are available now in the ASG office. They need to be turned in by Thursday, Nov. 8. The gifts will be available for pick-up between Dec. 3 and 7.

To donate a gift for a child, please pick an ornament from the Giving Tree and bring it in to the ASG office to learn the needs of that child. The gifts should be brought to the office unwrapped by Nov. 30, and will be distributed to the families between Dec. 3 and 7.

The Clackamas Print

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