

# Clackamas Print

Independent, student-run newspaper since 1966

Clackamas Community College, Oregon City, OR

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## Elephants vs. Donkeys

Republicans and Democrats face-off in quad over candidates

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Lydia Bashaw, Clackamas Print

...let waits for his turn to speak as Stephanie Bacheoder argues why students should support the Republican party in the upcoming election. More than 150 students gathered yesterday listen to speakers square-off over the upcoming election.

## Economic distress addressed

**Matt Ostergren**  
Staff Writer

Wild speculation and panic seems to have gripped the United States' stock markets these last few weeks and months.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average has shown dramatic losses that often degenerate into the triple digits. Major financial corporations like American International Group (AIG) have been nearing collapse, and without the intervention of a federal government bailout, AIG and a number of other companies would have collapsed.

The value of the American dollar, a currency that was for many decades considered to be stable and reliable, has been fluctuating far outside normality in the last year.

Amidst this financial crisis, the social science department decided to hold a colloquium on the state of the economy Oct. 14 from noon to 2 p.m. at the McLoughlin Theater. It took the format of a question and answer session, where students could ask a panel of experts about the political and economic situation.

"The purpose of this colloquium was to bring clarity to the fog of complex social phenomenon like the interplay of politics and economics," said Dean Darris, the college's political science professor.

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## Free services ease students' strain

**John Hurlburt**

Associate News Editor

...getting a lot harder to live anymore. Nationwide people are struggling to get by. What many professionals consider to be at the beginning of a recession and according to a survey by the Associated Press-Yahoo! News, the number of people who consider themselves happy has dropped from 70 percent in September to 59 percent in October.

The local community is feeling the pressure just as much as anywhere, and thankfully, Clackamas has a variety of classes and services to help meet the needs of many students and local residents free of charge.

Many of these services have been pushed harder in the face of economic distress. One area that has been impacted is the career center.

According to Linda Wood, career development specialist, the number of people who used the career center last year was double the previous year, going from 2,253 people being assisted in the 06-07 school year to 4,907 in the 07-08 school year.

This could have something to do with the fact that the unemployment rate in Oregon has climbed within the last year, going from 5.3 percent unemployment in August 2007 to 6.4 percent of Oregonians being unemployed in September 2008, according to www.bls.gov.

The career center offers students and community

members opportunities to get individualized training arranged with local employers, assistance with writing resumes, help with interviewing skills and assessment tools to find out what career field might interest students.

Clackamas also has a Web site devoted to those in need of a job, [depts.clackamas.edu/career/jobs.asp](http://depts.clackamas.edu/career/jobs.asp), with more than 150 jobs currently available.

The career center is not the only area in Clackamas that has noticed a dramatic influx in those in need of assistance; this year the financial aid department has been hit with a double punch.

More students are enrolled this year, and the overall percentage of students seeking financial aid has increased as well, according to Darcie Iven, financial aid adviser.

Iven gives credit to the economy for the recent number of students coming to school and seeking financial aid.

Some of the services that are offered through financial aid are scholarships, tuition waivers and work study programs, as well as information to help students fill out their Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA.

The Associated Student Government (ASG) has also devoted part of its budget to helping students



Lisa Sellars, Clackamas Print

Lupita Gomez, advising and counseling receptionist, gets a break between helping students near the career center entrance.

cope with living with less cash.

One major benefit to students is the textbook and childcare grants that are offered at the beginning of each term through one application, which can be picked up either online or in the ASG office, located near the cafeteria in the community center.

### Campus services contact information

Associated Student Government  
Location: Community Center Room 152  
Phone Number: (503) 657-6958 ext. 2245  
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Financial Aid Office  
Location: Community Center  
Phone: (503) 657-6958 ext. 2373  
E-mail: [finaid@clackamas.edu](mailto:finaid@clackamas.edu)  
Web site: [www.clackamas.edu](http://www.clackamas.edu)

Career & Employment Resource Center  
Location: Community Center  
Phone: (503) 657-6958 ext. 2409  
E-mail: [career@clackamas.edu](mailto:career@clackamas.edu)  
Web site: [depts.clackamas.edu/career](http://depts.clackamas.edu/career)