

Students anticipate graduation

Graduation process is the same for all Clackamas Community College students; planning ahead several months in advance is encouraged

By Joshua Baird
The Clackamas Print

It's nearly that time of the year again; the weather outside is staying pleasant, at least in the Portland area where El Niño hasn't caused torrential rainfall and blizzard like conditions. The most important thing about spring time according to some is that summer vacation is about to begin. Nonetheless, for some it is a time of planning, extra studying and keeping fingers

crossed. It's time to petition for graduation.

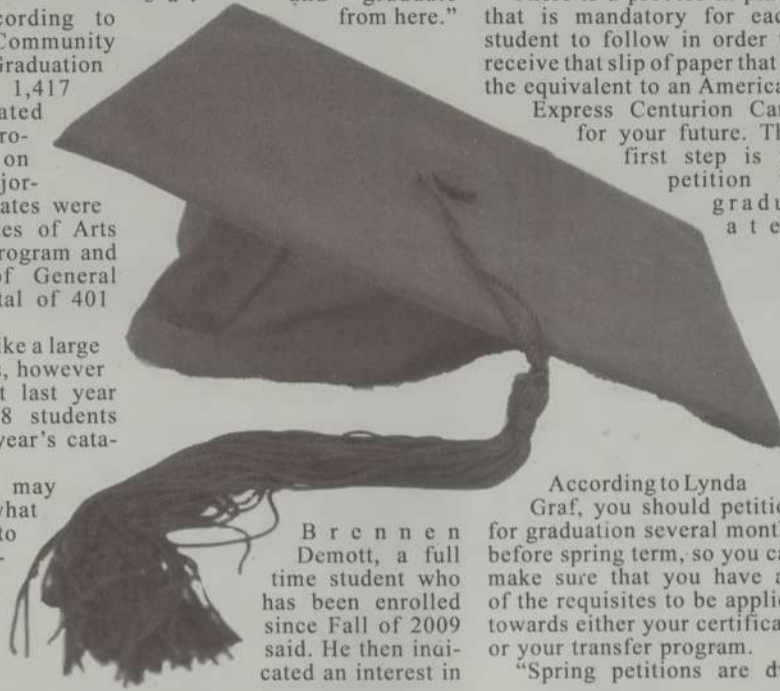
Last year, according to the Clackamas Community College 2008-09 Graduation Statistics Report, 1,417 students graduated from any of the programs offered on campus. The majority of these graduates were from the Associates of Arts Oregon Transfer program and the Associates of General Studies with a total of 401 graduates.

This may seem like a large number of students, however keep in mind that last year there were 35,008 students according to this year's catalog of classes.

Some students may be wondering what all of this means to them, and the question that remains is will you graduate on time?

"I plan on figuring it out

next fall. I intend to figure it out and graduate from here."



Brennen Demott, a full time student who has been enrolled since Fall of 2009 said. He then indicated an interest in

teaching grade school.

There is a process in place that is mandatory for each student to follow in order to receive that slip of paper that is the equivalent to an American Express Centurion Card for your future. The first step is to petition to graduate.

According to Lynda Graf, you should petition for graduation several months before spring term, so you can make sure that you have all of the requisites to be applied towards either your certificate or your transfer program.

"Spring petitions are due

at the end of the sixth which is May 7," said White, an admissions specialist at CCC.

Once the evaluation specialist has determined you have earned a sufficient number of credits and hours required at the college, they will notify you. If, on the other hand, you have not met the necessary minimum of study, you will be informed that you have been denied and will need to take the missing courses before you can be granted your permission to graduate.

Also the final day for filing in your scholarship application is April 30, so intend on applying for your time is running out.

Graduation will be June 10 for General Education Degree or Adult High School Diploma, and the June Certifications or degree graduation. Both will take place at 7 p.m. in the Randall nasium.

Scholarship deadline spells relief

By Jaime Dunkle
Associate News Editor

Clackamas Community College Foundation Scholarship applications are due in two days.

Over \$600,000 will be divided amongst eligible students. The deadline for scholarship applicants is April 30. Students can pick up and drop off applications at the financial aid office in the Roger Rook building.

Around 200 scholarships are available through the Foundation. All information included on the application goes toward all scholarships correlating to the student.

CCC Alumni Shilo Wittrock successfully received not one but two Foundation Scholarships when she applied for the 2009 to 2010 academic year. Advising and Counseling Co-Department Chair Ellen Wolfson and other scholarship advisors encouraged Wittrock to apply. They helped Wittrock to her feet after she tackled her stifling fear of rejection.

"They said, 'What's the worst that'll happen; that you won't get one?' So when I got two I was ecstatic," Wittrock said.

Wittrock received both the David Smith Memorial Scholarship and the Oregon Business Women Scholarship.

After she asked for help, everyone was willing to step in, according to Wittrock. She

collected her letters of recommendation and then she went to the Writing Center to finalize her personal statement essay.

More than 90 credits later, Wittrock transferred to Portland State University where she is now a junior. She is applying for a Bachelor's degree in Social Work.

Making the initial effort was challenging for Wittrock, but reward exceeded dread.

"Just try it. Be willing to step out," Wittrock said. "It's worth the time."

Not only did Wittrock obtain college funding, she gained unforgettable memories.

"When I looked out at the Scholarship Banquet and saw my two sons, it was cool," Wittrock said with tears of joy in her eyes.

Workforce Specialist David Gilford wrote a letter of recommendation for Wittrock. Gilford is available for career consultation at the Workforce Development Department located in the Bill Brod Community Center.

"I know students from a nonacademic standpoint," Gilford said. "They come to me for career advising."

Weaving a student's academic achievement along with his or her career goals is Gilford's expertise.

"I think that a good case for a scholarship application is that a person has not just academic qualifications, but career aspirations as well," Gilford said.

Illustrating why a student is distinctively fit for scholarships is important, according to Gilford.

"Financial need alone is not adequate," Gilford said. "Academic qualifications alone is kind of boring."

Determining scholarship eligibility is also contingent on the personal statement essay, according to Scholarship Coordinator Darcie Iven.

"We have enough tips online, and the Writing Center is available to help," Iven said. "There is plenty of help out there; they should write an excellent essay."

An outline can be brought to the Writing Center and the instructors there will help students compose the essay. The outline should describe who the student is, where they have been, and where they are going.

"What the readers want to know is, they want to hear about the student," Iven said. "So don't be too brief."

A common misconception about scholarships is that a high grade point average is required.

"It's just not the case," Iven said. "We have plenty of scholarships available for 2.0 students."

For more information go to www.clackamas.edu/scholarships.

CCC wins Datatel award

By Robert Morrison
The Clackamas Print

Clackamas Community College has made it to the top of the Technological Era. On March 30, Clackamas was awarded the 2010 Datatel Partners in Excellence Award for their outstanding work in Information Technology.

John Speer, CEO and President of Datatel made the presentation to CCC and Roanoke College in Washington, D.C. Every year Datatel nominates a two-year college and a four-year college for the award. Each school was also given a plaque and an unrestricted monetary gift.

Clackamas, who has used Datatel since 1994, uses the program for registration, grades and many other technology needs that keep the school functioning. CCC was one of a number of schools that demonstrated a commitment to higher education and met a list of requirements to be nominated and receive the award.

"We are honored to receive this recognition from Datatel," said CCC President Joanne Truesdell in the press release about the award. She went on to say, "We look forward to our continued collaboration in the future."

Truesdell was presented with the award this past week by John Speer when she attended the American Association of Community Colleges

Datatel also called CCC a "showcase institution."

Clackamas was recognized for

sharing experience of the ware with other colleges as hosting conferences for Datatel clients.

Kim Carey, who is the Human Resources Manager Tiffanie Clifford, and the award in D.C. at the Users Group Conference is the Director Administrator Computer and Database

"I'm very proud of our institution as a 'showcase institution.' There are 700 colleges across the United States, Canada, surrounding territories that Datatel as their ESP vendor. Carey on the designation.

Janet Paulson, Information Officer at CCC "I think Clackamas has a hard to improve our electronic services for students and staff the leadership of our Information Technology staff and former Joe Austin. It's a privilege recognized for the good of our technology partner Datatel.

When contacted about award Joe Austin kindly declined to comment since he no longer with Clackamas. He had accepted a position at Clackamas Education District.

The school looks to receive the title as a "showcase institution" for years to come. Currently has no time set when the plaque will be displayed at the school. The Information Technology Service department looks to continue its relationship with Datatel so students and staff can have an easier going at Clackamas.

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