

# Turbine turns on the outside lights

By Mandie Gavitt  
The Clackamas Print

With the environment on the forefront of many people's mind, being "green" has become the newest trend. Clackamas Community College is not only jumping on the band wagon, but also taking the reins. Clackamas has become a pioneer of renewable energy classes. The courses that are taught here about renewable energy are being designed so they can be taught on other campuses as well.

These classes teach students about renewable energy and about potential careers in the field. At the same time, Clackamas has started various efforts to make itself more environmentally friendly. One of these efforts was to install a wind turbine on campus.

After Rusty Stephens, president of Wilson Community College in North Carolina, came to speak to the staff about renewable energy during an in-service day, it was felt that there was a greater need for renewable resources on campus, starting with a wind turbine, according to Scott Glitz, dean of technical career education.

When Clackamas decided that there was a desire for a wind turbine on campus, one of the biggest concerns was how to pay for it. Hilmo Ljucevic of campus services was the man for the job. Ljucevic had worked on his first renewable energy project in 1984 in Europe and was willing to do it for a lower cost. "I wanted to try and build a system nobody has," Ljucevic said.

He has certainly succeeded in his mission. Not only does the wind turbine power the lights outside of

Barlow, he has also found ways to monitor how much energy is being produced and how much energy is being used all over campus.

Ljucevic said that while there is a lot of talk about better energy and efficiency system, Clackamas is actually doing something about it. "We do our job," he said.

While the turbine itself only provides the campus with a small amount of power, the technology we have on campus helps keep things more energy efficient.

All classrooms are monitored at all times to see how much power is being utilized, what the temperature is and how much air pollution is being put out.

"It affects the way we feel," Ljucevic said. "Sometimes people have a headache or feel tired. They don't realize it can be because of the air pollution."

The system is so advanced that classrooms can be monitored to see if a computer has been left on overnight. This information is helpful so that if a particular building consistently leaves things running they can be reminded to turn off the things they do not use. As a result, our carbon footprint is lower and the campus does not waste money on using power that did not need to be used.

There is also an effort from Campus Services to be in close contact with students and staff on campus. This way, if a temperature begins to feel uncomfortable or if people consistently feel more lethargic in a certain room, things can be adjusted.

"We can't adjust it for one student," Ljucevic said, "but if many people say something we can look into it."

The turbine was an effort that took more than a year to accomplish and finally became a reality in spring. It now stands on top of Barlow and a new blade that is used to teach students to do repairs on a field on campus.

Though it is completely installed, the wind turbine is still an ongoing process which is hoped to be completed this year. When the project is completed, it will be a kiosk available to view the power output and cost savings of the turbine. The wind turbine is so small so it is only able to add a little bit of power to some of the lights in Barlow.

The hope is that students will be able to be educated about renewable energy.

"As a student and a person who has an interest in green energy resources, I am happy to see Clackamas Community College spearheading the effort in green energy education," said Brandon Davis, a Clackamas student. "With the rest of the community's help, we could lessen our dependence on foreign oil and leave a greener, healthier future for our children."

As stated in an e-mail from Glitz, the goal of the wind turbine is to "increase overall awareness of renewable energy's potential as is demonstrated by the working wind turbine." He also stated that the turbine would "power a series of lights illuminating the walkway at the bottom of the outside steps on the quad at Barlow Hall" when completed.

The school is also currently designing a new facility to be an alternative energy lab. This lab will be used to further teach students about renewable energy.

# Call center rings off the hook at Clackamas Community College

By Pamela Hollis  
The Clackamas Print

"Thank you for calling Clackamas Community College ..."

CCC has started off a new year with a new venture: a call center operated by students to assist students. Peer assistants, work study students and staff all work together to help their fellow classmates. In prior years, one person received all calls, transferring them to their appropriate extensions. This method was tedious and time consuming. With a new phone system, a more useful phone tree and the students that now absorb the volume of the calls, more work gets done and more students are served.

"I am proud of it," said Rochelle Dawn, the enrollment services call center coordinator. "Every day it gets better. Every day we learn something better."

The bulk of the questions that come in refer to students' MyClackamas accounts. Coming in a close second are questions concerning financial aid, sub-

sequently followed by questions about how to get to the college, what the fax number is and what day is



Heather Smith answers student inquiries in the enrollment services call center.

the last to drop a class.

If callers have their student I.D. number ready when they phone in, it will expedite the call. The call and announcements loop when the caller is on hold and may contain the information they are seeking.

A full time peer assistant works an additional 10 hours per term on top of homework, family and in general. Tuition is reimbursed, which comes from revenue that has not been collected. Work study is federally funded and comes from the government.

"It is enjoyable. Everybody gets along and it is fun," said Heather Smith, a peer assistant working at the call center.

Work study students can apply to work at the center by checking the job announcements on the college website.

Peer assistants are chosen once a year in the spring. Applications are available in Roger's office during that time.

To sum up the new venture, Registrar Tara Smith said, "I love it. It has had a positive impact on students and staff."

## Clarification

In the story of the 10/13 issue a quote was cut off. Here is the quote in its entirety: "I applaud him and think that it is great that anyone takes an interest in public affairs and is willing to step up and run for public office. I think there are a lot of advantages to having a younger perspective."

## Student handbooks for sale or for free

Students still struggling with school can utilize resources in the student handbook. They can either buy a hardcopy for \$3 or download a PDF for free.

The Associated Student Government is selling student handbooks out of their office. The handbook contains compiled information for students, including phone numbers to major departments and offices, along with campus maps and building floor plans. A planner is even included. Information on financial aid, scholarships, grants, and tuition waivers is also within the ASG crafted pages.

The handbook's budget was cut two years ago, according to ASG President Alyssa Fava.

"Last year was the first year the student handbook was only released online and due to that, we had students flooding our office asking us where they had gone," Fava stated

in an e-mail.

Handbooks are given out for free at the New Student Experience before fall term starts. Anyone who missed out will have to buy one of their own.

"Because of the demand, ASG, in partnership with the CCC Bookstore, had decided to bring the student handbook back into tangible form. Because of how much it costs to make these handbooks, we had to set a price for the handbooks that enable us to cover some of what it cost to produce them, as well as keep them incredibly affordable for the students utilizing them," Fava stated.

Handbooks can be purchased from ASG at their office in the Community Center, room 152. The Clackamas Community College website offers a free download of the handbook at <http://www.clackamas.edu/documents/handbook.pdf>.

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