

# Students lose place to chill out



Brad Heineke Clackamas Print

Students often find Niemeyer a comfortable place to hang out with friends between classes. However, they may be in for a surprise if they get kicked out of Niemeyer. Students and staff debate about whether or not Niemeyer is the proper place to hang out between classes.

By Mandie Gavitt  
Associate News Editor

With the weather still very chilly, thoughts of hanging around are probably unpleasant for students. Fortunately for our students, Clackamas Community College has several places for students to hang out, including the community center, cafeteria, Randall and Niemeyer.

Some students who frequent Niemeyer are discovering that it is difficult to hang out where they once spent a great deal of time in classes.

According to some of the students, there have been occasions where they have been asked to leave by music instructor Dave Mills.

Mills declined to comment but those who work in Niemeyer said the noise has gotten so loud that staff have threatened to call security.

According to Kevin Asman, who is one of the students asked to leave, Mills told him that he couldn't hang out there.

Asman claims this has happened four times. "Music students, whether choir or band, should be able to talk and hang out here," Asman said. "It's quieter than the community center and warm."

Other music students are also upset about this happening. "This is the music, speech and theater department. We have the right to jam out here," said student Kimbverly Hockemeyer.

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*This is the music, speech, and theater department. We have the right to jam here.*

Kimberly Hockemeyer  
Clackamas Student

Many of the music students feel that they have a right to Niemeyer and the right to sing, play guitar and talk in the center.

"All of us that were there were music majors," said Tyler Stratton, who said he was not kicked out of

Niemeyer but told to quiet down. Stratton said he feels that the music majors have a right to hang out in Niemeyer and play music to express their thoughts and feelings through song. He said being told to be quiet felt like Mills was "squashing our creativity."

One of Mills' reasons for asking the students to be quiet was because classes were happening at the same time, according to Stratton. "When his class is going on we should be more quiet but, if you need a quiet class, close the door," said Stratton.

Jennifer Schwartzman, who works in the communications and theater arts department, said that she had not heard of students getting kicked out of Niemeyer. "There are no rules," she said. "If you are a student or have business at the college you are welcome to hang out here."

She said students have been asked to leave before but that was because of them being overly disruptive, such as playing football. She also said that she has had to ask students to stop singing in the gallery because they were being too loud.

However, she said that as long as the noise level is not out of control, students are allowed to sing, play guitar and express themselves through music in Niemeyer.



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## Correction

In the Feb. 16 issue of *The Clackamas Print* in the "Political science students lash at board members" article, it was stated that Robert Brown approached both the college administration and faculty senate. Brown did not approach the faculty senate.

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