



The Clackamas Print

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Part-timers searching for middle ground

By **Brian Baldwin**
News Editor

Two sides sit across from each other at a table. One side offers a piece of paper of what they want, then the other side scribbles on it, saying that this is what they want it to say instead. In the middle is a button, a button that they both share to call in support in this negotiation. Neither side is reaching for it, instead continuing to pass proposals back and forth until they agree on them all.

Currently, Clackamas Community College's collective bargaining team is in negotiations with the part-time faculty association to agree on a contract for the next three years. The negotiations have been ongoing since July and the majority of the contract has been agreed upon, but it has not been finalized. There are several issues that the part-time association said are unacceptable, such as a salary cut and doing away with Clackamas unique no-cap policy for part-time instructors on the amount of classes they can teach.

"In 2007 ... we were in a similar situation but not for the same reasons," said Rosemary Teetor, part-time instructor and president of the part-time association. "What we have this year are proposals that are unacceptable."

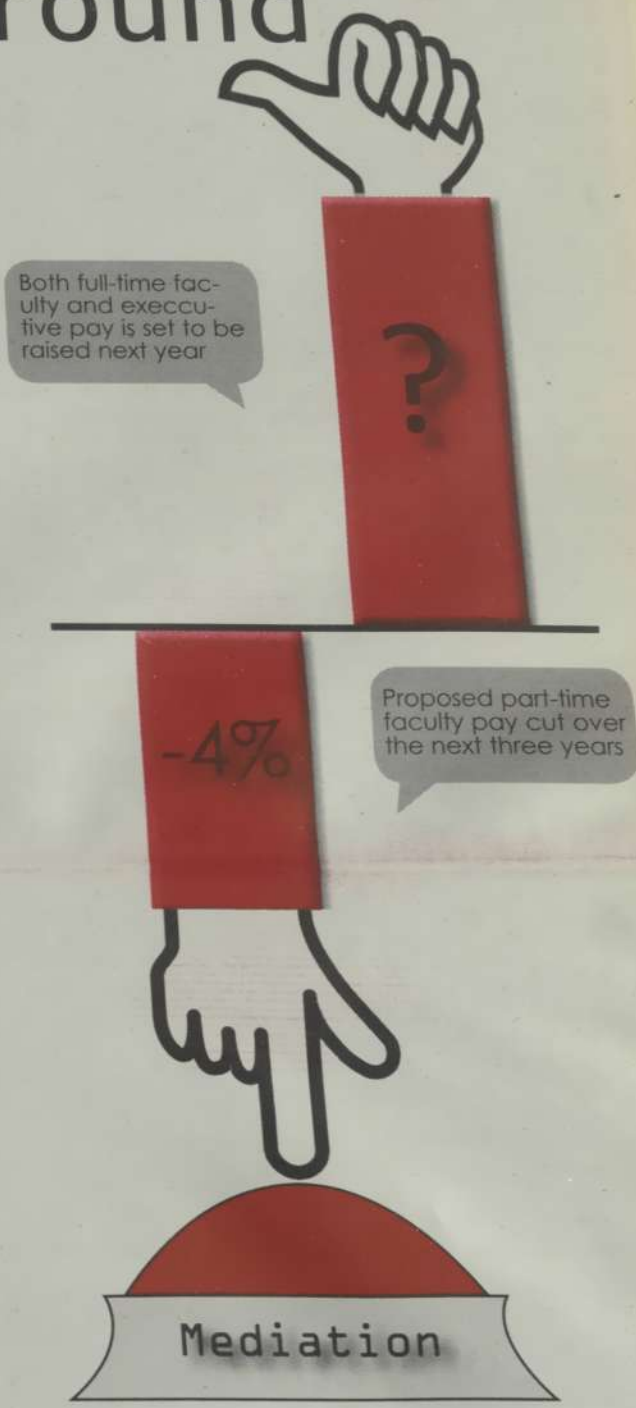
According to Teetor, one of the changes that could happen is a four percent pay cut over the next three years. The college did not provide them with an explanation.

"I suspect that if we asked the first thing we would hear is 'The economy, budget cuts and lower state support,'" said Teetor.

The association has submitted several proposals that Teetor said the college's bargaining team have not responded to. Instead the association received a reworded proposal that is "so far off the mark" that the association will simply resubmit the same proposal at the next bargaining meeting. Teetor is also asking the question of "Why us?"

"Why are we being asked to take cuts when everyone else got raises? And it's not just the classified and full-time faculty, it's also all of the exempt staff," said Teetor. "The exempt staff tends to get the same kinds of increases that the full-time faculty gets. For many of them, those are larger salaries so one percent for a full-time faculty member is different than a one percent for a dean."

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Musical mayhem shakes the college

By **Patty Salazar**
The Clackamas Print

"It all started with a \$100 guitar and a \$150 drum set," said Cory Conner, the drummer for The Finest Hour.

What's next is the Battle of the Bands on April 29, where The Finest Hour will compete against two other bands in the Gregory Forum of Clackamas Community College.

In addition to Conner, The Finest Hour also consists of Michael Underwood, rhythm guitar and vocals; Vartan Friedman, lead guitar; Hunter Collingwood, who plays the bass and Jimi Bench, lead vocals. Although Friedman and Collingwood attend Clackamas Community College, they heard about the school's Battle of the Bands from Bench.

They describe themselves as progressive metal with their influences including System of a Down, Slip Knot and As I Lay Dying. Underwood and Bench write all of

the band's songs. Conner describes their current songs taking after As I Lay Dying, sound wise.

Conner, who recently broke his hand at work, explained how it was going to affect his playing. "I figured if I had to, I can duct tape a stick to my hand. I'm not going to not play for Battle of the Bands."

Underwood said his initial reaction was "Can you play?" and then "Are you OK?"

The band said that although their drummer is hurt they are not going to let that affect the show on Friday. The Finest Hour made it clear that they are ready for the competition and they are excited to play for the community.

Also performing in this Battle of the Bands are Horse Eats Horse and Xachary Robert & Co., though only Zachary Robert of Xachary Robert & Co. was available for comment.

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Photo Contributed by Battle of the Bands' facet