

# Bill proposed by local representative can help fund projects

By Patty Salazar  
News Editor

No student should have his classes in a hollowed out trailer home, right? Well for some students that is exactly the case at Clackamas Community College.

More technical degrees come out every year; it's not a big surprise that the college is trying to upgrade to keep up with more efficient technology. Clackamas is known for its career technical education (CTE); renewable energy is one of the newer available degrees. If you have ever wondered what the mobile home sitting by the tennis court is used for, it's a classroom for renewable energy students. Dean of technology, health occupations and workforce, Scott Giltz said the college was unable to house the students elsewhere and that the uncongenial classroom was a last resort. "It's simply overflow," Giltz said.

The college isn't the only one who notices the changes of technology. House district 40 representative Dave Hunt introduced house bill 4028 that would allow all 16 community colleges in Oregon to get lottery bonds.

As soon as CCC was notified of the possibility of "free money" they scrambled to put together a \$800,000 proposal to submit towards the bill. Luckily for the college, most of the things in their proposal were already written up under the failed 2011 May bond.

House Bill 4028 would substantially benefit the college's CTE program by being able to buy hybrid and Flex fuel

vehicles for the automotive program. As of right now the automotive program students are working on older cars that can just be taken apart and put back together; one can learn only so much from that.

"Right now, we don't do a lot of it and we want to do more of training for hybrid vehicles. It's a whole different technology for technicians and there are quite a few on the road now and we want to increase our efforts there," Giltz said. "Right now we get them totaled from insurance companies and we repair them and give them back and that is all the experience we get, obviously not a controlled structured curriculum and we need to (buy) a couple of those."

With the Harmony campus used predominately by the nursing program, medical assistance and cynical lab assistant, the bill would be able to fund laboratory improvements and smart technology.

Robotics equipment for welding is also under the bill. Giltz explained the "robot" similar to the Wii.

John Phelps, welding instructor said that the Lincoln Electric VRTEX 360 is a virtual welding stimulator.

"It would be a great training tool in case someone had forgotten their gear," said Phelps.

He explained that buying such a machine would save money over time because it would reduce some of the money spent buying metal for students to practice on.

Second year welding student Travis Montminy said, "I can see how it is useful. It tells

you exactly what your doing wrong and tells you how to fix it. Before actually going to the shop and weld you can play with it a little bit and get an idea in what to do when you get out there."

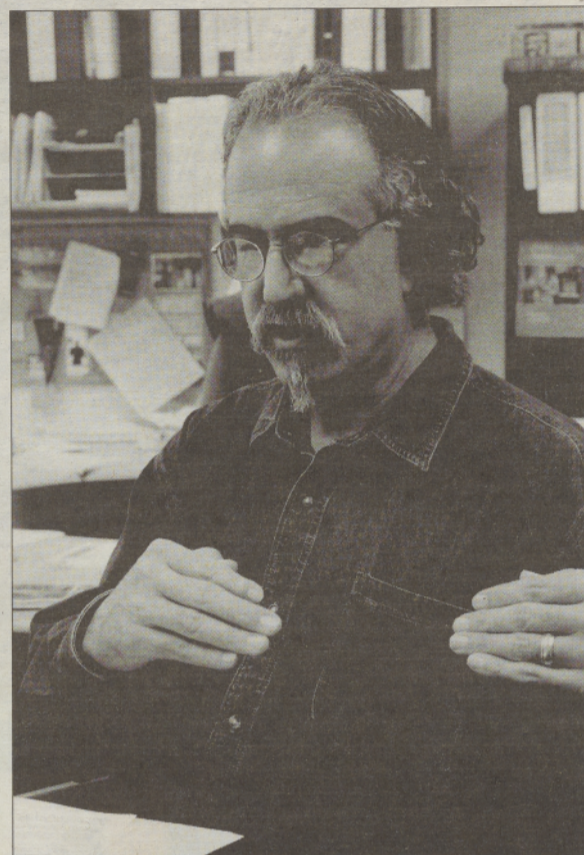
During the skills competition, Montminy was using the VRTEX and got a score of 94 points out of 100. Nobody beat Montminy's score.

"It does take some pressure off the general funds. It's kind of one of those point and time questions. Do we need this stuff? Yes. If we don't get the bill are we going immediately charge it to the general fund, no we are going to do with out. We are going to phase in purchases over time and rank them on what's critical and what's not," Giltz said.

"The money obviously would be very helpful in that it would allow [the] college to strengthen some existing academic programs. The community wins as a result by us being able to do a better job of serving them. Some of these purchases will also be from Clackamas area vendors, which helps the local economy.

Our board and other interested community members are contacting specific legislators asking for their support. If legislation does not pass, these improvements simply won't happen. We will continue to look for ways to strengthen our programs regardless, but it's challenging obviously given existing funding constraints and the absence of a bond," said Courtney Wilton, vice president of student services.

Representative Dave Hunt wrote "As Co-Chair of the



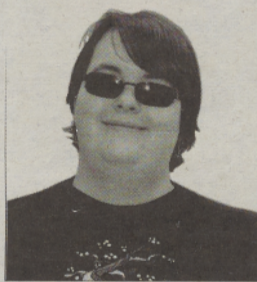
Hiroaki Hayashi The Clackamas Print

Steve Giltz, dean of technology occupations and workforce, explains the need of new technology on campus for students and community. The bill would cover manufacturing, automotive, robotics welding and energy technology.

Transportation and Economic Development Committee, I wrote and passed legislation during this year's Legislative Session to invest \$9.6 million in community college construction projects that will strengthen their workforce development partnerships with local businesses

and create good construction jobs. I am especially excited that we funded an \$800,000 construction project at CCC to upgrade industrial technology and science workforce advancement right here in Clackamas County."

## Rules of the Road — driving Miss Douchebag



By James Duncan  
Design Editor

Traffic, it can basically be summed up to little more than a large group of chil-

dren in very large, fast moving death machines. I say children because when most people get behind the wheel of their car, they lose all sense of humanity and sense of give and take.

Later this month the exit that many of us take to school will close. The crowds of commuters will be funneled into yet even fewer routes to their destinations. This means we are all going to have to learn to get along and follow some basic rules of the road.

One of the first skills teachers tried to offer us was sharing. Letting Billy play with your balls and letting Suzy

use your crayons. For many people sharing is one of the first lessons that is learned around three, but when 16 rolls around and you're driving a car for the first time, it all goes right out the fucking window and let's be honest; it just gets worse from there.

The problem is that most people are babies when it comes to the road. You lose your ability to share, your temper and start to think that shoving the front end of your car up the muffler of another is a great idea. It is all basic human psychology, when you are trying to get somewhere

you want to fill the space between you and the person in front of you.

Rule of the road No.1: Don't get so close!

This really is part of being human. It is why people are trampled to death in lines to see Justin Bieber and why drivers think it is a good idea to be a foot away from your bumper. The law requires a minimum distance of one car length between vehicles. Read your drivers manuals! When in motion and stopped you are REQUIRED to be a certain distance away. This is for everyone's benefit. If you leave

the required amount of space, it makes it easier for other people to merge and it helps traffic flow smoothly. If traffic is moving, leave the normal three seconds worth of space, but if traffic is getting worse don't hug their bumper. Leave more space and go at the right pace for the traffic. The less you hit your brakes in heavy traffic, the faster it will clear up. It's simply a fact.

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