

Joshua Dillen The Clackamas Print

Clackamas Community College student Trina McShane walks off of the Roger Rook parking lot towards campus. She, along with other Clackamas students, agree that parking has become hectic and scarce. Faculty members however would advise that students merely to show up about ten minutes earlier than normal for better spots.

# Welcome to the 46th parking games! May the spots be ever available

**Emily Rask**  
Associate News Editor

At Clackamas Community College there are nine parking lots available to students and faculty in which some provide more available parking than others. According to many students who drive to school, parking is a major aspect and hindrance when arriving at school.

Not only is it hard to find parking Mondays through Thursdays, it can also force students to be late to class. Fridays, on the other hand, are lax due to lack of classes, and

therefore it is easier and faster to find a good parking spot.

Clackamas student Trina McShane agrees with the problems concerning parking, struggling with this issue every Tuesday and Thursday before 11 a.m.

"Usually it takes me at least ten minutes to find a parking spot," said McShane. "There's always at least five cars circling the parking lot looking for spots."

The parking lots are located by the Family Resource Center, Roger Rook Hall, Barlow Hall, Randall hall, Clairmont Hall and by the Environmental Learning Center. It seems that there should be plenty of these

spots available, however two of these parking lots are not for students.

One of those parking lots is by the Family Resource Center and is for those working there and those dropping off their kids or picking them up.

The other lot is the visitor parking lot located by the Roger Rook Hall; it is a two-hour visitor parking and is not intended for students who have classes for more than two hours. The largest parking lot is by Barlow Hall, and although students may have to park far away, there is usually a spot or two open there, even early in the mornings.

Greg Willis, a Campus

Safety Police Officer, wishes there were more parking. He suggests that those who deal with not being able to find a parking lot should come early, and slowdown in the parking lots.

"They're not allowed to park in two-hour park, which is the visitor parking, right in front of Rook," said Willis. "And they're not allowed to park in front of the FRC, which is the day care."

Monday through Thursday mornings are the most hectic times to find parking because many students have classes during that time. According to David Fletcher, who works in the registrar's office in Roger

Rook, the best way to get a good spot is to wake up ten minutes earlier in the morning.

"At the beginning of term parking is hard to find, and Mondays and Wednesdays are hectic," said Fletcher. "Fridays, not so much."

For many students, a good parking spot in the mornings on campus is hard to come by but showing up at least ten minutes early is a helpful tip.

There is no additional news on whether CCC will be adding another parking lot in the near future, but even though there is limited parking available, knowing when and where to park can make it less of a challenge.

## Staff members surveyed on potential hike in tuition

The cost of education at Clackamas Community College may go up again next summer. After being raised to the current price of \$79 per credit beginning this fall, the cost may climb to \$84 as the college explores its fiscal options. This spike would mean the cost of a typical class would jump from \$316 to \$336.

The \$5 tuition increase is on the table as college administration looks at financial issues that must be addressed in next year's budget.

A survey being circulated to staff gives them the opportunity to submit their opinion about this and other budget decisions. It closes on Friday leaving only two more days for them to complete.

An annual payment of \$1.7 million to pay for the Harmony campus will eat up money. Rapidly rising PERS rates – which pay for the state's retirees – combined with the Harmony debt have led to a forecasted \$5 million gap between revenue and expenditures. This means the college's current budget is unsustainable according to the

survey's introduction. It also states that in spite of valuing staff feedback, budget decisions are not the result of popular vote.

"It's not set in stone, I mean there's a process we're going to go through to look at a number of options to balance our budget and tuition is a part of that equation, but it's not the whole part of it," said Courtney Wilton, the vice president of college services. "It would take effect next fiscal year, so the summer of 2013, next summer."

Budget decisions are made by the college's board of education. A decision to raise tuition would require a vote of approval by them before taking effect.

Tuition at CCC has nearly doubled in the past decade. During the 2002-2003 school year students paid only \$41 per credit.

If this newest suggested tuition hike were to become reality, it would mean the second year in a row that tuition has been increased here.

According to a press release from the college's public affair's office, another survey available

to staff and the college community was unveiled Nov. 19 and will close in February.

"Imagine Clackamas is designed to strengthen relationships with community members," stated Shelly Parini, dean of College Advancement.

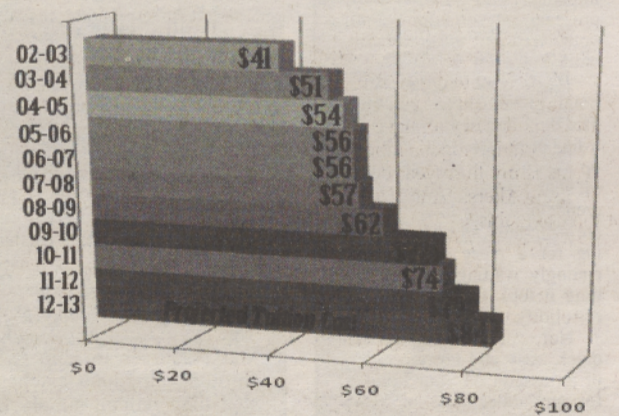
"This initiative will shine a light on areas where we should improve and adapt the college's educational and training services to better meet the needs of the communities we serve for the next 50 years."

The new survey will gather data to be used by a series of focus groups that will guide the college's decision-making process, priorities and activities for the future stated the press release.

Students, staff and community members can complete the 10 minute online survey at [www.clackamas.edu](http://www.clackamas.edu) until Feb. 19, 2013.

Printed copies are available by calling 503-594-3015 or ext. 3015 from any campus phone.

– Compiled by Joshua Dillen



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