

Survey aims to improve college as it nears 50th anniversary

Erin Carey
News Editor

There are many people at Clackamas Community College whose entire line of work is to make it run smoother. These people work incredibly hard on improving the quality of education year after year, even when they're faced with difficult roadblocks such as budget cuts that have dramatically set back progress in some areas. The newest endeavor, Imagine Clackamas, spotlights what not only the students direly need to have changed, but what the community based around CCC values the most.

Shelly Parini was a founding mastermind in creating Imagine Clackamas. She also

serves as the dean of College Advancement.

"The board is preparing for the 50th year of service in 2016, [and] wanted to really better understand what the community most values about CCC's service—our programs, our physical space," Parini said. "We also wanted to identify where we can improve."

Imagine Clackamas was a survey that took over 100 district members to form during summer 2012 and took one year to complete. More than 1,500 students, staff and faculty took the survey, along with members of the community and local businesses. Around 750 high school students as well as community members took part in face-to-face surveys. The school put together a reception for the results of this extensive

survey, one that many faces of the community attended.

The greatest struggles that Imagine Clackamas highlighted were many that students at CCC feel on a daily basis, the biggest of them being financial. With the economy still struggling, many students are feeling the pinch when tuition continues to rise. Joanne Truesdell, CCC's president, understands that the students are finding it more difficult to keep up with the fiscal struggles.

"We're trying to keep tuition low, and it's difficult," Truesdell said. "It doesn't help the students much for us to say that we have the lowest tuition in the state—we do—but it's still extremely expensive."

The financial roadblock that is glaringly evident is some-

thing that Imagine Clackamas and the team that they've assembled are doing their best to clear. It requires pushing scholarships, grants, all of the things that can ease financial burdens on the students and making these scholarships well-known to the students, ensuring that they're aware of these opportunities.

The second biggest hurdle is transportation. CCC serves

students from a wide variety of places, and for that reason, transportation gets trickier. CCC has received a new shuttle to help increase the accessibility of the Oregon City campus, but it's still a work in progress.

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Veterans, students share memories at Veterans Day event

Robert Crombie
The Clackamas Print

Although excitement and hopes were high in anticipation of the quality of readings and number of veterans attending, the atmosphere and lighting in the Winklesky Literary Center was calm and comfortable. Yummy refreshments were provided including soda, chips, and other snacks.

Marlene Broemer, the event coordinator, smiled brightly as she explained how this year's veterans reading is the second annual and expects to see many more to come. "This event came from the 'Writing for Veterans' workshop and we hope we can keep it going," Broemer said. "I am hoping to see some veterans tonight and eventually we would like to see a veterans writing group be formed."



Marlene Broemer, welcomes everybody to the Veterans Day story telling event. Veterans gathered with students to tell stories on Veterans Day.

veterans," said Nate Courtney whose pen name is "Flying Owl."

Aaron Leque, a writers club member, helped setup for the event.

"I expect good patriotic, good spirited literature," Leque said.

Writing Teacher Ryan Davis anticipated a good evening. "I hope to see some veterans' contributions and a good-size crowd," said Davis. He was hopeful, but realized that timing can present a challenge. "There is a bigger crowd, usually in the afternoon," he said. "It's harder to get a lot of people in the evenings after three o'clock."

English Teacher Kate Gray's father and four uncles were all in the military, Gray explained

"Grandpa made sure they were all in different branches," she said.

As she waits for the readings to begin, Gray asks the question of the evening. "What would be a good way to help support the veteran writers?"

Broemer opened with a welcome and an invitation for people to share their experiences, either as a veteran or about veterans whom they knew.

Maj. Greg Myers, U.S. Marine, spoke about his father who was a Vietnam veteran. "He absolutely won't talk about Vietnam," Myers said. "He has tons of pictures, but won't talk about it."

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NWAACC soccer wraps up season

David Beasley
Sports Editor

NWAACC soccer season came to a close Sunday. Over the weekend, championship titles were awarded to teams. Outstanding individual athletes and coaches were recognized and they took part in an All-Star match.

2013 NWAACC Women's Soccer All-Stars from Clackamas were: South Region Coach of the Year Janine Szpara; South Region MVP Tori Roberts at midfield; Midfielder Claudia Flores; Defender Marci Haynes; and Keeper Melanie Trumbull. The Cougar All-Stars played for South-West in the 2-2 tie between North-East and South-West All-Star teams.

The winning women's soccer team of the championships was Peninsula with a 2-1 victory against Edmonds on Sunday. Peninsula went undefeated in league this season.

Edmonds won their way into the final game with a vic-

tory on Saturday. That victory was a hard-fought, disappointing 1-2 loss for Clackamas. The Cougars subsequently placed third in the championships.

The ladies of Clackamas soccer are a classy and talented bunch. They were top in South Region and had an impressive season with 12-2-2 in league play. The Cougars have cause to be proud as they have proved to be one of the top teams in the league.

But luck was not on the Cougars' side Saturday. The coin toss at the start of the game declared that Edmonds would kick off. The initial leverage of ball possession gave Edmonds a slight edge, putting Clackamas on the defensive early. Edmonds kept up the pressure.

Edmonds took a shot early in the first half that was deflected and went just wide, resulting in a corner kick. Shortly after, another Edmonds corner kick set up a header attempt that went over the Cougars' goal.

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Defender Dija Kirkland boots the ball upfield.

Brittany Home The Clackamas Print

“

I hope to learn a little more about the prospective of veterans.”

Nate Courtney
Volunteer from Writers Club

As volunteers from the Writers Club set up the event, they expressed their expectations. "I hope to learn a little more about the prospective of