

How are you getting to campus?

College hires expert to break down transportation barriers for students

by **PATTY SALAZAR**
editor-in-chief

Clackamas Community College launched Imagine Clackamas, a survey for students, college employees and community, in late 2012 to get a feel of what respondents think the college needs to improve. Transportation was the second largest barrier that the Imagine Clackamas team found. Now the college has found dedicated individuals who can evaluate what transportation hurdles students are dealing with on a daily basis.

Adam Moore is a recent graduate with a masters degree in civil engineering from Portland State University.

He was hired by the college in March to conduct studies on how to improve transportation to better suit the needs of students. Although Imagine Clackamas was able to

identify the problem, it is now up to Moore during his eight-month fellowship to conclude what can be done to make students' life a little easier.

"It's kind of scary," Moore said. "To have this big huge campus with thousands of students and we're not entirely sure how they're getting here."

Whether you are riding the bus, biking or driving to CCC, there seems to be some room for improvement. To get a better understanding on what the obstacles students have to deal with to get to and from the college, Moore is trying out different routes.

"My goal is to try out all the different ways to get here myself," Moore said. "Just so I have experience with them." Moore, who lives in Northeast Portland, usually rides his bike to a nearby bus stop, hops on the 33 and gets dropped off in front of the college, taking him an hour and 15 minutes each way.

The second way he commutes to college is by riding his bike to a MAX platform, catching the green line to Clackamas Town Center and then jumping on the free shuttle

that the college and Towncenter Xpress provide to the Oregon City and Harmony campuses. That route usually takes him an hour to and from the college.

In addition to taking different routes, Moore is also setting up a transportation survey that is going to be sent out to a random sample of students, staff and faculty. "We want to know what modes students are using to get here," Moore said. "It's really important for what we need to look at because for instance, if everyone is driving to campus then we don't need to look at bike paths."

Moore says it's a tough project because there is so much to do but he's also finding some of it to be easy because there are simple fixes. One of his ideas is to establish a carpool network. "All it takes is a pretty simple fix... A light bulb goes off in your head," Moore said.

While Moore is spending a lot of time on the Oregon City campus, he's also keeping a close eye on the Harmony campus located in Clackamas, and the Wilsonville campus. Moore hopes to recommend a shuttle system for the Wilsonville campus, but knows that

it will ultimately be up to the college on what they decide to do.

"It's my goal to give them all the information they need," Moore said. "So the college can look at a glance and they can say, 'we need to apply resources here, there and everywhere.'"

So what do students think the college can do to improve transportation?

Maddie Pizzuti, a CCC student, drives 45 minutes to the Oregon City campus and constantly runs into traffic, especially at the main entrance. "Traffic can be a beast," she said. "When I'm waiting to turn into the college, the turning light is so short. There will be 40 cars waiting; I swear. Can we make that light five seconds longer, please?"

For students who sometimes use public transportation such as Elena Allen, she finds herself preferring to catch the Clackamas Town Center shuttle and then catching TriMet, but the shuttle does not offer Friday afternoon rides.

"Taking the shuttle and then a bus makes it a little easier," Allen said. "Running the shuttle a little later on Fridays would help."



MOORE

The Clackamas Print wins six awards

On Friday, The Clackamas Print attended the annual Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association awards ceremony at Linn-Benton Community College in Albany, Ore. After a moving speech by Willamette Week news editor Brent Walth, The Clackamas Print took home six awards.

First place: Best News Story by Editor-in-Chief **Patty Salazar** and **Best Spot News Photo** by **Brad Heineke**.

Second place: Best House Ad by staff and **Best Feature Photo** by **Andrew Koczian**.

Third place: Best Writing by **Sequoia Allen** and **Best Graphic** by **Anna Axelson**.



Right: Editors of the Clackamas Print proudly display their awards.

Correction: The graph printed in the previous issue had George Fox University's 2013 - 2014 per credit cost incorrectly at \$798. The tuition increase is from \$930 to \$954. We regret the error.

PRINT STAFF

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