

Naturopathic College's plans include doubling student enrollment

By Lee Perlman
The Southwest Portland Post

Explaining his plans for the National College of Naturopathic Medicine, president David J. Schleich likes to quote from a poem by Robert Browning: "Man's reach should exceed his grasp, or what's a heaven for?"

Schleich is reaching to double the college's 500 student enrollment, just for starters.

The campus at 049 SW Porter is "the oldest naturopathic college in America," Schleich told the South Portland Neighborhood Association at a recent meeting.

When he arrived here from Canada,

and somehow managed to find the place amid the spaghetti maze of roads at the west end of the Ross Island Bridge, "My first impulse was, 'Float this down the river and let the Navy use it for target practice,'" he said. "But it grows on you."

At the same time, he is trying to "grow the college." Already he has added a new degree program in herbal arts, is looking to add classes in cooking and early childhood education.

Schleich has added kiosks and gardens to the grounds, tripled the size of the bookstore, and has started a Whole Life Market that offers "food and services in support of a healthy

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Opening days of the College's "Whole Life Market." (Photo courtesy of National College of Naturopathic Medicine)



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