

# GREATER GORGE

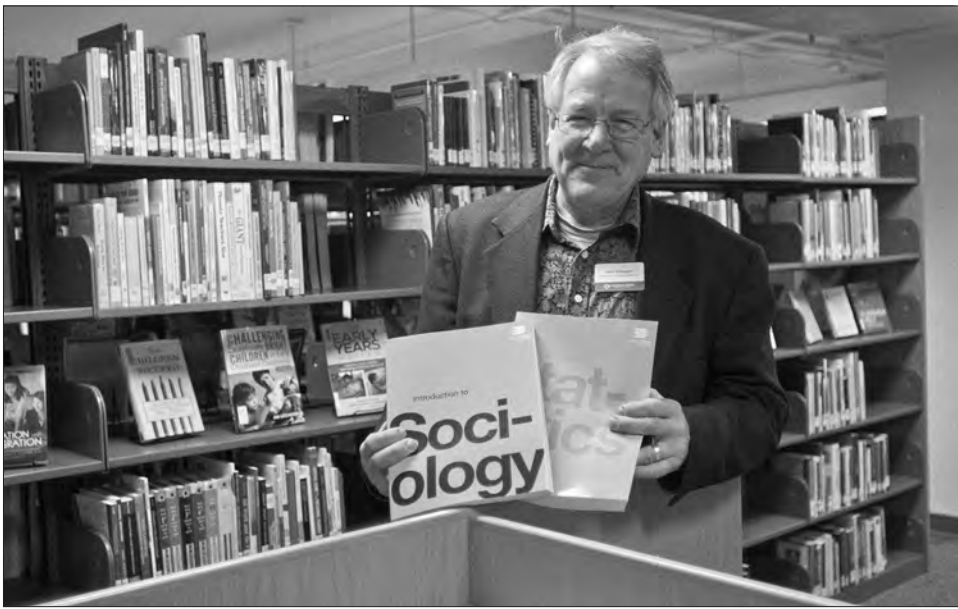


Photo by Mark Gibson

**JOHN SCHOPPERT** holds Open Source textbooks used at Columbia Gorge Community College, which cost students about \$25 each and replace commercial textbooks priced at \$185 each. The Gorge Open program, started in 2013, is helping teachers at the college adopt open source resources and has saved students over \$35,000 in textbook costs in the past two years.

## CGCC finds ways to make textbooks more affordable

By **MARK GIBSON**  
The Dalles Chronicle

John Schoppert, director of library services at Columbia Gorge Community College, is on a mission to save students money.

For the past two years, Schoppert has worked with instructors at the college to help them shift from commercial textbooks to Open Education Resources.

Open Education Resources are textbooks and other materials published online under a license that allows free and open use.

They can be freely downloaded, modified or printed. The OER program at CGCC, called Gorge Open, was started in 2013.

According to Schoppert, textbooks have increased in cost by 812 percent since 1978, almost 500 percent more than medical services increased in the same time frame.

Students struggled to purchase textbooks at an average cost of \$1,200 a term.

The OER funding of \$6,500 has saved students \$35,246 in textbook costs, Schoppert reported.

"It's a whole new way of teaching, when you are not relying on someone else's textbook," Schoppert explained to the board at a recent meeting.

"It's a lot of work," he added. "Some instructors wrote their own textbooks."

Others modified textbooks created at other colleges.

Schoppert explained that a natural history textbook created for use in Florida, for example, may in large part meet the needs of a course in the Columbia River Gorge once habitat examples are modified to reflect the local area.

"You add in all your own bells and whistles," he explained.

The savings for students can be significant: A printed open textbook currently in use at the college costs about \$25, and replaces a commercial textbook priced at \$185. Other curriculum is based online, using resources and databases purchased by the college that are free to the student.

Classes at CGCC that used OER resources in the winter term included fundamentals of music, U.S. government 1, human development, critical reading, college algebra, alternative energy resources, English composition and

cascading style sheets.

The online curriculum is not a complete success, Schoppert noted. "The problem is, students like books, they like hardcover books."

Yet many online resources can be printed, if that is preferred, and surveys on the open source resources used in various classes has been positive.

The textbook affordability program recently received full support from the college board of directors, who voted unanimously in support of the program.

Moving forward, Schoppert hopes to continue to expand the program into core courses, develop a faculty team to maintain sustainability, align the CGCC program with the Oregon higher education coordinating commission textbook affordability program and partner with the state-wide OER librarian to build curriculum.

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## Krummel named to Dean's List

Duncan Krummel, a music composition major in the School of Music at Ithaca College, was named to Dean's List for the fall 2014 semester. Krummel is a 2013 graduate of Hood River Valley High School.

Ithaca College prepares students for success through hands-on experience with internships, research and study abroad. Its integrative curriculum builds bridges across disciplines and uniquely blends liberal arts and professional study. Located in New York's Finger Lakes region, the College is home to 6,100 undergraduate and 460 graduate students.

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**TRACI DOMINGUEZ**

Owner // Nail Tech // Stylist // Esthetician

With great pride I've been in the salon industry for 24 years and I am a licensed hair stylist, nail technician and esthetician. I take pride in my salon and work. I use only the best professional products and practice the upmost standards in sanitation practices to keep my clients safe. In my salon I have a variety of Redken, Nioxin and OPI retail products.

I was diagnosed with Malignant Melanoma Skin Cancer in June of 2012 and have had many basal cell and squamous cell carcinoma skin cancers removed, so I decided to make it possible for everyone to have a safe tan and have a healthy summer glow all year long! I offer UV-free airbrush spray tanning with different color tones to accommodate any skin tone. A safe alternative to tanning beds.



**STACY ROSENBERG**

Stylist // "Green" Salon Specialist

I've been in the business for 25 years and have countless hours of advanced training. I was an environmental science major in college, which is reflected in the salon products and services I bring to the community.

In the salon I use Chi color because the company's mission to eliminate health hazards from the salon environment and keep salon professionals from becoming sick from exposure.

I also use formaldehyde-free straighteners and retail products by Loma Organics, and Onesta some of the best hair care products on the market. They are made in the USA.

We now know some 60-75% of the product we apply topically is absorbed through the skin. I am especially proud of Rose & Myrrh, a line of skin care product I have formulated and manufactured from food grade organic ingredients.



**BRANDI DOMINGUEZ**

Nail Tech

When I was growing up the one who most inspired me about art was my grandfather. I would look at his wonderful drawings and I thought "Maybe I can be this good!" I took art classes in high school and loved it!

In the few years I have been in this industry I have found out how important it is for men and women to take care of their hands and feet! My specialty is natural nail manicures, pedicures, shellac and nail art.

I take pride in doing freehand nail art and showing my creativity with design and color.

In April 2013 I earned my nail tech license and take pride in using professional product and keeping my clients safe with professional sanitation practices that is my #1 priority in my business.



**ALICE PIERSON**

Hair Stylist

Alice has been making the people of Hood River look good for 40-plus years, which is unbelievable because she has more energy than someone half her age. Her clients and co-workers refer to her fingers as magic.

If you are ever in need of a wig or hair piece Alice is the one to talk to. You may have seen her work on stage at the Lions Follies. She gives back to the community by doing all the hair for the show which she's been doing for 39 years.

Alice is especially kind, gentle with her many elderly clients. Tropical Illusions is a comfortable atmosphere with friendly staff for them to visit every week for their roller sets.

