

CAREER & EDUCATION

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THE LAW OFFICES OF
Patrick John Sweeney, P.C.

Patrick John Sweeney
Attorney at Law

1549 SE Ladd
Portland, Oregon

Portland: (503) 244-2080
Hillsboro: (503) 244-2081
Facsimile: (503) 244-2084
Email: Sweeney@PDXLawyer.com



Portland Community College District President Preston Pulliams (left) and Portland State University President Wim Wiewel sign a new dual enrollment agreement at PCC's Downtown Center.

PSU and PCC Expand Co-Admission

Dual enrollment gives students flexibility

Portland Community College and Portland State University have renewed a streamlined co-admission agreement that makes it easier for students to take classes at both institutions, live in PSU residence halls and complete their degrees.

The two institutions started co-admitting students in 2001 after research on enrollment patterns showed students were enrolling in multiple schools on their own without the benefit of a structured degree pathway – a trend called "swirling."

Dual enrollment gives students more coordinated support to meet their educational needs. The new agreement establishes application deadlines, allows students to apply online and opens PSU housing to co-admitted students on a space available basis.

The goal is to get more students into the educa-

tional pipeline, according to PCC District President Preston Pulliams.

Pulliams said Oregon ranks 27th in country in the percentage of high school students going into higher education – a number he hopes will improve with this renewed Portland State partnership.

"We cannot stand alone any longer as institutions," he said. "We have to come up with new and creative ways of approaching this issue. For me that's what this program really represents. It raises the number of students who can come to PCC and PSU and be successful and move on with their lives."

PSU President Kim Wiewel said 36 percent of all of undergraduates at PSU started at PCC.

"That's huge," Wiewel said. "Among our senior class, 43 percent of them are a PCC transfer student. It's absolutely an integral part of who we are as an institution to have this relationship. To continue to find ways to make it work better is absolutely critical, and this is one step in that."

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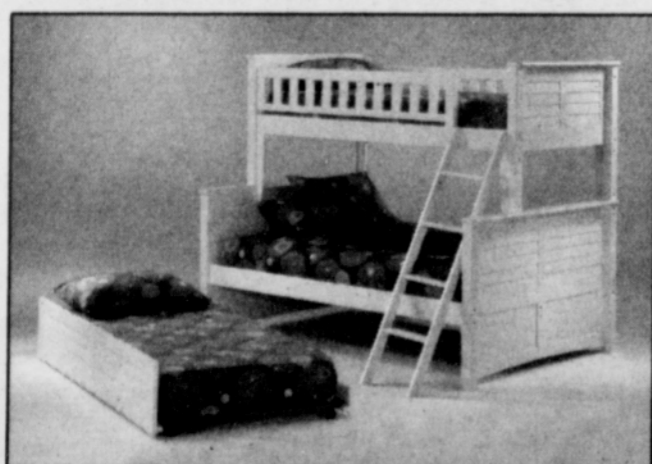
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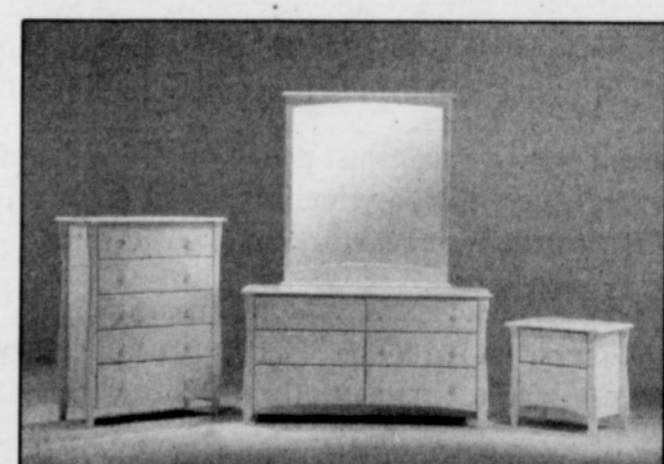
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