

CAREER & EDUCATION

A Lasting Impact

continued ▲ from front

Cascade Campus."

Cascade has grown by 66 percent in credit enrollment since Gatewood took over in 2004. To help accommodate his campus' popularity, Gatewood shepherded the opening and dedication of several Cascade Campus buildings from the 2000 bond and has been instrumental in the visioning and engagement of the 2008 bond work currently going on at Cascade.

But maybe what he'll be most noted for will be his partnerships that serve needs of the surrounding neighborhoods.

Starting in 2008, Gatewood and

the college partnered with Portland Public Schools to form the Jefferson High School Middle College for Advanced Studies program. The Middle College partnership enables students from Jefferson High School to take college credit classes at the nearby Cascade Campus with the opportunity to earn up to 45 college credits at PCC by the time they get their Jefferson diploma.

A number of four-year institutions, including the University of Oregon, Oregon State, Portland State, Willamette University, Marylhurst University, and Warner Pacific College offer scholarship opportunities to Pell Grant-eligible Middle College students, as does

private-sector partner Legacy Health System.

Essentially, this means that most Middle College students have the opportunity to earn a four-year degree at little or no cost.

Gatewood negotiated the creation of the annual Washington State University-Vancouver Community College President's Award, which provides two years of tuition-free study at WSU-V to a deserving Cascade Campus graduate. He also created and endowed, in honor of his late father, the Haywood Gatewood Memorial Scholarship to assist students pursuing a career in the trades.

In 2006, in response to the crime and livability issues that troubled

the neighborhood around Cascade Campus, Gatewood reached out to residents, businesses, and organizations in the area to form the Albina-Killingsworth Safe Neighborhood Commission.

The commission worked to implement common-sense solutions to the problems facing the community and, with strong support from the Portland Police Bureau, managed to achieve a 27-percent reduction in violent crime compared to the area's five-year average.

The commission's work was recently honored with a Commendation Medal from the Portland Police Bureau as well as a Crime Prevention Project Award from the City of Portland's Office of Neighborhood Involvement.

In 2007, Gatewood led the effort to rename the Cascade Campus Skill Center for former State Sen. Margaret Carter, a longtime African-American leader in north and northeast Portland.

The Skill Center has helped hundreds of people from disadvantaged or underrepresented backgrounds to gain the skills they need to find living-wage jobs. Two years later, he led the charge to rechristen the campus building where the Skill Center is housed as the Senator Margaret Carter Technology Education Building.

In addition, Gatewood opened the Weekend College in 2007, which offered an assortment of classes

scheduled exclusively on weekends for people who desired to improve their job skills, earn a degree and further their education, but who may not have time during the week due to family or job obligations.

Gatewood established Oregon's first annual Financial Aid Day, and under his leadership, PCC significantly increased its support for the Cascade Festival of African Films, one of the largest African film festivals in the nation and Cascade Campus' flagship annual event.

"It is humbling to look back at how much our campus and community have changed in such a short span of time," Gatewood said.

"Our enrollment has grown beyond anyone's expectations, in part because we have evolved to offer our students more options, and serve them better, than we ever have before," he added. "We have deepened and strengthened our connection to our community, and—through the Middle College partnership with Jefferson High School—have created the means to bring about a profound change to this neighborhood which will be felt for generations. And with the construction of our new buildings, which seem to rise higher and higher every day, we are becoming even more the educational, social, and economic hub of our community."

James G. Hill is a communications specialist for Portland Community College.



Sure, you may be thinking that summer is just beginning but that means it is the right time to begin thinking ahead about the coming school year.

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Prospective Students Tour Georgetown University

(AP)—Grants and scholarships are taking a leading role in paying college bills, surpassing the traditional role parents long have played in helping foot the bills, according to a report from loan giant Sallie Mae.

Since the recession, more college-bound students have eliminated schools from their searches based on costs and have relied less on their parents once they get to campus, said the report released Tuesday. Worries such as tuition increases and job losses seem to have faded as the economy has improved, yet parents and students still make decisions on schools, majors and work schedules based on the price tag.

"We have moved into a post-recession reality in how people pay for college," said Sarah Ducich, Sallie Mae's senior vice president for public policy.

The average student borrowed \$8,815 in federal loans.

The rate for those loans was the subject of debate in the Senate last week, as lawmakers considered a

compromise that would offer some students lower rates for the next few years but would prescribe higher rates for future classes. The Senate is expected to vote on that compromise this week.

Last year, the average family turned to grants and scholarships to cover 30 percent of college costs.

Parents' enthusiasm for college has not shriveled, though. The survey found 85 percent of parents saw college bills as an investment in their children's future.

One-fifth of parents added work hours to pay for college and half of students increased their work hours, too. The report found 57 percent of families said students were living at home or with relatives, up from 41 percent last year and 44 percent in 2011.

The tuition sticker price at public four-year colleges is up 27 percent beyond overall inflation over the last five years, according to the latest figures from a separate study from the College Board. This past year it rose nearly 5 percent to an average of \$8,655 nationwide.