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Back to Hands On Learning

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terms online, and I tried to adapt to online school, but I preferred in-person classes.”

When spring term began this past March 29, students were finally able to return to the classroom for resumption of in-person classes and training. This puts them on course to complete their state-mandated 540 hours of clinical practice and graduate this fall.

Beach and her team even raised \$7,775 to help pay for a two-credit “Skills Review” class for students

to take before going back into the dental clinic to work on patients.

“We weren’t just going to throw them into treating patients without making sure that they had reviewed and we’re ready,” Beach explained. “The fact that the community donated money so that they would not have to pay for those extra credits to get that review class was a big boost to our students.”

Meanwhile, a brand new group of 18 part-time students that began their certificates taking online classes during fall and winter are now experiencing their first in-person learning. The college

also offers its traditional full-time Dental Assisting Program, and currently has 41 students enrolled.

The dental assisting and hygiene students, as well as the college’s new dental clinic, operate in a brand new space in downtown Portland called the Vanport Building, which also provides healthcare services and community resources in conjunction with Portland State University, the city of Portland and Oregon Health & Science University.

The clinic is the cornerstone to training for the dental students and for those in the community

who want great dental care for a low price. It offers care to community members who, by booking appointments with the program, help train dental hygiene and assisting students.


Students provide free dental exams, dental X-rays, cleanings, small fillings and sealants, under the supervision of licensed professionals. The cost is no more than \$25 for a visit, and often less. Appointments are three to four hours long and work may require multiple visits.


To make an appointment, call 971-722-4909 or email dental-clinic@pcc.edu.


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Direct Action March Breaks Windows

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Bank building at MLK and Killingsworth, the Popeye’s restaurant at MLK and Ainsworth, the Natural Grocers store on MLK and Alberta, the O’Reilly Auto Parts store across the street, and at the Blazers Boys and Girls Club, next door to the North Police Precinct.

The so-called “direct-action” protest followed the police killing Friday of Robert Douglas Delgado, 46, a white man who had reportedly been acting like a

cowboy and doing “quick-draws” with what appeared to be a handgun in Lents Park. The details of the shooting were released by police for the first time on Monday.

Delgado’s gun turned out to be a replica with an orange tip, which is typically intended to distinguish toy guns or BB guns from functioning firearms.

The police said their investigation into the park shooting was hampered by a crowd of “fairly aggressive people” who showed up at the southeast Portland park. Then

that night, demonstrators broke windows, burglarized businesses and set fires downtown, including the Oregon Historical Society and a church, and police made four arrests after declaring a riot.

Portland has been the scene of regular protests, many involving violent clashes between officers and demonstrators, since the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis in May. There were demonstrations for more than 100 straight days last summer, and earlier last week, a crowd set a fire outside the city’s police union headquarters on North Lombard Street following recent fatal police shootings in Chicago and Minneapolis.

Portland police on Monday issued a timeline of events as well as dispatch audio around the time of Delgado’s shooting. The first officer arrived at 9:36 a.m. with others arriving shortly after, and within about four minutes officers reported Delgado had been shot and was down.

Police haven’t said what happened before he was shot. Delgado was shot by officer Zachary DeLong from about 90 feet away, police said, while two officers fired a 40mm device that shoots non-lethal projectiles.

It wasn’t clear why DeLong fired his rifle as others were using less-lethal options. According to dispatch radio traffic, DeLong had reported that Delgado was “very noncompliant” and had been making obscene gestures toward officers.

“I think the gun’s in his back pocket,” DeLong radioed to dispatch at one point.

An ambulance was called and by 9:48 a.m., officers were performing CPR on Delgado, who died of a single gunshot wound, police said.

DeLong is on paid administrative leave, authorities said.

--Associated Press contributed to this story.

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