

## MICHAEL ERIC DYSON SPEAKS



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

Michael Eric Dyson, sociology professor at Georgetown and prolific author delivered the A. Scott Bullitt Lecture in American History, titled "Martin Luther King Jr. and (African) American Leadership in the 21st Century" Oct. 13 at Mount Zion Baptist Church.

## PCC Gears Up for November Bond Measure

If passed, funds would go toward updating job training centers and more

By *Melanie Sevcenko*  
*Of The Skanner News*

**P**ortland Community College is asking that voters think to the future of workforce training when they hit the polls in November.

As the largest post-secondary institution in Oregon, serving nearly 78,000 students, PCC has put forward a bond measure that, if passed, will provide \$185 million towards revamping job training centers and updating facilities to be more modern, safe, and cost and energy-efficient.

"It's important for our students to be trained and study on equipment that's

going to be used in the workplace. It gives our students an economic and workforce advantage that they might not have otherwise," said Sylvia Kelley, executive vice president of PCC, who called the some of the college's buildings "ancient."

The bond, called Measure 26-196, is a renewal of an expiring \$144 million bond passed in 2000. At that time internet use accelerating in homes and businesses, which meant technologies in educational institutions had to evolve. Seventy-two percent of Multnomah County residents voted to pass it back then.

Today's bond, at \$41 million more, is estimated to maintain the tax rate of 40 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value. And that's good for the next 16 years.

"One thing that was important for us is recognizing the increased cost in housing in this region and the growth that's occurred," Kelley told *The Skanner*. "And the affordability for our students and our communities matter to us. We decided it would be important for us to maintain the same estimated tax rate moving forward."

Simply put, passing the bond measure will not cost taxpayers anything extra.

Moreover, says PCC, every \$1 invested in PCC returns \$12.50 to Oregon's economy in the form of state revenue and social savings.

The college passed another bond in 2008 — separate from Measure 26-196 — which, at \$374 million, was the largest in the state at that time. Multnomah County voted 63.2 percent in favor of it.

In spite of the recession, PCC was experiencing tremendous growth, with a 40 percent increase in enrollment. The 2008 capital construction bond thus funneled money into building classrooms and expanding

See **BOND** on page 3



PHOTO COURTESY OF OREGON UNITED FOR ROHINGYAS

On Sept. 24 about 700 people rallied in downtown Portland to protest the ethnic cleansing of Rohingyas in Burma.

## Oregon Rohingyas Speak Out on Genocide

Portland's small Rohingya community raising voices for US intervention

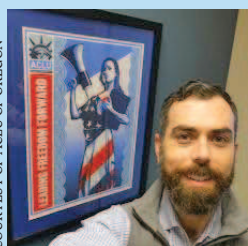
By *Christen McCurdy*  
*Of The Skanner News*

**I**n Malta, Mohammed Husson Ali taught school and later worked as a food monitor for the state welfare program. Then he was expelled from his community, first leaving for Bangladesh and then for Malaysia. In 2012, he came to Portland and became a U.S. citizen.

Ali is in constant contact with his family members, who live in refugee camps in Burma. And he's part of a small, growing movement to raise awareness about the ethnic and religious persecution of Rohingyas in Myanmar.

According to Yusuf Iqbal, whose

See **ROHINGYAS** on page 3



COURTESY OF ACLU OF OREGON

Mat dos Santos, legal director at the ACLU of Oregon.

## ACLU Files FOIA Request Over ICE Records

page 9

## Georgia Could Get America's First Black Female Governor

page 9

## State Settles With Erious Johnson, Nkenge Harmon Johnson

Former top civil rights attorney cannot work for the state again for five more years

*The Skanner News Staff*

**T**he state of Oregon has settled with the former head of the Department of Justice's civil rights division, and with the current president and CEO of the Urban League of Portland. Erious Johnson and Nkenge Harmon Johnson, who are married, filed legal claims with

the state agencies that employed them in 2015 and 2016 respectively. The results of both claims were announced last week.

Erious Johnson sued the state in 2016 after the 2015 revelation that the DOJ had run surveillance on Twitter users using the #BlackLives-

See **SETTLEMENT** on page 3



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Erious Johnson