

SUMMER 2009

PCC

COMMUNITIES

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Portland Community College

Enroll now!
Classes starting
June-September

Go Green

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Momentum

We're all about that.

I want to earn my degree and eventually a master's in mechanical engineering. With years of school ahead, spending my first two years at PCC is a better value.

Ghassan

Mechanical Engineering Transfer
Future Graduate Student



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Correction

A story in the spring issue of PCC Communities about the PCC Foundation and the Miller Foundation challenge grant misspelled the name of reference and instruction librarian Anthony Greiner. We regret the error.

On the Cover:



Microelectronics student Cindy McElroy holds a flexible solar panel as part of a lab experiment for the solar voltaic manufacturing technology curriculum. To read more about the microelectronics program turn to Page 60.

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Welcome to the summer issue of PCC Communities.

Portland Community College's official colors are blue and gold, but if you look around, it's more like green.

We are constantly rocked back on our heels by the depth and breadth of environmentally friendly program offerings that we make available for students, both in Community Education and the for-credit schedule.

Take a look at the "Green Living" section of the magazine, page 25. There, we offer a wide array of classes ranging from green decorating to global warming to creating a compost pile to solar power.

Meanwhile, on the credit side, PCC has the ability to quickly develop degree options to serve the emerging "green technology" jobs that will thrive once this recession ends.

Current PCC offerings include:

- Renewable energy – That includes solar power installation and repair. Departments involved include electronic engineering, facilities maintenance, microelectronics and civil and mechanical engineering.
- Transportation – Including alternative fuels, repair of hybrid vehicles and diesel production. Departments involved include automotive, chemistry and engineering.
- Manufacturing – Focused mainly on manufacturing photovoltaic cells for solar panels. Departments involved include microelectronics and electronic engineering.
- Sustainable building – In which we teach students about the design, construction, installation and maintenance of green construction material. Departments involved include architecture, building construction, facilities maintenance and interior design.

And we're Earth-friendly elsewhere, as well. Sustainability is taught across the PCC curriculum. So-called "green service" has been added to our service-learning opportunities. And we have Green Teams working on each campus to make us more environmentally progressive.

What's in the works for future offerings? A program to train building inspectors how to examine a building's "greenness." Also, classes on environmental monitoring and management.

Getting people trained and back to work in well-paying jobs is just one way PCC and community colleges across the state are positioning Oregon to come out of this recession stronger than ever.

Sincerely,



Preston Pulliams
District President

PCC Alumnus **Richard Mikulak**

By Christina Holmes

After graduating high school in 1985 in Northeastern Connecticut, Richard Mikulak headed to a four-year university knowing that he needed a degree to get ahead. Trouble was, he didn't know what he wanted to do. Rather than stay in school he joined the U.S. Navy and served as a nuclear machinist-mate. He traveled to ports far and near and learned the importance of discipline. At the end of his 10-year stint, he was hired by Intel in Oregon. Thanks to a partnership between Intel and Portland Community College, he earned a microelectronics degree in 2003. Mikulak, 41, lives in Sherwood and, when he's not working, he spends time with his wife, Tina Mikulak and sons, Ashton, 5, and Caden, 2.

Q) Why did you choose to attend PCC?

A) I chose PCC due to the convenience, class size and due mainly to the Microelectronics Program. Being new to Oregon and Intel, I heard about the program at work and figured it would be a perfect opportunity to learn more about my job.

Q) What years did you attend?

A) I attended from 1997 to 2003, with a couple years off in between. I mainly attended classes at the Washington County Work Force Training Center. I also attended classes at the Rock Creek, Sylvania and Cascade campuses. I obtained the Associate of Applied Science Degree in Microelectronics in 2003.

Q) Are there any classes or instructors that you fondly remember?

A) Most of the microelectronics instructors were my favorites: Mr. Dave Hata was always very matter-of-fact. He always urged us to take the subject matter very seriously and pushed his students to understand, not just observe. Dorina Cornea-Hasegan was always there for help or just to ask a quick question. No matter what, her students always seem to come first. Eric Kirchner is a great instructor. He has a great deal of knowledge and experience to share. Shelton Fu has great intentions for and high expectations of his students. Robert Beadle is a great lab tech and has a wealth of industrial and equipment knowledge to pass along.

Q) Tell us about your job at Intel and what you do.

A) I am an Automation Engineering Technician at the Aloha campus specializing in hardware. My group works on the Automated Material Handling Systems, the robots that move and store lots (boxes of 25 wafers) around the factory. We also maintain the computers and other hardware used by technicians on the floor to allow the processing equipment to interact with the automated systems. A similar real world example would be sitting at home at your PC and asking your personal robot to go to your fridge and pull out an item and bring it to you in the other room.

Q) What was your dream job as a child?

A) I wanted to be Evil Knievel or a stunt man. I originally went to the University of Connecticut to study pharmacy.

Q) How does it feel to be in a cutting-edge career?

A) I'm pretty proud of what I do and surprised to have learned as much as I have about computers and electronics. Working for Intel is a great opportunity. They really support educational advancement and self-improvement.

Q) Did any other family members attend PCC?

A) My wife Tina attended PCC for the microelectronics program at the time classes were offered onsite at Intel campuses and continued attending prior to transferring to George Fox for her bachelor's degree in management and organizational leadership.

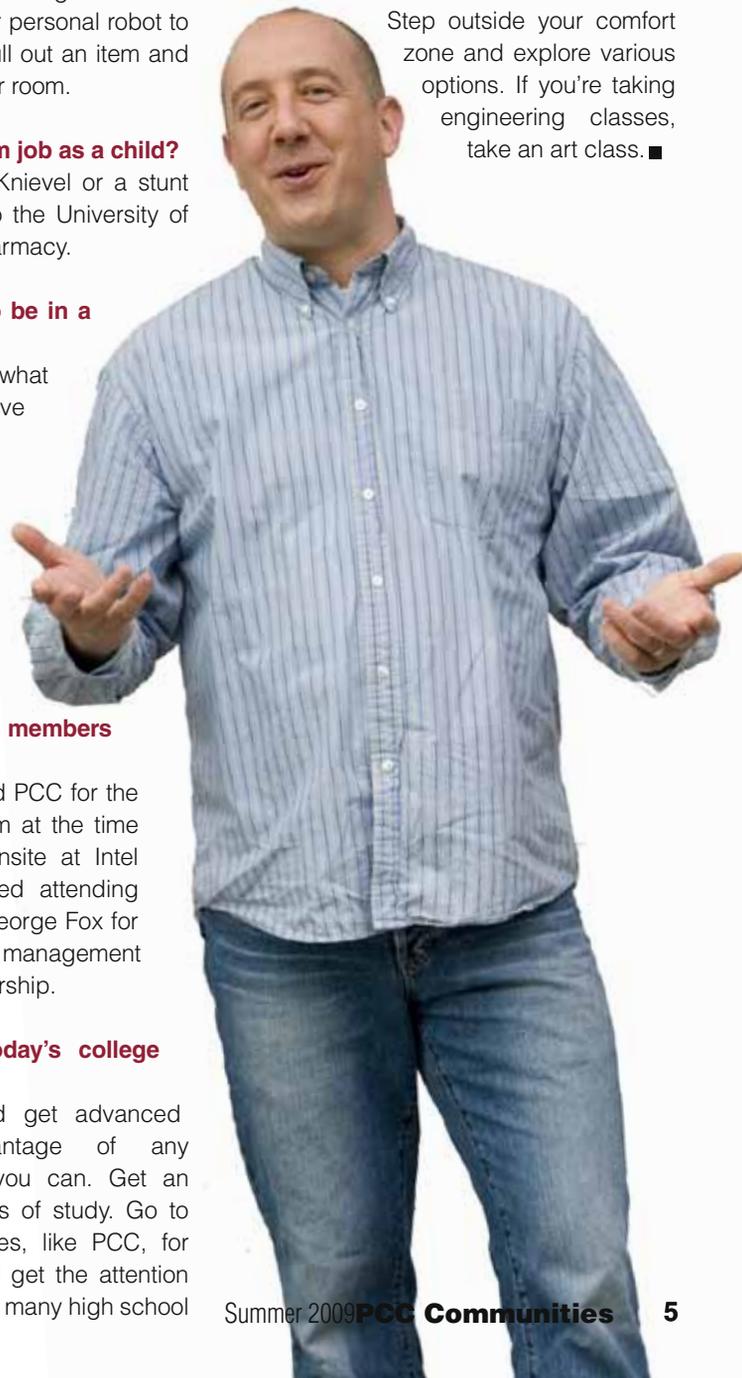
Q) Any advice for today's college students?

A) Stay in school and get advanced degrees. Take advantage of any scholarship programs you can. Get an internship. Explore paths of study. Go to local community colleges, like PCC, for your first two years and get the attention you need to succeed. So many high school

students are forced into a path of study at an age when they don't know what they want to do, and then they go to big schools and get lost in the system. Going to a school like PCC opens up different options, allows exploration and provides the critical thinking needed to determine what you want to do for the next 10 years – not the “rest of your life” like it used to be.

Q) Anything else you would like to add?

A) Take chances and make informed decisions while in school. Step outside your comfort zone and explore various options. If you're taking engineering classes, take an art class. ■



Bad times, Good options



During this spiraling economy, businesses and workers turn to PCC for help

By James Hill & Christina Holmes

With double-digit unemployment rates, company closures and downsizing plans for nearly every business, Oregonians – like many across the country – are suffering through one of the worst economic downturns since the Great Depression. As fears over job losses and business closings continue to mount, PCC offers everyone from individuals to company executives a calm, steady voice and a plan for the future.

A snapshot of how PCC is assisting during the sluggish economy:

RAPID RESPONSE TEAM

Nearly 900 workers from Western Star Truck division of Daimler Trucks North America, formerly Freightliner, soon will be laid off due to a plant closure in 2010. Instead of being tossed onto the street without any prospects, most will have an idea of what employment they can transition into once the plant closes.

This is thanks to the Rapid Response Team at Portland Community College's Dislocated Worker Program. It is helping those who already have been laid off and will be laid off between now and the closure. The team of specialists goes to a company and introduces the workers to WorkSource Oregon resources, refers them to skill assessments, and gives workshops on interviewing techniques, how to construct an effective résumé and networking.

"We can't say enough; we'd be lost without these people," said Wayne LaRochelle, human resources manager for Western Star. "We have been severely impacted by the downturn in the economy. The members of the team agree to come in before each shift starts and after it's over to train, answer questions and explain programs to the workers. They are extremely flexible and helpful."

LaRochelle said the skills provided are a lifesaver. Many of the workers, whose average age is 49, started work right after high school. Now, as work slows and the plant gets ready to close, many employees will need assistance in learning how to transfer their current skills to a new job or learn new skills as they change careers.

They are great people, he said, but the skill sets learned in manufacturing are not as transferable in today's market. Most will need assistance identifying work skills and how to apply them when seeking re-employment.

His company isn't alone. Other firms that PCC and its partners responded to include closures of GE Security, which affected 220 people, 116 at Food4Less and 110 at Sauer-Danfoss; layoffs of 180 at Nationwide Insurance, 150 at Tektronix and 100 at DHL. PCC's Rapid Response Team has aided 3,148 dislocated workers within Multnomah and Washington counties since July 2008.

Partners of the Rapid Response Team include Mount Hood Community College, the state Employment Department and the Office of Community Colleges and Workforce Development, which provide resources to union members. The team is funded through the state's Department of Labor and Worksystems Inc. PCC serves Washington County and most of Multnomah County.

When a company alerts the team that layoffs are being planned, PCC organizes meetings with the human resources department of the firm to establish the types of services best suited for their workforce. For Western Star there are some unique challenges.

"Some of them don't have high school diplomas and have limited English speaking skills," said Gayle Clark, member of the Rapid Response Team "There are quite a few challenges to overcome so that we can make sure they transition better."

The next step is meeting with and surveying the workers about their needs. The team helps workers with the Employment Department's I-Match Skills program and teaches them how to sell themselves to prospective employers.

"(Western Star) has been very good at contacting us early and laying out the array of services they need," said Clark, who's been with the team for 11 years. "Workers do better when there is less stress on them because they're not wondering 'What will I do?'"

BRIDGE TO HEALTH CARE AND MANUFACTURING

The loss of a job can be a terrible blow, especially for those who have spent years in the same industry. But for some it can be a needed wake-up call to try a new route.

After filing for unemployment assistance through the state Employment Department, job hopefuls are assessed to determine their skill set for future jobs. PCC recently began a program that creates a pipeline of potential workers with a special interest in manufacturing or health care.

“What we are finding is the first folks who lost jobs have lower skills and weak literacy skills and they have a harder time getting back to work,” said Amy Youngflesh, director of PCC’s Portland Metropolitan Workforce Training Center.

The laid-off workers initially take math, reading and writing classes through the college. Each class is contextualized for a specific career path. For example, health care students read medical charts while manufacturing math students study blueprints.

The Bridge to Healthcare and Bridge to Manufacturing are open to anyone PCC serves, including welfare clients, low-income adults and teen parents.

“What we do is match a job that suits a student and matches his or her education level that will lead to a job,” Youngflesh said.

Once the initial health care classes are complete – last fall 18 students finished the program and another 20 are enrolled this spring – students can decide if they want to take courses in such areas as certified nursing assistant, medical assisting, medical transcription or phlebotomy (the drawing of blood). The manufacturing pipeline appeals to students with an eye on microelectronics, solar, the arena of heating, venting and air-conditioning, plus sustainability.

PCC has held Welfare-to-Work contracts since 1991, accommodating many job seekers with its affordable classes, flexible schedules and open-entry, open-exit courses, which allow students to begin the program when it’s convenient for them, not simply at the start of a term, and to work as quickly or slowly through the program as they like.

CUSTOMIZED AND WORKPLACE TRAINING

When a company downsizes and loses workers, those employees who kept hold of their jobs find their plates full with more work expected from them. Workers are thrown into supervisory roles with little experience.

And while some older workers are holding off on retirement, many seasoned executives eventually will leave and those who replace them will need training and mentors.

“In this economy companies are looking at what’s cost effective and travel and training are typically the first to go,” said Paul Wild, director of PCC’s Customized and Workplace Training, adding the local companies can take advantage of college services without paying for conference fees that take employees away from the area.

In a strong economy, Customized and Workforce Training keeps busy with “train the trainer” sessions, English for Speakers of Other Language classes and other types of technical training courses. Focused on meeting the needs of industry demand, the department can put together special training seminars quickly, depending on the client’s request. Such was the case when bioscience company Genentech opened a new warehouse in Washington County and when SolarWorld in Beaverton needed help training its trainers.

“The beauty of this process was that we were able to respond quickly,” Wild said.

Currently, Wild and his team are conducting market research on the type of training and skill set employees will need in the next five years. They’re looking at the next invention and industry that will bring much-needed activity to the dismal economy.

The goal isn’t simply to prepare clients for the end of the recession, but to retool Customized and Workforce Training itself, to be an even stronger advocate for Oregonians.

“This economic slump is so palpably different than others. Other work slowdowns were more sectorial but there hasn’t been anything like this,” Wild said, paraphrasing White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel’s now-famous quip about not letting a crisis

QUICK RESPONSE

Companies that PCC and its partners have responded to:

Daimler Trucks North America,
(formerly Freightliner)
GE Security
Food4Less
Sauer-Danfoss
Tektronix
DHL

Businesses that have recently benefited from PCC’s customized training:

SolarWorld
ClearEdge Power
Genentech
Welch Allyn
Gunderson
ESCO
SEIU
Micro Systems Engineering

For folks interested in the Bridge to Healthcare class, call (503) 788-6271

For the Bridge to Manufacturing class, call (503) 533-2767.

For information about Customized and Workplace Training, call (503) 533-2821



go to waste. “We’re asking ourselves and businesses, ‘How do you prepare for the up-tick?’ Because this is too good of a crisis to pass up.” ■

The Brand of Opportunity

With a new look and a new goal the PCC Foundation is preparing to help more students than ever before

By Eloise Holland

The Portland Community College Foundation wants you to know that it's the place "where opportunity happens."

The Foundation recently unveiled its new brand, which includes a revamped logo, new tag line and a unique appearance that distinguishes it as a transformative force.

As laid-off workers turn to PCC to learn new skills, retrain for jobs in emerging industries and bolster their résumés, more students are choosing PCC as their top option to begin their college education. The Foundation is poising itself as the place these students can go to find the extra support they need.

"It was time to change the logo because the foundation has grown and changed," said PCC Foundation Board President Peter Bauer.

Indeed, the Foundation has grown from four to nine staff members and raised more than a million dollars for scholarships in response to a challenge grant issued last year by the James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation.

The new look of the PCC Foundation features energetic colors and a logo with a side-by-side orientation of "PCC" and "Foundation," illustrating the interdependent partnership between the two. The tagline "Where opportunity happens," reinforces the importance of this relationship.

"Where opportunity happens' means that at PCC everyone has the opportunity to strive and achieve," Bauer said. "It really speaks to what we are all about."

The overall message is one of synergy. The Foundation is the only nonprofit dedicated to supporting the mission of the college and its critical role in our community.

Betty Duvall, PCC Foundation Board vice president, said the new brand, "suggests a vibrant organization, that the Foundation has turned a corner."

The decision to put effort into rebranding was made after careful consideration of the foundation's long-term goals, which include being one of the top 20 community college foundations in the country.

Toward that end, the foundation seeks to increase access to the college by providing financial aid to any qualifying student who needs assistance and to ensure educational programs reflect the evolving needs of our community.

"This was a major shift for the organization," said Bauer, noting that the role of the PCC Foundation Board has changed from that of a steward of existing funds to that of an active fundraiser dedicated to increasing the financial backing needed to ensure the community has continued access to Oregon's number-one educational resource.

The shift Bauer describes is coming at a critical time in the history of the college. PCC's financial aid office is experiencing the largest increase in student requests ever, with applications up by 23 percent compared to the same time last year. The PCC Foundation has seen a similar surge in scholarship requests and is expecting to

More than \$1 Million Raised

At the end of March, the Foundation finished up a tremendously successful campaign with a goal of raising almost \$700,000 for scholarships in order to receive a matching challenge grant from the James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation.

As part of that effort, not only did the PCC Foundation meet the challenge, it raised more than \$1 million for scholarships and received the full match of \$320,000 from the Miller Foundation.

"I feel great about reaching the Miller Match," said PCC Foundation Board President Peter Bauer. "We were given a pretty big hurdle and were able to achieve it. It could not have happened if we did not have the foundation members and staff working together to reach a common goal."

The PCC Foundation typically awards more than 300 scholarships each year, but that number could double because of the successful campaign. Almost half of PCC students need financial help to attend college.

receive twice as many applications for the upcoming school year as last year.

To learn more about the PCC Foundation and how you can help make opportunities happen, visit www.pcc.edu/foundation. ■

A close-up portrait of Adrian Thompson, a young Black man with short hair, smiling warmly at the camera. He is wearing a dark-colored t-shirt. The background is blurred, suggesting an indoor setting like a school or community center.

Growing a leader

Adrian Thompson wanted to leave high school when he was barely a teenager – now he sits at the head of the class

ByStephanie Craven

Portland Community College student Adrian Thompson has overcome great obstacles to become the ambitious and determined man he is today.

Thompson, 18, came from humble beginnings. Raised in Tacoma, Wash., he moved often. His father was out of the picture from an early age and his mother struggled with drug addiction. It was a tough way to grow up, Thompson said.

“It was especially hard not having a male figure to look up to,” he said. “As a young black man, you need someone to show you how it’s done.”

As a result of his tumultuous childhood, Thompson had difficulty assimilating in school and relating to his peers.

“The lack of stability wore on me and I really had no reason to succeed,” he said. “I didn’t have confidence or high aspirations for myself. I thought I might be an NBA or NFL player, but that was about it. My grades weren’t very good and I started to draw away from academics.”

Thompson attended Jefferson High School for his sophomore year, but decided to leave due to growing disinterest. His future looked bleak until a school secretary recommended Open Meadow, an alterna-

tive school in North Portland. He transferred at the end of the year, and it changed his life immensely.

Open Meadow is a private, non-profit, accredited school that helps struggling youths get back on track. Using relationship-based programs, it teaches young adults valuable educational and life skills. It was at Open Meadow that Thompson acquired a new outlook on life and a resolve to succeed.

During his senior year at Open Meadow, Thompson took two classes at PCC’s Cascade Campus. He decided he would attend full-time upon graduation because he really liked the campus and thought the tuition would be more feasible than other colleges. Through Open Meadow, he has been able to take part in the Year 13 program which tracks and supports its alumni during their first year of college, according to Thompson.

Now a PCC freshman, Thompson is taking a full load and is working to fulfill the prerequisites for dentistry. The young man who formerly had disinterest in school and lacked ambition is currently earning a 4.0 grade-point average and aiming toward a career as a dentist.

Thompson’s favorite course is Spanish. He applied those language skills in Ecua-

dor last year via the Pangaea Project, a leadership development and global awareness program for low-income teenagers.

Thompson acts as a coordinator for the Black Student Union and works with the Student Outreach Squad on the Cascade Campus. He’s an invaluable member of the team, said Cynthia Sartin, club and programs specialist.

“Adrian is an extremely passionate and reliable person. He is also a natural leader; he is great at getting students involved on campus,” Sartin said. “African American males are extremely under-represented in higher education, and as an African American male student leader, Adrian helps others see that they, too, can be successful and do belong here on the Cascade Campus.”

Thompson now lives in Southeast Portland with his mother, who is in a treatment program and has been off drugs for more than a year. His father recently moved back to Portland and is working toward improving relations with his son.

Despite his rocky past, Thompson now is positive about his future. He has sage words for young people who have experienced difficult situations such as his own. ■

The motorcycle-riding president of Rock Creek is shepherding one of PCC's fastest-growing campuses toward a bright future



Rule of the Road

By James G. Hill

There's only one Rule at Portland Community College's Rock Creek Campus and that's David Rule.

The gregarious, bearded gentleman from upstate New York is the west side campus' newest president and if you think he's stuffy and by the book, then think again.

A self-admittedly funky administrator (he's trained as a symphonic trumpeter), Rule rides his motorcycle to work every day, bringing not only an impressive background of work at community colleges and higher education, but a diverse one that seems to blend in well into Rock Creek's atmosphere. Rule grew up the north Adirondacks near Lake Placid, where he always wore boots and enjoyed riding horses and mini-bikes. Now, he has outgrown minis and can be seen rolling onto campus atop a 2005 Honda Goldwing motorcycle.

"I've always ridden or have tried to ride," Rule said. "I ride to work, to the Sylvania Campus and have ridden to Astoria for meetings. Moving from the faculty ranks to administration to vice president and now to president, I have not stopped riding."

Rule and his wife, Jean, regularly take time for daylong or over-night rides to places like Astoria, Cannon Beach, Vernonia, Sauvie

Island and the McMinnville area. "We're looking forward to this summer when we can explore places like Crater Lake, Pendleton, etc.," he said. "I find it very therapeutic and relaxing because maybe I find it so different from what I do."

Rule's ride to PCC wasn't uncharted territory. Last summer, he was president of Muskegon Community College – the alma mater of PCC President Preston Pulliams. Rule also worked as vice president for three years at Orange County Community College in New York, when Pulliams was president there.

Rule said he had told Pulliams that, if a campus presidency became vacant at PCC, to let him know. "He's been a mentor ever since I met him in 2000," Rule said. "We were interested in moving and I was interested in the Portland area. The timing and the location were right."

PCC also was attractive to Rule, 48, because of the partnerships PCC and Rock Creek have to industry, such as Intel, SolarWorld, Genentech and Columbia Industries. Plus, helping to pass the PCC bond measure last fall was a challenge he relished.

"I never worked on a bond of that size and that magnitude and, when it passed, the opportunity to work directly with the Rock

Creek Campus and probably the most significant reinvigorating of the campus since its construction, is great," Rule said. "The amount of money to be spent via the bond on this campus this time around is transformational; and for the college as a whole."

Among the most exciting changes in store for Rock Creek, he said, is preparing to expand into health care by building a health care facility on campus, thanks to the bond measure. The campus also will expand links with biotech firms like Genentech. "Because of the health care areas, I just think Rock Creek is the happening place to be at PCC," Rule said.

As Rule leads the college's most sustainable campus (it has won awards for its recycling) on the road to the future, he sees nothing but positives.

"The vision I have for Rock Creek is that it's destined to become – given the demographics and growth of Washington County, the double-digit growth of the campus, the industry base and the importance of our 256-acre footprint – the epicenter of higher education for the county," Rule said. "That's very exciting to me." ■

Destination Downtown

For the first time, PCC will have a presence in the very heart of the city

By Kate Chester

With the passage of its bond measure last November, Portland Community College embarked on an exciting project – the purchase of the Willamette Building in downtown Portland from the University of Oregon, formerly home to its architecture program and the Duck Store.

The move also marks a first-time presence for PCC in the city's center, complementing the college's three comprehensive campuses and multiple extended learning workplace centers located throughout the Portland metropolitan area.

Relocating a wide array of the college's core functions downtown will free up space on the campuses for much-needed classrooms. PCC's enrollment has grown by double digits for seven straight quarters and, with the current recession, that won't end any time soon. Oregonians turn to community colleges in greater number during tough financial times.

"We toured the building and could see the possibilities it had," said Denise Frisbee, chair of PCC's Board of Directors. "With its charming exterior, downtown location and accessibility to the MAX line, the board was very supportive of the purchase."

Built in 1882 and located at Second and Yamhill streets, the Willamette Building is part of Portland's Yamhill Historic District and flaunts an "old world" charm from the outside, complete with filigreed

columns and roofline eaves. PCC has partnered with SERA Architects for the design and renovation process. Because of the building's historic stature, PCC and SERA are working closely with the city's Historic Design Review Board to ensure all exterior and interior renovations comply with necessary construction mandates and respect the building's historic fabric.

The near-total remodel encompasses more than 46,000 square feet covering four floors and a basement. Inside, the renovated building will feature extensive open office space, as well as room for Community Education, shared conference room space and a "signature corner" at Second and Yamhill, to tout PCC's presence downtown and illustrate the college's academic and career training offerings.

What has been tricky throughout the renovation has been the "greening" of the building to meet PCC's mission to sustainability. Preserving the building's historic heritage while bringing it up to current seismic structural code requirements and making it environmentally friendly has posed its challenges.

"You run into more 'existing condition' situations when renovating an old building," said Grant Bennett, PCC's project manager and the college architect, "yet all buildings – even new construction – present their own, unique puzzles. Working on an older building is simply a different kind of puzzle."



Denise Frisbee discusses building plans with (from left) architect Eric Phillips, Gregg Sanders, project manager, and Andy Franklin, construction superintendent.

The building will feature energy-efficient and space-saving radiant panels for heating and cooling. A three-story skylight atrium space, interconnected with a centralized stairwell, is being added to introduce natural daylight inside. Awnings were removed from outside windows revealing existing, historically significant stained glass windows – again, enhancing natural daylight within the building.

"PCC is committed to using bond funds to support its allegiance to sustainability," Frisbee said. "Seeing us forge ahead to make the Willamette Building as 'green' as possible is incredibly exciting."

Construction began in mid-April and will be completed in December, enabling central core functions of the college – Financial Services, Enrollment Services, Institutional Effectiveness, Human Resources, Affirmative Action and Community Education functions – to relocate there.

"We are looking forward to this move," said Preston Pulliams, district president for PCC, "because we'll be able to raise our flag downtown, in the heart of Portland's business community."

"Having a presence here will strengthen and enhance PCC's ties to business," he added. "Serving the business community is an integral part of our mission." ■

Greener Pastures

PCC's array of green technology programs is creating a workforce ready for the future – supporters predict this emerging field of green collar jobs will help turn around the sagging economy

By Christina Holmes

John McKee has been interested in sustainability and the environment ever since his days growing up in the Columbia River Gorge where he hiked as a teenager and recycled long before it was fashionable.

So it seems natural that he's one of the leading forces guiding PCC through an exciting period as the college offers a wide array of green technology programs, producing qualified and efficient technicians in solar, wind and fuel cell power, as well as other renewable energy fields.

"This planet will continue to grow and we will need renewable energy," said McKee, division dean of science and engineering at the Sylvania Campus. "PCC faculty and staff are proactively moving our college and community toward a more sustainable future, while giving our students the tools they need to obtain green-collar employment."

No doubt that Oregon is an environmentally conscious state. Oregon is a leader in public transit options and initiatives, while state leaders are committed to generating 25 percent of all energy from renewable sources by 2025.

So it falls in line that PCC also will lead when it comes to preparing workers for these emerging fields.

Among the current green programs now offered across the PCC campuses are renewable energy (renewable energy systems and solar installation and repair), manufacturing (solar manufacturing), transportation (hybrid vehicles and biodiesel production) and sustainable development (design, construction, installation and maintenance).

These jobs of the future include automotive service technicians who inspect, test, diagnose and supervise the repair of mechanical and electrical systems on biofuel, hybrid and electric automobiles and light trucks; chemists who solve environmental problems such as dwindling energy resources and the need for new and better materials; civil engineers who design better bridges, keep drinking water

safe and prevent industrial pollution; and interior designers who incorporate energy saving strategies, healthy indoor air quality and resource conservation when designing a space.

And in the pipeline but not yet approved by the state are academic programs that could include engineering (environmental monitoring and management and sustainable engineering technology), management (sustainable energy and resource management) and sustainable development (building commissioner training, green building inspection and green roof and wall construction and maintenance).

The scope of green technology programs cross various academic disciplines: electronic engineering technology, facilities maintenance, microelectronic technology, civil mechanical engineering technology, automotive, chemistry, engineering, architecture, building construction and interior design. Sustainability practices are being taught across the curriculum and students will learn about environmental awareness in a variety of classes. In addition, students are being offered service-learning opportunities in green technology.

McKee (pictured above) and others look to green technology as one of the possible ways to get the U.S. economy moving again, spurring interest and potential jobs much the same way that the advent of the World Wide Web did in the 1990s.



"There is lots of planning afoot for new technology and new energy."
- Paul Wild



“This will take off,” he said. “And we will have a supply of workers.”

The hallmark of a community college is adaptability to current trends and the fact that a college can move quickly and retool its teaching to meet demands. A community college is the primary place to retrain workers for jobs.

With the size of PCC – the largest educational institution in the state – and the nearly 90,000 students served each year, the college is sure to be a leader in the Northwest, if not the nation, when it comes to training students for future green-technology jobs.

“PCC is fortunate to have the faculty expertise, the business and industry partnerships, and the forward thinking administration that will be required to become a national leader in the green-jobs movement. Already we have faculty in our programs related to the built environment (building construction, interior design and architectural drafting) creating a green curriculum through a National Science Foundation Grant,” said Linda Gerber, Sylvania Campus president.

“Their work will benefit not just our students; this summer, they’ll be sharing their curriculum with college and high school teachers throughout the Northwest. Our automotive repair technology program is the only community college in Oregon revamping the curriculum to include hybrid vehicles and is poised to develop new classes in electric

vehicle repair. Those are just two examples of the kind of ‘can do’ green leadership PCC can be proud of,” Gerber said.

Already PCC is getting noticed. Last month, Gov. Ted Kulongoski created an advisory group that met for the first time at the Sylvania Campus to attract federal stimulus funds aimed at the green industry.

States are competing for about \$37 billion that will go toward innovations in sustainability. Kulongoski presented the group with three projects he wants to target with the grant money – including upgrading the Sylvania Campus to make its buildings meet the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Platinum standard. A LEED certification provides independent, third-party verification that a building project meets the highest green building and performance standards.

“There is lots of planning afoot for new technology and new energy and we are proactively preparing for what the new jobs will be,” said Paul Wild, director of PCC’s Customized and Workplace Training.

McKee said he is pleased to be part of the future, bringing together his passion for the environment and his dedication to students.

“We have the capability to bring together so many resources,” he said. “Already we’ve been able to accomplish a lot.” ■

GREEN TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS

Renewable energy

(renewable energy systems and solar installation and repair)

Manufacturing

(solar manufacturing and renewable energy systems)

Transportation

(hybrid vehicles and biodiesel production)

Sustainable development

(design, construction, installation and maintenance)

FUTURE GREEN PROGRAMS

Proposed Pending State Approval

Engineering

(environmental monitoring and management and sustainable engineering technology)

Management

(sustainable energy and resource management)

Sustainable Development

(building commissioner training, green building inspection and green roof and wall construction and maintenance)

For more information about Green Technology Programs, call John McKee at (503) 977-8255.

The popular Summer Arts Institute will widen its horizons this year

Let's get artsy!

By Kate Chester



What started as a fledgling arts program at the Sylvania campus of Portland Community College about 20 years ago has evolved into the Summer Arts Institute – a thriving series of intense, for-credit art courses that last year attracted close to 450 students, nearly double its tally from two years prior.

“The Summer Arts Institute courses are an extension of those foundational classes we teach during the traditional academic year,” said Jim Hicks, faculty chair, PCC Sylvania Art Department and co-director of the institute. “But the summer classes are unique – these are courses we may not be able to offer during the regular school year. They may be experimental, taught by top-notch local and regional artists who are available to us only in the summer months.”

The Summer Arts Institute has blossomed under the leadership of Hicks, who guides it with support from Doris Werkman, co-director of the institute and faculty chair, PCC Sylvania Performing Arts. This year's program kicks off June 22 and continues through the end of August, offering a variety of courses in art, dance, theater and music taught by nearly 40 instructors.

A sample of this year's eclectic visual arts menu includes, “Spirit of the Sketch,” a three-day workshop taught by Marilyn Reaves, an art professor at the University of Oregon, and “Line, Letters and Luminosity,” designed for artists and lovers of letters and words.

“In offering unique courses among these many disciplines, we've been able to expand, broaden and grow the institute,” Werkman said. “It's much, much more than just a summer arts session.”

Welcoming artists young and old, amateur and professional, the Summer Arts Institute attracts a diverse group of students: continuing PCC students wanting to advance their academic progress by earning credit during the summer; visiting students and graduating high school students from across the region, offering them an opportunity to explore creative arts and obtain college credit; and new and continuing non-degree students, inspiring all levels of art students.

New this year will be a handful of Summer Arts Institute courses offered at Newberg High School: hip-hop, beginning guitar and “Introduction to Reader's Theatre.” The move underscores PCC's commitment to the region, which includes building an educational center in the area, to open in fall 2010. ■

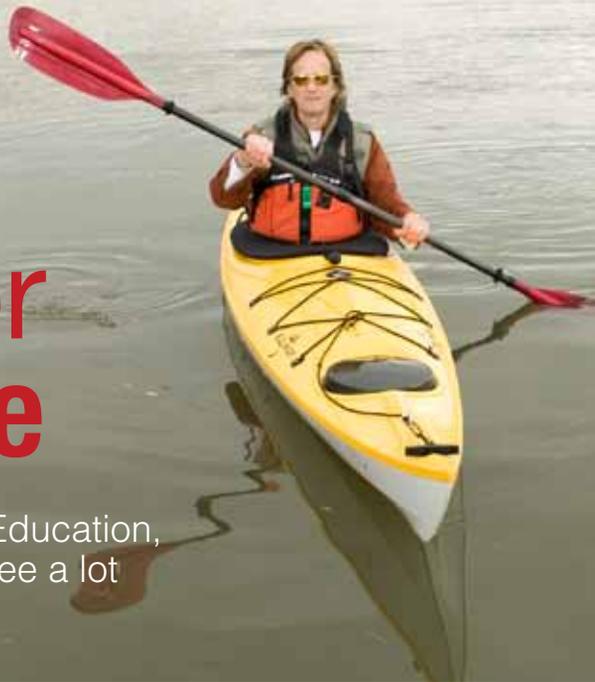


For more information on the Summer Arts Institute, call Kate Chester at (503) 977-8233 or visit www.pcc.edu/create

Small Price for Paradise

Thanks to Community Education, it doesn't cost a lot to see a lot

By Eloise Holland



For more adventure close to home, peruse the Community Education schedule, page 48, for opportunities like this summer's Hike the Gorge program with Steve Engel naturalist and educator with the Audubon Society of Portland. Three hikes through the Columbia River Gorge will take you past waterfalls, basalt cliffs, fern-filled forests and amazing views.

If you're looking for a tranquil getaway complete with the quiet sound of lapping water, a tangle of trees overhead and exotic wildlife you can't see at home, you're in luck.

Turns out, you don't have to go far or spend a fortune to experience paradise.

This summer, PCC Community Education has partnered with Scappoose Bay Kayaking to offer a series of fun, non-technical kayak tours that offer everything from a nighttime paddle in the dark to an exciting adventure sailing Hobie trimarans in the Columbia River.

Beginners and children are welcome and, in fact, children as young as 7 can go out in their own kayak.

"We've had over 38,000 people paddle over the last seven years, and 60 percent of those never paddled before," said Steve Gibbons, who owns Scappoose Bay Kayaking with his wife, Bonnie Gibbons. "It's a nice, easy thing to do."

Gibbons has been kayaking for 28 years, and Bonnie was a canoeist before they met. The couple discovered Scappoose Bay on a kayaking day trip eight years ago.

"We fell in love with this bay," Gibbons said. "It was so rich with wildlife."

Eagles, river otter, great blue heron and a variety of migratory birds make their home in the enclosed bay.

Enchanted by the peacefulness, the ample wildlife and beauty of the area, Gibbons mentioned that it would be a good place to rent out kayaks.

Fortuitously, they saw a "for rent" sign on a nearby building and called the landlord. They soon bought six kayaks and were renting them out on the weekends. Within two weeks, customers were asking if they sold kayaks. "Not today," Gibbons recalled saying, "But I will tomorrow!"

In the past seven years, their shop has grown from 500 square feet to 4,000 square feet and includes kayaks and an array of gear. In the summers, Gibbons estimates that 100 people per day rent from them. Because of all the sloughs and waterways, though, you hardly see anybody.

"It's your own personal journey," Gibbons said.

But if relaxing in the quiet wonder of nature isn't your thing, don't worry. There's something for everyone, even local history buffs.

Over the years, the Gibbons have gathered a home library dedicated to the history of the area by picking through used bookshops and consulting the Portland Historical Society.

As a result, all their tours include a little bit of history of the Chinook Indians, fur trappers and settlers who used to live in the area. The longer the tour, the more you learn.

Those yearning for a little adventure will be interested in the Cunningham Slough tour to the downstream end of Sauvie Island, and the Hobie trimaran tour, which teaches visitors how to operate these small sailboats that incorporate sailing, paddling and pedaling.

Any Scappoose Bay Kayaking tour, said Gibbons "is an inexpensive way to get out into an area you've never been before and see things you've never seen before."

In the end, this could be said about all the PCC Community Education classes that connect you with summer "staycation" adventures. Whether you're in it for excitement or leisure, the bottom line is you don't have to go far to go far. ■

PCC mails this schedule of classes to households four times each year to inform you about what the college offers. It is printed and mailed for about 40 cents a copy and can be recycled with your newspapers. Because it is addressed "Residential Customer," we are not able to remove individuals from our distribution route. We view this schedule as our "report card" to the public and hope you find it informative.

Project: YOU

with PCC Community Education

My Project:

Name: *Nicky Falkenhayn*

Occupation: *Sculptor*

My Project: *Explore a new medium for
creating large-scale art pieces*

Class I Took: *Art Welding Sculpture*

And Now: *I fell in love with welding!
This year, I'll show several pieces
including an installation piece in the
Portland Building downtown.*

CommunityEducation

Make YOU the project!

If you can dream it, Community Education's hundreds of classes can help you achieve it. Go online to pcc.edu/community and get started on your own Project:YOU this Summer.