

Summer 2007

kaleidoscope

the magazine & non-credit schedule of Portland Community College



**Read about PCC
in Your Community**

Stories and highlights on
events, students and staff

**Take a Non-Credit Class
in Community Education**

Languages, art, recreation and
more, Pages 10-57

Upgrade Your Skills

Explore our "For Professionals"
and "Computers" sections,
Pages 58-65



New Goals? We're all about that.

After 10 years traveling the world as a sound engineer, Jacques von Lunen wanted to pursue another passion. He did it at PCC, taking journalism classes and getting connected with an internship at Willamette Week. Now he's at Portland State University, studying Spanish and Economics to complete his transformation from world-traveling sound engineer to worldly reporter.

"I can say without reservation that my instructors at PCC were stellar. They have opened the doors to any path I might choose in my upper-division work."

Jacques von Lunen
PCC transfer student
Current PSU student



We're all about
your future.

www.pcc.edu

Contents

summer • kaleidoscope • 2007



**President's
Column**



**Spreading
the Word**



**Gateway to
College**



**Ready,
Set,
Write**



About the Cover Art: The paintings on the cover allowed Ehlis to study the element of chance versus mastery. In Oregon, things dry slowly, Ehlis said, and as the paintings started to settle down she could manipulate them and get the paint to float in a new direction, separate or pool up. She left the studio and upon returning saw the painting in a new light. She had little control over how the paint would dry (weather and the surface itself play a big role) and it's that final stage that creates excitement, she said. Read more on page 79.

9

Community Education Schedule

- 11 Applied Arts
- 11 Career Exploration and Professional Development
- 14 Computers: ONLINE
- 17 Cooking
- 19 Creative Arts
- 24 Environmental Studies
- 26 Financial Planning and Investments
- 27 Flowers and Gardening
- 28 Health and Wellness
- 29 Home Improvement
- 31 Kids College
- 31 Languages
- 37 Motorcycle Rider Classes
- 37 Personal Development
- 39 Photography
- 41 Recreation and Physical Fitness
- 50 Senior Studies
- 50 Sewing, Needlework and Fabric Arts
- 54 Travel Classes
- 55 Travel Educational Tours
- 56 Writing
- 58 For Professionals: Continuing Education and Professional Completion Programs
- 60 Computers: Non-credit and Continuing Education
- 67 Instructions for Online Classes
- 68 Location Key



**A Cool
Career**



**Retirement
No More**



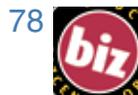
**Mississippi Native
Finds New Home
at PCC**



**A Green
Way of Life**



**Enter
Stage
Left**



**Business
Help is
on the Way**



**Calendar
of Events**

President
Dr. Preston Pulliams

Board of Directors
Jaime Lim
Jim Harper
Harold Williams
Denise Frisbee
Bob Palmer
Karen McKinney
David Squire

Director of
Institutional Advancement
Kristin Watkins

Marketing Communications
Manager
Russell Banks

Art Director
Amy Thackery

Editorial Coordinator
Christina Holmes

Photography
Jerry Hart
Vern Uyetake
Bryan Hoybook

Contributor
James Hill

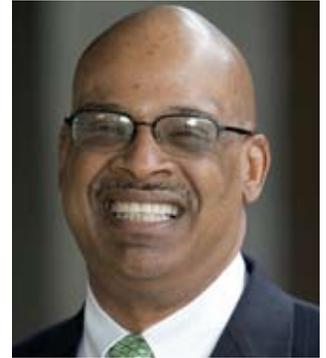
Cover Art
Jacqueline Ehlis
Vigor Installation View 2005
mixed medium

“KALEIDOSCOPE (PCC)”
(USPS 001-624) Summer 2007,
Vol XX, No. 3,
is published quarterly by
Portland Community College,
12000 SW 49th Ave.,
Portland, OR, 97219
Periodicals postage paid
at Portland, Oregon.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes
to “KALEIDOSCOPE”
at P.O. Box 19000,
Portland, OR 97280-0990.

Visit the
Portland Community College
website at www.pcc.edu

All of us at PCC look forward to summer term. It's a great time to enroll in classes – whether you are taking a PCC course for the first time, working toward your certificate or associate degree or taking a class for personal or professional enrichment. Our multiple campus locations and many online courses, make it easy. Our top-notch faculty, caring staff, and high quality programs make it great.



Even though summer is a more relaxed time for all of us, this spring we continue to face uncertainty about our budget for the coming years. At the start of the legislative session, Governor Kulon-goski proposed a meaningful increase in operational budgets for community colleges and higher education. At the Governor's recommended level or above, PCC could increase educational offerings to our students, restore services that enhance student retention and graduation, and consider only moderate tuition increases. However, the co-chairs of the legislature's budget committee have recommended a funding level for Oregon's commu-nity colleges that would mean little progress at PCC toward reversing the last six years of state funding cuts.

My vision for Oregon includes a world class education system for our residents – one that prepares our residents for high-wage jobs, attracts businesses, and improves the quality of life for all Oregonians. Currently, Oregon is 45th in the nation in terms of funding for higher education and far from achieving that vision. We know that more and more jobs require education beyond high school. We need to be opening the doors to higher educa-tion even wider in Oregon, not barely holding them ajar.

While the state's education budget is an ongoing concern for all of us at PCC we have plenty of wonderful news to share with you inside these pages of kaleidoscope. We're featuring our nationally recognized Gateway to College program that helps dropouts complete high school and earn college credit at the same time. We also profile two local businesses, YOLO Colorhouse and Queen Bee Creations. The founders of these compa-nies were at pivotal points with their businesses when they turned to the Small Business Development Center at PCC for advice and direction. Finally, be sure to check out the story on our Theatre Arts Department and read how the committed students in this pro-gram stage high quality productions several times a year. I hope you'll consider attending our spring play "Swanwhite" in mid-May.

I mention only a handful of the excellent stories in this issue so please take time to read the magazine and look through the Community Education Schedule. Summer term is the perfect time to keep active and enroll in a class. As always remember to keep in touch with PCC on a regular basis by visiting www.pcc.edu.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Preston Pulliams". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Preston Pulliams
District President



Spreading the Word

Q “My biggest advice to any student attending PCC is to get a mentor.”

Growing up three blocks from PCC’s Cascade Campus, Carolina Iraheta-Gonzalez had a daily reminder about college. After graduating from Lincoln High School in 2001, she headed to PCC, which she credits with preparing her academically for the big-time universities where she hoped to transfer. By 2004 she was at University of California, Berkeley majoring in international studies. She finished up last spring and in an instant was back in her beloved city as she found a job with the Oregon Council for Hispanic Advancement. Next up for the 24-year-old go-getter? Enrolling in graduate school, teaching college-level Latin American history and political science and buying a house.

Why did you choose PCC?

Three reasons: I loved the idea of going to college right in my own neighborhood. I wanted to go to a school I could afford and with work and a scholarship, PCC was very easy to pay for. And finally, PCC has a great selection of classes.

Name some of your favorite classes.

Philosophy 101-103; Far Eastern Studies 101-102; Speech; African American History; and Watercolors.

Which faculty members inspired you?

Three professors stand out in my mind: Sylvia Gray (Far Eastern studies), Jorge Espinosa (speech) and James Harrison (African American studies).

What was your favorite part of campus?

The library. I love to read literature and I was surprised to find a great collection of international novels and classical literature at Cascade. I don’t think this resource is used enough and I always tell people to check out Cascade’s collection.

Talk about your career and what you do.

I’m the coordinator of the Oregon Leadership Institute. This is a mentorship and leadership development program for Latino high school and middle school students. I currently work in the Cascade neighborhood at Jefferson High School and Ockley Green Middle School. The program provides mentorships to students so they may become leaders in their lives and their communities.

Is there anything you learned at PCC that helps you in your work today?

My experience at PCC taught me the importance of going for your goals. There are a lot of distractions for a community college

student and it’s easy to get off your path but it was at PCC where I finally learned how to create long-term goals and achieve them.

Any advice for young college students?

My biggest advice to any student attending PCC is to get a mentor. It’s important that you have someone you can look up to as a role model.

Do you still keep in touch with friends you met at PCC?

Yes I do and the best part about making friendships at PCC is that I reunited with friends I had lost contact with. So many people go to PCC that eventually you run into people you know.

What’s your best memory of PCC?

My speech class was really tight in the sense that everyone had a fear of public speaking. This made for a very supportive environment where students gradually lost their anxiety about public speaking. Professor Espinosa was also key in this process due to his sense of humor. ■

Gateway to College

High school students get a second chance at success



Peter Zavada went to a Portland high school but never felt like he truly belonged. His grades dropped, absences were a problem and he became disengaged. He wanted a new start.

By January he was enrolled in Gateway to College, the nationally recognized Portland Community College program headquartered at the Southeast Center, that gives students a chance to earn a high school diploma and college credits at the same time.

"The whole atmosphere is different because students want to be here," said Zavada, 18. "I haven't missed a day."

Lindsey Regier, 16, of Lake Oswego excels in science and literature but didn't feel challenged at her neighborhood school.

"With Gateway it feels like I'm getting somewhere because I choose to be here and I work hard," she said.

Since opening in 2000 as the first-of-its-kind high school in the nation, Gateway to College has served nearly 1,000 students from seven local school districts who in most cases dropped out of their traditional high schools. On average, Gateway graduates earn 73 college credits by the time they complete their high school diploma requirements—about two-thirds of the way toward an associate's degree.

"We believe community colleges have a responsibility to the community and to these young people who haven't found success in their high schools," said Gateway director Linda Huddle.

The program is built on freedom and flexibility as well as structure and high standards, allowing students to be successful with the support they are given. For some students this second chance at high school is exactly what they need.

"The classes are small and there is personalized attention," said Huddle. "Because there are many different learning styles we assess how each student learns best and then give them what they need."

Adds Slava Scott, a student resource specialist and teacher who's been with the program since its inception: "Working with these students is very rewarding and as a teacher you see you're making a difference. It's exciting to work with them and not a single day is the same."

Many Gateway students have different life experiences than most high school students, such as homelessness or family problems, that make attending regular high school difficult. And while students like the freedom of studying on a college campus and being treated as an adult, they also must mature quickly and in some cases break bad habits such as not showing up for class or not finishing assignments.



Acceptance

"I feel so accepted at this school and I know I'm getting somewhere."

Kristin Olwell, 17, Portland



Atmosphere

"The whole atmosphere is different because students want to be here, I haven't missed a day."

Peter Zavada, 18, Portland

"I continually tell my students that for every choice they make there is a consequence," said Jane Larson, a student resource specialist and teacher.

During the first term, students take courses with other Gateway students that build their academic and personal skills, preparing them for college courses with the general student population. In addition to reading, writing, and math, students take a college survival and success class where they learn how to take effective notes, study for tests and juggle school, work, and family life. They also take a career development class focusing on academic goals.

Frustrated over not being able to connect with other students at her high school, Allyson LeDoux dropped out and began home schooling herself. Then she found Gateway in 2005.

"I've met so many people and developed deep connections with students who are older than me," said Ledoux, 18. "This is real life and there is not a lot of hand holding but I like being treated as an adult."

She already has 18 college credits under her belt and she hopes to double that number by the time she graduates from Gateway next year. She plans to transfer to a university, study business and eventually open a bed and breakfast inn.

For more information on Gateway to College visit www.gatewaytocollege.org. ■

PCC Replicates Pioneering Program across the Country

PCC's Gateway to College program has been awarded a new five-year, \$3 million award from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. This award follows two earlier grants by the foundation, bringing the total amount received for this project to more than \$13 million.

The new grant provides PCC with the opportunity to fund planning and startup of Gateway to College at three more colleges, bringing the total to 20 sites, plus PCC.

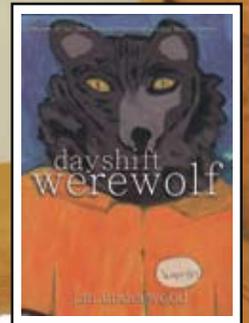
"There is a strong demand for Gateway to College across the country, because every city has a dropout problem," said Laurel Dukehart, director of the Gateway to College National Network. "We are thrilled to have this opportunity to bring Gateway to College to more young people, as we help broker partnerships between community colleges and school districts looking for alternatives for struggling students."

The first two replication sites opened in 2004, and the national network is quickly growing. By the fall, Gateway to College will operate at 12 colleges in 10 states.

PCC selects sites to replicate the model and provides curriculum, training, and ongoing support. Nationally, more than 1,500 students have enrolled since replication began. By 2011, the end of the grant period, nearly 13,000 students will have enrolled in Gateway to College. Current sites are in Oregon (Clackamas Community College), North Carolina, South Carolina, Pennsylvania, Georgia, Massachusetts, Maryland, New York, Texas and California.

Ready, Set, Write

PCC's Jan Underwood wrote her first published novel in just 72 hours



Cascade Campus Spanish faculty member Jan Underwood wrote her first published novel in just 72 hours and won an international contest. "Day Shift Werewolf" is available at bookstores across Portland, in PCC bookstores and through www.3daynovel.com.

My book started out as a band name. It's a game my teenage daughter and I sometimes play: making up monikers for musical groups. Urban Lobster. Uncle in the Grunt. Day Shift Werewolf.

It's a good name, isn't it? Day Shift Werewolf. The phrase stuck with me, and I began to wonder: how would a werewolf end up on the day shift, anyway? And what would that be like for the poor fellow?

"The quotas have been going up every year. Time was when most of us made a decent living by putting in a reasonable number of hours. Guys like Lobo, and Jack, they were table setters. And I was one of them. A little on the low side, but nothing to be ashamed of. And the work environment was supportive; it wasn't this cutthroat competition. But then they started bringing in these big

beefy guys, driven, ambitious businessmen who want to get rich. They'll do their wolfing at, say, a rock concert, where they get twenty or thirty bodies a night. Those guys make a killing."

Warren the werewolf started hanging out in my head. But I was busy, teaching a full load, serving as chair of the Spanish Department at PCC, and being a single mom. Warren didn't have an opportunity to get out of my brain and onto the page for at least two years. Then, in the late summer of 2005, I discovered the International 3-Day Novel contest. This literary marathon takes place over Labor Day weekend every year. It's based in Vancouver, B.C., but contestants can do their writing anywhere; judges trust writers to stick to the 72-hour limit. The would-be novelists may start with an outline (although I didn't), but must pen all their actual words during the timeframe of the contest.

Some contestants imagine they will stay up 'round the clock, swilling coffee and writing in a frenzy. I decided to take a more conservative approach: I wrote eight to ten hours a day, slept normally, ate square meals and

took stretch breaks. It's important to have a functioning brain, I decided, to complete a project like this one. I even kept the caffeine to a minimum.

Still, that much writing in that little time takes the brain places it has never visited before. The madness and audacity of attempting to write a novel from start to finish in three days can lead to startling creativity. My werewolf and numerous other monsters -- a zombie with ADHD, an obsessive-compulsive witch (too many cats), a demon with a hidden human -- were all given life over that long weekend. Satire and horror were not areas I'd dabbled in before, but they turned out to suit me.

Like a 26-mile run, the 3-Day Novel contest is both excruciating and exhilarating. And not only did the contest experience launch my writing career, but it allowed me to discover a new writing method that worked for me. I am tackling my second novel in short, intensive bursts during breaks between school terms. The contest taught me something my students probably already knew: there's nothing quite as motivating as a deadline. ■



HVAC A Cool Career

PCC students learn the skills and concepts necessary to install, operate, maintain and repair piping and mechanical systems in large commercial, medical, institutional and industrial buildings. In addition, students also learn troubleshooting skills, problem-solving methods, electrical concepts and computerized systems controls, which are critical to large employers.

The program offers a variety of classes, certification, and the opportunity to participate in on-the-job training. Students can earn a short-term training 14-credit certificate, a 44-credit certificate or a 90-credit associate of applied science degree.

Many consider the labs the best in the state, if not on the West Coast. Between the equipment and faculty, who are also working professionals, business owners from semiconductor manufacturers to large hospitals often seek out PCC graduates for specific jobs. Graduates also find jobs as public utility workers and maintenance engineers with annual salaries starting at \$33,000.

The job outlook is strong as current HVAC workers retire and create spots

for younger technicians. And because these are hands-on jobs, “they can’t be outsourced to another country,” said Katrina Cloud, an apprenticeship and training specialist with PCC’s Trades and Industry Department.

Facilities maintenance jobs are ideal for mechanically-inclined students who like to work with their hands and are able to carry at least 40 pounds of tools and equipment.

There are about 100 students in the program ranging in age from 18 to 65. Many classes are offered in the evening hours between 6 and 9 p.m. to accommodate working students.

“The PCC program gave me the tools to contact the right people and the knowledge to know how to go about doing it. They were all there to teach me,” said Eric DeHart, a PCC graduate and current facilities maintenance manager with NORCORP. “As far as I’m concerned, I hit the lottery.” For information about the Facilities Maintenance Technology program, visit www.pcc.edu. ■

PCC students pursuing a certificate or degree in Facilities Maintenance Technology – which includes Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration – have the chance to work on top-of-the-line equipment.

There is a water cooling tower, refrigeration and air conditioning units, boilers, a walk-in cooler, heat pumps and a drinking fountain. All the equipment is housed in the new Technology Education Building at the Cascade Campus.

Pre-apprentice class boosts diversity in trades

The Joint Apprenticeship Training Council (JATC), a collection of statewide apprenticeship programs, has approved PCC’s new pre-apprenticeship class, part of the Facilities Maintenance Technology program.

The course, Trade Extension 9000, is designed to prepare individuals looking to get into an apprenticeship program. This program can be utilized by all registered apprenticeship programs in the Portland Metropolitan area as a resource for finding quality applicants for their industry. PCC graduates now have the same direct-entry approval as Portland YouthBuilders, Oregon Tradeswomen, and the Evening Trade Apprenticeship Preparation program run by the Housing Authority of Portland.

“The approved pre-apprenticeship program fits the bill perfectly,” said Dwight Page, instructor in trade extension at PCC. “The rigid standards set in this class are dictated by industry demands. Without them this course would never have received the blessing of the apprenticeship programs. To them this course is used as an extension of their selection processes.”

Successful PCC graduates will at a minimum receive additional points (scores) in their chosen program in the trades industry. Some programs will allow graduates to apply almost immediately for apprenticeship slots rather than wait for the few times a year when apprentice programs host their open application periods.

Bryan Comer, 31, says that the new class is a career-saver for him. Comer, a part-time PCC student, has spent the better part of eight years in odd jobs in the construction industry as he tries to enlist in an apprenticeship program. However, without experience, Comer found himself spinning his wheels as he could never get enough experience to pass the entry tests.

“It’s unbelievable the amount of confidence and direction you get from the class,” Comer said. “It covers what I need to prepare for, so that I’m not walking blindly during the apprenticeship tests. Without it I’d still be taking one class at a time, trying to gain the skills I need.” ■

After capping off a 30-year career in college administration, Linda Gerber had dreams of traveling, gardening and playing with her three grandchildren.

Lucky for PCC, her retirement was short-lived.

Gerber returned to full-time work in May 2006 when she stepped in as interim president of the Sylvania Campus. She took on the job with her characteristic passion and dedication and earlier this year was named permanent president of the 26,000-student campus.

"I love education and think it's the best job in the world," said Gerber, who worked at PCC in the 1990s as a research evaluation coordinator where she led the professional-technical faculty in creating one of the nation's first comprehensive program assessment processes. "And I always expected to end my career back at PCC and somehow close the loop."

She actually started at PCC as a 24-year-old single mother of three who studied English literature under well-known faculty member Jean Buck who served as a mentor to Gerber. She juggled classes and a myriad of jobs, including driving a school bus.

She transferred to Portland State University where she earned a degree in English. She worked as a coordinator and later director of the tutorial program at PSU for 11 years and then returned to PCC as a researcher. She later was hired at Mt. Hood Community College and worked as a dean in several different divisions, retiring in 2004 as dean of instruction. Along the way she earned a master's degree in education and a doctorate in leadership in postsecondary education.

She praises the committed faculty members who are in the classroom each day and considers herself someone who assists them in educating students. "The faculty members are the ones who do the

heavy lifting," she added. "I do whatever I can to put them and the students front and center."

She's known as an administrator who's not afraid to get her hands dirty while working side by side with students. A recent rainy outing where she helped remove ivy and blackberry bushes from a natural area near campus is just one example.

"I think her greatest attributes are her approachability, her down-to-earth values, and her hands-on experiential participation in life and her job," said biology instructor April Fong. "I love that we can approach and talk to her without feeling uncomfortable. A student from the Green Team and I dropped by, without an appointment, to see if she had an opinion about our Earth Day display and she gladly chatted with us about the display and other topics. We felt very welcomed, appreciated and valued."

Now back at PCC, Gerber's priorities are creating an atmosphere for students to think about social justice and environmental issues.

"We need to develop these skills in students so they can make global and informed decisions," Gerber said. "We have an obligation to make sure students think critically and analyze information from the media and politicians."

And while she knows retirement is still in her future, as is traveling with her husband, scuba diving (a favorite hobby) and working on statewide political campaigns, Gerber feels that being back at PCC is like a sweet homecoming.

"I'm so grateful to PCC for providing what I needed at the time as a student," she said. "PCC is a very special place." ■

Retirement No More



*"I love education and think it's the best job in the world ... And I always expected to end my career back at PCC and somehow close the loop."
Linda Gerber, Sylvania
Campus President*



Mississippi Native

finds new home at PCC

Gentè Traylor may look like your typical 20-year-old college student but she possesses maturity and wisdom beyond her years. Traylor, who is pursuing an Associate of Arts Degree in psychology, helped raise her brother and care for her mother, who battled substance abuse addiction for 10 years.

"Her addiction began when I was four," Traylor said. "Although she was an addict, my younger brother and I had clothes, food and a house. We just didn't have a 'home.'"

But don't think of Traylor as a statistic. She dealt with her challenging situation and used it to develop her character. Traylor grew up in Jackson, Mississippi, maintained solid grades in high school and was listed in the Who's Who Among American High School Students. She made the National Honor Roll and served as a member of the school's ROTC and Color Guard.

Her family recently moved to Portland where her uncle is a pastor.

"I came to a state where no one knew my name," Traylor said. "It was complete culture shock. But Portland has been great. There are chances for opportunity here that were not present in the South. Yet I have to get used to the rain and lack of sunshine."

After the big move and adjusting to her new surroundings, Traylor found her niche. Thanks to her hard work, she received a 2006-07 scholarship through the PCC Foundation and was the keynote speaker at the Foundation's annual banquet last fall.

Her goal is to become a child psychologist. She says she can use her life experiences to help others who may be going through the same problems.

"I strongly believe this occupation will give me the opportunity to give serenity to children who are victims of similar circumstances that I experienced in childhood," Traylor said. "I've obtained this skill of being a great listener. The boldness I have developed over the years has helped me to share my story with school friends and strangers. I encourage them by telling them that it's not too late for change and that it strongly depends upon your faith. I defied the statistics."

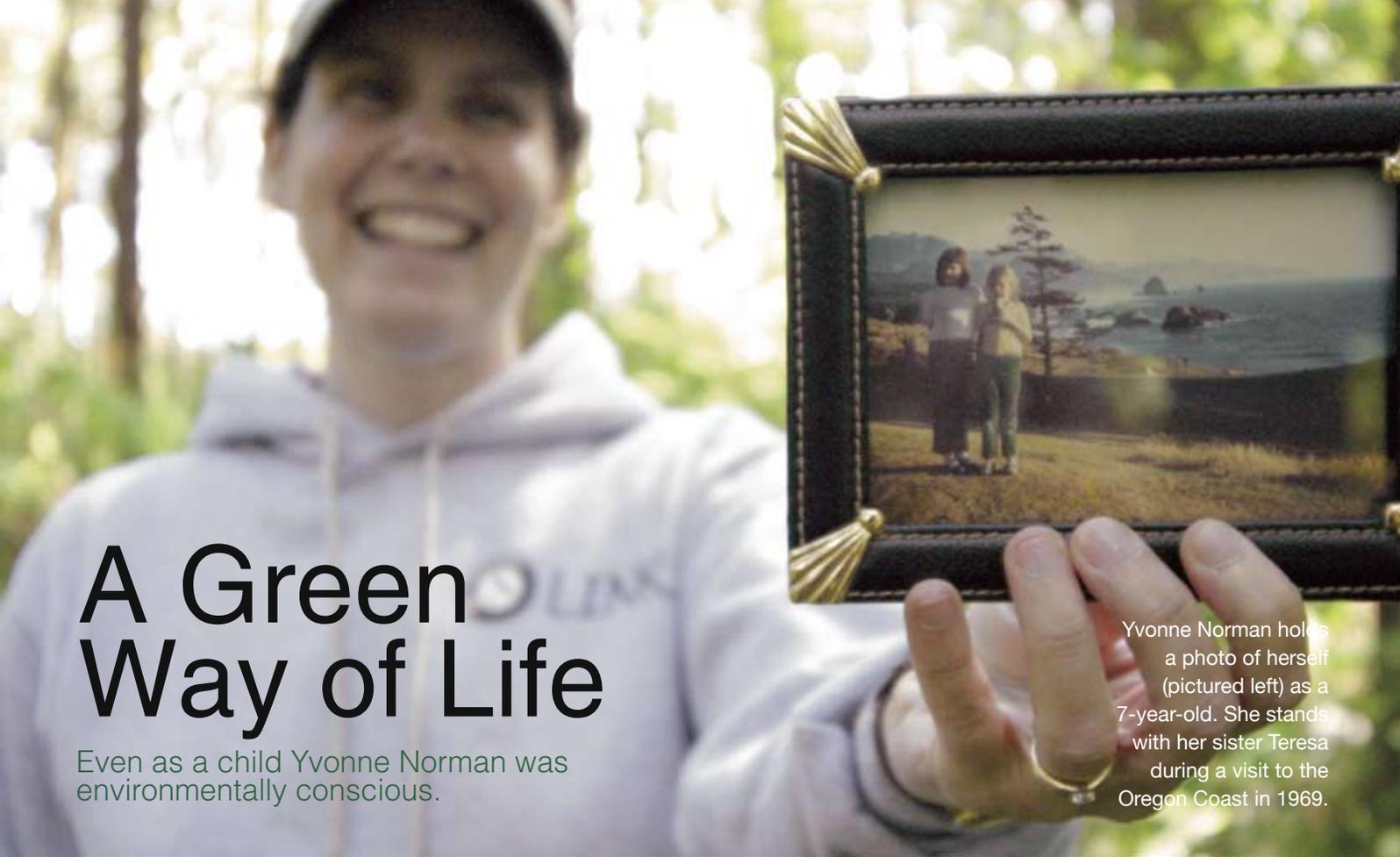
Now Traylor is working toward graduating in 2008 and then possibly enrolling in the University of Oregon. Until then, she's enjoying the people she meets and classes she takes at the Cascade Campus.

"The diversity here is awesome," she said. "It reminds me of home. People here speak to you and shake your hand. It's the type of hospitality I'm used to."

And what about her mother?

"My mom is awesome now. She's been drug free since my ninth grade in high school," Traylor said. "My mother is also a student at PCC working on her communications degree and takes a jazz class with me. A lot of people think she is my sister. I say, 'No, that's my mom.' We enjoy these years now that she is better." ■

For information on donations to PCC Foundation student scholarships, call 503-977-4382 or visit www.pcc.edu.



A Green Way of Life

Even as a child Yvonne Norman was environmentally conscious.

Yvonne Norman holds a photo of herself (pictured left) as a 7-year-old. She stands with her sister Teresa during a visit to the Oregon Coast in 1969.

As a spunky 9-year-old, she organized a massive neighborhood cleanup where she and her buddies collected trash in wheelbarrows. They unloaded all the garbage in her driveway where her father was kind enough to haul it off to the dump.

Some four decades later her concern for the community continues and she's taking the Rock Creek Campus by storm as the student government association's new director of campus ecology. She's making it easier for students and staff to buy Green Tags to offset carbon dioxide output, determining how much carbon the college district emits, researching ways the student center can operate on solar or wind power and looking at how food waste on campus could be reduced. She also started the Rock Creek Green Team.

"I guess I've always been green – that's just who I am," said Norman, an Oregon native.

She took classes at Sylvania in her early 20s where she studied botany but then put school on hold as she and her husband

raised four children, teaching them about recycling, composting and organic food. She enrolled at Rock Creek in 2005 and now takes child development classes. She hopes to someday teach elementary school children reading, writing and math lessons as well as ways to keep the planet environmentally safe.

She got involved with the Associated Students of PCC after a classmate already in student government asked for help. Her first response: "Are you sure you want someone as old as me in student government?"

The answer was a resounding "yes."

"Yvonne brings passion, maturity and an incredible work ethic to the group. When she commits to a project, it gets done and it's done well," said Mandy Ellertson, Rock Creek's student leadership coordinator. "Yvonne truly believes that each individual can make a difference and help resolve the global climate crisis. She is able to provide the necessary leadership to encourage others to take just the smallest of steps to be a part of the solution."

This "tree hugger" – a name affectionately used by her son – is dedicated to protecting the environment. She carools from her Hillsboro home to the campus each day with her daughter, also a PCC student. Feeling guilty about driving the 20 miles roundtrip she purchased three Green Tags which will buy wind and solar power to help offset the pollution her car emits during the commute. She is such an advocate of the Green Tags sold through the Bonneville Environmental Foundation that she started a program where students can purchase the \$10 stickers on campus.

She's part of a team of students pushing to reduce carbon emissions at the district's three comprehensive campuses and the Southeast Center. The goal is to lower the number by 30 percent by 2020.

"So far everyone has been supportive and the faculty and staff have been helpful," she said. "My kids are grown and no one is at home, so going to school, volunteering with student government and working on these environmental initiatives is exactly what I want to do." ■



Enter Stage Left

For Theatre Arts students and instructors it's a race against time about every eight weeks.

That's how long they have each term to pull together a major theatrical production, from auditioning to memorizing lines to building a set to rehearsing to opening night.

Along the way there are costumes to design, lights to install, details to fine tune and playbills to write for the six performances staged over two weekends.

"It really is a labor of love," said Michael Najjar, chair of the theatre arts department and director of most of the plays. "The commitment from these students is awesome."

The spring play of "The Love of the Nightingale" allowed Najjar and his students to collaborate with PCC art students who created elaborate masks for some of the main characters as well as sculptures and puppets for props.

"It was serendipitous how all the creative minds gelled and came together," he said. "That is the mystical side of theater."

Working closely with Najjar is instructor Dan Hays, the mastermind behind designing the sets for each play. "Nightingale" was performed in a "theater of the round" where audience members sat in a circle on stage with the actors. Instructor Frances Marsh and students fired up power tools to build the set. For some students, set designing and building is the best job and there are plenty of opportunities available to those who want to work behind-the-scenes.

A majority of the nearly 100 students involved with the three plays over the year (performances are in November, March and May) take part because they love the theater but have no serious interest in pursuing it as a career. They enjoy the camaraderie and friendship that results

from spending countless days and nights with peers who have the same hobby. The stage is where they want to spend their free time.

"I'm impressed with how much people care about the project. People spend hours and hours creating one prop," said student Juliet Marks, the lead in the upcoming play "Swanwhite."

"I think we're successful because everyone has high standards and they're passionate about what they do," she adds.

Students are also fortunate to perform in the Performing Arts Center at Sylvania, which Najjar considers one of the area's best venues.

Marks, 20, is getting to know the center quite well in the weeks before opening night.

"I'm pretty much living there now," she said. "Everyone involved with the play works well together. We're a tightknit group of friends." ■

PCC's Upcoming Production

Swanwhite

The Theater Arts program presents "Swanwhite" at 7:30 p.m. on May 10, 12 and 19; noon on May 11 and 18; and 2 p.m. on May 20 in the Performing Arts Center at the Sylvania Campus, 12000 S.W. 49th Ave. The play dramatizes the traditional fairy tale about a young princess, her stepmother and a prince, proving that love can triumph over all things. For more information call 503-977-4949 or visit www.pcc.edu/theatre.



Student Madeline Burchet McClure performs in the recent PCC production of "The Love of the Nightingale," the contemporary retelling of the ancient Greek myth of sisters Philomele and Procne. McClure played Procne.



To the Rescue: PCC's Small Business Development Center guides entrepreneurs through tricky decisions

Last summer Rebecca Percy was at a crossroads with her specialty hand-bag business Queen Bee Creations. The 10-year-old company she founded was growing at a rapid pace but Percy was spending all her time at work leaving little for her personal life.

She contemplated closing up shop and walking away. Then a friend suggested she talk to a counselor through the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at Portland Community College.

"It's so much work to start and run a business and I'm sure anyone could find the SBDC useful, especially if you don't have a business degree," said Percy, whose purses, wallets and bags sell nationally.

Some of the most important advice Percy heard from counselors was to stop "being the business and instead run the business." The message rings true for many small business owners who try to handle many jobs and save money by not hiring employees.

"It was really encouraging to hear from the counselor that I could run this business and that I needed to hire people and that I should stop worrying about money," said Percy.

Percy, who as a high school student made her own clothes and later studied at a textile and fabric institute in Philadelphia, started the business in Olympia in 1996 and moved it to Portland in 2002. For many years she did just about everything in the shop – from designing bags to producing the items to shipping to bookkeeping.

She's now taking SBDC entrepreneurial classes that teach everything from writing a business plan to hiring employees to paying business taxes. She also learns from her classmates who talk about their business challenges and solutions.



Rebecca Percy, Queen Bee Creations

The SBDC, located inside the Lloyd Center Mall, is funded by PCC as well as the U.S. Small Business Administration and the state's Economic and Community Development Department. The mandate: help grow businesses and the economy.

Across the country there are about 1,100 SBDC offices that assist entrepreneurs with launching a new business, growing it, and selling it. While the classes cost from about \$25 for a single session to \$1,200 for a year-long course, the one-on-one counseling is free.



Virginia Young and Janie Lowe, YOLO Colorhouse

"We are all about creating employers," said Tom Lowles, who oversees the local office where last year counselors met with 560 clients and held more than 100 training events.

And there are plenty of businesses to assist as recent figures show that about 95 percent of Portland metro area companies are considered small with fewer than 50 employees. In addition, nearly half of Oregon's small businesses are in the local metropolitan area.

YOLO Colorhouse is another Portland-based business benefiting from the SBDC. Janie Lowe and Virginia Young, founders of the environmentally-friendly wall finishes and paint company, were in the position for a giant leap forward when they met with advisers several years ago.

"We first sought out the SBDC when we were exploring ways to change our service-based business into a business that could be more than just ourselves," said Young. "I had to repeat to myself over and over to delegate and move on to the next thing -- to work on the business and not in the business. One of the biggest challenges for Janie and me is to give stuff away but as we grow it's essential."

SBDC counselors helped with marketing, national distribution, business systems and trademark development.

The company now partners with manufacturer Rodda Paint and YOLO expects to quickly become a national environmental color and design company whose products are sold in eco-friendly stores. YOLO has 12 workers with headquarters in an office on Southeast Water Avenue.

Young recommends the SBDC to anyone in business. "It's one of the best deals in Portland," she said.

For more information about the SBDC, visit www.bizcenter.org.

On the Cover: Jacqueline Ehlis



About the Artist: Jacqueline Ehlis considers herself a PCC success story. She took courses at the Sylvania Campus out of high school and says the education she received was first-rate.

"I put myself through college and because of the price, proximity to my house and the range of classes, PCC was perfect for me," she said.

Ehlis enrolled in economics classes because she wanted to learn what countries

made and how different mercantile and commercial systems work. It wasn't until she took an art history class that she found her true calling.

Ehlis graduated from Pacific Northwest College of Art and then earned a master's degree in fine arts from University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

She returned to Portland, continued painting and began teaching drawing and color theory at the Cascade Campus in 2000. She is now a full-time faculty member and the new director of the campus gallery.

"I love watching people who think they can't draw. I tell them to give me six weeks and they will draw," said Ehlis, adding that she enjoys the diversity of her students – some novices and others who've had years of practice. "There is nothing more beautiful than watching people as they learn."

Her work has been showcased at various Portland galleries and her forthcoming exhibits include a group show at the New American Art Union beginning June 1 and a faculty show at Cascade that runs from June 1 through Sept. 27. She will also be part of a group show at the Las Vegas Art Museum in late September. ■

Scholarship named in memory of college advocate



The Portland Community College Foundation has received initial gifts totalling over \$40,000 to establish a fund to help single mothers earn an education.

The Doreen Margolin Memorial Scholarship is named for the PCC board chair who passed away in January after a brief battle with cancer. Margolin spent seven years on the board, first appointed in 1999 and later elected in 2001. She represented Zone 5 in the district, which encompasses southwest and part of southeast Portland. She was also an attorney in private practice in Portland, specializing in domestic relations.

"After Doreen passed away my kids Daniel and his wife Chris, and Ami and her husband Andy Rome, and I wanted a way to preserve her memory. We tried to determine what she would have wanted," said Phil Margolin, her husband of 38 years. "She was so devoted to PCC and she would hear about a student's success story and get so excited. We knew right away that we wanted to do something that would help kids."

The scholarship fund will create an annual award to benefit PCC students who are single mothers enrolled in a professional/technical or transfer degree program. They must have completed at least two terms

and carry a minimum grade-point average of 2.5. Students must also be eligible for the Oregon Opportunity Grant and must submit their financial aid award letter at the time of application. The deadline to apply is May 31 and the first recipient will be chosen later this summer.

The scholarship will be used for tuition, fees and books. For information about the scholarship, visit www.pcc.edu/pccscholarships.

The PCC Foundation will administer the fund and all donations are tax deductible. For more information about the fund or how to donate, call 503-977-4382. ■

Calendar of Events: A Look at What's Ahead

May

Art Beat 2007, the 20th Anniversary of the districtwide festival of art, will spread across all three PCC comprehensive campuses and the Southeast Center from May 7-11. All events are free and open to the public. For more information visit www.artbeat.pcc.edu.

June

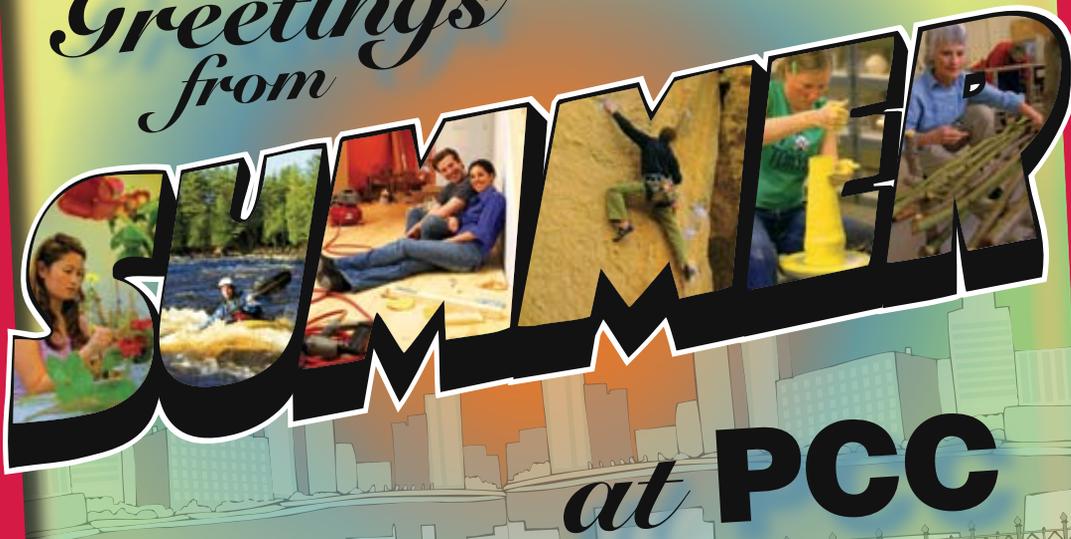
PCC's Commencement Ceremony will be held at 7 p.m. on Friday, June 8 at the Memorial Coliseum.

Summer Term classes begin on Monday, June 25. For more information visit www.pcc.edu.

August

Women Starting College Workshop
Nervous about returning to school? Workshops will be offered at the Sylvania, Cascade and Rock Creek campuses from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 20. For more information or to pre-register, call the Women's Resource Center at Sylvania, 503-977-8069, Cascade 503-978-5249 or Rock Creek 503-614-7448.

Greetings
from



Hey!

Just wanted to drop you a quick line about what a great time I'm having this summer at PCC. The Spanish class I'm taking is something I've wanted to do for a long time, and I'll be able to use it in my job after the term ends. I'm learning a ton, and now I'm even thinking about taking a PCC travel class to Mexico at the end of the summer! Anyway, I just wanted to let you know how glad I am that I decided to check out PCC this summer, and I think you should too.

Wish you were here!



PCC Community Ed Classes

Registration begins May 16th

www.pcc.edu

At Portland Community College, the classes have heated up with the weather. With offerings ranging from kayaking and open-water diving to knitting and writing, you can enrich your life this summer with one of PCC's Community Education classes. Check inside for a complete list of classes. Registration begins May 16th.

Community Education
Portland Community College
Non-credit Classes in Your Neighborhood and Online



P.O. Box 19000 Portland, Oregon 97280-0990

Residential Customer