

President's Report March, 2008

On the morning of February 25th I wrote the following words to the Oregon Community College Association (OCCA), the Oregon Community College Students Association (OCCSA), the Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development (CCWD), and to the 16 other community college presidents.

"The Mouse That Roared"

Perhaps you remember the movie, or even the book, about how a small, impoverished country declares war against the United States and, in an ironic way, wins. Well, today we at Clatsop CC feel at bit like that small country... only it wasn't our voice in solo that "roared" all the way to Salem but instead it was our voice made loud and impossible to ignore by your voices joining with ours in chorus.

I want to express our sincerest thanks to you..... and, I hope that our voices will join in chorus again and often, singing the national anthems of our other member "countries," making our voices heard and winning many "wars" to come.

Of course, I was writing to express my thanks to them for supporting Clatsop Community College in our successful efforts to secure \$4 million in capital construction support from the February 2008 Legislative Session – and thankful we are! But I was also writing to call attention to, and reinforce, a certain attitude and behavior that I experienced and I hope will be a pattern for our behavior in the future: Collaboration. More than ever before, for this Legislative Session our State's 17 community colleges and related departments and associations combined forces for the benefit of one of its members, believing that, in the long run, such collaboration will benefit us all. And, as I made my visits to Salem and to the State Capital, I was both gratified and humbled by the support I felt for our college and I am eager for us to return the favor as we lend our support to other community colleges in the future. Together, the 17 community colleges of Oregon have the potential to make a college education accessible to all our State's citizens, and this is a potential well worth our working together.

Other Great News!

- March 3-7th is Classified Staff Appreciation Week and here at Clatsop we are honoring these important people in our college community through a variety of activities throughout this week. Of course, these people provide our college and our students with valuable service and support throughout the year so, while we may pay special tribute on this week, it's important that we show our appreciation during the other 51 weeks as well. Thanks to our Classified Staff!
- In the past week we have received grant award notices from two Foundations, the Oregon Communities Foundation and the James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation, providing us with wonderful news about their eagerness to support us

in our redevelopment of the Jerome Campus. The Oregon Communities Foundation has provided us with \$10,000 to help pay for grant writing and other resource development work, and the Miller Foundation has awarded us \$250,000 for actual project construction! This is great news, and another great step toward our full funding of the Jerome Campus Redevelopment Project!

- We continue to work with ShoreBank and our own legal counsel to put together the resources and documentation for the New Market Tax Credits (NMTC).
- We continue to work with our area School Districts and Educational Services District on our Alternative High School and Workforce Alliance projects.
- We are in the final stages of putting together a new “regional” SBDC through Col-Pac (Columbia-Pacific Rural Economic Development Agency) with SBDC-funded business counselors resident with the local economic development organizations, such as Clatsop Economic Development Resources (CEDR). Meetings with State agency staff are scheduled for later this month.
- I am putting the final touches on a 40-40-20 Capacity and Cost Modeling presentation that I will be sharing with you at our March Board Meeting, and then with the State Board of Education just two days later. This is a great opportunity for us to be able to demonstrate the important role that our community colleges will play in attaining the 40-40-20 educational attainment goal and I am honored by the opportunity to be able to make this presentation both to you and to the State Board.

Well, I am sure there is more that I could (and probably should) write about but I think this is probably enough to reflect the great work that all of us at Clatsop Community College are doing. Thanks to all!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name 'Greg', written in a cursive style.

Greg