

## Presidents Report October, 2008

It may be that, according to the calendar, I am a month early for giving thanks, but this late September and early October has given me, and all of us, much to be thankful for.

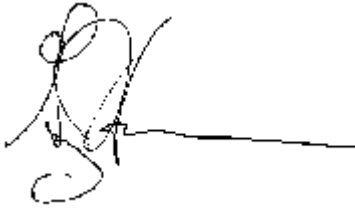
Here's my list:

- Students and more students! September 22<sup>nd</sup> was the first day of the new school year and we found ourselves with more classes and more students in our classes! Of course we had some early indicators that this might be the case – more direct admit new students from our area high schools, more financial aid applications – but it was still gratifying to see so many turning at Clatsop to meet their educational needs. Following up on an annual increase of 73 FTE students last year (a 5.75% increase), indications are that we will add a similar number of FTE students this year!
- New and returning staff and faculty. Our ability to attract and serve all these students is directly related to the quality of our faculty and staff, and we at Clatsop are fortunate to have returning – and new – people who are making a positive difference in our student's lives. And, in addition to all that is being done in our classrooms and offices and in our buildings and on our campus to make this a better place for our students, this year I am especially thankful for dedicated faculty and staff who are working to make this a better place for us as well! The Core Values Team and the IOU / Diversity Group are just two of the more visible examples of our work to make Clatsop a more positive place for both learning and working.
- Historic support. As we have been preparing for the celebration of our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, I have been struck by the long history of support and leadership from which Clatsop has benefitted. As Oregon's oldest community college, we led the way in providing community-based post-secondary education in Oregon and this half-century of service would not have been possible without a community that continued to support us. At the same time, as we have been preparing for the Jerome Campus Redevelopment Project (JCRP) groundbreaking, I have felt equally honored by the generous support Clatsop has received to make the JCRP possible. With \$22 million in funding already in place and a \$5 million Bond Measure on the November ballot, the JCRP is truly a partnership of which we can be proud and for which we can be thankful.

- A special note of thanks to all who have and will make the celebration of our 50<sup>th</sup> year and the groundbreaking for our JCRP a very special event. It would be impossible to list them all, but I know that none of it would be possible without the leadership of Nadine Faith and Misako Murphy and the generous support of the Clatsop CC Foundation. Thanks!

Oh, I know that there will be challenges ahead. Sustaining a more positive work environment on our campus, garnering more financial support for community colleges in Salem, staying on top of a very complex building project, and building a stronger local economy that ensures good paying jobs for our graduates will all require our best efforts. But, for now, I am thankful that we have such a strong place from which to begin.

Thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Greg Hamann', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Greg Hamann