

# CLARK COLLEGE • Vol. 23, No. 1 • FALL 2009

# Connections

▪ Schedule of Day/Evening Classes ▪ Fall Classes Begin September 21

*ClarkCollege* The Next Step



President Knight and Oswald  
invite you to take The Next Step

When you enroll in classes at Clark College, you embrace the future for your career and your life.

This year, we are doing the same as we prepare to open Clark College at Columbia Tech Center (CTC)—The Next Step for the next 75 years.

That excitement is captured in this issue of *Clark College Connections*. You'll learn more about that beautiful, state-of-the-art facility and meet some of the outstanding faculty members who will be teaching at CTC. You'll also learn about the credit classes, degrees and continuing education programs that will be offered there.

If you want to be among the first to get a sneak preview of CTC, I hope you'll join us for an exciting community open house on Saturday, August 29. (To learn more, see the back cover.)

At Clark College, we help students embrace the future every day. In this issue, you'll meet three Clark students who earned statewide honors as they pursue vocational careers. You'll also learn how our Displaced Homemakers program changes students' lives.

We know that the past year has been tough. We also know our students and our college have survived difficult times before and we will survive today's challenges.

So, this fall, we are saying welcome! Welcome to a new academic year. Welcome to Clark College at Columbia Tech Center. Welcome to the next 75 years.

Most of all, welcome to your own bright future!

Robert K. Knight  
*President*



*During Clark College's 25th anniversary, Dr. Dwight C. Baird became president and the college's Central Park campus was dedicated. This fall, Clark College at Columbia Tech Center (CTC) will be dedicated as we start our next 75 years. Pictured with President Knight (center) are Director of Instructional Programming and Innovation George Reese (left) and Executive Director of Corporate & Continuing Education Todd Oldham (right), who have worked tirelessly to establish the educational programs to be offered at CTC beginning this fall.*

**President**

Robert K. Knight

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**Message to Our Residents**

Clark College mails class schedules to all households and businesses in Clark County four times each year to inform residents about college programs and services. Because it is addressed to "Postal Customer," we are unable to remove individuals from our distribution route. It can be recycled with your newspapers. Thank you.

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Alternate format of this document is available upon request. Please contact Disability Support Services at 360-992-2314 or 360-992-2835 (TTY).

**Disclaimer**

This class schedule is published for information purposes only. Although every effort is made to insure accuracy at the time of publication, this class schedule shall not be construed to be an irrevocable contract between the student and Clark College. The College reserves the right to make any changes in the content

and provisions of this class schedule without notice and reserves the right to cancel classes and to change class fees, instructors, or meeting dates/times at any time. Many classes require a minimum enrollment of 15. Early enrollment is encouraged to prevent class cancellation. If a class in which you are enrolled is canceled, contact the Advising Center, the Office of Instruction, or a faculty advisor to assist in selecting a suitable alternative.

**Limitation of liability**

The college's total liability for claims arising from a contractual relationship with the student in any way related to classes or programs shall be limited to the tuition and expenses paid by the student to the college for those classes or programs. In no event shall the college be liable for any special, indirect, incidental, or consequential damages, including but not limited to, loss of earnings or profits.



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### Clark College Mission Statement:

Clark College provides opportunities for diverse learners to achieve their educational and professional goals, thereby enriching the social, cultural and economic environment of our region and the global community.

*The 2008-2010 Clark College academic catalog is available for purchase at the Clark College Bookstore in Gaiser Hall and online at [www.clarkbookstore.com](http://www.clarkbookstore.com). The cost is \$3 plus shipping.*



# More classes, more choices: CLARK COLLEGE AT COLUMBIA TECH CENTER

It's clear that today's society is about choices. We bike, bus and drive. We eat in, drive-thru and take out. We even call, text and tweet.

And now, beginning this fall, you have another choice—Clark College at Columbia Tech Center (CTC)—for general transfer and career-technical classes, basic education, and corporate and community education classes.

"I'm excited to teach at CTC as this is another opportunity that Clark College is offering to serve students in the most effective way possible," said communication studies professor Deena Bisig, who will be teaching at CTC this fall. "The building is beautiful and in a prime location for those students along I-205, Camas, Washougal and beyond."

Read on to learn how Clark College at Columbia Tech Center is The Next Step...

## CHOICES FOR THE COLLEGE-READY

Providing choices applies not only to Clark College at Columbia Tech Center as a location—but also to the variety of class offerings provided at the new facility.

If Clark College at Columbia Tech Center is The Next Step on your path to a four-year college or university, you'll find classes in our associate of arts (AA) transfer degree program. Classes are offered in a more traditional format (daily, Monday-Thursday), or in the two-day-per-week format—meaning you could complete an AA degree by attending class just two days per week.

Career and technical education classes will also be offered at CTC, including classes in business and administrative support, and data networks and telecommunications. In addition, Clark College's power utilities technology program is relocating to

CTC, where it will feature new equipment in the building's power utilities laboratory—including linkages to the building's solar arrays and wind turbine, giving students experience with these forms of alternative energy. "The new power laboratory at CTC will provide significant improvements in the power utilities technology program by providing additional hands-on training opportunities in a state-of-the-art lab facility," said Jim Malinowski, power utilities instructor. "My students and I are very lucky that the Clark College Foundation, the college, and local utilities have made this wonderful laboratory facility available to the program."

Many classes at CTC will also count toward high school graduation requirements under the Running Start program, which allows high school students to earn college credits in classes such as American Literature (ENGL 268), United States History (HIST& 146), English Composition (ENGL& 101 and ENGL& 102), Introduction to Economics (ECON 101), Calculus I (MATH& 151), and National Government & Politics (POLS 111). For high school students wanting to participate in Running Start, CTC offers an eastern Clark County location that makes it easier to incorporate college classes with high school programs and activities.

## CHOICES FOR IMPROVING SKILLS

For those who aren't quite ready to take English Composition I, Intermediate Algebra or Survey of Biology, Clark College at Columbia Tech Center has classes and programs to serve your needs as well.

Adult basic education (ABE) classes are designed to help adults improve their skills in reading, writing and math. Students in ABE classes may have graduated from high school, but aren't



ready for college-level classes, or may be preparing to take the General Educational Development (GED) tests to earn a high school diploma.

Classes in English as a Second Language (ESL) will also be offered at CTC beginning this fall. (ESL) classes are for adult immigrants and refugees to learn to speak, read and write English, as well as enhance students' understanding of American culture. "This is a fantastic opportunity for our program to expand in east Vancouver," said ESL professor Sara Gallow, who will be teaching at CTC this fall. "We look forward to working closely with organizations located near CTC, so our students will have a better understanding of and become actively involved in their new community through service learning, volunteering and participating in local events."

#### CHOICES FOR PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL GROWTH

Professionals, corporations and community groups also have a new place to turn—Clark College at Columbia Tech Center—for educational offerings.

The Corporate Learning Center, operated by Clark College's department of Corporate & Continuing Education, will be located at CTC. Created to meet the needs of corporate, professional and community learners, the Corporate Learning Center plans to offer:

- Classes for professional development and personal enrichment, including software courses on Adobe's Creative Suite 4 (CS4), QuickBooks and Google Unleashed.
- Personal enrichment classes, including yoga and tai chi; pastel painting, experimental painting for beginners and calligraphy will be offered in the natural-light art room.
- Cooking programs, including easy vegetables, teen cooking, kids cooking camp, knife skills, and pantry building and menu planning.
- Space for business, nonprofit and group events; off-site retreats and meetings; and trade shows. The CLC offers a wide and flexible choice of meeting and room accommodations—attractively priced—to meet the needs of business and professional organizations.

"The Corporate Learning Center greatly expands the services and programming available to our community," said Executive Director of Corporate & Continuing Education Todd Oldham. "The technology at CTC allows us to expand Clark's continuing education offerings into e-learning and distance learning programs. This, in conjunction with the additional rooms available at CTC, increases our capacity to provide programs of benefit to our business and personal enrichment students."



### Meet your professor...

You'll find many friendly instructors and professors at Clark College at Columbia Tech Center when the doors open this fall. Some of those who will be teaching at CTC include:

DEENA BISIG (standing, left), communication studies professor, will be teaching interpersonal communication and small group communication at CTC during fall quarter.

Business technology professor MARY EVENS (seated, front) will be teaching keyboarding and speed and accuracy building classes at CTC during fall quarter.

DR. SANDY HAIGH (seated, left), professor of biology, will be teaching the survey of biology class. This class will be part of Clark's two-day AA degree program offerings at Columbia Tech Center this fall.

JIM MALINOWSKI (standing, right), power utilities instructor, will be teaching both basic electrical concepts and power utilities career classes this fall. The power utilities technology program will be housed at CTC and will be incorporating a new power laboratory into the program.



Opposite page, left to right:

Dr. Sandy Haigh, shown here teaching a class on native Northwest plants during spring quarter 2009, will be teaching Survey of Biology (BIOL& 100) at CTC during fall quarter 2009.

(from left) Power utilities technology instructor Jim Malinowski and maintenance mechanic Mitch Sott are pictured with power utilities technology students Jodie Jernberg and Joel Savage. Sott built the stand for the 22,000 volt transformer insulator donated by Bonneville Power Administration that will be on display in the power lab at CTC.

Business Technology professor Mary Evens (standing), show here teaching during spring quarter 2009, will be teaching at CTC during fall quarter 2009.



### You're Invited!

CLARK COLLEGE AT  
COLUMBIA TECH CENTER  
OPEN HOUSE  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 29  
10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

See the back cover of this issue for more information

# Financial aid helps pay tuition *and fund dreams*



Sebastien Azouma's financial aid award has enabled him to continue his education at Clark College. He plans to earn a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering.

job, which was part of his financial aid award. He works—fittingly—in the Financial Aid office, helping to track application packets and conduct mailings.

Although the application and award process is already underway for 2009-2010, “it is never too late to apply for financial aid,” said Financial Aid Director Karen Driscoll. “Financial aid is still available for fall quarter—but students need to be prepared to pay for their tuition and books. Those that are eligible for aid may receive reimbursement for their educational expenses.”

“The first step in applying for financial aid is to fill out the FAFSA,” said Driscoll. The FAFSA is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. The FAFSA, with other supplemental documents, are used to determine eligibility for federal, state and college financial aid. Worker retraining funding is also available to eligible individuals who have been unemployed and are seeking retraining through career and technical education programs at Clark College.

It was a combination of worker training and financial aid that kept Sebastien on his educational path to study electrical engineering, with future plans to transfer to a four-year school to earn a bachelor's degree. For now, though, he is happy to be at Clark. “I love it here,” he says, smiling.

The smile on his face answers the question long before he speaks. Sebastien Azouma is thankful to be a student at Clark College.

Sebastien came to the United States from West Africa in 2003. He lived a year in New York before moving to Portland. “Living in New York takes a lot of money,” he said. “So I chose somewhere more affordable.” He began taking classes at Clark last fall—balancing a full-time course load with full-time employment. But, as with many, the economic downturn found him without a job—and without a way to pay for his schooling.

Enter Clark College's Financial Aid office. For Sebastien—and countless other students every year—a financial aid award makes the difference in starting (and continuing) their educational pursuits.

“You can see it on my face,” Sebastien says with a smile. “I was laid off, I had no source of income, so this helps me a lot,” he says of his work-study



Financial Aid's Bev Barba (left) discusses financial aid options with Florencio Ocampo Bravo (right).

## Did you know?

During the 2008-2009 school year, Clark College's Financial Aid office awarded \$27 million in aid.

Financial aid packages may be a combination of grants, scholarships, loans, work-study funding or tuition waivers.

To begin the financial aid application process, fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Visit [www.clark.edu/finaid](http://www.clark.edu/finaid) to find information and links to the FAFSA Web site, or visit the Financial Aid office in Gaiser Hall.

*Help is available!* The Financial Aid office has computers that can be used to complete the FAFSA online. Staff members are also available to assist you in completing the application. (Be sure to bring your 2008 tax information to complete the form.)

Watch for Financial Aid Night, held each December; Scholarship Night and College Goal Sunday, held each January. These events provide helpful information on the financial aid process, applying for scholarships and assistance completing the FAFSA.

Priority application dates, links to the FAFSA application, and other information on financial aid is available on the Clark College Web site at [www.clark.edu/finaid](http://www.clark.edu/finaid)



# Helping homemakers *through times of transition*

Finding a job—especially these days—can be tough. But what if the only title you could list on your resume was “homemaker”? And what if you suddenly found yourself having to provide for yourself and your children?

Helping individuals who have spent at least 10 years as unsalaried homemakers—and who now need to support either themselves or their families—is the purpose of the Southwest Washington Displaced Homemaker Center/Life Transitions program at Clark College.

“I had always wanted to set a good example for my children and go back to school,” said Gale Boskofsky, who nearly lost her leg in an accident and was no longer able to work in Alaska’s commercial fishing industry. “I knew getting an education that would lead to a good career was the best option for my family’s future—but I had no idea where to start.” It was her oldest daughter that told her about the program.

During the free four-week class, participants cover job-related topics, including discovering their hidden job skills and how to complete job applications and write resumes. Personal skills topics, including how to stretch current income and dealing with stress and health issues, are also covered.

Many students who complete the Displaced Homemaker/Life Transitions program go on to take classes at Clark. “Between 50 and 60 percent of our program participants go on to become Clark students,” said Associate Director of Eligibility Programs Becky Merritt. “We see that education is the solution to get people out of poverty and into higher-wage jobs.” Many participants who continue their education receive financial aid; for those who do not, other eligibility programs may be available. “If they want to go to school, we try to make sure they can,” explained Merritt.

“I was the only one without a plan at the end of the [Displaced Homemaker] program,” said Dana Lambert. “I received a call from Kris [Barnum, who at the time worked with the Displaced Homemaker program], who asked me what I wanted to learn. I told her my kids make fun of me for not knowing computers, and she said ‘Great! We’ll sign you up for a computer class.’ I told her I wasn’t good at typing; she said, ‘Great! We’ll sign you up for keyboarding!’ I told her I struggled with math; she said, ‘Great! We’ll get you into a math class!’ I was terrified—but I got straight As my first quarter.” Since then, Dana has completed receptionist and medical assistant certificates; this spring, she graduated with an associate in applied science degree. “Now, if there’s something I want to do, I’ll figure out how!” she said.

“The Displaced Homemaker/Life Transitions program at Clark College is all about working, jobs and career,” said Merritt. “If someone has had a big transition in their life and needs to know how to get a job or new skills—we want them to call us.”



top: Gale Boskofsky shared her compelling journey from displaced homemaker to GED graduate during the Clark College Foundation’s annual Savoring Excellence Event. Her next educational goal: to complete the college’s nursing program and work as a labor and delivery nurse.

bottom: Dana Lambert (second from left), with her children, completed the Displaced Homemaker class at Clark College in fall 2005. In June, she graduated with an associate degree in medical assisting. “My kids are so proud of me,” said Dana. “They were so proud to see me walk across that stage.”

**The Southwest Washington Displaced Homemaker Center/Life Transitions program is located in Gaiser Hall room 127. Classes are offered four times per year: January, April, July and October. For more information, call 360-992-2321 or e-mail [bmerritt@clark.edu](mailto:bmerritt@clark.edu).**

# Taking The Next Step in caps and gowns: *Celebrating the class of 2009*

If you're just starting a degree, certificate or retraining program, or studying to take the GED tests, graduation can seem a long way off. Before that day, there are papers to write, tests to take, projects to complete and presentations to make. But when you arrive, it is a day to celebrate your accomplishment—and look ahead to your own bright future.

For Clark College's class of 2009, the celebration was even more special, as this year's commencement and GED/high school completion ceremonies were milestone events in the college's 75th anniversary celebration.

And for one Clark College graduate, his commencement ceremony came 40 years later than expected...

If you are thinking about taking The Next Step at Clark College this fall, may the words and images of the class of 2009 be your inspiration. Welcome to the Penguin Nation!



top: Dora Hernandez was selected the recipient of the 2009 Presidential Scholarship, providing full tuition and fees for her to continue her education toward a bachelor's degree at WSU Vancouver. Dora, who served as president of the college's Latino Club and volunteered with the Service & Leadership in the Community program, is the first in her generation to graduate from college.

left: Wilbert Kalmbach (right) first took classes at Clark College in 1947. Continuing his studies, he believed that he would take part in the college's 1969 commencement ceremony. But, for unclear reasons, the diploma he received by mail was never entered into the college's records. On June 18—more than 62 years since he took his first class at Clark College—Wilbert received an associate of arts degree from Clark College President Robert K. Knight.





① Betty Jo Bellis received the Pat Fencil Scholarship during this year's GED and high school completion ceremony. The scholarship is awarded for regular attendance, progression through classes and successfully passing all five GED tests with high scores. "After many failures, I am now successful," said Betty Jo, who was one of the ceremony's three speakers. "By getting the GED, a new world has opened up for me."

② The African Gospel Acappella singers, which includes students and graduates of Clark's GED program, performed during the 2009 GED and high school completion ceremony.

③ During her speech, GED graduate Wendy Hill recounted her life story, which included attending 13 different schools from kindergarten to tenth grade. "I never had a steady school environment," Wendy said. "With each move, I lost time and got behind in school." Following an injury in October 2008 that prevented her from working, Wendy decided to take GED preparation classes at Clark College. "Now that I am receiving my GED, I hope to continue on to college," she told the audience. "I feel like there is nothing I can't do with a little hard work and time."

④ Commencement speaker Vail Horton told the class of 2009, "I promise you—there isn't anything you can't do. Anything you want to do, you can do it. Anything." Horton is the founder and CEO of Keen Mobility Company and founder and chair of The Incight Foundation. Born without legs and improper bone growth in his arms, Horton has said that he has, "a true calling to change the world for the better, focusing on the elderly and disabled."

⑤ Oswald congratulates Katelyn Peters prior to the 2009 commencement ceremony held June 18. Katelyn was a Running Start student at Clark; in June she graduated with both her high school diploma and associate of arts degree. She was also a member of the Student Ambassadors program during the 2008-2009 school year.

⑥ Students in Clark College's International Program celebrate their academic achievements at commencement 2009. From left: Seokwan Kim (Korea), Minako Aoki (Japan), Masayo Murata (Japan) and Konomi Takayama (Japan).

# Vocational excellence award recognizes Clark students

Clark College is proud to recognize three winners of the 2009 Washington Award for Vocational Excellence (WAVE): Heather Evans, welding; Natalia Mendoza, construction technology; and Scott Shirley, welding.

**Heather Evans** is a full-time student in Clark's welding program. She is currently the chair of the Clark College American Welding Society chapter, which she and another student started through the Associated Students of Clark College (ASCC). "Heather and [a fellow student] put the club together from zero," said Kenny Snyder, professor of welding technology at Clark. "It was her vision. She is a ball of energy, and great fun to work with." Heather is an active member of the community and plans on returning to the classroom as a welding teacher someday.

**Natalia Mendoza** is a student in Clark College's construction technology program, administered by the Clark County Skills Center. Natalia enjoys hard work and is excited to work in the field of construction. She is in the last year of her degree and has maintained a 3.58 GPA. "Natalia takes pride in the work that she does, always making sure that her projects are of the utmost quality and craftsmanship," said Clark County Skills Center construction instructor Lance Landis. "She is an enthusiastic and dynamic person who has always demonstrated to me that she will be a lifelong learner."

**Scott Shirley** is both a welding student at Clark and an employee, working as an instructional technician in the Welding Department. Scott is on track to finish his associate of applied science in welding technology and plans to use both his technical skills and respect for students and learning to build a better life for his family. "Scott very successfully completed the welding classes on a retraining grant," said Snyder. "He was a perfect student, perfect attendance, perfect lecture, perfect welding."

The Washington Award for Vocational Excellence (WAVE) program, created by the state legislature, recognizes students who excel in career and technical education. Three WAVE recipients (two from high schools/skills centers and one from community/technical colleges) are chosen from each legislative district by a selection committee. Since its inception in 1984, more than 3,000 students have received assistance in paying their college tuition, boosting their ability to reach their personal education and career goals.

*The Penguin Nation is proud to recognize Heather, Natalia and Scott for their accomplishments!*



(from left) Margaret Rice, dean of students at the Clark County Skills Center, with WAVE recipient Natalia Mendoza.



(from left) WAVE recipient Scott Shirley, Clark College welding instructor John Kuhn, WAVE recipient Heather Evans and Vice President of Instruction Dr. Rassoul Dastmozd.



# “SCEND”ING MESSAGES THROUGH TIME



Past Interim President Ellis Dunn (left) and Clark College President Robert K. Knight unveiled items from the 50th anniversary time capsule, including the Mid-Week section from *The Columbian* (May 2, 1984) that profiled Dean Lewis Cannell as the library was named in his honor during the college's 50th anniversary celebration.

Left to right: Welding professor emeritus Ryan Collins, who created Clark College's 50th anniversary time capsule, joins metal arts instructor Beth Heron, Clark College President Knight, and past Interim President Ellis Dunn in unveiling "Scend," the sculpture that houses the college's 75th anniversary time capsule.

*Historic treasures were discovered as Clark College opened its 50th anniversary time capsule on May 12, 2009—one of the highlight events of the college's yearlong 75th anniversary celebration.*

A 1937 Clark Junior College diploma signed by Dean Lewis Cannell, a copy of the first college yearbook, and mementos from the college's 25th and 50th anniversaries were among the treasures discovered when the college opened its 50th anniversary time capsule on May 12, 2009.

The capsule, which was created in 1984 by Clark welding professor Ryan Collins, was shaped like the nose of the rocket, reflecting interest in space travel at the time. Throughout the 75th anniversary year, it resided in the Penguin Union Building, awaiting its opening.

Faculty, staff, students and friends of Clark College—some of whom were part of the college community during the 50th anniversary—gathered in Gaiser Hall to watch Clark College President Robert K. Knight and past Interim President Ellis Dunn open the capsule and share each of the treasures it contained.

Former Clark public relations director Bob Moser sent remarks for the event, noting that the 50th anniversary celebration “was a major event in Clark's history. Connecting with the past was a major component.”

The opening was followed by the dedication of a sculpture, created by Clark metal arts instructor Beth Heron, which houses a new time capsule to be opened during the college's 100th anniversary in 2034. The sculpture, located in the plaza north of Gaiser Hall, is called “Scend,” which refers to the lift of a wave. Heron notes, “It's the actual push of the wave that is the scend. It also means send. I thought it was appropriate and fit the idea of Clark sending a message to the future.”

The new capsule includes items reflecting the college's earliest years, significant anniversaries, and the college and community today. It also includes messages from President Knight, Vancouver Mayor Royce Pollard and Washington Governor Chris Gregoire.

In summarizing the spirit of the college's diamond anniversary, President Knight said, “Our college was founded during the Great Depression. It's ironic that our 75th anniversary has found us once again facing tough economic times.”

“It also reminds us that our founders believed in a bright future for our college,” he added. “Today's college is the legacy of their belief. Tomorrow's college will be the legacy of our belief in a bright future—for the next 75 years and beyond.”



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# *You're Invited!*

Clark College  
at Columbia Tech Center  
Open House

Saturday, August 29, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

- ✧ Register for fall quarter classes.
- ✧ Watch cooking demonstrations by celebrity chef Rick Browne.
- ✧ Meet Clark College's mascot, Oswald, and personalities from Z100 radio.
- ✧ Enjoy other festivities and giveaways!

*Take The Next Step in your education  
at Clark College at Columbia Tech Center!*

