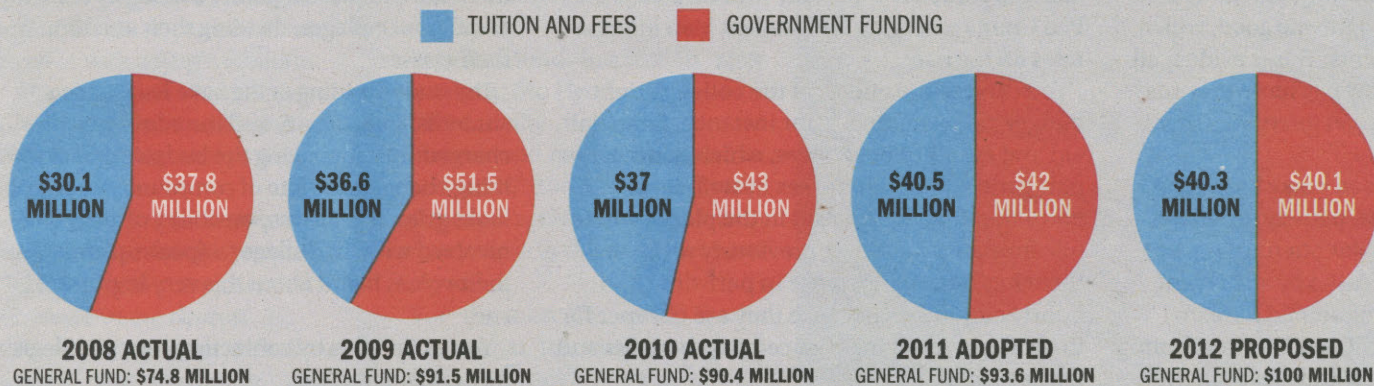




THE INCREASING ROLE OF TUITION AND FEES

For the first time in LCC's history, students are paying more into the college's general fund through tuition and fees than the government is providing through funding. While other resources also contribute to the total general fund, revenue from tuition and fees and governmental funding still account for the largest share of LCC's income.



SOURCE: LCC's adopted budget for fiscal year 2011-2012 and the proposed budget for fiscal year 2012-2013

College wrestles with recession

With resources dwindling and rising enrollment, LCC struggles to adapt.

BY KINZLEY PHILLIPS
Editor-in-Chief

Since the 2008-2009 year, LCC's enrollment has jumped 35.6 percent and the college's general fund budget has increased by \$15.2 million. Meanwhile, intergovernmental revenue to support the college has only increased by \$2.3 million, and funding from student tuition and fees has increased by \$10.2 million. In order to cover the remaining deficit, the college has worked to increase growth and employ strategic staffing.

Chief Financial Officer Greg Morgan said the total payroll cost for LCC in 2011-2012 is \$75.4 million.

"We've done what we can to get through this recessionary period ... by adding these part-time faculty and part-time staff and holding these full-time faculty and staff fairly constant, and then there's the addition to the administration," said Chief

Human Resources Officer Dennis Carr.

The faculty union president did not sit down for an interview with The Torch by press time.

The classified staff union president did not return The Torch's request to provide comments.

Sixteen positions have been added to administration since the 2008-2009 year, bringing the total to 73 administrators for the 2011-2012 year. Payroll expenses for administration in this academic year total to \$6,032,590, a \$662,541 increase from the 2010-2011 year. However, not all of the positions are actually funded entirely through the college's general fund.

"All of them were linked to either specific program additions, grants that the college received and needed to administer, or adding capacity where it was essential to serve students or execute projects," Carr said.

LCC President Dr. Mary Spilde described each position, why it was added and how the position is funded.

The senior companion program manager, for example, is partially funded by resources from its program but completes additional administrative work for the college, paid from the general fund.

Two positions were added to the LCC Foundation, responsible for such improvements as the new Health and Wellness Building. These positions are funded through the foundation.

The added TriO STEM grant manager position is funded by that grant.

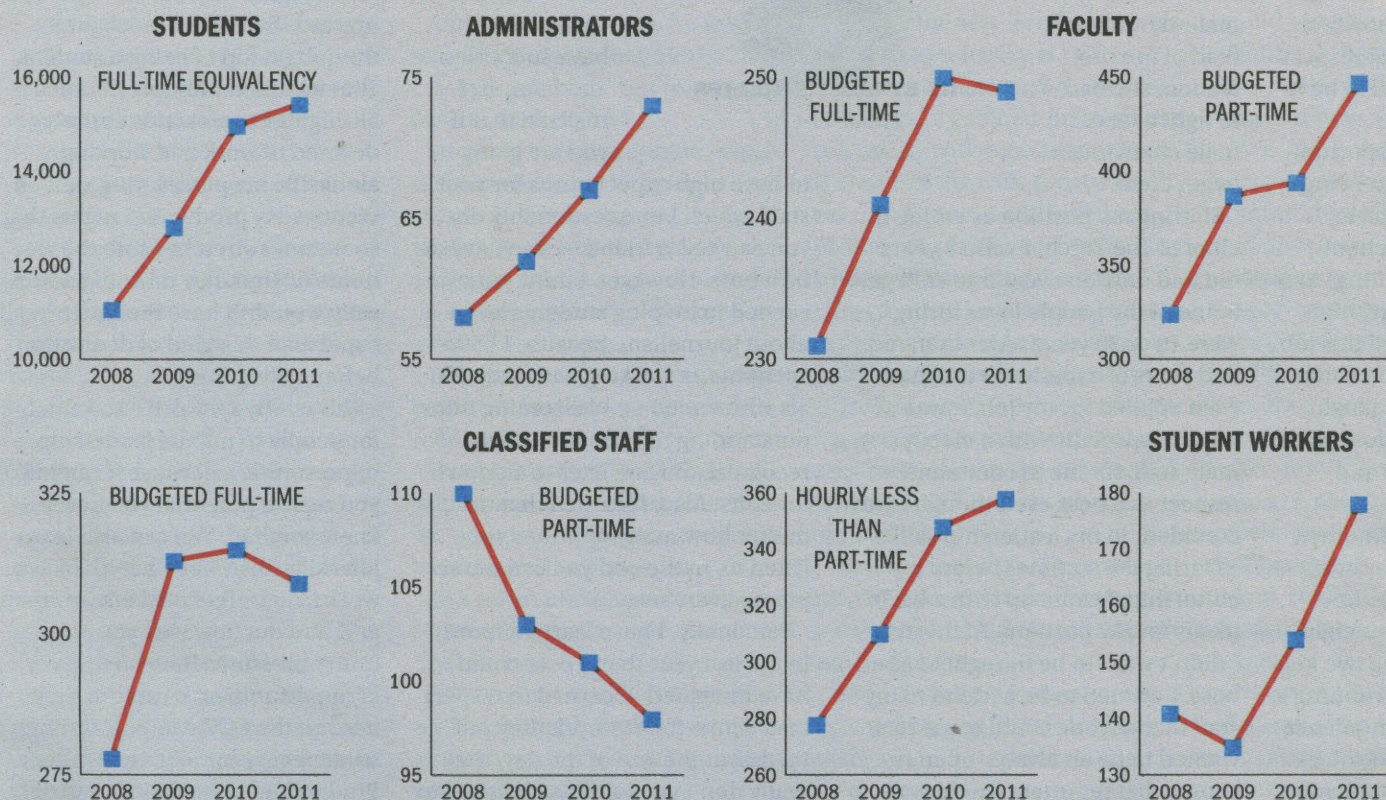
The Workforce Development manager is funded by related grants.

The International Student Program manager was added to expand international student enrollment and is funded by corresponding tuition.

See **BUDGET** on Page 5

COLLEGE STAFFING LEVELS CONSISTENT WITH COST-CUTTING

Since 2008, when the recession hit, the college has seen a 35.6 percent increase in enrollment and a drop in proportionate state funding.



SOURCE: LCCEA LCCEF Employee Headcount FTE Request furnished by LCC Human Resources Office

Higher One, Sallie Mae vie for contract

CFO calls it a tie.

BY TAYA ALAMI
Reporter

A committee will decide which financial aid refund distributor will service LCC by the end of the term, LCC Chief Financial Officer Greg Morgan said.

The committee, comprised of three students and eight staff members, has narrowed down the selection to two firms: Higher One and Sallie Mae.

Morgan said at this point, the two firms are tied. Higher One's contract with LCC will be automatically renewed if the committee does not reach a final decision by June 30.

Morgan said the deadline to make a decision is crucial because there are students on the selection committee.

"We really want to make a decision before they leave school," he said.

LCC is extending Higher One's contract through summer term, regardless of the selection committee's final decision, to give the college adequate time to implement a new disbursement contract. This transition would take approximately 12 weeks.

Higher One agreed to the extension with no cost to the college.

"It's very gracious for them to agree to do that," Morgan said.

Higher One, which handles the financial aid disbursements for more than 830 colleges and universities nationwide, partnered with LCC to handle an estimated 40,000 annual student financial aid disbursements in 2008.

"We're just giving ourselves some more time," Morgan said.

"The committee is holding and awaiting some details that may sway the decision," ASLCC Treasurer Tracy Weimer said.

Morgan calls it their "best and final offers." The committee is looking for things like off-campus ATMs, consumer security and other features that benefit students.

"We're going to give them another chance to give us their best offer," Morgan said.

Some students complain about fees levied by Higher One — for example, the 50-cent per-debit transaction fee which other colleges who also use Higher One, such as Portland State and Southern Oregon University, have been able to negotiate out of their contracts.

"They gave us an offer originally which we could have countered and negotiated out that 50-cent fee," Morgan said. But that would have meant agreeing to stick with Higher One from the start and not opening up the bid for other businesses.

Higher One public relations representative Shoba Lemoine said of these possible changes in the contract that, "We'd love to continue our partnership, so I'm not really certain what the terms of that would be."

The reason the college can't ask Higher One to add this to their best offer is that it would give them an unfair advantage to the bid, but if the company was chosen to continue providing services, they could go into further negotiations.

"There's always going to be fees associated with the provider we choose," ASLCC Treasurer-elect Matthew Yook said. Yook serves on the

See **AID** on Page 3

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Letters to the editor
should be limited to
300 words.

Guest commentaries
should be limited to
500 words.

Please include the author's name, phone number and address (phone numbers and addresses are used for verification purposes only and are not made public). *The Torch* reserves the right to edit letters and commentaries for length, grammar, spelling, libel, invasion of privacy and appropriate language. *The Torch* reserves the right to publish or not publish at its discretion.

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Lack of funding means lack of access

LCC is a community college designed to be a publicly funded open-access institution of higher learning. The idea here is that when everyone invests in the public funding of community colleges, where everyone is welcome to learn, everyone benefits from a better-educated citizenship.

However, the state perspective appears to have changed from seeing community college as a public good to seeing it as a private good, which should be paid for by students. This is evidenced by the fact that students now pay more towards the college's general fund than intergovernmental appropriations provide.

Maybe this is beating a dead horse because it isn't like our administrators, namely President Dr. Mary Spilde, don't fight for our funding. But if LCC enrollment has increased by 36 percent since 2008, our state funding should have increased proportionately. LCC students are footing \$10.2 million more in tuition and fees than they

did in 2008, while the government provides only \$2.3 million more in resources than it did in 2008.

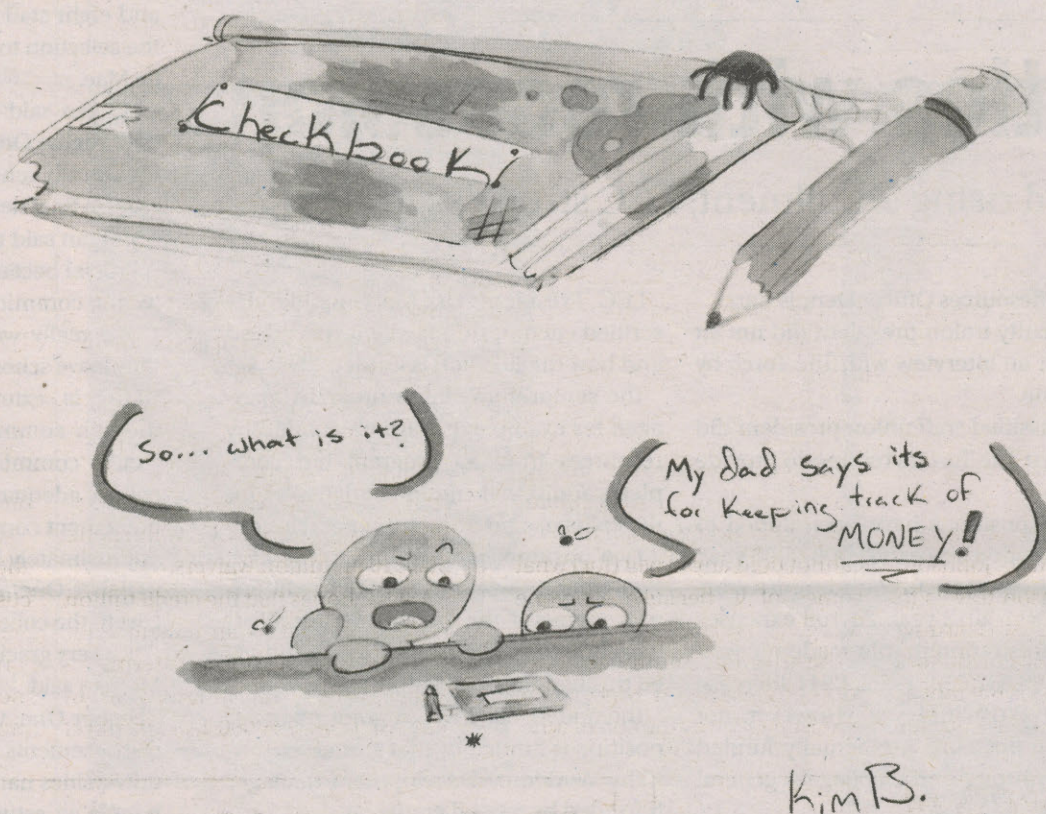
If this trend continues to climb, low-income students will be edged out of the opportunity for college. Chief Financial Officer Greg Morgan said he expects tuition to bust the \$100-per-credit mark in the next five years. This could be devastating to students, especially with time caps on Pell Grants emerging and student loan interest rates on the rise.

You can see the effects of the college's tight budget in the staffing — for instance, financial aid and enrollment services, which has in large part gone without increases in staff despite enrollment increases. And in the places where full-time staff members previously resided, there has been an increase in part-time and hourly employees because they are cheaper for the college, receiving reduced pay, benefits and job security.

It affects the faculty too. The college can't afford to hire more full-time faculty members. This means part-time faculty, who would otherwise be eligible for full-time status after a period of time, can't move up to full-time contracted positions that would offer better job security, pay advancements and benefits. This also means many of them have to piece together a living by teaching at different colleges, dividing their attention from their classes.

The underfunding at the state level affects students, staff, faculty and the administration charged with managing the budget. Unless something changes, the fate of community college looks grim. It is the responsibility of everyone involved with the college to speak up and make their voices heard about this very important issue.

You can do this by contacting your state legislature and politicians.



WAY TO GO

- Memorial Day provided students an extra day off and a moment to remember those who have fought and died for their country in the military.
- LaneStock is celebrating its third year of offering students end-of-year entertainment for free on Thursday, May 31.

HELL NO

- When its May 30 meeting got heated, ASLCC took a recess, during which ASLCC President Mario Parker-Milligan told *The Torch*, "I hate half the people in there. You can quote me on that. I don't care." No need for such animosity when summer's just around the corner.
- Gym equipment is shared frequently over the course of the term, but no one wants to share the sweat that comes with working out. Anyone using equipment in Building 5 should wipe it down before passing it on to fellow Titans.

Leadership lets you learn, grow and teach others

In middle school, I had zero respect for authority. So little, in fact, my principal issued me a pass that let me leave class anytime I felt like I was going to tell my teacher off for being an idiot. But, through experience in leadership positions, I learned the importance of respecting those who worked hard to be in a position of authority.

I've sought leadership opportunities since high school, from being president of student council to design editor of my high school yearbook to trying (and failing) to start a newspaper at my tiny high school. A year ago, I landed this job, as the editor-in-chief of *The Torch*. Each of these experiences taught me valuable life lessons, along with allowing me to learn skills and teach them to others.

I have to credit my grandmother, Frankie Petrick, with my enthusiasm for leadership. She became my foster parent when I was eight years old. On top of rearing two kids who weren't her own and running a farm, she is the fire and ambulance chief of Yachats Rural Fire Protection District. She has devoted over 30 years of service saving peoples' lives as a volunteer EMT.

She taught me the value of helping others, but she also taught me about how hard it is for a woman to

ascend to a position of leadership. She was the first female to head her department, and in the male-dominated field of fire protection, she had to fight a lot of male chauvinism to get there.

Starting my position as editor-in-chief of *The Torch*, I was 18 years old and only one year into college. Some of the people I was hiring were 10 or 30 years older than me, had years of experience and had even applied for my job. It was tough, especially with a mostly male staff, for me to command respect as a boss even though I was confident in my leadership skills.

During the summer before my editorship, I came up with a list of ideals for my position. At this time, I didn't want to be thought of as a boss. I wanted to be a friend to my staff that anyone could come to. I wanted to be an always-open resource that reporters would want to take advantage of when they were working on their stories, or if they just wanted to learn more about journalism. I wanted an open field of communication where every-

LANE'S LESSONS LEARNED



BY KINZLEY PHILLIPS
Editor-in-Chief

one's opinions were weighted equally.

What I learned is that in any leadership position, you will have successes and failures. I realized that if you are going

to have high expectations for your staff, which I unquestionably do, you can't be a friend — you have to be a boss. However, I think I succeeded in helping students learn about journalism, because I have spent hours working with individuals who ended up blossoming into outstanding reporters. Though, I recognize, no one likes to sit down for edits. Also, I learned that no matter how many opinions you listen to, in the end you can never please everyone.

Personally, I have learned more in the last year than I ever could have imagined. I learned to respect instructors for the work they put in, that at the end of the day, they really don't get paid for. I learned to respect administrators for dealing with difficult budget situations. But most of all I learned to respect myself, because if I don't, no one is going to. The people who work for you

might never fully understand how much you care, or how hard you are working, so you have to learn to set goals and pat your own back when you know you've done your best.

Throughout this year I've poured upwards 60 hours a week into this job on top of being a student. That included multiple double-all-nighters, weekends entirely devoted to work and working alongside my persevering staff on Wednesday production nights that sometimes stretched into the wee hours of Thursday morning. I honestly wouldn't have thought myself capable of this kind of dedication before taking this job.

This is why I think it's so valuable for people to pursue leadership opportunities, because it can make you realize potential you never knew you had. You can also learn job skills, discover what it's like to work in a professional environment and find out how well you work under pressure. There are plenty of opportunities to explore right here on the LCC campus, through student government, the Student Productions Association, a variety of student clubs, Denali and *The Torch*.

So give it a go. Discover something about yourself — and help others while you're at it.

AID: Higher One urges literacy

Continued from Page 1

selection committee.

Lemoine was quick to defend Higher One's practices.

"Our fee schedule is head-and-shoulders more transparent than others," she said. "We work with thousands and thousands of students who don't get charged that fee because they're just more educated on how to use their cards."

"Most of the proposers had financial-literacy initiatives," Morgan said. "Whichever way we go, we hope to take better advantage of those features."

"There are so many ways to use the (Higher One) account for free," Lemoine said. "We encourage students to not conduct a PIN transaction. You can always get around it by swiping and signing with your signature. You won't be charged and you'll be covered by MasterCard's zero-liability policy, so it's a win-win."

Yook said he is concerned about financial literacy amongst students.

"It's really hard to engage folks as is — let alone a community college-based clientele," Yook said. "And so saying that they offer us (financial literacy resources) but not actively trying to get it to the students and just saying 'you need to go to this webpage and then watch this web-tutorial' ... I see it as too little of an offer."

"We encourage students to do their research on banking fees before jumping in," Lemoine said, "When you contract with any financial institution, wheth-

er it's opening a Higher One account, an account with a local credit union, or with a national bank — you really need to know what you're signing and what you're agreeing to, and what kind of conditions you signed up for."

LCC instructor Carl Perkins has filed a funding request for curriculum development to improve financial literacy resources for students.

"The more info we can get to the students in an easier and more digestible manner, the more powerful it will be — and the more powerful we will be, as a college," Yook said.

Lemoine said Higher One came to the decision long ago that students need better education when accessing banking products and they do our best to be as open as possible.

"This is all happening on a macro-level," Lemoine said. "It's a problem. It's an issue — it's an issue across the board. It's not just students, but that's who we care about. We can all beef up a little bit on our money management skills and really understand when you're being charged a fee and when you're not — how to do things cost-free. There's so many ways to save yourself money and budget."

Higher One's in-house financial expert is Mary Johnson. Lemoine said Johnson travels to institutions of higher learning and meets with administrators to talk to them about what moves they can make on their campus

to make certain types of forums and seminars more mandatory.

Johnson will also be speaking at the American Society for Public Administration conference this fall, discussing with student politicians, including LCC's, ways they can better educate their peers on being financially savvy.

"Maybe they do things during orientation," Lemoine said. "They could be workshops — but a lot of things with underclassmen to help with those real-life skills. ... I think it's important for students to really look at anything they're agreeing to when they're working with a financial institution."

Yook was frustrated by the lack of student involvement in refund distributor selection.

"If we had more students who always complained about Higher One actually there and reviewing the stuff from Higher One — then right on. That would have been a lot stronger presence and continuity from the student's side. If we can work to encourage and develop more, then when we're brought to the table more we can have more influence and power," Yook said.

"Thankfully, it was the administration that encouraged student voices to be brought to the table," Yook said. "And through that, we cannot hold any ill will (for) what comes of it, because everyone was given every opportunity."

The selection committee hopes to choose between Higher One and Sallie Mae by the end of June.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

ASLCC passes budget

Treasurer: Expenses exceed income.

BY JOE HANNAN
Reporter

The projected revenue for the ASLCC 2012-2013 budget is \$279,000, with no carryover.

"It is not sustainable when you have a budget that is larger than your annual income," ASLCC Treasurer Tracy Weimer said.

The ASLCC budget and finance committee convened on May 29 to make changes to the previous budget proposed by Weimer. ASLCC President-elect Merriam Weatherhead made changes to Weimer's budget, focusing on using the ASLCC's prudent reserves to balance the budget.

"There was a lot of contention around student leadership tuition waivers, especially for senators. I thought it would be fair to give out nine three-credit-per-term tuition waivers for senators. I pulled \$8,000 from ASLCC travel expenses. That is hopefully a reasonable compromise," ASLCC Vice President Jenny Lor said at the student government's May 30 meeting.

Each tuition waiver will pay \$7,290 per year for nine senators. When combined with the student leadership tuition waivers executive officers receive, ASLCC will spend \$17,010 on tuition waivers.

ASLCC hopes that the credit tuition waivers will act as an incentive for senators to serve the entire term.

The budget has a reduction of \$22,367 from \$35,000 in staff travel

expenses and a \$16,000 increase in annual conference expenses, from \$12,000 to \$28,000.

"These conferences help teach us to be leaders to the students we represent," ASLCC Senator Daniel Fuller said.

ASLCC Senator LynDel Simmons said, "there are some caucuses that need to be addressed," ASLCC Senator LynDel Simmons said, adding that ASLCC is not represented at conferences for disabled, non-traditional and veteran students.

The treasurer's stipend will decrease from \$400 to \$350 per month.

During the discussion on stipend increases, Fuller said, "I am here to gain experience. I'm not here for money. If you're here for money, you're here for the wrong reasons."


Weatherhead reduced the ASLCC elections budget by \$800.

Squabbling amongst the ASLCC stymied any attempt at consensus. The budget was approved at the May 29x ASLCC meeting, 4-2-3. ASLCC Treasurer-elect Matthew Yook and ASLCC Senator Michael Friedman voted no.


"Sketchy. This is sketchy," Friedman said after the approval of the budget.

"I think there was a lot put on our shoulders. We tried to have this discussion back in January," ASLCC Senator Corinne Mooney said.

The budget will be passed on to the incoming ASLCC members for approval and changes.



Associated Students of Lane Community College



United States Student Association's National Student Congress applications are available in the ASLCC office.

Completed applications are due by 5pm on Monday June 4th, to ASLCC President-Elect Merriam Weatherhead.

Thank you to all of the ASLCC staff for all of your hard work this year!

Mario Parker Milligan - **President**
Jenny Lor - **Vice President**
Tracy Weimer- **Treasurer**
Timbwaoga Aime Judicael Ouerni - **Multicultural Program Cordinator**


Executive Staff:
Merriam Weatherhead - **Chief of Staff**
Lucas Armenta - **State of Affairs**
Vashti Selix - **Gender and Sexual Diversity Advocate**
Anayeli Jimenez - **Communications Director**
Lauren Appell - **Campus Events Director**
Charles Michael - **Vote Director**
Brandi Hoskins - **Snack Shack Director**

Senators:
Lyndel Simmons Matthew Yook
Corinne Mooney Michael Friedman
Duskin Becker Jacob Wehaul
Daniel Rowan-Fuller

ASLCC Advisor: Barb Delansky
ASLCC Legal Secretary: Bette Dorris
ASLCC Administrative Support: Tina Lymath
OSA Campus Organizer: Philip Shilts

ASLCC Offices | Building 1 | Room 210
ASLCC President's Office | Building 1 | Room 210A
OSA Office | Building 1 | Room 206A
Multicultural Center | Building 1 | Room 201
Student Resource Center | Building 1 | Room 206

The Associated Students of Lane Community College



Lane Community College Student Groups		
International Students Club	Thursday 4pm	Bld 11 Rm 249
Student Production Association	Thursday 4:15-5:15	Bld 6
Learning Garden Club	Date	Room
OSPIRG	Monday & Wednesday	Center Bld basement
Phi Theta Kappa	Monday 1:30	Bld 5 Rm 126
Student Nursing Association	First Monday of the Month	Bld 30 Rm varies
Jazz Club	Thursday 1pm	Bld 6 near music lab
Engineering Club	2nd & 4th Wednesday 6:00pm	Bld 16 rm 211
Green Chem Club	Bi-Weekly Tuesday 12-1pm	Bld 16
Future Geologists of Oregon	Bi-Weekly Tuesday 12-1 pm	Bld 16
PEECE	Sunday 5pm	Off Campus
Sustainability	Friday, Saturday, Sunday Tuesday 2pm	U of O Knight Library Cafeteria
Collaborations Club	Friday 1-2pm	Center Bld
Black Student Union	Monday 1pm	Bld 1 Rm 212
Native American Student Assc.	2:30pm Fridays	Longhouse
Gender & Sexuality Alliance	Tuesday 1pm	Bld 1 Rm212
Jewish Student Union of LCC	Thursday 1:00pm	Bld 1 Rm 212
Mecha de LCC	Fridays 1-2pm	Bld1 MCC
APISU	Thursday Noon	Bld 1 Rm 212
Table Tennis Club	Thursday 6:30-9 pm	Cafeteria
Disc Golf Club	Bi-Weekly Thursday 6pm	Cafe Yumm (Franklin Blvd)
Dance Club	Wenesday 2:30 pm	Bld 5 Rm 136
Occupy L.C.C.	Friday 10am	Bld 1 Rm 212
Lane Speech & Debate Club	Thursday 6pm-8:30	Center Bld Rm 437
Midway Sports	Monday & Wednesday 11am-2pm	Greens next to Center

Council Of Clubs Meets Every Tuesday 2:30-3:30pm Student Life Building 1 Room 206

ASLCC Offices | Building 1 | Room 210
ASLCC President's Office | Building 1 | Room 210A
OSA Office | Building 1 | Room 206A
Multicultural Center | Building 1 | Room 201
Student Resource Center | Building 1 | Room 206

MEET THE PRESIDENT

Spilde finds inspiration in students

With commitment and optimism, Spilde continues her leadership of LCC.

BY LEAH AVERETT
Features Editor

Managing the cash register in her father's bakery in Scotland at the age of 8 or 9 years old, LCC President Dr. Mary Spilde says she grew up in a working class family. She remembers working alongside her parents and three sisters in the family business, where everyone was expected to do their part. Although her parents lacked formal education, she says they expected their daughters to go to college.

"In Britain, with a kind of class system, working-class kids didn't go to college ... it was pretty remarkable they had that value and that expectation," she says.

Spilde has served as LCC's president since 2001 after beginning her career at LCC in 1995 as vice president for instructional services. For 15 years prior, she worked at Linn-Benton Community College in Albany, teaching a women's in transition program and working in administration. With a law degree from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland and a doctorate in post-secondary education from Oregon State University, she is a leader at the community, state and national levels.

"She is the model of a collaborative leader. I don't know anyone (who) doesn't really respect Mary Spilde. She's bright, rolls up her sleeves, gets the work done and is a visionary," says Springfield Public School District Superintendent Nancy Golden, who serves on the governor-appointed Oregon Education Investment Board with Spilde.

Matt Spilde, her son, says her commitment to listening to people sets her apart as a leader.

"She listens. She gets feedback and tries to move forward in a way that serves that feedback ... She just doesn't work from the top down, where orders just rain down from above," he said.

Spilde played field hockey in college, and says she wouldn't describe herself as an outstanding student. She laughs, then says the balance of sports, academics and "fun" contributed to a well-rounded college experience.

"The first year I got my reality check, because I was playing too much and not studying enough. I said, 'OK, I need to get serious here,' and I did," she said.

Spilde and her former husband moved to his home state, Oregon, after living in Central America, where he worked in oil exploration. Even with a law degree, she had difficulty finding work and took a job at Kmart as a checker.

"A female Scottish lawyer in a small town in Oregon was not working for me, and it took a while. I kind of went through that immigrant experience," she says.

Eventually obtaining a teaching job at LBCC, she says she re-



EUGENE JOHNSON / THE TORCH

President Mary Spilde holds a discussion at a Board of Education meeting at LCC on Jan. 12

"I don't know anyone (who) doesn't really respect Mary Spilde."

Nancy Golden
superintendent, Springfield Public School District

membered her Kmart co-workers and the better life they strived for while attending community college and working. Britain had not offered that option, and she became passionate about providing access to education for everyone.

Deciding to make community college her profession, she went to OSU and finished her master's degree in adult education in one year while working at LBCC. Raising two children, and continuing to work full-time, she says it took her 12 years to finish her doctorate.

"I think it was good for my kids to see me working and studying and trying to be a good parent ... although I'm sure there are things they didn't get from me they needed, because I was either hitting the books ... or multi-tasking," Spilde says.

Matt says he never felt that he was lacking, as he played sports year-round, and remembers summer vacations spent camping and boating.

"We were very organized. We did homework first, then dinner ... there was never any interference with us doing normal kids' stuff," he says.

Spilde says she finally became an American citizen approximately 3 to 4 years ago.

"In the past you actually had to renounce your citizenship...Over the years, the U.S. has softened on

it, it's not such a big deal, so I finally went for it ... I would never go back and live in Britain. This is my home now. I've put down a lot of roots here," she says.

Spilde says she feels emotionally grounded, has confidence in her abilities and how her personal values are reflected in the work she does.

"When you feel pretty grounded and emotionally healthy, it's easier to deal with all the slings and arrows that come at you as they do in this job ... I don't let it get to my core, and no matter who it is, I try to work from a good place, assuming good intent, and that people are just trying to do their best.

"I love the work we are doing at Lane. I love the people doing the work. I think we do exciting and innovative things despite the horrible budget situations we've had to deal with since I became president," Spilde says.

The shift in philosophy that has occurred over the past 30 years — from seeing education as a public good, that benefits everyone, to a private good, that must be paid for — is not a good shift, she says. She notes we are spending more on prisons than education.

The passion that drives students and staff in creating the projects that garnered LCC national recognition is an example of what makes the college unique, she says. LCC is



JOHN WATSON FOR THE TORCH

President Mary Spilde gives Sue Thompson, instructor of health and physical education and co-op coordinator, an award for her 40 years at LCC.

the only community college to win a Campus Sustainability Leadership Award from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education.

She says being president is "not quite 24/7, but it could be," because the phone may ring at any time and there are events to attend at the college, the community and the state levels. She views the events as a positive part of the job.

"Last night I was at the 100-mile dinner (LCC's Springtime Cuisine), or if I go to a basketball

game, I just approach it as being fun. I'm at work, but I try not to look at it as work," Spilde says.

Although she was reluctant to have her picture put on LCC's website, she says, it has been rewarding. Now, recognizing her, students walk up, and tell her their stories.

"They are amazing stories of persistence and courage and hard work, and 'I never thought I'd be here, and ... my life has changed.' How could you not be inspired? That's a pretty special part of the job," she says.

Titan Store sets buyback dates for Spring

Offers depend on books that will be in demand the following term.

BY KYLE WEBB
Reporter

The Titan Store textbook buyback is set for finals week, from June 11 to 15, and will be located in the kiosk on the second floor of the Center Building.

“The bookstore will buy back books up to 50 percent retail price,” Student Services Coordinator Lisa MacDonald said. “This is for books that are needed for next term.”

The number of books the Titan Store will buy back depends on what can be reissued the following term according to the demands of the textbook retailer.

The bookstore does not have discretion over which texts will be repurchased.

“I like the opportunity to make money and recycle in a way – for resale,” graduating student Acacia Dimitri said.

“It’s bad when you have no money. The buyback gives me a little cash for gas or food. That’s the best thing about it,” culinary student Lemuel Wilson said.

Knowing what affects your eligibility to resell your books can maximize the money you make from buybacks.

If your book is being resold the following term, you have to make it in before the quota is reached for the given book, or the period to sell books back is over.

“There is a cap on how many books a company tells the bookstore to buy back,” Wilson said.

“We are looking for good-quality books to resell as used books,” MacDonald said, “Liquid damage, dirt and (heavy highlighting) will lower the amount at which we would buy back the book.”

Those who spent spring term highlighting, underlining and studying until the wee hours in the morning should not fret. There is another avenue through which students can resell books: The Student Market Place.

“For those we can’t accept, we refer the student to LCC’s Student Market Place,” MacDonald said.

The Student Market Place, which started last

year, is a tool developed by the college to allow students to post a book they own, with asking price and the condition.

“There is no commission or profit by the bookstore,” MacDonald said. “It’s up to the students to handle it. We just ask to not set up a book buy in a dark alley.”

Students can circumvent book-buying by renting some of their textbooks from the Titan Store.

“We only charge 30 to 50 percent of the cost, but there is a hard and solid deadline to return them,” MacDonald said. “If not returned by deadline the student will be charged full price for the book and a \$15 processing fee.”

MacDonald said students who rented books this term should not “bring them back to the buyback. It is not a return.”

Returns for books are handled at the return counter, located to the right of the Titan Store’s main entrance.

Local bookstores, including Smith Family Bookstore, Tsunami Books and the UO bookstore, might also buy textbooks.

Luau brings new traditions

APISU offers food, performances to unite people.

BY KYLE WEBB
Reporter

On June 1 from 3:30 to 7 p.m., LCC Longhouse will host the college’s second annual luau.

LCC Asian-Pacific Island Student Union organized the event, with APISU member Mathew Yook leading the charge.

“The luau is a presentation of Polynesian culture,” Yook said, “with traditional food, fire dancing, and hula dancing.”

Yook said the beauty of a luau holds appeal for all cultures.

“It’s all about community, culture and happiness,” Yook said, “and enjoying life and beauty through food.”

Along with the traditional food, there will be fire dancing, performed by Sirk and Friends, and hula dancing performed by Kunu Leilani Beymer.

A goal of the luau is “to really challenge people’s stereotypes of the grass-skirt hula dancers. Hula is an indigenous and sacred form of storytelling,” APISU Adviser Remie Calalang said. Along with the food and entertainment, there will be a raffle, with \$1 tickets sold at both LaneStock and at the door of the luau.

“We are trying to sell tickets at LaneStock and at the luau to increase attendance,” APISU Secretary Shann Orsmbec said. “The raffle will be drawn at 6:45 p.m.”

Prizes include a Seven Feathers Casino and Oregon Coast Aquarium package, an Off the Waffle and Sweet Life package, and five other packages to be raffled off to attending guests only.

While the luau is a celebration of Polynesian culture it is not exclusive to students of any particular heritage.

The focus of the luau is to bring people together over the simple commonality shared by almost everyone: a love of food.

“It is an inclusive event,” Orsmbec said, “no one will be turned away. It’s simply a fun time to give back to the community.”

Both Yook and Orsmbec said this event is about building community among one another and having a good time.

This commitment to inclusion extends to the Longhouse itself.

“The Longhouse is simply a community gathering place for all,” Native American Student Association member Daniel Gibson said. “We may have started it but it is for all cultures and generations after us.”

Gibson, who worked with NASA to help prepare last year’s luau, said he would attend this year’s event.

The Luau has a suggested \$5 donation but “if you just want to come down and celebrate, go ahead,” Yook said.

BUDGET: Grants fund growth in hard times

Continued from Page 1

A counseling management position was added to manage the Title III student success grant. This position is funded through the grant.

The High School Connections manager and Counseling associate director positions were replacements for positions that were not yet filled.

An assistant bond manager position was added and is funded through the bonds.

“The bond projects, for example, allowed us to renovate upwards of 40 classrooms across campus that otherwise would have been the old antiquated classrooms we had in 2007-2008,” Carr said.

There was an interim infrastructure services manager in Information Technology who was replaced by a permanent position, funded through the general fund. It was designed to increase online and distance learning services.

A temporary position was added to help with LCC’s budget and finance systems and operations compliance.

A governmental affairs manager position was added to oversee local, state and national government funding levels and grant outcomes.

“It’s been a very intentional strategy to bring in grant money to fund the things that we can’t pay for otherwise because we don’t have the general fund money to do it,” Spilde said. She said grant management positions pay for themselves in the end because the college gets the benefit of support for projects.

At one point, the college had combined Public Safety and Facilities Management and Planning managerial positions, but these were separated, creating two new positions paid out of the general fund.

“It was an experiment to see if we could get by with less, and it didn’t work,” Spilde said.

Along with additional positions in administration, the \$662,541 increase in administrative payroll costs reflects salary increases reached by the Management Steering Committee and approved by Spilde last June. The 1 percent a cost of living and half-step salary increase agreement matches what faculty and classified employees received.

“In terms of what the managers got — in terms of increase, it was the same cost of living increase, 1 percent, and the same half-step, which for them is 1 percent, so they got half of that,” Spilde said.

She said administrators don’t have bargaining rights and the same flat fee was applied across the board. The range of salaries for 2011-2012 was \$44,434 to \$197,099 and the average salary was \$83,786.

Morgan explained that payroll has two parts: the salaries and then the other personnel expenses. OPEs include things like unemployment, workers compensation, PERS reserve, Health Clinic fees and early retirement. Morgan said health care costs account for 44 percent of the charges.

“If a department hires a faculty member, for every dollar, they pay a certain percentage in OPE costs,” Morgan said.

For the 2010-2011 year, the OPE percentage for faculty was 55, for 2011-2012 it was 59 percent and for 2012-2013 it will be an estimated 63 percent. The OPE must be paid for all employees except hourly classified staff but the rates differ between full-time and part-time employees.

“The biggest drivers have been health insurance and PERS,” Morgan said of the increase.

Part-time faculty instructors have increased by 34.7 percent since 2008, while full-time instructors have increased 7.6 percent.

“Because of the budget and because of the increase in enrollment, that number has shifted the full-time and part-time ratio,” Spilde said. “We’re not, in terms of the full-time/part-time ratio, in as good of shape as we have been.”

She said departments with a lot of part-time instructors cannot take part in curriculum leadership and the life of the college at the same level as full-time instructors.

The mode of full-time faculty for 2011-2012 is \$75,571, which is at the top of the salary schedule.

“Approximately 30 percent of our contracted faculty have been with us long enough to be at the top of the salary schedule,” Carr said. “They’ve been here the longest, they’re the most seasoned and they have the most rights to assignments.”

Spilde said faculty are not moving up the salary schedule as quickly as they might have expected because for the past few years, the college has only given half-step increases.

“That’s another way that they’ve worked with us, to not expect — well they might still expect — but they haven’t received full steps,” Spilde said.

While part-time faculty don’t have as much job security and their salaries are lower, Carr said that they try to stay competitive with other community colleges in the packages they provide to part-time instructors to ensure the quality of education.

“We do pay more — I think about 22 percent more — for part-time faculty, in terms of the salary, above what other colleges do,” Spilde said.

“It’s been a ... strategy to bring in grant money to fund the things that we can’t pay for otherwise ...”

Dr. Mary Spilde
president, Lane Community College

According to the Advocate Salary Review from 2009-2010, LCC has the third-highest faculty benefits package among community colleges in Oregon.

“Lane makes the highest single contribution to the cost of health care,” Carr said. “It’s because the Board (of Education) has believed that the way to attain good employees and to attract good employees is to have a good benefits package.”

There are three kinds of classified staff at LCC: full-time, budgeted part-time and hourly less than part-time. Since 2008, the college has increased full-time staff by 11.33 percent, part-time faculty has decreased by 11.27 percent and hourly less than part time has increased by 26.64 percent.

“The enrollment growth alone is what has driven the increase in classified staff,” Carr said.

In 2008, contracted classified staff bargained a security agreement with the college.

“It gives them assurance that they have a job. They can’t be reduced from 40 hours per week. They know that they are going to be eligible for COLAs, but no more steps. But they have job security,” Carr said.

This means that the college had to decrease part-time classified staff, rather than contracted full-time staff, if they wanted to cut costs in a department. In order to maintain levels of support given the increased enrollment, hourly less than part-time positions were added because they are the most affordable for the college.

The college also saw a 25.39 percent increase in student workers. LCC now employs 178 students.

“We are ramped up on the IT side and using our student experts to help educate us about using technology,” Spilde said. “It’s not just that they’re getting a paycheck. They’re also getting real world experience.”

The Torch will continue covering the college's budget in its final issue, on June 11.

“Humans are very similar to plants in that we both need similar things to survive.”

Frank Drengacz, landscape and maintenance manager



EUGENE JOHNSON / THE TORCH

LCC's Landscape and Maintenance Manager Frank Drengacz tends to his beauties next to Building 6. Drengacz has worked in Facilities Management and Planning for almost 13 years.



EUGENE JOHNSON / THE TORCH

In front of Building 1 is this *Digitalis purpurea*, commonly known as foxglove.

green living

LCC's landscape and maintenance manager keeps campus growing.

BY KELLY POWELL

Copy Editor

Each spring, LCC's campus grounds come to life with lush green fields, flowering bushes and trees, and an array of native plants and herbs dotting the campus walkways. The man responsible for creating it is Frank Drengacz, landscape and maintenance manager for LCC's grounds.

Dressed in his standard rubber boots and coveralls, he pulls up to the grounds office in his garden cart and offers a warm smile. Walking into the grounds office, Drengacz says he's thrilled to offer insight into just what his job is all about.

Drengacz's day starts at 4 a.m., after driving nearly 60 miles from his home in secluded Deadwood. After almost 13 years at LCC, working these early morning hours is just fine with him.

On a typical spring day, students can find Drengacz mowing the acres of lawns, weeding and pruning, and monitoring the watering of the grounds. Drengacz said the five employees in the grounds maintenance department are given free rein on the aesthetics of the landscaping as well.

Drengacz's emphasizes an important aspect of his gardening philosophy.

“What we do is try to garden the way nature intended plants to grow. We don't use any chemicals in the ground, plants, dirt and lawns, and that includes fertilizer and bugs,” Drengacz says. This is a strong point of pride with him.

Drengacz developed his philosophies in gardening while he attended college. Although Drengacz was born in Chicago, he lived most of his life in East Bay, Calif., near San Francisco, and entered the world of horticulture while at California State University-Fresno.

Drengacz said he found his way to Oregon because he wanted to start a nursery,

so he and his wife Sandy started looking around for areas that were nice to live in. They chose the Eugene area because of UO, where his wife could finish her master's degree.

Drengacz worked in the private sector as a manager for nearly 25 years, but said he wanted to work the last part of his career in gardening.

That's when they made the move to Oregon, and Drengacz took an entry-level position in grounds maintenance at LCC.

“I wanted a job where I could say ‘just leave me alone and let me work,’ and when the manager position came open later on, I decided to take it,” he said.

When Drengacz arrived at LCC, he said, “It was chaos. We used a lot of chemicals and over-watered everything. The grounds were just soaked. I thought this was the wettest place on earth.”

The grounds were due for some major renovations.

“When I first got here, I took a walk around the campus and the grounds weren't maintained at all. Now, 12 years later, we're about halfway done. We just keep plugging along. I don't know if we'll be finished before I retire, but a good portion of it will,” Drengacz said.

Far from the staid manicured grounds of most colleges and universities, LCC's landscape is what Drengacz calls “minimalist gardening,” and uses plants and trees indigenous to the Willamette Valley.

“This type of gardening focuses on good cultural practices. Humans are very similar to plants in that we both need similar things to survive. We try to leave forest litter on the ground, like mulch from the lawns. This lessens watering in the summer and we don't need to use fertilizer,” he said.

One result of Drengacz's renovations is an environment that can be used to edu-

cate students.

“One of my goals is to, whenever possible, put in landscape that can be used for the learning experience, like the culinary garden, the labyrinth garden and the longhouse, where we can ask, ‘How can this garden be used to benefit students?’” Drengacz said. For example, the Culinary Herb Garden provides fresh herbs for culinary students to use.

Clive Wanstall, who has worked as a chef and instructor in Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management for the past 10 years, said over the years, the Culinary Garden has been very useful, and he appreciates the time and care that Drengacz gives.

“Frank's a great guy, and he's been a key player in the ability to have herbs growing on campus. He's one of those quiet heroes, and people don't really notice what he does, but he's all around us. He's a truly green thumb,” Wanstall said.

Julia Schnabel, who works with Drengacz, says he is somewhat quiet, but loves an audience when it comes to horticulture.

“Frank is a teacher at heart. His knowledge is of a horticulturist, not just a groundskeeper, and he doesn't just say what needs to be done, but why,” Schnabel said.

In his spare time, he volunteered to teach landscape classes after LCC discontinued the program.

Schnabel said she credits Drengacz with teaching her about gardening. Schnabel had enrolled in Drengacz's landscape technology course, after learning of his reputation as a horticulturist.

“I drew a lot from him about how he got into (horticulture) and the industry, and he was the one who encouraged with my work. He's enjoyable and fun to work with, and he doesn't let you stand around. He has a route in how he maintains the campus, and we stick to it,” Schnabel said.

SHOOTING *for* SUMMER

LCC student Jessica Smith-James takes aim during the Archery class May 15. Taught by Rodger Bates and Susan Thompson, the archery class provides all the equipment and teaches both beginning and advanced students etiquette, terminology and skill techniques to shoot at different size targets at various distances.

TURNER MAXWELL / THE TORCH

CLUB OF THE WEEK

Juggling club provides mental, physical challenge

Newly ratified, club looks to boost its membership and perform.

BY MATT MACARI
Reporter



TURNER MAXWELL / THE TORCH

Midway Sports Club Treasurer Jacob Anderson practices juggling with Midway Sports President Cain Bailey (front) on the grass field next to Building 5 on May 30.

Midway Sports, a club at LCC devoted to juggling and prop manipulation, was ratified on April 10. The club invites students of all skill levels to challenge themselves mentally and physically through the art of juggling.

Midway Sports President Cain Bailey and Treasurer Jacob Anderson coordinate the club, formerly known as the Circus Club.

The name was changed in order to clarify the club's purpose and boost membership.

Anderson said Circus Club sounded too "circus-y."

"When people hear circus, they think of clowns and that sort of thing. They don't associate it with cool ... we hope that Midway Sports sounds more recreational," Anderson said.

Cain said juggling is even an Olympic sport now. Cain and Anderson want the club to be a learning experience in which students of all levels can participate and practice their skill. And with 69 props stretching from juggling balls to contact sticks and hula hoops, Midway Sports is prepared to do just that.

"We hope that people will come with the interest to better themselves to the point they are able to share some of their skills," Cain said.

Anderson is most adept at spinning poi, an unlit version of what fire-dancers use. He can teach most tricks at an expert level, and Cain said he is a good teacher.

"Jacob (Anderson) really helped and pushed me with poi," said Cain, and added with a smile, "I'm still trying to catch up with him."

Cain, a student at LCC since the fall 2011, is a triple major. He is majoring in math, physics and engineering. Cain said his background in math has helped him progress more quickly in juggling.

"I know the equations behind paths that the balls make ... Juggling is math," Cain said.

Anderson said juggling requires a high level of skill and precision, and he wants everyone to come out to join them.

"(Juggling) takes mental fortitude and a strong will," Anderson said. "Come challenge yourself."

The challenge of juggling can give your confidence a boost and it gives you a new way to look at problems that you face, club adviser and LCC physics professor Paul Bunson said.

"(Juggling) gives you an idea of how to approach complex things," Bunson said.

Anderson said all the props and tricks they can teach translate to fire-spinning.

Midway Sports was scheduled to perform at LaneStock, but Anderson said club members are going to California to attend a fire-dancing workshop called "Fire Drum."

The club meets Mondays and Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the field in Bristow Square, next to the Center Building.

BASEBALL

Titans finish strong with NWAACC awards

Eight players honored by region and NWAACC.

BY JON FUCCILLO
Sports Editor

The Titans baseball team may have missed the NWAACC Championships this season, but they came up big with end-of-the-season awards.

The Titans finished the season 23-17 and 17-13 in the Southern Region.

Freshman infielder Shaun Boehm was selected to the All-NWAACC Second Team and the All-Southern Region First Team. Boehm finished the season batting .349 with 12 doubles, two homeruns and 28 RBIs.

"It's a great accomplishment to get those awards, but it also means to get into the weight room, take extra ground balls, get into the cages and take more cuts to come back next season that much more prepared," Boehm said.

Freshman outfielder Spencer Smith was selected to the All-NWAACC Gold Glove and All-Southern Region Second Team. Smith finished the season batting .291, with 11 doubles, 32 runs scored and 15 RBIs.

Freshman infielder Alex Cornwell was selected to the All-NWAACC Gold Glove and All-Southern Region First Team. Cornwell batted .339 with 36 runs scored and 21 RBIs.

"It means a ton to me being a freshman and having such good success already," Cornwell said. "The main goal is to win an NWAACC championship while I'm here at Lane and this is just a step towards that."

"This team we have returning next year has the potential to be good, but we have to put the pieces together from the beginning of the fall," Cornwell added. "When we finally get back on the field in September, it'll be all business from day one. I just can't wait to work harder next year for the ultimate prize."

Freshman pitcher Colben McGuire received All-Southern Region First Team after finishing the season 4-4 with a 2.40 ERA, including 41 strikeouts in 48.2 innings.

"It means a lot knowing that even being a freshman, I can keep up with the older guys," McGuire said. "We did learn a lot this year about ourselves and the team we need to be to be successful."

"It sucks not making the playoffs," McGuire added. "But we now know the feeling, and we are going to do anything in our power to make it next year."

Freshman catcher Cody Chagnon, freshman designated hitter Nic Coffman, freshman pitcher Tyler Johnson and sophomore Zach Kayser were all selected to the All-Southern Region Second Team.

Chagnon batted .307 with 16 RBIs. Coffman batted .309 with 21 RBIs. Johnson finished the season 1-0 with a 1.93 ERA, while Kayser finished 3-1 with a 3.00 ERA and eight saves.

"They are well-deserving and we are super excited about the potential for next season," Titans head coach Josh Blunt said.

Some things are more important than winning

Championships or awards?

Why not both?

Just last week, the Southern Region, NWAACC and Gold Glove baseball awards were handed out.

Eight Titans received awards, including seven freshmen and one sophomore.

Without exception, championships measure success.

For most coaches and athletes anything less is a failure. But I wouldn't go quite as far as calling it a "failure" for the Titans baseball club this past season.

Like I mentioned last week in my column, the team was comprised mainly of first year freshmen (18 and 19-year-old young men). It was a very young, talented and crafty team that fought hard throughout the course of the season.

Not a lot of teams that finished in third place in their region, like the Titans, can say they had eight players honored by the committee and coaches that make up the votes.

After watching freshman second baseman Shaun Boehm perform on a handful of occasions this season, I would say the youngster has a shot at winning the Southern Region Player of the Year next season, along with a spot on the All-NWAACC First Team.

Boehm can flat-out hit the ball. In covering junior college baseball for the last four years, I have only seen one other guy swing it the way he does.

That player is Taylor Ard, who played

HATS OFF



BY JON FUCCILLO
Sports Editor

for Mt. Hood Community College. Ard is now a junior at Washington State and led the Pac-10 last season in home runs and RBIs.

If balancing a sport and school wasn't already a hard task, try pulling off great

grades as well.

Eight sophomores from the track and field team were honored on the 2012 Sophomore NWAACC Spring All-Academic Sports Team, including a 4.0 by distance star Gylany Crossman.

If you ever thought student-athletes had it easy... guess again. All eight of those tracksters had a GPA of 3.33 or higher.

So kudos for taking care of business both on the track and in the classroom.

I haven't won a lot of awards in sports, but I know what it feels like striving for the best and coming up short. This year was different, though. During the Oregon Newspapers Publishers Association Awards in Albany at Linn-Benton Community College, I received best section along with former sports editor Alan K. Fox.

It was quite the honor. I also received second place for best series. I could have been bitter and been upset with second place. Instead, I embraced the honor.

The same could be said for the men's and women's track and field teams. They may have come short in winning the NWAACC Championships.

But they made for a damn good second place.



Titan Store

Customer Appreciation Day

It's Your Day!

Drawing to
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- Unbelievable SALES!

Wednesday, June 6
10 a.m.-2 p.m.



Titan Store

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Center Building, 2nd Floor Lobby

June 11 - 15, 2012

Monday - Thursday: 7:30 am - 5:30 pm
Friday: 7:30 am - 4:30 pm

Paying 50% for books the store needs next term,
wholesale for other books, subject to demand.

www.titanstore.lanecc.edu

NEBRASKA BOUND

University of Nebraska-Kearney

Sophomore star signs with Gophers

Levings lands new home in Kearney, after successful season at LCC.

BY JON FUCCILLO
Sports Editor

University of Nebraska-Kearney women's head basketball coach Kevin Chaney listens when Titans head coach Greg Sheley has a suggestion.

Nebraska-Kearney signed The Titans' hoop star and lone sophomore, Reed Levings.

Chaney was named the sixth head coach in UN-Kearney women's basketball history on April 8, 2010.

"First and foremost, I have great professional relationships based on respect, experience and trust with coach Sheley," Chaney said. "When he says he has a great student-athlete for me, I listen."

Sheley likes the move as well.

"I have known coach Chaney for a long time, so it is always great to send a former student-athlete to a coach that I have known for so long," Sheley said.

Levings, the 5'9" southpaw shooting guard, averaged 8.7 points, 7.3 rebounds and 2.9 assists for the Titans this season.

She was named Second-Team All-Southern Region, is a sophomore all-star and made the all-defensive team. During her freshman campaign, she was tabbed as the Southern Region Freshman of the Year.

Levings led the 2011-12 Titans in steals (94), rebounds (219) and three-pointers made (50).

All of those accolades were appealing to Chaney.

"Reed is a competitor on the court and does what it takes to help her team win," Chaney said. "She is a great student and had a great character. These are traits I look for in a student-athlete."

Levings helped the Titans go 24-6 this past season, including a near perfect 13-1 record in the Southern Region.

"Reed has been a big part of our success over the past two years," Sheley said. "This past season, she was our only sophomore and shouldered a huge responsibility for guiding the freshmen throughout the season. The responsibility is usually spread out over three to five

sophomores."

Chaney expects Levings to see minutes on the court immediately.

"If I recruit a JC transfer, I expect them to come in right away and make an impact," Chaney said. "Reed is no different."

Levings expects nothing less.

"Coach Chaney told me that he expects me to contribute right away as a left-handed three guard," Levings added. "Kearney fans can expect me to contribute my skills and desire to win basketball games."

"The whole coaching staff puts you under their wings," Levings added. "They're like a second set of parents."

Nebraska-Kearney finished the season 8-19 last year.

Levings, who grew up in Cottage Grove, said she would adjust to Nebraska just fine.

"Before visiting, I thought Nebraska was going to be flat as a pancake with no trees," Levings said. "Yes, the area was flat, unlike Oregon, but the campus was absolutely beautiful."

Chaney said Levings will be well taken care of in Kearney.

"Coach Sheley knows I will take care of her like she is my own daughter," Chaney said. "She will fit right in here in Kearney."

Levings applauded her time at Lane for maturing as a player on and off the court.

"My experience at Lane was positive," Levings said. "I grew and matured, not only as a basketball player, but also as a student."

"Sheley was a great coach," Levings added. "His passion for the game was shown through his many wins. His ability to win a Southern Region Championship with a team composed of 15 freshmen and only one sophomore demonstrates why he is deserving of being named as Southern Region Coach of the Year."

Levings will either major in exercise science or biology while she attends UN-Kearney.

"(I'm) really excited to get my school paid for," Levings said. "I'm trying something new. I have never really been outside of Oregon."

Step 1: Rock Lane



EUGENE JOHNSON / THE TORCH

Reed Levings works the court against the Portland Panthers inside Titan arena.

Step 2: Rock Nebraska



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Levings sits between her parents, Todd and Denise Levings, at Cottage Gr High School after signing her letter of intent with University of Nebraska-Kearney.



EUGENE JOHNSON / THE TORCH

Sophomore Elliot Sherrell picks up his weapon of choice before a doubleheader earlier in the season at Titan Field.



EUGENE JOHNSON / THE TORCH

Sherrell sets up to make a catch on a fly ball to the left field during a game at Titan Field. Sherrell started at left field this season on the Titans baseball team.

The Titan and the Duck

Elliot Sherrell balances two schools with a starting position on the diamond.

BY JON FUCCILLO
Sports Editor

Elliot Sherrell isn't your traditional college student.

If going to school and being a student-athlete wasn't enough — compound the equation with his dual enrollment at UO and Lane, where Sherrell found time to start on the Titans baseball team.

If the 5'11", 220-pound sophomore isn't ripping a ball down the right field line or tracking fly balls down in left field, he is usually in his apartment or studying at the library.

Academically speaking, the 21-year-old Sherrell is a junior.

"I decided to take classes at the UO because this is my third year of school," Sherrell said. "I wanted to take some upper division classes that were only offered at UO and still continue my baseball career at Lane."

Sherrell took a break from baseball after suffering an injury after graduating from Hood River Valley High School in 2009. He attended Linfield College in McMinnville for a year directly after high school.

But he missed the game, moved to Eugene and planned his schedule around baseball.

"I was able to make the time, by making sure my classes were scheduled as early as possible, so basically from 8 to 12 p.m.," Sherrell said. "This allowed for enough time to bike back home and drive to practice on time."

He is currently taking Calculus 252,

General Chemistry 223 and Stability Ball at Lane this term.

"I wanted a light load for the baseball season," Sherrell said. "Our coaches make sure that everybody only takes courses on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays because" because of games on Tuesdays and Thursdays."

He said it's a rare occurrence to ask an instructor for any extended time off for baseball.

"(The instructors) have always been very reasonable with me and I never had any problems," Sherrell said.

He said his school journey has been a bit of a "soul-searching" experience.

"I have always been hesitant to tell people what I want to do," Sherrell said. "But now, I feel my calling is to get a history degree and then to pursue teaching."

Titans head coach Josh Blunt said Sherrell would make a lovely history teacher someday.

"He would be great at it," Blunt said. "He's certainly going to impact other people's lives."

Baseball is secondary to Sherrell's studies.

"I am good about knowing when school needs to come first, so to be honest, it has not been too hard for me this year," Sherrell added. "But that's not to say I haven't learned hard lessons in years past."

Another incentive to playing for the Titans? Sherrell's younger brother, freshman pitcher Parker Sherrell, is a Titan.

"We have grown up playing ball to-

gether, so in a way, it's not a whole lot different from what I've known," Sherrell said. "It has been a lot of fun. Not too many people get to say they played college ball with their brother."

"I know the team gets a kick out of it for sure," Sherrell said. "It has been a lot of fun this year and I don't regret spending the last two years here at Lane. I will always speak highly of the school and the baseball program."

Parker enjoys playing with his older brother, too.

"One of my main reasons to come to Lane was to play one more year with him and it has been a great time," Parker said. "It's a lot of fun playing with him."

Elliot and Parker said they receive jokes from their teammates for being brothers on the same team.

"... everyone (wants) to see us wrestle," Parker said. "But I don't want to pin him in front of everyone."

Blunt said balancing school with a sport could be difficult.

"You have to structure everything around it," Blunt said. "But it's the best of all worlds ... Four-year quality student (Elliot) playing for a community college."

Sherrell plans on taking a break from the diamond and focusing on his school work at UO next year.

"I think I'm just going to go to school next year at UO," Sherrell said. "I have the opportunity to continue playing at a few different options (schools), which I am thankful for, but it's time to hang up the cleats and focus on my schooling."

a fond farewell to a FRIEND

Patrick Torelle sets to retire after 26 years of service to LCC.

BY CHELSEA VAN BAALEN
A&E Editor

Theater instructor Patrick Torelle's life in theater started like most — with a single audition.

After seeing an advertisement for a musical called *Earnest in Love* in 1967, Torelle decided to give auditioning a try.

"I did a terrible audition," said Torelle, who was 23 years old at the time, "... but they needed a lot of people in the chorus."

Torelle fell in love with theater during one particular performance.

"I went out to change the furniture and my partner wasn't there," Torelle said, explaining that he quickly adapted and moved the furniture, garnering a few laughs from the audience in the process.

"I got my first laugh, and I was hooked," Torelle said.

Now, after teaching for over two decades, Torelle prepares to retire from LCC after fulfilling his long-term goal of teaching at a community college.

In the late 1960s, Torelle says he became part of the community college movement, enrolling at Mt. Hood Community College in Gresham.

"I didn't even know you could study acting, and I didn't think I was college material at all," Torelle said.

During his time at Mt. Hood, Torelle participated in a variety of activities, including student government, student journalism and the drama club.

"I don't know how I had all that energy," Torelle said. "I proved to myself that I was college material. I could do it. It created in me a desire to give back, to do the same thing for other people."

Torelle moved on from Mt. Hood Community College to Portland State University, where he earned a master's degree and had an experience that "created a desire to teach what I was learning there."

After graduation, Torelle taught at Clark Community College, part-time at Mt. Hood Community College, and one course at PSU.

However, Torelle wanted to gain a different experience, and moved to Los Angeles.

He lived there for five years and studied at Lee Strasberg Theatre and Film Institute, hoping to impart that knowledge on future students.

"You know they say 'those who can't do, teach,'" Torelle said. "Only those people who can do, teach."

"So you've got to keep doing if you're going to teach. It's not a matter of not being able to do it, it's the opposite."

After five years on the road acting and directing on the west coast, Torelle began looking for a job, finding a teaching position at Umpqua Community College in Roseburg, where he worked for a few years before coming to LCC in 1985.

"I couldn't have been happier getting this job," Torelle said.

Life at Lane

Throughout the years, Torelle always had one specific goal in mind: to teach at a community college.

Torelle found inspiration after his time at Mt. Hood.

"That really turned it around for me, saved my life as far as I'm concerned," Torelle said. "I wanted to save souls. I wanted to help other people in the way I had been helped."

For the next 26 years, Torelle did just that, teaching theater and carving a legacy along the way.

Theater instructor Judith "Sparky" Roberts began working at LCC shortly before Torelle, beginning a long-term friendship and collaboration between the two.

"Patrick and I are two flowers in the same bouquet, two eggs in a basket," Roberts said. "We're on the same page, respect each other's opinions."

Throughout the years, Roberts said the two have taught and learned together.

"I have directed him, he has directed me, and we have been on stage together many, many times," Roberts said.

For the past two decades, Roberts said students under their tutelage have moved to universities and conservatories.

"We're very proud of our work with students, and very proud of our students and their achievements," Roberts said. "We just feel as if they're kind of our kids almost."

Creating Experiences for Students

In 2002, the theater department faced a new challenge.

After a series of cuts, the department's productions lost college funding. Torelle found a solution by forming the independent Student Productions Association.

"I actually had been after the students to form a club," Torelle said.

After the budget cuts, he said, "I told the students that Mother Necessity might say, 'You're going to have to do this now.'"

Students now determine which shows will be performed, as well as how they are directed and promoted. Students also get the opportunity to act, stage direct and do technical work in the productions.

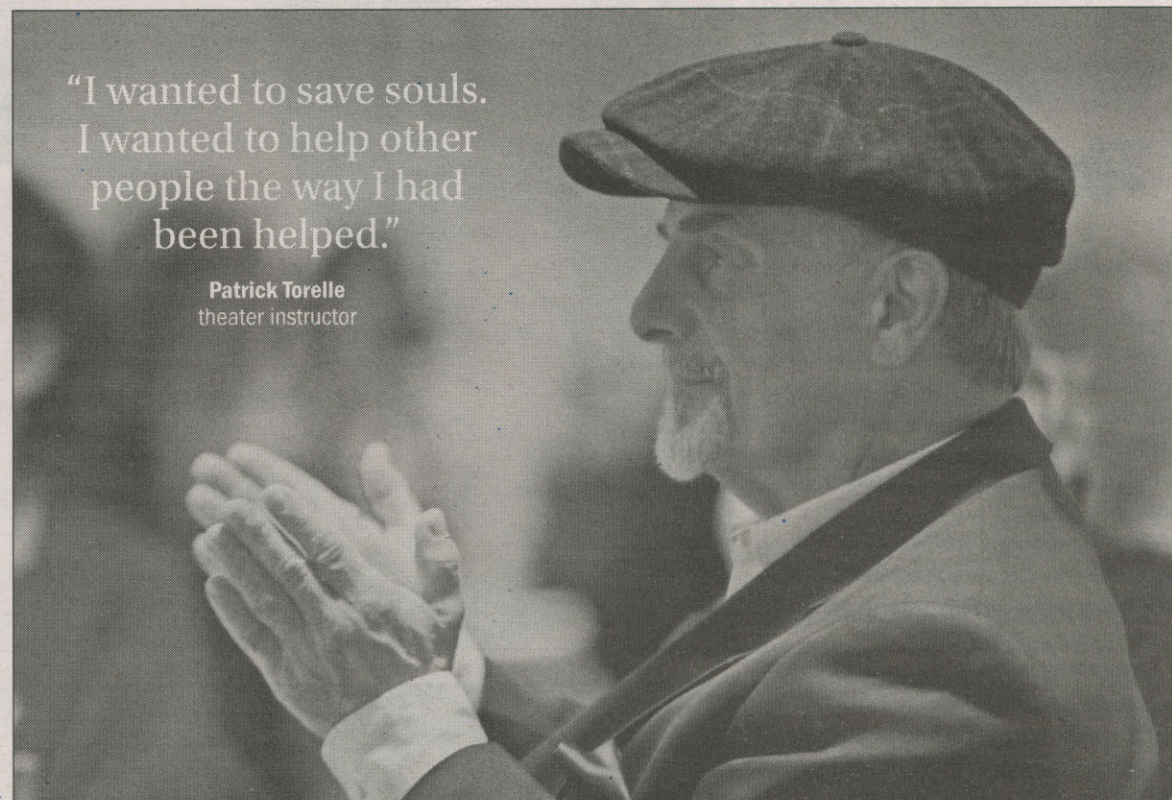
"The result of that is you get the very best, brightest people in," Torelle said.

During his time at LCC, Torelle said he wanted to create situations for students in which they can have the best experiences.

"It's about creating those opportunities for them to do the practice," he said.

SPA Student Activities Coordinator Tim O'Donnell has taken classes from Torelle as well as working with him in the SPA.

"He was very much about empowering the students here. That was his first priority every minute he was here. Making sure that all the experiences we had here were



EUGENE JOHNSON / THE TORCH

Theater instructor Patrick Torelle gives applause during the LCC 2012 Employee Recognition Gala on May 23.

the best they could be," O'Donnell said.

SPA President Rhea Gates began working for the SPA's public relations. Without a mentor, she found herself "playing it by ear."

"Every time I missed something, he would come to me personally," Gates said. Torelle remained understanding regardless of the circumstances.

"... He gave me a hug and said, 'You're doing a great job.' It was really phenomenal to have my instructor have so much faith in me," she said.

Performing Arts Technical Director James McConkey said Torelle had the foresight to let students do their work, observing them along the way.

"He really has turned over the control to them and as a result, they have learned so much more," McConkey said.

A man to be missed

Beyond his curriculum and founding the SPA, Torelle has left a much deeper legacy at LCC.

"He's a phenomenal person," Gates said. "I've had the pleasure of working with him for four years. He's one of the truly special teachers out there ... He's the kind of person who will work with any student on anything they need."

Torelle's colleagues have come to know him as energetic and supportive of his students.

"He has a very vivacious, outgoing personality, and that makes it easy to work with him," said Rick Williams, LCC's dean of arts and applied design.

McConkey said it's this personality and demeanor that makes Torelle great, a blend of professionalism and caring.

"He's friendly. He always wants to check in on you," McConkey said.

A chapter comes to a close

When Torelle announced his retirement earlier this year, the college began searching for someone to fill his role.



EUGENE JOHNSON / THE TORCH

Patrick Torelle embraces long-time friend and former student Marla Norton at the LCC 2012 Employee Recognition Gala.

"It would (have been) great to find someone that's like Patrick, but that's not the case," McConkey said.

Last week, the college announced Dr. Brian Haimbach would begin teaching theater. Haimbach was an instructor at Greenville Technical College in Greenville, S.C.

"We were looking for experience, particularly experience in a community college in both acting and directing."

"And we were looking for experience in running a theater program," Williams said.

Williams said Haimbach had a presence in the Greenville community.

"He made it very clear that his primary goal is to help students reach their greatest potential," Williams said.

And Torelle is not someone his students or colleagues will soon forget.

"We're really going to miss him," McConkey said. "He's so good at so many different things."

Though she is confident in Haimbach, Roberts said, "One day I was feeling that nobody would measure up. ... It hit me all at once that I'm really going to miss him."

A new beginning

As the school year comes to a close, Torelle is beginning to look toward a new chapter: retirement.

"There's other things to do in the world, I'm sure," Torelle said.

In the future, Torelle hopes to write, something that always remained in the back of his mind.

"Real writers write everyday," Torelle said, quoting an adage.

Apart from writing, Torelle hopes to travel and "go on adventures I dreamt about when I was a little boy."

However, Torelle doesn't plan on leaving theater entirely in his past.

"My impulse to give back to the community is so strong, so I can't imagine I'll lose that in whatever way I do that," he said.

This might include a return to teaching.

"I'm sure I'll have to teach. I just have it in me," Torelle said. "Even when I was going to school, I was teaching."

Torelle expressed an interest in returning to LCC part-time as well.

"I'm not sure what classes yet," he said, before quickly adding a sentiment familiar to many of his students:

"I'm here to help in any way I can."

OUTSIDE THE BOX



BY CHELSEA VAN BAALEN
A&E Editor

Those who teach...

As the school year comes to a close, students are looking toward graduation, a new school year, maybe a new apartment or job. But for many faculty members, they're looking forward to a new batch of students.

What some might not realize is that these faculty members have been welcoming new students for years — decades actually.

At the Employer Recognition Gala last week, several faculty members in the performing arts and fine arts department received accolades for their years of dedication to the college.

Having interviewed many of these instructors throughout the year, I have a new admiration for their passion, enthusiasm and dedication to their students.

Music instructor and band director Ron Bertucci has served LCC and its music department for 20 years. After two decades of service, Bertucci still brings an air of excitement to the halls. This month the Symphonic Band put on a performance featuring exclusively Latin composers, which screams of innovation.

Barbara Myrick is retiring at the end of this year, having served as both an instructor and adviser for the music department. As a pianist, Myrick accompanied the vocal department at its faculty concert, a show filled with variety and passion.

Instructors Judith "Sparky" Roberts and Patrick Torelle have been inspiring students and keeping the theater department humming for nearly 30 years. Torelle's creation and support of the SPA has given students opportunities, and the LCC community a genuine theater company.

One of my first experiences with this department was the Shakespeare Showcase, a performance Roberts directs four times a year. Shakespeare Showcase features a medley of scenes from The Bard. As I sat in on a dress rehearsal during the early September heat, I knew this theater department was special. Each performance I saw this year reaffirmed my first impression.

While I've had the pleasure to talk to these departments all year, as I scan the list of those honored at the gala, it's easy to see that many members of this community have dedicated years of service to students.

Even as the summer heat creeps into Eugene and you count the days until your last final, give your instructor one last look. Think about the time they've spent teaching you, the years they've spent teaching others like you and every student they'll teach after you leave your seat. I can assure you, it's inspiring.

THE *final* DESIGN



LCC's Graphic Design program's graduating class's student show, "Merge" features works done throughout the year in the art gallery in Building 11. The 2012 graphic design graduation exhibition will be on display till June 14. A reception will be held from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. June 13.

Left: Magazine article on Francisco Mata Rosas by Nate Bullis, designed an eight page magazine layout for the graphic design program.

PHOTOS BY
TURNER MAXWELL



Product branding for Lane County Concussion designed by Chris Wright. As a member of Lane County Concussion roller derby team, Wright developed real products for merchandising.



Product branding for Alderbrook Lodge by Shanon Saunders involved designing products for a real business.

Dedication to honor Ragozzino

Dance, theater and music performances scheduled.

BY TAYA ALAMI
AND CHELSEA VAN BAALEN

The Performing Arts department will host a performance dedicating the Ragozzino Performance Hall on June 1 at 7:30 p.m., featuring dance, music and theater.

The Ragozzino Performance Hall is named after Ed Ragozzino, who headed the LCC performing arts program for 20 years and died in 2010 at the age of 79.

"I think it will be an excellent opportunity to bring together a whole community that doesn't always interact together to honor this man, and also to reflect on how many lives he has touched with his work in theater, music and dance," music instructor Siri Vik said. Vik will perform at the event.

Selections of choreography from The Works will be featured, as will two scenes and a few songs from the Student Productions Association's "Twelfth Night."

"The student body would be able to get a great history of the

musical and theatre programs here by coming to this show and seeing some of the things that Ed put on and the type of stuff that he did," said department manager John Watson.

The event will be free, with seating limited to the first 300. Reservations are still available.

"Ed Ragozzino always liked to combine experienced community actors on stage with students, and I've always done this too, and I feel it's an enhancement to classroom learning," Judith "Sparky" Roberts said of the inclusion of "Twelfth Night." "Students always get preferential casting, but it's also very valuable for them to work alongside experienced actors."

Roberts directed the show and included actors from the community to act alongside students.

Ragozzino hired Roberts for the theater department when she started at LCC over 20 years ago, and she said he built the department with the vision to make it dynamic.

"He put Lane Community College on the map," Roberts said.

During his time at LCC, Ragozzino left an impact, but had roots in the community as well. He founded the drama program at Eugene High School, which later became South Eugene High School, before heading the performing arts program at LCC.

Ragozzino also had a career as an actor and voice talent. He even directed a film.

"He ... was here for a long, long time," Watson said, "and (he was) responsible for training a whole bunch of actors, actresses and music people."

"He was one of the big proponents of performing arts in Lane County," he said. "He not only raised money for (the theatre building). He also raised money for the Hult Center — so we wouldn't have the Hult Center without Ed."

Ragozzino also envisioned the performance space that will be dedicated to him.

"The configuration of the theater is very good for performances," Roberts said. "We're very lucky to have this space."

W O W		H A L L
	All Ages All the Time	
<p>6/1 Andre Nickatina Cool Nutz</p>		
<p>6/2 Ray Wylie Hubbard Walker T</p>		
<p>6/3 Emily Wells 1939 Ensemble</p>		
<p>6/5 Volunteer Orientation 6:30 pm</p>		
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