



Kira Jones / theTorch

Cpl. Ben Bower acted as a simulated active shooter during a Public Safety training in Building 11 on Oct. 30.

SIMULATING TERROR

Public Safety takes a leading role in active shooter preparedness

KEASEY FREED
REPORTER

"Violent actors ... their mission is to kill as many people as possible, as quickly as they can," Chief of Public Safety Jace Smith, said as he addressed attendees of Fridays active shooter drill.

The drill was held in Building 11 on Oct. 30 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. It focused on preparing Lane staff and students for a shooting on campus. As many as 50 people were in attendance, the vast majority of whom were staff or faculty members.

"After what happened at Umpqua Community College, I felt the need to know more about an active shooter," said Mary Jo Kreindel, administrative coordinator of the Arts Division. "I felt at risk a little bit more and being the first person in the door I wanted to get some tips on what to do."

Before the drill, Smith and his officers gave a multimedia presentation and multiple demonstrations using simulated weapons. Smith told the attendees they should

not hesitate to choose between staying and barricading a room or evacuating the campus. He also stressed that there is no one way to escape an active shooter.

"No one will tell you what to do," Smith said. "You have to decide for yourself based on the information you have."

During the drill, Corporal Ben Bower, a Lane Public Safety officer, dressed in fatigues and stalked the classrooms and hallways of Building 11 with a simulated wooden assault rifle. Any participants that were found by Cpl. Bower were counted as casualties despite whether they were actively involved in the drill.

See **DRILL** on page 2

Invisible threat

Faulty valve leads to evacuation of Building 11

GEORGE PRIGMORE IV
REPORTER

On Oct. 28 Hillary Elms, an English as a Second Language teacher, noticed something strange.

"I was walking around and in one area ... it smelled like gas," Elms said. "I called Public Safety, the non-emergency line, and told them where I was."

Elms was the first person to report the leak in Building 11. Public Safety responded immediately and once they arrived the alarms were sounded. The alarm's lights flashed and alerted everyone inside of the building to evacuate.

"They [her students] were a little

alarmed when they saw the Public Safety officer," Elms said. However, once the officer arrived she reassured her students that they were just checking the room.

The anxiety seemed to continue among the students while they were being evacuated from the building.

"Students were a little panicked and were rushed out," said Amelia Salzman, an office assistant in Building 11. "There was a panic among the students but they [Public Safety] seemed really calm." Students remained outside of the Building 11 for an hour until the building was deemed safe to return.

Northwest Natural, the gas service provider for Lane and a mechanical contractor were contacted to assist with the situation. Small gas leaks were also found in Buildings 9 and 10. The levels in the buildings were too low to prompt evacuation. The problem came from a faulty valve installed outside



Justin Cox / theTorch

Smell natural gas?

Natural gas smells like rotten eggs or sulfur.
 Call Public Safety at
 (541) 463-5558

A solenoid electronic switch, a automatic shutoff valve, was responsible for the gas leak in causing an evacuation of Building 11 on Wednesday Oct. 28.

of Building 12 and was replaced.

To get timely announcements about gas leaks or other potential emergencies at Lane, students should sign up for LaneAlert

by logging into the myLane system from the college home page and clicking on Lane Alert Emergency Notification in the Personal Information section.

NEWS

QUICKNEWS

COUGAR SIGHTING ON CAMPUS

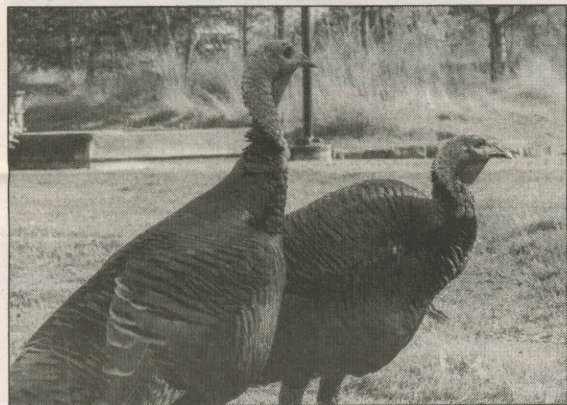
At 4:34 p.m. on Tues, Nov. 3, a LaneAlert was issued urging caution in light of an alleged cougar sighting at the southeast corner of campus. Lane's Public Safety Department declined to comment.

DO NOT FEED THE ANIMALS

Despite their popularity, it is important to remember that turkeys at Lane are still wild animals. According to Lane's official statement on feeding wild animals, students are strongly discouraged from feeding the turkeys, as well as interacting with them beyond more than observationally. Feeding them could lead to behavioral alteration, spreading of disease and even birth defects. People touching turkeys could potentially get sick, or even provoke the birds.

"When students see turkeys in or near their path, they should not worry. To my knowledge, none of the turkeys are very aggressive," Albert Pooth, Lane biology instructor said. "That could change, however, as people continue to feed them and they get more and more accustomed to having people around."

Pooth went on to say that occasionally students do research on the turkeys for their classes. Such research is usually done under the supervision of Lane faculty, in a way that will have no negative impact on the turkeys.



Kira Jones / theTorch

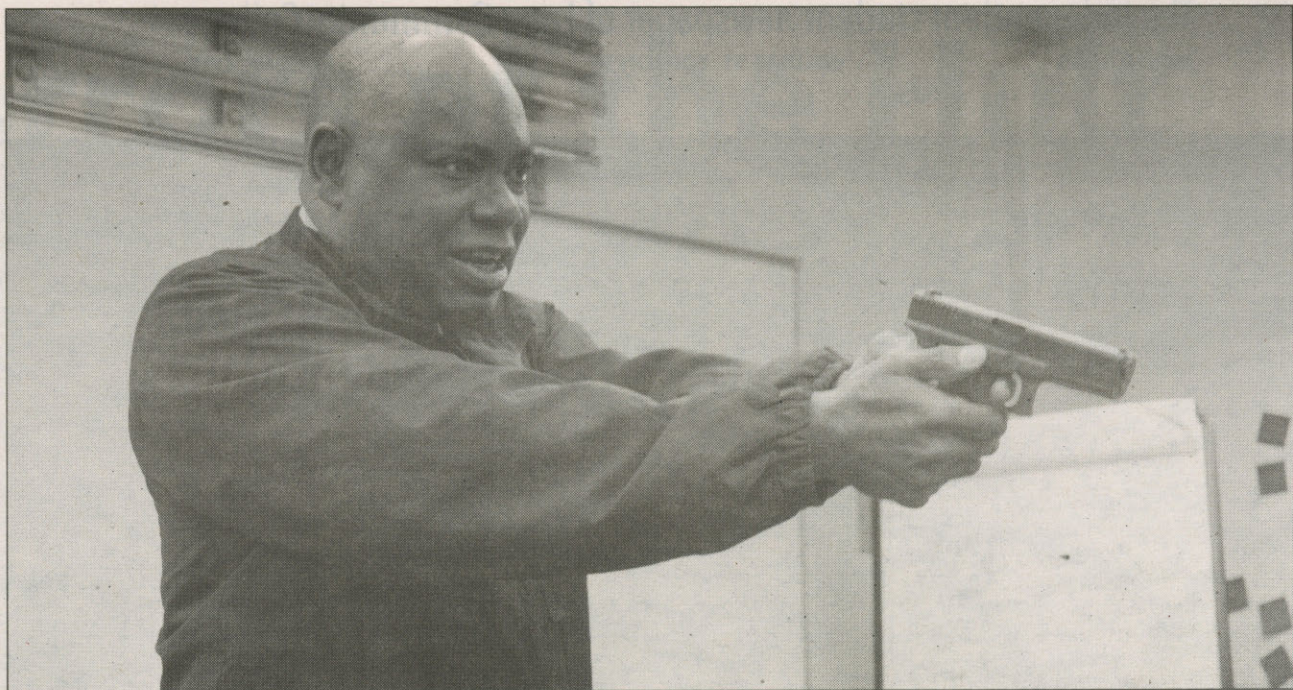
Turkeys graze in the field near Bird Alley on Lane campus by Building 19 on Nov. 2.

Something we should know about?

Send us your news tips:
tips@lcctorch.com // 541-406-0847

CORRECTIONS

Due to technical difficulties, the "Fight or Fright" article on the 72 Hour Horror Competition was not published in its entirety in the Oct. 28 edition of the Torch. To read the corrected story, go to www.lcctorch.com/article/fight-or-fright/



Kira Jones / theTorch

Public Safety Chief Jace Smith demonstrates with a toy gun what will happen in the active shooter drill held in Building 11 on Oct. 30.

DRILL: Simulating terror in Building 11

continued from page 1

The drill ran for 15 minutes. Smith said that is under the average 8 to 10 minute response time it would take for law enforcement to arrive on campus after a 911 call is placed.

"As soon as the alarm went off, I went through the back door, barricaded myself in and there was another person in the front office who barricaded the front door," Kreindel said. "I went behind the copy machine and waited."

Cpl. Bower stated that he killed more than 40 people during the drill. Throughout the simulation he was escorted by other officers to ensure no one mistook him for an actual threat.

"I just made entry, cleared the most obvious places, looked under some desks, then I went on to the next

room," Cpl. Bower said. "If a room was locked, I didn't try getting in. I just went to the next one."

After the drill, participants reconvened for a debriefing where attendees expressed concerns about the lack of locks on classroom doors and that the emergency instructions were difficult to hear through the intercom system.

The drill also provoked discussion about whether or not Public Safety officers should be allowed to carry firearms on campus.

"I've always been against more guns, but after today, the way [Smith] was talking, I'm not sure anymore how I feel," Kreindel said.

This has been a big issue of debate since last month's tragic events at

UCC, with some students and staff calling for officers to be armed. Others feel that armed Public Safety officers would create a more hostile environment on campus, weakening relationships between students and Public Safety.

"Some people don't like guns, some people really like guns," Smith said. "Whether you like them or don't like them, it's not going to change the fact that until someone can respond to an incident, people are going to die."

Smith announced that any staff, faculty members or student organizations can schedule an active shooter workshop with Public Safety for no cost.

"Some people don't like guns, some people really like guns."

Jace Smith

Public Safety Chief

Comic-Con culture hits Eugene

NOAH PRUETT
REPORTER

A comic and pop culture convention will be held at the Lane Events Center on Nov. 14 and 15, 2015. The Eugene Comic-Con, better known as EUCON, will be the first major comic convention Eugene has ever seen.

The official website for the conven-

tion lists that EUCON will feature celebrity guests like Ernie Hudson (Winston Zeddemore, Ghostbusters), Naomi Grossman (Pepper, American Horror Story), Jim Beaver (Bobby Singer, Supernatural), Chris Harrelson (various zombies, The Walking Dead) and Terryl Whitlatch, a creature designer for Lucasfilm).

The 1966 Batmobile will also be on display.

Tickets can be bought online or at the door. For students, a weekend pass is \$20, with individual Saturday and Sunday passes being \$13 and \$12 respectively.

For more information visit eugenicomiccon.com/get-tickets/

theTorch stories that matter

THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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NEWS

Legislating open education

National bill seeks to make textbooks more affordable

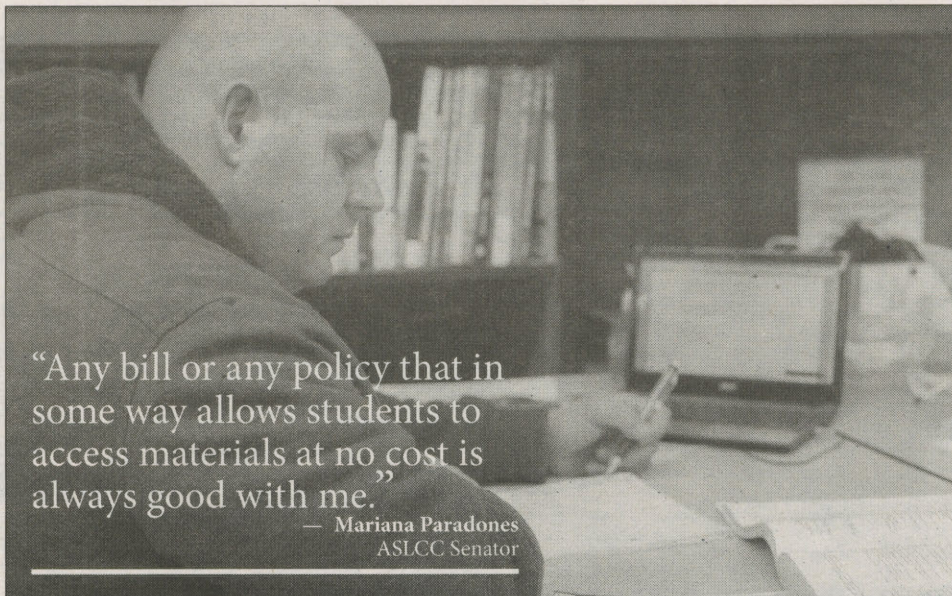
EDUARDO ORTIZ
REPORTER

Since 1980, college textbooks have increased by 812 percent — that is higher than inflation and the actual cost of tuition reports Mark J. Perry, economics professor at the University of Michigan.

In an attempt to curb this trend, senators Dick Durbin (D-IL), Al Franken (D-MN) and Angus King (I-ME) introduced the Affordable College Textbook Act to the House of Representatives on Oct. 8.

The act proposes the creation of a grant program to which universities and colleges across the country may apply. If awarded, institutions will obtain materials which are available for free online for anyone to use, also known as Open Educational Resources. Colleges who get this grant money would receive it under the condition that the institutions report on the effectiveness of their resources to the Government Accountability Office.

The bill also hopes to make publishers ease up on their book pricing and sell



“Any bill or any policy that in some way allows students to access materials at no cost is always good with me.”

— Mariana Paradones
ASLCC Senator

Second year engineering major Chris Jenkins studies math in the TRiO STEM tutoring center in Building 12 on Nov. 3, 2015.

each textbook individually instead of in bundles. The Government Accountability Office will report back on the state of textbook costs by 2017.

At the state level, Oregon House Bill 2871 passed and went into effect July of this year. The bill established open educational resources by setting several thousand dollars from the state’s general grant to be distributed to any college or universities to use in order to obtain OERs.

“Some of my textbooks are more expensive than the classes I am taking,” Cristian

Martinez, biology major, said, who supports the idea of open textbooks. “It is better than paying out of pocket for textbooks that you usually use once.”

In Spring of this year, ASLCC denied a funding request of \$3,600 to purchase textbooks for a kick-starting rental program.

When asked why the student senate denied this request, Eli Emeigh, Lane’s Oregon Student Association campus organizer, explained the Senate did not want to support the use student tuition dollars to pay for more books. He explained the

Senate would rather focus on looking into OERs already available for students.

“Any bill or any policy that in some way allows students to access materials at no cost is always good with me,” ASLCC Senator Mariana Paradones said.

Paradones helped distribute surveys regarding textbook prices, joining surveys completed from all over the state in 2014. The information collected was presented to state legislators asking for action for these rising college textbook prices.

The Lane chapter of Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group focused on the rising textbook prices after noticing in 2007 textbook prices were rising four times the rise of inflation.

“College education costs too much,” Ben Jelensky, OSPIRG campus organizer, said. “We see that textbook costs 40 percent of the tuition students pay to go to community college.”

Open Textbook Library and Open Stacks are websites open for anyone to upload personal or class material libraries which are distributed and accessible by students or anyone else within the public. Their distribution is protected through creative commons licensing.

“It would benefit our society more than it would hurt it. It makes good use of our taxpayer money,” Abigail Cox, business major, said regarding the use of taxpayer money for OERs.

Enrollment bar raised

Class cuts affect Lane fine arts programs

JUSTIN SCOTT
REPORTER

Cuts to the fine arts classes at Lane have stirred up mixed emotions amongst instructors and students. Over the past several years, Lane has been cutting under-enrolled classes in addition to raising the minimum class enrollment needed to prevent a class from being dropped. Dan Welton, Lane photography instructor, believes that this has had a negative impact on his program.

“The mantra when I started at Lane was ‘come to Lane, inexpensive classes, professional instructors, small classes and lots of individual attention,’” Welton said, adding that the minimum class size has gone from 15 students to 27 during his time at Lane. “How much individual attention can I give the students when you’ve that kind of thing going on?”

Welton also explained that with larger classes, more students dropped out of courses due to the complexity of the class and lack of individual instruction time. What Welton used to be able to cover in two weeks could very well now take him months to cover due to the sheer amount of students to mentor.

Not all teachers find that the cuts have a negative impact on their classes. Dr. Brian Haimbach, head of Lane theater faculty, thinks that they have had a positive effect on the theater program.

Dr. Haimbach explained that, as a result of class cuts, enrollment in his six-course acting sequence has increased. He says that this gives him more time to work with, and help students become better in their respective fields. Classes that are a part of his transfer agreement with the University of Oregon are not cut, and transferability may have even increased, according to Dr. Haimbach.

“I don’t know if cutting classes will benefit Lane in the long run, but I do know it has given me the opportunity to refine and adjust the theatre curriculum in positive ways,” Dr. Haimbach said.

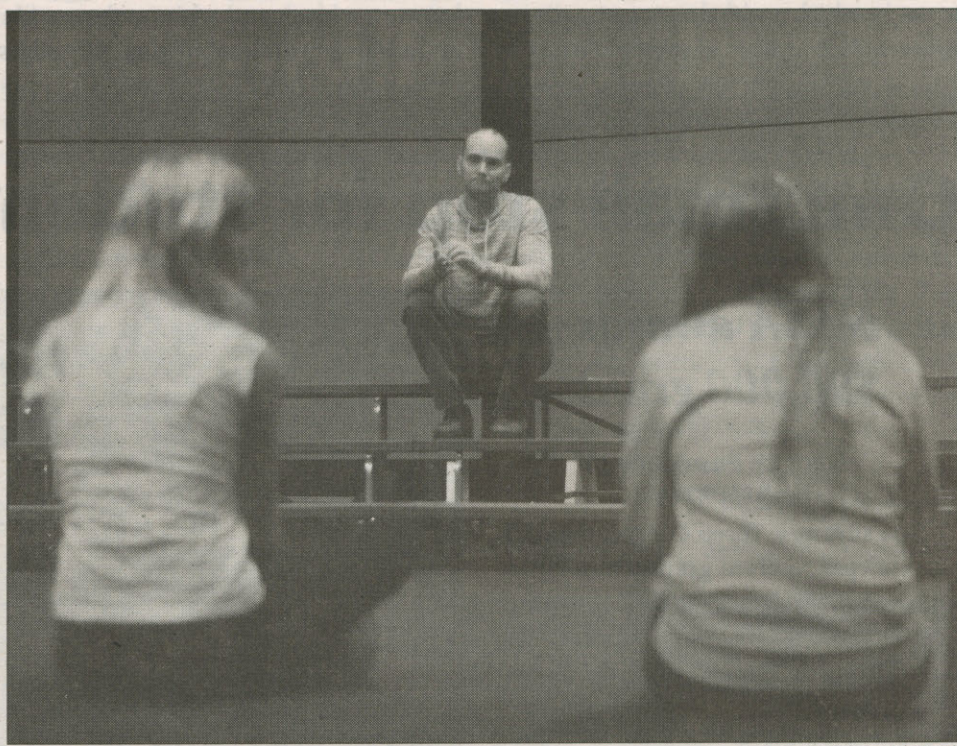
Lane music student Brandon Hall expressed that these cuts actually make things harder on students planning to transfer.

“I almost had to wait a whole year more to take one of my key classes in the music core — Sight Reading and Ear Training II,” Hall said. “I and many others wouldn’t be really happy about that.”

Hall went on to say that that he thinks that Lane should be providing more classes rather than cutting them. He believes that this will not only bring more students to Lane and expedite the transfer process for students.

Despite conflicting views on the issue, one thing many agreed on was that instructors reaching students was the most important thing.

“It’s frustrating to me because I really love teaching,” Welton said. “I could be retired, but the reason I keep coming back is because I like the students.”



Desiree’ Bohn and Eryne Grant run through their lines as Dr. Brian Haimbach looks on.

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LIFESTYLE

Tiny horrors at the Hult

Film competition picks winners

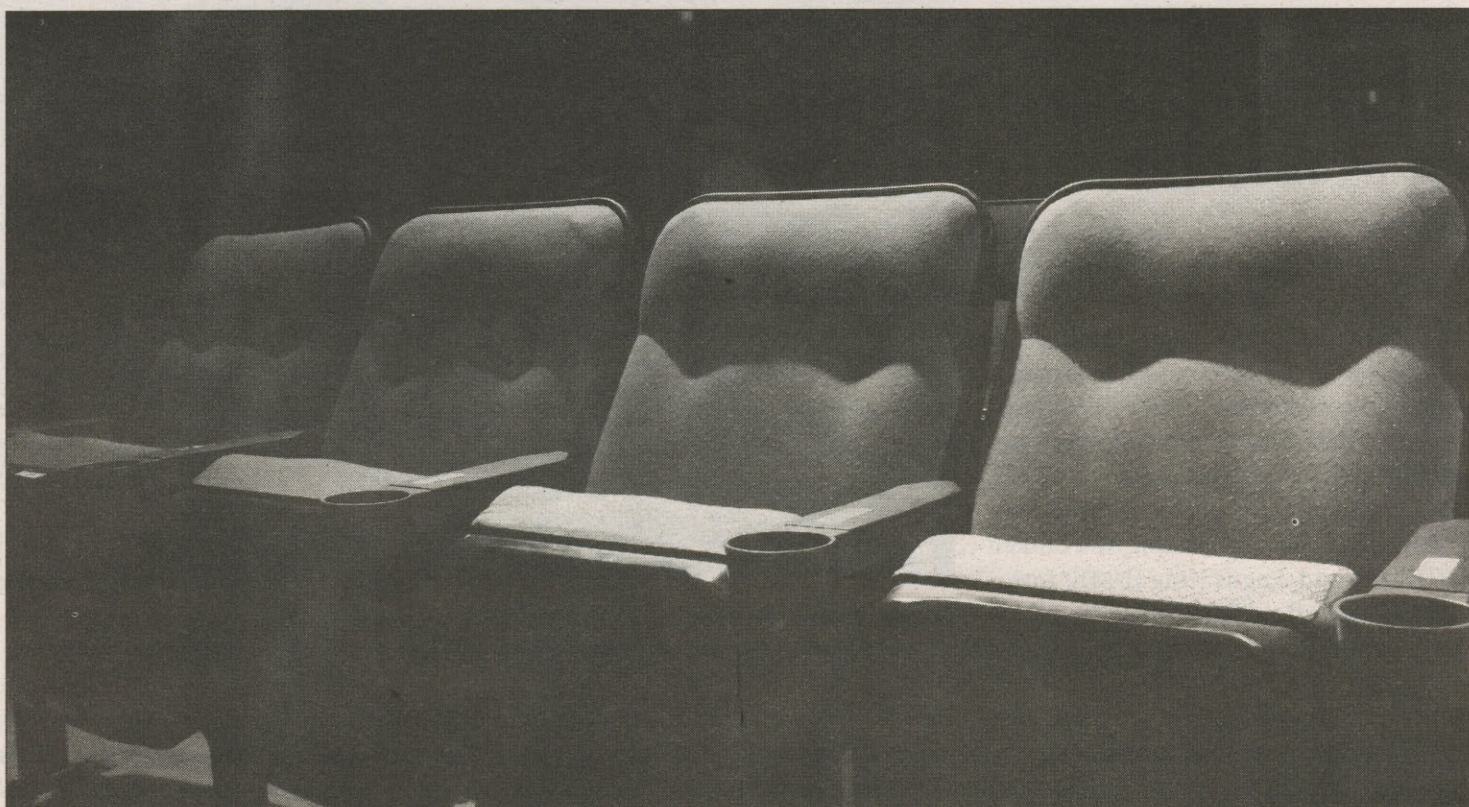
LAURA NEWMAN
LIFESTYLE EDITOR

Hundreds of horror movie enthusiasts and amateur filmmakers found shelter from the stormy Halloween night in the Hult Center. They clustered together, many in costume, buzzing with excitement for the viewing and closing ceremonies of the 33rd annual 72 Hour Horror Film Competition.

Of the 57 registered, only 40 short films were shown in the Soreng theater that evening. Inside, visitors were given a piece of paper with the list of the tiny horrors they were about to witness. These acted as ballots, which were gathered at the end of the viewing and tallied for the Audience Choice Award. The jury prize was chosen by board members of the Eugene Film Society and several instructors at Lane.

"It's really about ingenuity, creative thinking and how to generate an effect in your audience," Joshua Purvis, co-founder of EFS said. "That doesn't necessarily require you to have fancy equipment or a lot of production experience. More so how to tell a story and [how to] get a reaction from your audience."

At the end of the evening, the votes were in. "Phobophobia" by Owen Garrity won the jury award. The film depicted a repetitious scene in which a girl sleeping at a dining room table is awakened multiple times by



Laura Newman / theTorch

The lights go out on an empty theater out at the Bijou Arts Cinema, the venue of last year's 72 hour Horror Film Competition.

her cell phone. Each time she wakes, she is confronted by a nightmarish scene. The title in itself means the fear of phobias.

"It was more unique and unusual than the other films given to us," Kate Sullivan, Lane English instructor and judge, said to the crowd.

"Glorious" by Sean Sisson from Portland won the audience award. This film is a cross between a black and white arthouse film and a warning against bullying. All entries,

regardless of final placement, received constructive feedback from the judges and film experts.

The competition has come from humble roots; its first screenings were on the dance floor at Blairally Vintage Arcade to a crowd of less than fifty participants and some very irritated bar patrons. The second year's venue landed at the Bijou Arts Cinema with over 30 groups participating, but the building was not big enough to facilitate

this year. The level of filmmaking, diversity of the participants and evolved subject matter have grown immensely since the competition's founding.

"[There is] a group of people between 18 to 35 or 40, who are organized as film artists whereas before it really wasn't," Purvis said. "It was a 45 or older crowd."

All the films are available to view through Eugene Film Society's YouTube page.

One small step for students, one giant leap for Lane

NASA awards \$90,000 grant

GEORGE PRIGMORE IV
REPORTER

This summer, three Oregon community colleges received grants from Space Administration Space Grant Consortium totaling \$500,000. The community colleges included in the grant were Lane, Linn-Benton and Portland. Lane was awarded \$90,000 of the grant.

"We were in real danger of administrative decisions that may actually have cut astronomy courses here at Lane," said Dr. Dennis Gilbert, instructor of physics and astronomy at Lane. "This grant brought it back solidly."

Lane joined the consortium in 1997, but its membership was recently revoked.

"There was a little bit of a glitch at one point," Gilbert said. "One of my colleagues came back and said we are not a part of the consortium anymore."

When Lane was not listed as a member of the consortium, students were unable to apply for scholarships through it. After Gilbert received this information, he contacted the director of the consortium at Oregon State University, Jack F. Higginbotham, to identify the problem.

To retain membership, consortium



Kira Jones / theTorch

Kevin Smolek measuring out 50ml NaOH for a temperature experiment.

representatives from Lane must attend meetings and participate in decision-making activities in the consortium. When contacted, Higginbotham allowed students to apply for this year's round of scholarships.

Half of Lane's \$90,000 portion was used to promote and restructure the astronomy and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics education, STEM, provided at Lane. The improvements include added

lab curricula to meet the AAOT [Associate of Arts Oregon Transfer Degree] science lab requirements, curriculums involving the use of NASA and other international mission resources and to create hybrid and fully online classes.

The grant has also reestablished relationships with the Science Factory, a children's museum in Eugene, and with the University of Oregon. The Science Factory has a new

planetarium director that is adding programs to include college-level exhibits. Connections with the UO will be developed to allow students to use the robotic telescope at Pine Mountain Observatory in Bend, Ore.

"The scholarship was a good opportunity to bridge a lot of different things including networking in the future," said Jack Carroll, a mechanical engineering major and scholarship recipient.

The other half was given to nine students in the form of \$5,000 scholarships. The students were Paula Berry, Sarah Diaz, John Paul Morton, Jack Carroll, Madison Hood, Benjamin Porter, Gino Carrillo, Adam Kincaid and Nathan Woodward. Each student has received the first \$3,000 of the scholarship and will be awarded the additional \$2,000 in March of 2016.

On Nov. 14, the scholarship recipients will partake in an event held at the Portland State University campus. The event includes a drop tower that will create a microgravity experimental environment for a little over two seconds. The event will also showcase small group visits to a NASA control room directly connected 24/7 to the International Space Station.

"I watched a couple videos that the head person at Oregon State was showing," recipient Jack Carroll said. "It seems like a really cool opportunity, ... a once in a lifetime opportunity."