

Around the area

VANCOUVER

Clark College, Concordia to sign agreement easing transfers

Clark College and Concordia University leaders will sign a co-admission agreement today, designed to ease transfers from the state-funded community college to undergraduate programs at the private Portland school.

It's the third such pact Clark has inked since last autumn beyond its close ties with Washington State University. In October, it reached agreement with Portland State University and Marylhurst University, a private school near Lake Oswego, Ore.

As of Saturday, the new partnership will provide Clark students with coordinated application, financial aid, advising and academic services, plus joint library and computer service access. Students may transfer up to 120 credits to the Lutheran school.

Southwest Washington residents already have discovered Concordia. About 28 percent of the northeast Portland college's 1,000 undergraduates hail from Washington, as do 25 of 144 MBA students, a spokesman said.

The 101-year-old school offers a second graduate program, in education. It provides 18 undergraduate degrees in 20 fields.

Clark President Wayne Branch and Concordia President Charles Schlimpert will hold a signing ceremony at 11 a.m. today in Clark's Penguin Student Center.