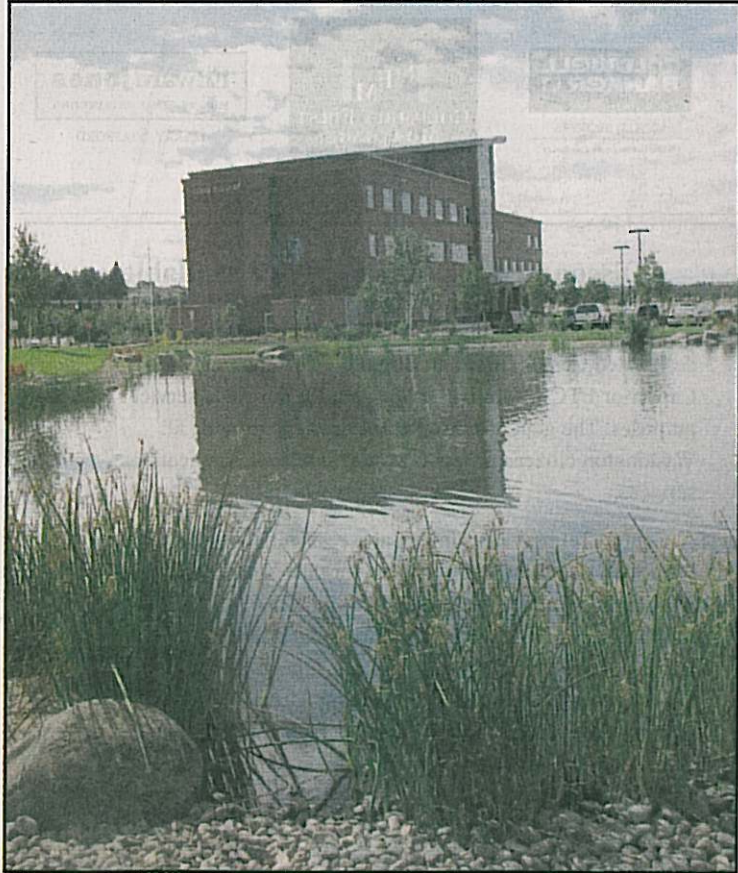


New Clark College facility ready for students



NEW CLARK COLLEGE FACILITY in east Vancouver has attracted nearly 1,100 students so far. Classes are set to begin Mon., Sept. 21.

Classes will start next week at the new Clark College facility at Columbia Tech Center, with a range of instruction that includes science, history, mathematics, English, literature, psychology, economics, art, photography and computer and technical programs.

For student convenience, some courses at the new 70,000-square-foot, east county building duplicate those offered at Clark's downtown Vancouver location. One instructional program has been moved from the downtown Vancouver campus, and a new course of instruction is planned.

The popular Running Start program in which high school students take college-level courses and get a "head start" on college is offered at Columbia Tech. More than 200 students have enrolled this fall in the Running Start program at the new facility.

George Reese, director of instruction at Clark College, said that so far, enrollment at the new location exceeds projections. Whereas 750 students

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JIM MALINOWSKI, a resident of Amboy, will continue to teach Power Utilities Technology at Clark College, although the program has been moved to the college's new east Vancouver location. Malinowski has acquired a number of new pieces of equipment to strengthen the program's curriculum.

Clark College

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were expected this fall, nearly 1,100 have enrolled to date.

Students are able to attend classes on a Monday-through-Thursday schedule, or accomplish the same work on a Tuesday-and-Thursday program.

Course offerings include adult basic education and classes for students for whom English is a second language.

It is too soon to tell, said Reese, how higher enrollment at Columbia Tech Center will impact enrollment at the downtown Vancouver campus, but officials plan to evaluate such information.

Power Utilities Technology offered

Jim Malinowski, a resident of Amboy, teaches power utilities technologies at Columbia Tech Center, 18700 SE Mill Plain Blvd., Vancouver. He taught the curriculum for five years at the main Clark College campus, and is now able to expand into a needed lab facility at Columbia Tech.

The Power Utilities Technology program focuses on careers in utilities, leading to jobs as linemen, substation electrician, substation operator, project estimator dispatcher and steam and hydro plant operator.

The course work begins with Power 101 which includes an introduction to DC and AC electrical theory, an understanding of power systems, and risks of high voltage systems. The course is taught Mondays and Wednesdays for 2 1/2 hours, plus a four hour lab on Thursdays.

The winter quarter includes three courses that deal with elements of a power system--generation, transmission and distribution of power, as well as tours of electrical facilities and safety elements in dealing with high voltage systems. Spring quarter courses deal with electrical system components, print reading, and trouble shooting.

Malinowski has acquired some "project carts" that will allow students to assemble and operate realistic electrical systems similar to what is seen in electrical craft job assignments.

Malinowski holds a bach-

elor's degree in electrical engineering from Washington State University, a master's degree in electrical engineering from Texas A&M, and a master's degree in business from Stanford. He worked for Pacific Gas and Electric in San Francisco for 31 years, including positions as manager of transmission planning and manager of power control.

Malinowski also helped develop power grid systems in Indonesia and the Philippines.

Malinowski has been able to acquire new equipment to be used in student learning. Clark Public Utilities donated a pad-mounted transformer and a pole-mounted transformer. Schweitzer Labs in eastern Washington donated two digital relays worth about \$8,000 each. Digital relays replace electromechanical relays, said Malinowski.

The Bonneville Power Administration and Georgia Pacific paper mill have offered to provide surplus equipment and tools to be used in the program.

Malinowski said that 50 percent of the technical staff of area utilities are eligible for retirement, giving bright job prospects for those who complete his program.

All of Malinowski's classes are taught after 3 p.m. to allow working students to attend.

New course coming

Reese said a new course of instruction called "Mechatronic System Integration and Design" is under consideration for the Columbia Tech Center location. That course would serve those who work in highly technical manufacturing.

New building constructed on gravel pit

Clark College at Columbia Tech Center houses 18 classrooms, eight science and computer labs, faculty and staff offices, and parking for 393 vehicles, all built on the remnants of a reclaimed gravel mine that is now a business park.

"Smart" classroom technology includes wireless internet access throughout the building, conference areas, and kitchen classrooms. Classrooms are equipped with computer systems that allow the instructor to display information on walls, and run various visual teaching

aids.

The facilities also operates a Corporate Learning Center for use by businesses and other groups. Flexible room choices can be configured up to 3,420 square feet to accommodate 120 people in classroom-style seating, 378 in theater-style seating, or 400 in standing reception format. A fully-equipped teaching and retreat-use kitchen is available for meetings and conferences. The kitchen can also be rented as a stand-alone teaching facility. Classrooms are available for off-site training.

Jim Watkins, project manager at the Tech Center facility, said an extensive security system has been developed because the Columbia Tech Center is remote from the school's main campus.

Both the new building and parking lot are "armed," said Watkins. After 10 p.m., the parking lot cameras become motion centers. If anyone enters the parking lot, lights are activated and security personnel are notified.

The new, three-story building contains a fourth-floor conference room which may be darkened for visual purposes. Curtains close over the windows high in lateral motions with the touch of a switch. An exit from the fourth floor leads to a roof which houses, among other things, solar panels.

Watkins said no stormwater leaves the site. Bio-swales retain water in the parking lot, as does a dry creek bed on the south side of the building. Runoff from the building and parking lot percolates into the ground. The landscaping is comprised of native plants.

Clark College officials hosted an open house at the Columbia Tech Center location on Aug. 29, attracting 1,100 people who toured the facility.

Overall enrollment at Clark College presently stands at 12,926 students, an increase of about 25 percent from last year in the same point in the registration cycle.

More information about the course work available at Clark College at Columbia Tech Center is available by calling 992-2107, or 992-2345. Information is also available at www.clark.edu/2dayAA