

**MINUTES OF THE MAY 14, 2026
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Board Meeting**

Board Members Present: Ed Johnson, Bill Montero, Lloyd Mueller, Sheila Roley, Jody Stahancyk
Board Members Absent (Prearranged): Ashley Flukinger, Mitra Vazeen

Others Present:

CCC Faculty, Staff and Students: Bill Meck, *Financial Consultant*; Tina Kotson, *Associate Vice President of Nursing, Allied Health and Public Safety*; Beth Van Elswyk, *Foundation Director*; Fiona Giselle Hackett, *ASG President*; Tom Ank, *Director of Computer Services & Information Security*; TJ Lackner, *Math Instructor / FT Faculty Association President*; Anita Jensen, *Human Resources Director*; Kama O'Connor, *Writing Instructor*; Jennifer Carlson, *Chief Financial Officer*; Evon Jacobsen, *Administrative Specialist*; Layla Solar, *Assistant Director, Financial Aid*; Julie Kovatch, *Communications Director*; Zoe Higginbottom, *Student*; Lynsey Van Keuren, *Student*; President Jarrod Hogue and Recording Secretary Felicity Green

Community Members: Deborah Howe, Jo Brown, Mike Brosius, Linda Oldenkamp, Ed Overbay, John Goodenberger, Lucien Swerdloff and David Carr, *Executive Director, Sunset Empire Transportation District*. Several other community members were present but did not sign in.

CALL TO ORDER

Ed Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm

Roll was called. Ed Johnson, Bill Montero, Lloyd Mueller, Sheila Roley and Jody Stahancyk were present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Jody Stahancyk **moved to approve the agenda as presented.** Bill Montero seconded the motion. **Ed Johnson, Bill Montero, Lloyd Mueller, Sheila Roley and Jody Stahancyk voted Aye. The motion carried.**

PUBLIC FORUM (*written public comments, including those received after the May 14 Board Meeting, are attached as Appendix A*)

Linda Oldenkamp, local resident, spoke about the Historic Preservation program. She asked the Board not to eliminate the program, saying that it is of value to the community.

Jo Brown, local artist, spoke about the importance of saving history and said that the Historic Preservation program was important and should be saved for the community.

Mike Brosius, local resident, spoke about the importance of preserving the community and asked that the Board save the Historic Preservation program.

Clatsop Community College
1651 Lexington Avenue * Astoria, Oregon 97103 * www.clatsopcc.edu

Ed Overbay, local resident, said that he has been involved with the Historic Preservation program since its inception. He suggested expanding the program to include more construction classes, saying it was a community need.

Jody Stahancyk **moved that the letters received on this matter be made part of the permanent record.** Bill Montero seconded the motion. **Ed Johnson, Bill Montero, Lloyd Mueller, Sheila Roley and Jody Stahancyk voted Aye. The motion carried.**

Jody Stahancyk said that while she is sympathetic, having restored multiple historic homes, the College does not have the luxury of offering programs because they are important. She said that the Board would be derelict in their duty if they voted to continue a program that has so few students involved. She suggested that the community take the program over. There are less than ten students on track to complete the program next year.

Lynsey Van Keuren, a full-time student enrolled in Historic Preservation, spoke about why she is in the program, saying that she moved to the area to join the program. She said she hoped to find ways to fund the program going forward and asked the College for a longer runway.

Zoe Higginbottom, a Historic Preservation student, also spoke, saying that the skills the program teaches are vital for the community. She said that the program has been under resourced and students have left as a result. She asked the College to consider revamping the program.

Ed Johnson asked President Hogue to speak about the Historic Preservation program. President Hogue said that the nobility of a program should not be confused with its feasibility. He noted that he owns a historic building, has restored two, and that his wife is an architect. The Historic Preservation program is a two-year program, which obligates the College to teach 16 sections regardless of their enrollment. He is open to ideas and changes and is hoping that possibly some historic preservation classes can be taught through the Murdock grant if the College receives it. He said that there are many ways the program could be revamped, including offering Community Education classes or weekend workshops, as the two-year requirement is the issue. He said that the College is facing a \$700,000 budget shortfall and there have been very few students in the program for many years now.

The College is required by their accreditors and the HECC to teach all the 2nd year classes needed by the students currently finishing their first year on the Historic Preservation degree path. The students will be able to achieve their degrees.

Lloyd Mueller said that low enrollment in Historic Preservation has been a problem for a long time, noting that a program can't keep going indefinitely without a core group of 15 or more degree seeking students. He added that while he also has great sympathy as an Astoria resident who has lived in many historic homes, he doesn't know where the College would find the money to keep the program going in its current form.

Fiona Giselle Hackett spoke about the need to break down barriers between area high schools and the College, noting that this would be her last Board meeting as ASG President. Ed Johnson thanked her for doing a great job representing the student body.

TEN MINUTE PRESENTATION: *Kama O'Connor, Rain Magazine and Riversea Conference*

Kama O'Connor invited the Board to come to the 2nd annual Riversea Conference on Friday, May 14 in Towler Hall from 9:00 to 1:00. It's an interdisciplinary conference with more than 95 student contributions. Each Board member received a program. Thanks to the Foundation, the posters were professionally printed. The keynote speaker is from the Columbia Land Trust. There will be nine student presentations per hour over the span of three hours; the student(s) who give the best presentation will be honored at the Student Awards on Thursday, June 4 at Fort George. She thanked Fiona Giselle Hackett for all her work on the conference; she designed the program last year and this year designed it as a joint project with Flint Largin. She is hoping that in the future the conference can open up to other community colleges.

Kama O'Connor announced that Lloyd Mueller had bought each Board member a copy of Rain Magazine. This is the 56th edition of this student and community publication, which is put together by students in one class every year. This year they held multiple community events and raised over \$5,000 towards publication costs.

She announced that the next College summer journey destination will be Italy in 2027.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Bill Montero **moved to approve the Minutes of the April 9, 2026 Regular Board Meeting as presented.** Jody Stahancyk seconded the motion. **Ed Johnson, Bill Montero, Lloyd Mueller, Sheila Roley and Jody Stahancyk voted Aye. The motion carried.**

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

President Hogue introduced Jennifer Carlson, the new Chief Financial Officer, whose first day was Monday, May 11. Bill Meck will continue as a part time financial consultant for a year and mentor. Jennifer Carlson said that she was very happy to be here.

President Hogue said he was going to focus on good news. The MERTS open house on April 24 hosted 300 students from all over the area, including a van from Aberdeen. There was great faculty, Board and staff participation. He gave kudos to Beth Van Elswyk and Brianna Smith on a wonderful evening fundraiser, saying that he had asked for a fun event that made a lot of money and they delivered. He was the keynote speaker at the Tongue Point graduation and enjoyed seeing students from all over the country. On April 17, he joined Fiona Hackett and Acadia Dwyer for the annual All Oregon Academic Team celebration in Salem.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Bill Meck welcomed Jennifer Carlson, saying that he is happy for the College and happy for her. He said he would continue to give some of the financial reports to the Board.

Ten months into the fiscal year, the budget is looking very close at \$14.3 million in revenues and expenditures. While state appropriations were lower than hoped and wages and benefits were higher, tuition and fee revenue has exceeded the originally budgeted amount. Property taxes so far have come in at \$5.9 million; \$6.25 million was budgeted and he thinks that will be reached and perhaps exceeded. Timber revenue is also coming in higher than expected. He hopes that will remain in the plant fund but if it is needed for the general fund for the budget to balance it will be there. He noted that wages are up \$860,000 and that every dollar in wages is matched by 51 cents in benefits. He gave Tom Ank credit for trimming software costs.

There was a question if the College will be cutting faculty next year, as PSU has recently done. President Hogue and Bill Meck said that it is too early to tell if further cuts will be necessary next year, but that the picture will be clearer in August when the first estimate from the state Community College Support Fund comes in. Bill Meck commented that the budgeting process is much better and more data is available, which makes a big difference.

REPORT OF THE BOARD CHAIR

Ed Johnson said that as this is the first Board meeting since the Budget Committee meeting, he wanted to congratulate the leadership team for putting together a budget that was so great it passed in one meeting. He spoke about Amy Magnussen's written report on TRIO Pre College and Talent Search, which noted that there will be a national 50% cut. He commented that while the Historic Preservation program is a great program, it takes money to fund it and less money is coming in. State and federal money used to be dependable as a funding source for the College and its programs but it is no longer as sure as it used to be. He said it is important to be able to adapt.

RESULTS OF BOARD SELF EVALUATION SURVEY

Bill Montero reported that the whole Board participated and the results were generally positive. Most of the Board's ratings were somewhat or very satisfied in most areas. He said that however, the survey did identify some opportunities for improvement in institutional planning and resource management, accountability, public standing and maintaining clear boundaries between governance and administration. The Board members described themselves as overall respectful, cooperative, well-prepared and supportive of the College mission. While the Board rated themselves highly in most areas, there was some interest expressed in continued growth and stronger community engagement. Bill Montero explained that there are suggestions at the bottom of the survey for ways to improve. Ed Johnson commented that it is important that the Board do something with this information. These results will be used at the Board retreat to help set goals and make plans.

POLICIES FOR 2ND READING AND ADOPTION

Sheila Roley **moved to accept BP 3505 Emergency Response Plan for 2nd reading and adoption.** Bill Montero seconded the motion. **Ed Johnson, Bill Montero, Lloyd Mueller, Sheila Roley and Jody Stahancyk voted Aye. The motion carried.**

Sheila Roley **moved to accept BP 3520 Local Law Enforcement for 2nd reading and adoption.** Lloyd Mueller seconded the motion. **Ed Johnson, Bill Montero, Lloyd Mueller, Sheila Roley and Jody Stahancyk voted Aye. The motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF MOU WITH SUNSET EMPIRE TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT

President Hogue asked to move this item up the agenda and introduced David Carr, CEO of Sunset Empire Transportation District. David Carr said that he is looking forward to collaborating with the College. As a first step, buses will now be free for anyone with a CCC student or staff ID. He said he wants to change transit in Astoria and the College is a cornerstone. If people start riding the bus when they are young, they will continue. He plans to change routes, introduce more, smaller buses and more. He thanked the Board of Education for their help.

Sheila Roley **moved to approve the MOU with Sunset Empire Transportation District.** Jody Stahancyk seconded the motion. **Ed Johnson, Bill Montero, Lloyd Mueller, Sheila Roley and Jody Stahancyk voted Aye. The motion carried.**

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CLERK

Jody Stahancyk **moved to appoint Jennifer Carlson as Deputy Clerk.** Sheila Roley seconded the motion. **Ed Johnson, Bill Montero, Lloyd Mueller, Sheila Roley and Jody Stahancyk voted Aye. The motion carried.**

AUTHORIZE FISCAL YEAR SIGNATORIES

Jody Stahancyk **moved to authorize Jennifer Carlson as Deputy Clerk to sign orders and other transactions.** Sheila Roley seconded the motion. **Ed Johnson, Bill Montero, Lloyd Mueller, Sheila Roley and Jody Stahancyk voted Aye. The motion carried.**

POLICIES FOR FIRST READING

Sheila Roley **moved to accept BP 5010 Admissions for 1st Reading.** Bill Montero seconded the motion. **Ed Johnson, Bill Montero, Lloyd Mueller, Sheila Roley and Jody Stahancyk voted Aye. The motion carried.**

The Board expressed some concern that BP 3715 was a one sentence policy. Jody Stahancyk explained that the policy tasked the President to be sure that the appropriate experts were consulted on the procedure, as this is a fast-moving field.

Jody Stahancyk **moved to accept BP 3715 Intellectual Property for 1st Reading.** Sheila Roley seconded the motion. **Ed Johnson, Bill Montero, Lloyd Mueller, Sheila Roley and Jody Stahancyk voted Aye. The motion carried.**

SUMMER SCHEDULING: BOARD RETREAT AND AUGUST MEETING

There was some discussion about when to hold the Board Retreat. The Retreat will be self-led; there will be no outside moderator. The Board asked Felicity Green to send out a Doodle poll looking for a Saturday in June.

The Board agreed that there would be no August meeting.

APPOINT PRESIDENTIAL EVALUATION COMMITTEE

Lloyd Mueller, Jody Stahancyk and Bill Montero will serve as the Presidential Evaluation Committee.

BOARD FORUM

Lloyd Mueller said that he thinks it is very important to attend the events coming up. He said that the student awards ceremony at Fort George is wonderful and that the Nursing Pinning Ceremony and Commencement are also great.

Sheila Roley agreed with everything Lloyd Mueller said and said she will be present at two out of three but cannot make Commencement.

Ed Johnson said that the Nursing Pinning ceremony was the first College event he attended as a new board member. He said it gave him a real feel for the types of students who attend community colleges and what those students went through to achieve their goals was amazing. He said it was eye opening to see the families and the pride.

Bill Montero agreed with Ed Johnson and said that he sees the results of the Nursing program at Providence Hospital and how impressed the hospital is with the nurses.

Ed Johnson asked **Fiona Giselle Hackett** if she wanted to add anything at her last Board meeting. She thanked the Board for the opportunity to learn what it is like inside a community college and said it gave her a newfound respect for the institution and those who work for it. She said that she used to think that colleges were like a fast food restaurant but now she thinks they are more like five star dining with the number of hands that go into it. She said being in ASG had given her an incredible opportunity to feel a part of something. She thanked the Board again for everything they do.

Tina Kotson said that she appreciated all the comments about the pinning ceremony and invited everyone to attend.

Ed Johnson adjourned the meeting at 6:59 pm.

From: [ebgleason](#)
To: jhougue@clatsopcc.edu; [Felicity Green](#)
Cc: [Nicole Possert](#)
Subject: Historic Preservation Program
Date: Tuesday, June 9, 2026 10:25:38 AM

You don't often get email from egleasonjcheung@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL / UNTRUSTED EMAIL: DO NOT click on links or open attachments unless you know it is safe

Dear Mr. Hogue and the Board of Education,

We are writing today to urge you to retain and strengthen the Historic Preservation program that you have at Clatsop Community College. Your program has a measurable positive impact on your local community, but also on many communities across the Pacific Northwest.

Here in The Dalles, your program has come and taught workshops and classes in partnership with our Historic Landmarks Commission, and your students and staff have helped in the restoration of several local historic buildings. Graduates of your program and folks who have participated in your workshops, ourselves included, have taken the knowledge and skills imparted to them out into their community, making it possible to preserve and restore their own properties and other nonprofit and community assets. These historic properties are vital, vibrant, character defining, and irreplaceable places in our community, and your program has helped us save and preserve them for ourselves, and for generations into the future.

Your Historic Preservation program has ensured that your students and graduates thrive and provide their communities with the knowledge and skills that they have learned and developed, and cannot get anywhere else in the region.

Please find a way to retain and strengthen your Historic Preservation program. It has benefited so many communities across the state and region. It is a precious and irreplaceable asset to so many!

Sincerely,
Eric Gleason and Jacqueline Cheung
Friends of the Waldron Brothers Drugstore and
The Dalles Chinatown



MEMO
Via E-Mail Distribution

386 North Laurel www.preserveoregon.com
Ashland, Oregon 97520-1154 george@preserveoregon.com

541-482-9504

Date: 6/5/2026

To: President Jarrod Hogue
Members of the Board
Clatsop Community College
Via e-mail

Re: CCC Historic Preservation Program

Dear President Hogue and Members of Board,

I am writing to you as a long-time historic preservation professional, with nearly four decades of experience in Oregon and the Pacific Northwest. My work includes consultation for the state, for large corporations and public and private property owners from northern California and into Washington, as well as throughout Oregon.

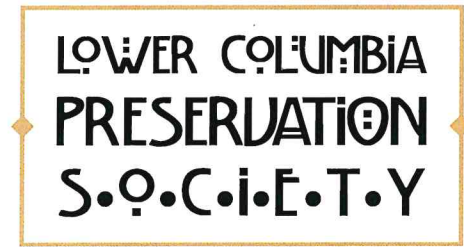
There is a crying need for qualified restoration tradespeople in our state. Most contractors and specialists have little experience in working with existing, historic, buildings and it is critical that programs like CCC's historic preservation program continue to train and graduate students who can fill that need. Oregon's small towns are filled with historic masonry and wood-frame buildings that support our state's character and quality of life, many of which can be restored and rehabilitated. This work supports economic development and our communities but it can't continue if only a handful of firms or individuals with the necessary expertise exist.

CCC is the only hands-on HP program west of the Rockies. I strongly encourage you to continue the program and its good work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "George Kramer", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

George Kramer, M.S.



May 15, 2026

President Jarrod Hogue
Board of Education
Clatsop Community College
1651 Lexington Ave
Astoria, Oregon 97103

Dear President Hogue and Members of the Clatsop Community College Board of Education,

On behalf of Lower Columbia Preservation Society (LCPS), we are writing to express our strong support for keeping and strengthening the Historic Preservation and Restoration program at Clatsop Community College.

We understand that the program is currently scheduled to end in 2027, and we respectfully urge the College to reconsider that decision. This program is a rare and valuable asset not only to Clatsop Community College but also to the entire region. At a time when many students are seeking meaningful, hands-on education and practical career pathways, historic preservation offers something truly distinctive: the chance to work with real materials, learn traditional skills, and connect with the built history of their communities.

The Historic Preservation & Restoration program teaches old-world craft, problem-solving, stewardship, and patience. These are skills that cannot be fully learned from a screen or a textbook. Students gain experience with wood, masonry, windows, finishes, architectural details, and the kinds of repair and restoration skills that are increasingly difficult to find. This preservation knowledge is in demand, as communities across Oregon and the Pacific Northwest work to care for older homes, civic buildings, Main Streets, and cultural landmarks.

Many of our current and past board members, volunteers, staff, and society members have been program students, taken program classes, or taught historic preservation classes and workshops at CCC. LCPS members have given presentations to HP classes and helped to promote the program at markets and fairs. LCPS has also provided funds for HP student scholarships and workshops and, in 2018, contributed \$17,000 toward the creation of the program's shop space. We've found that student research and documentary work have been exemplary, and we often draw on them for research, projects, and programs.

We believe this program has the potential not only to survive, but to thrive. To do so, it requires a clear commitment from the College, including the hiring of a full-time department head to lead the program, build partnerships, support students, and advocate for its future. The program also deserves broader and more creative promotion. Clatsop Community College has a unique opportunity to market this as a one-of-a-kind educational path for students who want practical skills, meaningful work, and a deeper connection to history, place, and community.

Historic preservation is not simply about saving old buildings. It is about sustainability, workforce development, community identity, and passing knowledge from one generation to the next. In an era when many young people are looking for alternatives to conventional career tracks, this program offers an inspiring path: learn a craft, preserve what matters, and make a visible difference.

LCPS encourages Clatsop Community College to keep the Historic Preservation program, invest in its leadership, and share its value more widely. With renewed support, this program can continue to be a signature offering of the college and a beacon of preservation education in the Pacific Northwest.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service to students and the community. We would welcome the opportunity to support efforts to strengthen and promote this important program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Lauri Serafin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "L" and "S".

Lauri Serafin, Board President

Lower Columbia Preservation Society
591 12th Street
PO Box 1334
Astoria, OR 97103
www.lcpsociety.org

From: [A. Tierney-Ornie](#)
To: [Felicity Green](#)
Subject: Historic Preservation Program
Date: Monday, May 4, 2026 9:39:49 PM

[You don't often get email from canntierney@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL / UNTRUSTED EMAIL: DO NOT click on links or open attachments unless you know it is safe

I am writing to the Clatsop Community College Board to reconsider ending the Historic Preservation Program at Clatsop Community College.

This is a program that offers skills that DIRECTLY benefit our community.

In the past, this program has been a figurehead for the college, to show its relevance to the community and its forward thinking programming.

I encourage the board to reconsider their decision and instead reconfigure the program to expand to community projects. It's a shame the north side of Towler is in DIRE NEED of restoration. Wouldn't a program that can directly improve the campus, while teaching students in-demand skills, be a valuable thing?

Respectfully,

Christine Tierney - Former Student - Forever Bandit

From: [Mary Hadreas](#)
To: [Felicity Green](#)
Subject: Clatsop County MUST KEEP THIS PROGRAM
Date: Monday, May 4, 2026 9:54:00 AM

You don't often get email from maryhadreas@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL / UNTRUSTED EMAIL: DO NOT click on links or open attachments unless you know it is safe

Dear Clatsop Community College Board of Education,

We absolutely support the Historic Preservation and Restoration Program at Clatsop Community College in Astoria, Oregon. To lose this program would be a terrible loss to our community. To our knowledge, it's the only Community College with a Historic Preservation program in the state (or the West Coast), and the college is planning to sunset the program due to budget constraints. There must be other places to adjust the budget.

We are asking the Clatsop Community College Board of Education to pause sunsetting the program to give us an opportunity to find funding and viable options for continuation of the program. This program matters and we are deeply saddened and disappointed at this turn of events. PLEASE RECONSIDER and keep this program alive.

We are tax paying citizens of Astoria, and we feel very strongly that this program is sorely needed! Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Tom and Mary Hadreas
Astoria, Oregon
Uniontown*

May 1, 2026

The Board of Clatsop Community College
C/O Felicity Green,
Executive Coordinator to the President and Board of Education
1651 Lexington Ave.
Astoria, OR 97103
fgreen@clatsopcc.edu

Dear Members of the Clatsop Community College Board of Education,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the proposed sunseting of the Historic Preservation Program. This program is not only an academic asset but a vital community resource whose impact extends far beyond the classroom. I urge the Board to reconsider this decision and explore pathways to strengthen, rather than eliminate, this uniquely valuable program.

Clatsop Community College's Historic Preservation Program fills a critical regional need. It is one of the few hands-on preservation programs on the West Coast and the only one accessible to students in the region without requiring relocation or significant financial burden. Its loss would create a void in specialized training that no nearby institution can fill.

The program directly supports the cultural and economic health of the community. Astoria and the North Coast rely heavily on historic buildings – Victorian homes, maritime structures, cannery sites, and heritage landmarks that define Astoria's identity and drive tourism. Graduates of the program provide the skilled labor necessary to maintain these irreplaceable resources. Without a pipeline of trained preservationists, the cost of maintaining the historic fabric will rise, and the risk of irreversible loss will grow.

This program also aligns with Oregon's workforce needs. Preservation trades are in high demand nationwide, especially as experienced craftspeople retire. Students who complete the program enter stable, well-paid careers in

restoration carpentry, museums, heritage sites, and specialized construction. These are precisely the kinds of hands-on, career-ready opportunities community colleges are designed to provide.

Furthermore, historic preservation is inherently sustainable. Repairing and reusing existing buildings reduces waste, conserves resources, and supports climate-conscious development. By teaching these skills, Clatsop positions itself as a leader in environmentally responsible trades education.

If enrollment cost is a concern, there are viable alternatives to sunsetting: expanding online coursework, partnering with trades unions, offering micro credentials, pursuing grants, or integrating preservation skills into broader construction pathways. These options allow the college to modernize the program while preserving its core mission.

The Historic Preservation Program embodies the values of Clatsop Community College: accessibility, community service, cultural stewardship, and practical workforce development. I respectfully ask the Board to reconsider its decision and work with faculty, students, alumni, and community partners to ensure this program continues to serve Astoria and the surrounding region.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Christine Munson

A frequent visitor to Astoria

From: [Jean E. Wood](#)
To: [Felicity Green](#)
Subject: Historic Preservation and Restoration Program
Date: Thursday, April 30, 2026 7:54:23 AM

[You don't often get email from jeanwood@teleport.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL / UNTRUSTED EMAIL: DO NOT click on links or open attachments unless you know it is safe

My husband and I have placed 6 homes on the National Register of Historic places over the years and I can attest to the need for folks trained in preservation and restoration.

I sincerely hope the Clatsop Community College program for Historic Preservation and Restoration can be continued.

Jean Wood
162 Fiske St
Silverton, OR 97381

From: [Isabel Archer](#)
To: [Felicity Green](#)
Cc: [David Blaschka](#)
Subject: Historic preservation program- potential closing?
Date: Saturday, May 9, 2026 5:46:48 PM

[You don't often get email from isabel.archer@ymail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL / UNTRUSTED EMAIL: DO NOT click on links or open attachments unless you know it is safe

5/9/2026

The Board of Clatsop Community College
C/O Felicity Green
Executive Coordinator to the President & Board of Education

1651 Lexington Ave
Astoria, OR 97103
Fgreen@clastopcc.edu

Dear Members of the board,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my support for the historic preservation program at Clatsop Community College. As discussions about potentially closing this invaluable program arise, I want to emphasize the importance of preserving it for the community and future generations.

Historic preservation is not just about saving old buildings; it plays a crucial role in maintaining our cultural heritage and identity. According to the National Trust for Historic Preservation, for every \$1 million invested in preservation, approximately 43-49 jobs are created, contributing significantly to local economies. Additionally, studies have shown that communities with strong preservation programs often see an increase in tourism, further benefiting local businesses and services.

Astoria's rich history and unique architectural landscape are vital to its charm and appeal. My husband and I have visited Astoria and have enjoyed the community. The historic preservation program equips students with the skills and knowledge necessary to protect and promote our heritage, ensuring that future generations can appreciate the stories our buildings tell. Closing this program would not only diminish educational opportunities but also put the community's historical integrity at risk.

Furthermore, the program fosters community engagement and collaboration. Students often participate in local projects, working alongside residents and organizations to restore and preserve significant sites. This hands-on experience not only enriches their education but also strengthens community bonds and instills a sense of pride in our shared history.

I urge you and the decision-makers at Clatsop Community College to consider the far-reaching benefits of keeping the historic preservation program open. Maybe there are alternative solutions that sustain this program? For example, maybe the program could potentially collaborate and be sponsored by Habitat for Humanity. This program is a vital asset to the community and future.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I am hopeful that people can rally together to support the continuation of this important program. Please feel free to reach out if there are opportunities for support or further discussion on this matter.

Warm regards,

Isabel Archer-Blaschka
and David Blaschka

Isabel.archer@ymail.com
Davidsbee@gmail.com

21803 Birch Pl
Ocean Park, WA 98640

May 13, 2026

Clatsop Community College Board of Education
1650 Lexington Ave.
Astoria, OR 97103

Dear Board of Education:

I'm a full-time student enrolled in Clatsop Community College's Historic Preservation program. I started last fall and I will complete my one-year certificate at the end of this term. I plan to continue in the program and graduate with an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Historic Preservation in June of next year.

Before choosing the Historic Preservation program at Clatsop Community College, I searched for programs that would give me both an academic education and opportunities to learn hands-on skills. This was the only program I found on the West Coast where I could gain those skills and receive an accredited credential in a short period of time. Because it was offered at a community college, it also meant the program had a low barrier of entry and a reasonable cost. And the fact that the program existed in Astoria made it even more appealing, because it's clear from the number and condition of historic buildings in this community, that historic preservation is valued here.

So, in September, my husband and I moved from California so that I could attend this program.

At that time, I didn't fully appreciate the value of the education I would receive. In this program, I get to learn from experts in their field, who think it's important for others to learn those skills. In just my first year, I've had the opportunity to take classes taught by Astoria's City Historian, John Goodenberger, by Brian Pietrowski of Pietrowski Wood Windows, Stef Eiter and Ray Bergerson, local contractors and preservationists, Matthew Powers, from the Clatsop County Historical Society, and many other skilled craftspeople.

This program and its students are supported by so many people in the highest echelons of Historic Preservation: our adjunct professors; workshop instructors; guest speakers; and the program's steering committee.

The School's President has shared that his measures for success of a program include completion, transfer, or employment. Our program may not have a high completion rate, but I'd take a guess that it's because many alumni are gainfully employed using the skills they've learned in this program but haven't prioritized receiving the credentials. So, if employment

counts as a measure of success, then I'd like to ask if the administration has made an effort to measure that.

I also understand that this is a niche program, and that enrollment may never be what administrators would like it to be. But here's why this program still matters: not only have students worked on restoration of numerous sites enjoyed by residents and visitors, but alumni of this program work on and maintain the historic homes and businesses in the area every day.

What happens after this program ends and there are no new alumni? What happens to the homes and businesses that rely on the skills that this program teaches? From what I've heard, it's already challenging to find qualified craftspeople to do this work.

The president stated that the budget reflects a "commitment to the areas where resources can have the greatest impact on students, employers, and the region." I imagine if this program is eliminated, it will have an undoubtedly negative impact on the region.

As a program, we don't feel that we've received ample opportunity to work with school administration to find ways to fund and keep the program afloat. We haven't been given information about how much money it requires to run the program successfully, nor have we been given sufficient time to find sources for that funding.

I am asking for the Board to pause on sunseting the Historic Preservation program, for the school administration to work with us to find viable options to retain the program's accreditation, including disclosing funding shortfalls, and for those involved in these decisions to be transparent to students, staff, and the public about the plans for the program.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Van Keuren



CLATSOP COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESENTS:

2ND ANNUAL

R I V E R S E A
C O N F E R E N C E

HOSTED BY THE CCC ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

FRIDAY MAY 15TH 2026

9:00AM - 3:00PM

TOWLER HALL, 3RD FLOOR

PRESENTATIONS, PANELS, POSTERS, AND
DEMONSTRATIONS BY CCC'S UNDERGRADUATE
STUDENTS ACROSS MULTIPLE DISCIPLINES.

FREE AND OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS, FACULTY,
STAFF, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS!

The Second Annual RiverSea Conference May 15, 2026

What is this?

An interdisciplinary conference designed to engage all members of the Clatsop community whose lives are impacted by the river and sea, to include: indigenous peoples, students, migrant workers, fisher people, environmentalists, literary scholars, artists, loggers, maritime workers, boat crew, and.... All of us.

What's happening?

- Designed by Julie Brown and myself to create an opportunity for students to present and/or attend an undergraduate research conference, gain leadership, and experience collaboration in real time
- 95 student contributions
- Art, research, talks, community tables
- Keynote speaker from Columbia Land Trust
- Classes contributed to this by giving students assignments to create posters, delve into deep research, etc.
- The Foundation gave a donation to help print student posters

What do we need from *you*?

Come see the students present their:

- ❑ Scientific Research Poster presentations
- ❑ Creative Works
- ❑ Research Paper Talks
- ❑ Panels
- ❑ ... and more!

Consider supporting the endeavor in the third annual conference by earmarking a donation to the Foundation.

Rain Magazine

2026, 56th Edition

“Courage”



Rain Magazine's Impact and Updates

- This year's edition of *Rain Magazine* contains 260 pages of community and student art, photography, fiction, nonfiction, and poetry.
- We had three high schools represented in a collaboration between our class and the high school writing/art departments.
- We had twelve students in the WR270/271 course, one intern, and a guest lecturer to help with In-Design.
- We led three community events in town—two at WineKraft and one where we partnered with AVA's art gallery to bring poets and artists together. We had over a hundred people at that event.
- We independently raised over \$5000 to publish the magazine and ensure it will have the funds to publish again next year no matter what.
- With a record number of published authors and artists, we hosted the biggest Rain Launch Party event to date. Over a hundred people attended and we hosted stories from contributors for 3.5 hours.
- We will have a digital e-pub version of the book this year so it can be shared in a cost-effective way with more community members.

What else are we up to?

- Hosting the 2nd Annual Inspirational Teacher Awards (already, we have over a hundred student responses from three area high schools nominating a teacher that has inspired them!). The winning teachers will be awarded on the last Ales and Ideas Awards Night at Fort George on June 2 at 7:00 p.m.
- Gearing up to start recruiting for the 2nd Annual International Educational Trip for CCC's English Department in Summer 2027. We're headed to...

ITALY!!!!!!