

Clark College offers information sessions



In an effort to better serve its community and broaden the availability of education, Clark College is hosting variety of free information sessions to help those interested in pursuing their educations at Clark during the upcoming 2017 winter quarter, which begins in January.

In addition to its free Financial Aid Information Night on Dec. 7, Clark College is offering three different types of sessions:

- **General Information Sessions** are designed to answer questions people may have about enrolling at Clark. Topics include budgeting, career exploration, financial aid, and the application process. The next General Information Session is scheduled for December 1; for a

complete list of upcoming sessions, visit clark.edu/future/infosessions.

- **English as a Second Language Information Sessions** help non-native speakers interested in improving their English language skills. Clark's Transitional Studies department offers low-cost classes designed for adult immigrants and refugees. The next ESL information session is scheduled for November 28; for a complete list, visit clark.edu/cc/esl. Bring a photo ID; friends and family are welcome to attend.
- **Enrollment Labs** are a new service Clark is offering to help students who have applied to Clark but need assistance completing the registration process. New students are able to register for classes, apply for financial aid, get technology support, and receive one-on-one assistance with other issues—all in one convenient morning or afternoon session. The labs are offered Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning November 29; for a complete list, visit clark.edu/future/enrollment-labs.php.

“We know that choosing to pursue an education is an important decision that can feel daunting for many people,” said Vice President of Student Affairs Bill Belden. “Clark College is committed to serving our community and making higher education accessible to all, so these outreach efforts are just an extension of our ongoing mission.”

Financial Aid Info Night



On Wednesday, December 7, specialists from Clark College's Financial Aid Office will be on hand to answer questions from prospective students and parents about navigating the world of financial aid.

Clark's annual Financial Aid Information Night provides information about Clark's admission process, scholarship opportunities, financial aid grants and loans, how to apply, and much more.

The event will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Clark College's main campus in Gaiser Student Center. Clark College is located at 1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver, WA 98663. Driving directions and parking maps are available at www.clark.edu/maps.

This event is free and open to the public; it requires no advance registration or reservation. Information is available at the Clark website at <http://www.clark.edu/cc/fan>. If you have any additional questions, please direct them to Clark

College's Financial Aid Office in Gaiser Hall at 360-992-2153 or finaid@clark.edu.

Event Schedule:

- 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.: Open House
- 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.: Financial Aid Presentation by Chippi Bello, Clark College Associate Dean of Financial Aid
- 7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.: Question-and-Answer Session

If you need accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in this event, you should contact Clark College's Disability Support Services Office at 360-992-2314 or 360-991-0901 (VP), or visit Penguin Union Building room 013 as soon as possible.

International Education Week



Clark College is celebrating International Education Week, a program of the U.S. Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, with events on Thursday, November 17, and Friday, November 18. Highlights include:

Thursday, November 17

11 a.m. – 12 p.m., PUB 161: *International Employers Panel.* Discover what it takes to operate in a global economy from representatives of major regional employers.

12 – 4 p.m., Gaiser Student Center: *International Festival.* This free, family-friendly event includes international food, cultural presentations by Clark College international students, live performances, and public proclamations from both Vancouver Mayor Tim Leavitt and Clark College President Robert K. Knight.

Friday, November 18

10 a.m. – 12 p.m., CTC 153: *Mexican cooking class.* \$40 per person, hosted by the Clark College Spanish Club.

1 p.m. – 3 p.m., CTC 153: *Mexican cooking class.* \$40 per person, hosted by the Clark College Spanish Club.

2 p.m. – 3 p.m., GHL 213: *International Service Learning Presentation.* Hear from Clark College students about their recent service-learning trip to Mexico.

Full event listings are available online at www.clark.edu/cc/iweek. All events are open to the public; all except the Mexican cooking classes are free. All events take place on Clark College's main campus at 1933 Ft. Vancouver Way except for the cooking classes, which take place at Clark College at Columbia Tech Center at 18700 SE Mill Plain Blvd. Full maps and directions are available at www.clark.edu/maps. Anyone needing accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in this event should contact Clark College's Disability Support Services Office at (360) 992-2314 or (360) 991-0901 (VP), prior to the event.

Image courtesy of the U.S. Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs

Clark College Theatre presents *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*



Clark College Theatre opens its 2016-2017 season with the Tony Award-winning play, *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* by Christopher Durang.

Middle-aged siblings Vanya and Sonia share a home where they bicker and complain about the circumstances of their lives. Suddenly, their movie-star sister, Masha, swoops in with her new boy toy, Spike. Also on the scene are sassy maid Cassandra, who can predict the future, and a lovely young aspiring actress named Nina, whose prettiness somewhat worries

Masha. Some of the show's elements are derived from works of Anton Chekhov, including several character names, the play's setting in a cherry orchard, and the theme of the possible loss of an ancestral home.



Cast includes (*shown left to right*): Madison Harris (Nina), Kennedy Marvin (Masha), H. Gene Biby (Vanya), Linda Owsley (Sonia), Matt Brown (Spike), Danielle Neblock (Cassandra). Mark Owsley is directing.

Show Dates: Nov. 11, 12, 17, 18, and 19. All show times are at 7:30 p.m. in the Decker Theatre, Frost Arts Center, on Clark College's main campus at 1933 Ft. Vancouver Way, Vancouver, WA.

Ticket Information: Students (with ID) \$9; Alumni (with membership) \$9; Senior Citizens \$11; General Admission \$13. Tickets may be purchased in person at the Clark College Bookstore in Gaiser Hall, online at http://www.clarkbookstore.com/site_theatre.asp, or call

360-992-2815.



If you need accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in this event, contact Clark College's Disability Support Services Office at 360-992-2314 or 360-991-0901 (VP), or visit Gaiser Hall room 137, as soon as possible.

Photos: Jenny Shadley/Clark College

More photos can be viewed on our Flickr page.

Dana Spiotta reads at Clark



Dana Spiotta. *Photo:*
Jessica Marx

The Clark College Columbia Writers Series is proud to present its fall quarter installment, featuring author Dana Spiotta. This event, which is free and open to the public, will be held in Anna Pechanec Hall (APH) room 201 on Clark College's main campus.

Dana Spiotta is the author of the novels *Lightning Field*, *Eat the Document*, *Stone Arabia*, and *Innocents and Others*. She has been a Guggenheim Fellow, a New York Foundation for the Arts Fellow, and a Rome Prize winner, and her novels have been selected as finalists for the National Book Award and the National Book Critics Circle Award. A recent profile of Spiotta in the *New York Times Magazine* stated that she has "created a new kind of great American novel."

Spiotta will read from some of her work and discuss her writing process from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Thursday, November 3. Directions and maps are available online. Individuals who need accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in this event should contact Clark College's Disability Support Services (DSS) Office at 360-992-2314 or 360-991-0901 (VP). The DSS office is located in room 013 in Clark's Penguin Union Building.

The Columbia Writers Series was launched at Clark College in 1988, bringing local, national and international authors to the college and the region. Information about the Columbia Writers Series is available at www.clark.edu/cc/cws.

Educating for the Seventh Generation



“Educating for the Seventh Generation” is a night of sharing music, dance, and traditions.

On Friday, Nov. 4, Clark College welcomes the community as it hosts “Educating for the Seventh Generation,” a celebration of

indigenous cultures.

The event will begin at 5 p.m. with free food and refreshments. The Native American Culture Club will provide an Opening Prayer and a presentation to stand in solidarity with the Standing Rock Sioux, who are protesting the Dakota Access oil pipeline. A performance by the Kaleinani o Ke Kukui dance troupe will begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by a welcome address and presentation of the Dreamcatcher Scholarship, benefiting a Clark student of indigenous ancestry. Vendors and informational booths will be present.

Grand Entry for a powwow will begin at 6 p.m, with the colors retiring at 10 p.m.

The event, which is free and open to the public, will be held in the Gaiser Student Center on Clark College's main campus. Clark College is located at 1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver. Driving directions and parking maps are available at www.clark.edu/maps. Anyone needing accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in this event should contact Clark College's Disability Support Services Office at (360) 992-2314 or (360) 991-0901 (VP), prior to the event.

This is the eighth year that Clark College has coordinated and hosted an event in honor of Native American Heritage Month. It is one of four signature events hosted by the college annually to celebrate diverse cultures. According to organizers, "Educating for the Seventh Generation" references "our responsibility to teach the future Seventh Generation to maintain our resources, traditions and customs. It is the way of caring and preserving for the Seventh Generation, which is a true sustainable practice."

Images from the 2014 celebration are available on Clark's Flickr account.

Clark College closed to the public Oct. 7



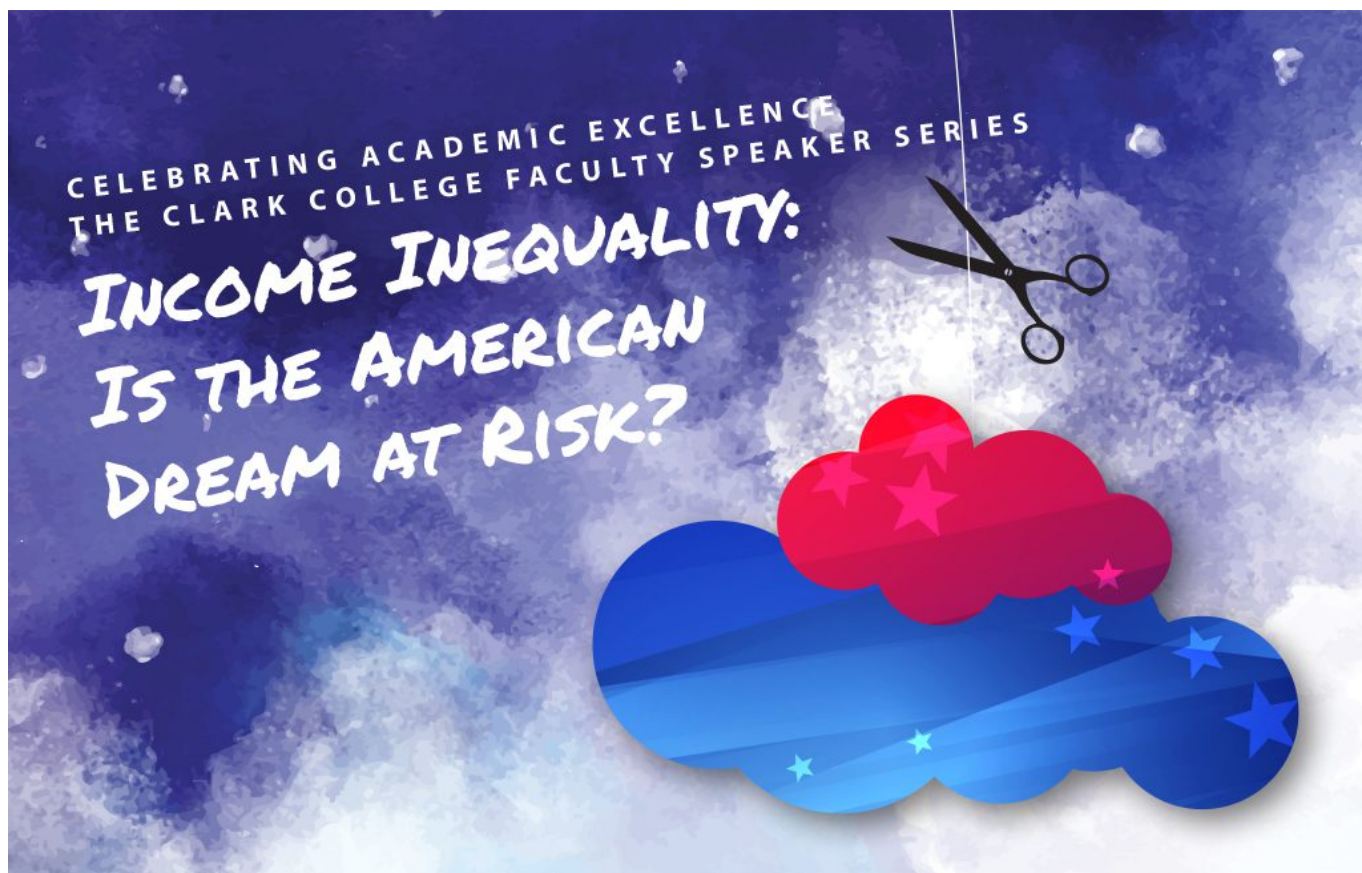
On Friday, October 7, Clark College will be largely closed to the public for a faculty/staff workday. No classes are scheduled. Additionally, student services and college offices will be closed.

Child & Family Studies (child care), the Clark College Bookstore, and some computer labs will remain open. Food carts on the main campus will be open during lunch hours only.

Computer labs that will remain open are: SHL 135, CCW 129, CTC 203, and AA4 116.

Clark College is located at 1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver. Driving directions and parking maps are available at www.clark.edu/maps.

Analyzing the American Dream



On Thursday, October 6, Clark College will host a panel discussion about the rise in income inequality and the widening opportunity gap.

Income Inequality: Is the American Dream at Risk? takes place at 6 p.m. in Foster Auditorium on Clark's main campus. An opening reception will begin at 5:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

Four Clark College faculty from diverse disciplines will offer

their expertise on the topic in a discussion that stems from the ideas set forth in a *New York Times* bestseller, *Our Kids: The American Dream in Crisis* by Robert D. Putnam. Discussion topics will include increasing disparity in income, the shrinking middle class, and the lack of opportunity for many Americans.

“The idea of attaining success through merit and achieving the so-called American Dream is more difficult than ever,” said economics instructor Patricia Atkinson, who will be one of the panelists. “Statistics show that the middle class is shrinking at an alarming rate and there are fewer and fewer opportunities to get ahead in our current economy.”

Panelists are economics instructor Patricia Atkinson, political science professor Michael Ceriello, women’s studies professor Kushlani de Soyza, and sociology professor Dr. Don Ludwig. The discussion will be moderated by Dave Kosloski, professor of Communications Studies and former Speech and Debate coach for Clark’s award-winning debate team. Biographies of each panelist are listed below.

Clark College is located at 1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver. Driving directions and parking maps are available at www.clark.edu/maps. Anyone needing accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in this event should contact Clark College’s Disability Support Services Office at (360) 992-2314 or (360) 991-0901 (VP) prior to the event.

About the Panelists

Patricia Atkinson has been an Economics professor at Clark College since 2008. She holds degrees from Marist College and Portland State University and is currently studying for her doctorate in education at Washington State University-Vancouver. Professor Atkinson’s research focuses on macroeconomics, economic growth and income inequality in the U.S.

Dr. Don Ludwig has been a professor of Sociology at Clark College since 2007. He holds degrees from Rutgers University, Princeton Theological Seminary and Whitworth University and earned his doctoral degree from Portland State University and the International University for Graduate Studies. Professor Ludwig's research has focused on social change and transformational leadership as well as the equitable support systems for disadvantaged youth.

Kushlani de Soyza has been a professor of Women's Studies at Clark College since 2008. A former newspaper editor, reporter, and radio producer, she holds degrees from the University of Cincinnati, Portland State University and Oregon State University. Her areas of interest in feminist theory include media and representation as well as exploring theories of race and racialization. Most recently she has been involved with Clark College's growing Learning Community Program.

Michael Ceriello has been a professor of Political Science at Clark College since 2007. In addition to providing political commentary for newspaper, radio, and television outlets in Minnesota, Oregon, and Washington, he also served as the director of Clark College's award-winning Model United Nations program from 2008-2011. Professor Ceriello holds degrees from the University of California at Santa Barbara and Western Washington University. His areas of interest include American national government and public policy.

Dave Kosloski has been a professor of Communication Studies at Clark College for the past 19 years. He served as Clark College's Director of Speech and Debate from 1998 until 2015; the program earned top honors among all Northwest community colleges for 14 of those years. He is currently serving his fifth term as chair of the Curriculum Committee.

Clark College goes to the Fair



Oswald greets visitors to the 2016 Clark County Fair.

In keeping with this year's Clark County Fair Theme of "Science Fun," Clark College is offering a host of family-friendly, hands-on activities promoting Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM).

Clark students, staff, and faculty will lead demonstrations every day of the fair, which runs from August 5-14. Clark College was invited to participate in this year's theme to highlight the college's highly regarded STEM programs, as well as the opening of its new STEM building this fall.

All activities take place in the college's exhibit area in South Hall 1 and are free with fair admission. Scheduled events include:

Teeth and Technology

The Clark College Dental Hygiene program demonstrates modern ultrasonic methods of removing tartar or calculus from teeth. *Fri, Aug. 5: 10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m. – noon, 1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.*

Science Fun with the N.E.R.D. Girls

Clark College's N.E.R.D. (Not Even Remotely Dorky) Girls, a student club focused on getting younger students interested in engineering, lead hands-on activities like building balloon-powered pinwheels and demonstrating Newton's third law of motion. *Sat, Aug. 6: 11:30 – noon, 1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.*

Pharmacy Innovations

Learn about new, high-tech ways of compounding pharmaceuticals from Clark College Pharmacy Technician faculty. *Sun, Aug. 7: 11:30 – noon, 1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m., 2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Fri, Aug. 12: 11:30 a.m. – noon.*

The Science of Sourdough

Learn all about fermentation when Clark College baking instructor Alison Dolder explains how sourdough is made. Try some delicious sourdough pancakes and take home a little sourdough starter of your own. *Mon, Aug. 8: 10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., 1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Sat, Aug. 13: 11:30 – noon, 1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.*

POKE-A-MAN!

Faculty from the Clark College Phlebotomy program will demonstrate how to draw blood from a model arm. Participants can use a centrifuge to make their own aliquots from imitation blood and plasma. *Tues, Aug. 9: 11:30 a.m. – noon, 1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m., 2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.*

Simulation Technology and Nursing Education

Meet the “Sims,” the lifelike automatons used by Clark College nursing students in the college’s state-of-the-art simulation lab to practice procedures ranging from tracheotomy to childbirth. *Wed, Aug. 10: 10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m. – noon, 1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Sun, Aug. 14: 11:30 a.m. – noon.*

Additionally, visitors can test their dexterity at the college’s Automotive Technology installation and view STEM-related student projects, including an aluminum boat created by some of the college’s welding students. The college also will have staff available during the fair to answer questions about available programs, GED courses, Running Start, financial aid, and more. Staff also will be available to assist current students with registering for fall classes, looking up records, and other student support needs—and Clark’s lovable mascot, Oswald the Penguin, will be present many afternoons and evenings for photos with children.

For those interested in attending Clark, the \$25.00 application fee will be waived for the first 50 applicants each day who apply at the fair. Current students and alumni and students will be able to stop by the booth for special giveaways and drawings for prizes.

For more information, visit www.clark.edu/cc/fair and follow Clark College on social media.

Photo: Clark College/Jenny Shadley

Penguins Fly



Graduates from Clark College's welding program wait to enter the Sunlight Supply Amphitheater before the college's 2016 commencement ceremony.

"Mommy did it!" read the message on Ashley Ellis's mortarboard cap, the glittery writing sparkling in the sun as she waited outside the Sunlight Supply Amphitheater before Clark College's 80th Commencement ceremony on June 16.



Ashley Ellis

Ellis wrote the message for her 2-year-old son, Paul, who would be in the stands watching his mother receive her Associate in Applied Technology degree in pharmacy technician—making her the first generation of her family to earn a college degree.

“I just wanted to show my family that I could do more,” Ellis explained. “I dropped out of high school at 16, and now here I am graduating with honors.”

As was the case for many of the approximately 720 Clark graduates waiting to process, Ellis’s achievement did not come without sacrifice. “I didn’t sleep a lot,” she said with a laugh. “I got up at 3:30 a.m. to study sometimes.”

While many graduates, like Ellis, came to Clark after time away from school, others had attended Clark before they’d even graduated from high school. This year’s graduating class included 346 members of Running Start, the Washington State program that allows high school students to attend college tuition-free. This was a record number of Running Start graduates for the college; 170 of them graduated with honors.

“I really felt like the experience I had at Clark prepared me so much—not just for college, but for life,” said Running

Start graduate Anita Bejan; the three fellow Running Start graduates standing with her nodded in agreement.



Bachelor of Applied Science
in Dental Hygiene graduates

Another large group of graduates stood together, chatting and playing with the oversized paper teeth necklaces hung around their necks. These women were some of the 23 graduates from the college's new Bachelor of Applied Science in Dental Hygiene program. This is the first cohort of students to earn their BAS since the program launched in fall 2014, making it the college's first baccalaureate degree. The college is in the process of getting a second BAS program, in Applied Management, accredited and able to enroll students in the 2017 winter quarter.



Bruce Becker

Graduate Bruce Becker, who was waiting to receive his Associate of Arts in Business Administration, said he hoped to enroll in the new BAS. Becker came to Clark after a traffic accident left him unable to do his old job. “It had been 47 years for me since I’d last been in school, so it was a little challenging at first,” Becker said. “But it’s been really fun. I’ve had a blast.”

Jessica Sanchez was also ready for more school. Sanchez was one of about 20 Transitional Studies graduates waiting to receive their High School Diploma or GED recognition. This is the second year that Transitional Studies graduates have been recognized at Commencement.

For Sanchez, this moment had been four years in the making—two spent learning English through Clark’s English as a Second Language program, followed by two of basic education. “I already had a high school diploma,” said the 26-year-old native of Mexico, who plans to continue in Clark’s for-credit classes. “And then I had to do it all over again, but in another language. I really liked doing it at Clark College, because you can get one-on-one tutoring and there’s great support.”



Jessica Sanchez, *third from left*, stands with some of her fellow 2016 Transitional

Studies graduates.

Another high school diploma recipient, Esmeralda “Vita” Blanco, addressed the audience inside the amphitheater as one of two student speakers included in the ceremony. Blanco, a single mother of two who dropped out of high school after becoming pregnant, spoke movingly about the ways pursuing her education has changed her and her family’s life. “I strongly believe I’m taking away more than a diploma,” she said. “What I’m really getting is a world of new opportunities, one I can share with the two most important people in my life: my daughters.”

Associate of Arts degree recipient Megan Cook, who attended Clark through Running Start, spoke about the wide range of students she’s encountered at the college. “There are graduates here who are the first in their family to go to college, and those who are learning right alongside their parents,” she said. “I’ve met people of all ethnicities, ages, and genders, and that isn’t necessarily something you find at every college or university.”



Left to right: Washington All-Academic Team member Tammy Senior, ASCC president Sarah Swift, student speaker Megan Cook, Washington All-Academic Team member Qi Wu, Clark College President Bob

Knight, keynote speaker Jessica Lynch, and student speaker Vita Blanco smile with Oswald before going onstage for the 2016 Commencement ceremony.

This year's keynote speaker was former prisoner of war Jessica Lynch. "Each one of us has some type of obstacle, some type of struggle that wants to hold us down," she said. "Do not let it."

The ceremony was occasion for Clark College President Robert K. Knight to announce the names of the recipients of the 2016 Exceptional Faculty Awards. The 2016 awardees are history instructor Joseph Cavalli; business technology instructor Dr. Kathleen Chatfield; geography professor Heather McAfee; and French professor Doug Mrazek, who is retiring after 38 years at the college.

President Knight also announced the recipient of the 2016-2017 Community College Presidents' Scholarship in Honor of Val Ogden, which is given to a Clark College graduate who demonstrates leadership potential, a commitment to community service, and academic achievement. The scholarship award provides full-time tuition at Washington State University Vancouver (WSUV) and is renewable for one additional year, essentially providing full tuition to complete a bachelor's degree. This year's recipient was Holly Varner. Two other nominees, Abigail Bambilla and Adeena Rose Wade, received \$1,000 each.

President Knight concluded the evening by saying, "We are excited to think of the ways in which you will change the world. And we are glad to know that Clark College will always hold a special place in your hearts. Remember: Once a member of the Penguin Nation, always a member of the Penguin Nation!"

Approximately 2,000 degrees and certificates were conferred in total on the Class of 2016.

Photos: Clark College/Jenny Shadley

See more photos from Commencement in our Flickr album.

See full video coverage of the ceremony online from CVTV.