

Checking in with the GBP

By Brian Cohn '14

When students have popped tires, missing parts, wobbling wheels, or need to borrow an entire bicycle, the Green Bike Program (GBP) Staff come to the rescue! Located next to the Gold Student Center, many of the students taking classes at the Claremont colleges visit the GBP with their malfunctioning bikes and get service at little to no charge.

The GBP has recently been preoccupied by the task of fixing bikes for the raffle, during which the program will rent out bikes for the semester to the Pitzer

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student body. Until the bike distribution is finalized, the ‘service’ function of the GBP will be less of a priority.

Unfortunately, some of the bikes rented out for the fall semester were targets of bike theft, and the students who lost them are being held responsible. When GBP bikes are distributed this semester, the ID number of the student will be recorded so that a reasonable amount of

if the student doesn't return the ‘Green Bike’. However, it doesn't compensate for the often unpaid hours of work put into each bicycle. Aidan Lukomnik, Class of 2014 and a GBP Technician member, spoke on the issue of bicycle theft. “The GBP sends out emails with diagrams



of how to lock bikes, we teach people when they come in how to lock bikes, and we tell people to make sure their bikes are locked properly.

Some of the equipment and parts that are added to the inventory are donated by “townies.” An arc welder, some spare bike parts, and several faulty Campus Security bikes were donated recently and staff members hope to continue upgrading the center with several improvements. It was proposed that the door lock should be controlled by a Blackboard ID card swipe to grant GBP staff access to the equipment as much as possible which, although a costly installation, would improve the accessibility of the center.

Freshman students, who now make up a third of the GBP staff, have implemented a new system where new employees must shadow an older employee for a week before they can officially work at the GBP. The mentor program is a “great system because it builds friendships, it gets people ready to work, and teaches people how to fix bikes.”

Aiden notes that, as always, the prices for locks and “more intricate parts” will be sold at the exact market value they were purchased at, “so know that we are selling you the equipment at 0% profit.” ●



money (a sum based on the quality and work put into the specific bicycle) will help the GBP continue functioning