March 11, 2014

Two injured when safety glass breaks, falls

MEDFORD — Two students were injured Monday when a tempered-glass panel broke and fell in pieces from the third-floor atrium into the first-floor lounge of the RCC/SOU Higher Education Center.

Both students, who are enrolled at Rogue Community College, were examined by EMTs who were called to the scene. One was taken by ambulance to a local hospital and has been released. Another student declined to go to the hospital.

“At this point we do not know why the piece fell,” said Curtis Sommerfeld, Vice President of College Services. “We have been in contact with the building contractor and engineer to conduct an inspection and to make sure all is secure,” he added. “This inspection will likely take several days to complete.”

The site has been cleaned up, and the lounge and atrium overlook areas have been roped off as a safety precaution and to allow free access for the inspection.

RCC officials, who have been in contact with the injured students, urge all current students and staff to exercise caution as they walk through the building until the inspection and remediation are complete.

In addition, the college is offering counseling to any students or staff who wants to talk about the incident. Contact the Riverside Campus Counseling staff at 541-245-7552.

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