

Program slates presentation

New outlooks gained in exchange

By ANA MARIA BELL
Of the Emerald

Do you have a desire to experience a new lifestyle, gain perceptive insight and broaden your educational background?

Students interested in the National Student Exchange (NSE) Association may attend a presentation today from 2 to 4 p.m. in the EMU, room to be posted.

Current NSE students from participating schools will be on hand to converse and answer questions about the 32 colleges and universities involved in the program.

"The National Student Exchange provides students with the opportunity to become exposed to different social and educational atmospheres within the United States as well as to appreciate differing cultural perspectives," says Fred Farrand, University NSE coordinator.

NSE makes these objectives possible by way of joint agreements with NSE schools to charge in-state tuition to participating students.

In order to be an exchange student from Oregon, it is necessary to be an Oregon resident and have a minimum grade point average of 2.5. It is also advisable, although not necessary, that the student be a freshman or sophomore when applying.

The NSE program has grown in popularity over recent years. More than 400 students inquired about it during the 1976-77 academic year, says Farrand. Out of this figure, 95 University students applied and were accepted into the program.

Colleen Walker, NSE assistant coordinator, says, "nineteen of last year's incoming exchange students stayed on at the University after the exchange time expired."

She explains that although some students confront some difficulties in adjusting to different social environments, most see it as a challenging and rewarding experience.

Farrand says financial aid arrangements are possible; however, they must be made with the host campus. University financial aid cannot be transferred.

Farrand insists, however, "I'm committed to considering students who don't have the financial means but are serious about participating in the program."

He adds, "It is an inexpensive way to travel and a unique experience I believe everyone should be afforded."

As for the selection of qualifying students, Farrand says, "I'm really into self selection. When students come to me interested in the program, I sit down with them and try to help them get a clear idea of what they want and what they are expecting from such a program."

Farrand explains that a meeting is held in Chicago with other NSE coordinators to negotiate which schools will exchange which students. After this meeting, Farrand informs the students of their particular destination.

"It varies, but last year they all got their first choice," he says.

Most schools operate on a semester system, while only about 10 operate on the quarter system. The smallest university is located at Fort Kent, Maine, a city with a population of 5,000. The largest is located in Baltimore, Maryland which has a population of about 800,000.

"The main benefit in such a program," explains Farrand, "is that one has a vast selection of going to school anywhere in the country, and one only has to pay in-state tuition."

The deadline for applications to the NSE program is Feb. 15.

Cost of volunteer draft high

WASHINGTON — Six years of the all-volunteer military force have cost \$18.4 billion more than the military draft system, far in excess of the Pentagon's own estimates, the General Accounting Office said Monday.

The congressional auditing agency said in a new study that there is unlikely to be any reduction in the current \$3.6 billion higher cost of the volunteer force annually.

The study was released by Comptroller General Elmer Staats at a hearing of a Senate armed services subcommittee chaired by Sen. Sam Nunn, D-Ga.

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