

Advisers say it causes problems

Records policy may hurt minorities

by KELI OSBORN
Of the Emerald

The University may be hurting some students by protecting their confidentiality, says Marliiss Strange, advising coordinator for students in the pre-health sciences.

The University's student records policy bars Strange and other advisers from submitting the names of qualified students to graduate, medical and dental schools that the students might otherwise ignore.

Such policy presents a problem, Strange says, in alerting eligible minority students to special admissions and assistance programs offered by other schools.

"I receive several letters every year from good medical schools with a commitment to increasing minority enrollment," Strange says. "Unfortunately, I don't see all minority students who are pre-med, pre-dent or what-have-you. So a lot of them aren't getting the word."

Gary Kim, coordinator for the Council on Minority Education, agrees with Strange. "There's information all over campus about special programs for minority students, but a lot of them probably don't hear about it."

Advisors who are often unable to identify minority students, neglect to tell them about special programs, Kim says.

"Sometimes I just don't know if a student comes from an ethnic background," says Strange. "It's not always apparent that a student is a member of a minority group."

Kim says the problem of uninformed minority students is widespread on campus.

"What we need is someone who'll put all this information together for students. But, I just don't have the office staff to compile all the information on scholarships, admissions to schools, and so on," he says.

"As yet, no such person has come to the rescue," says Strange. "As it stands now, I have

to rack my brains to remember the names of minority students I've talked with," she says. "And then I still have to call them and obtain their permission in order to give their names to medical schools."

Representatives from the ethnic student unions agree the problem exists, but have no solution.

"I'm sure we could help, if we had names or addresses to include in our newsletter," says a

spokesperson for MEChA, the University Chicano student organization.

At least Kim has a temporary solution. Minority students willing to submit their names to interested schools should give their written permission to Kim, who will maintain a list of minority students for release.

Advisors and others with information about special programs for

minority students could then send such information to Kim at 374 Oregon Hall, where his staff would coordinate a system beneficial to both students and schools.

"Such a plan would allow us to get around the confidentiality problem, and it wouldn't create much work for us," Kim says. "Besides, we'd be able to find students who want to know about these programs."

Minority placement program offers help to ethnic students

By Sally Hodgkinson
For the Emerald

Maria Rojo has a problem. She's prepared to help with minority placement and career planning, but few people know about her office and the services it offers minority students.

Rojo coordinates the University's minority placement program, which is part of the Career Planning and Placement Office.

"It's very difficult locating the minority students," Rojo says. "I make most of my contacts through the ethnic student unions, word-of-mouth, and through the Council for Minority Education."

According to Rojo, word is getting around. "People are cal-

ling and saying 'I want to talk to Maria'.

"I heard someone here say that two or three minority students came through here in the six months before I began my job."

Rojo estimates she saw more than 30 persons last spring term. "I felt real good about that," she said.

Rojo's position was created last April with a grant from the University Council on Minority Education. Rojo says one reason the position was created was to discover why so few minority students used the Career Planning and Placement Office.

"Some minority students feel a

need to go into a place and talk to somebody that they can relate to; somebody that might have more of a feeling of how they are and how they've lived, or their culture."

Companies often seek minority students to fill their job vacancies, Rojo says. "Some companies are committed to an affirmative action program and they like to talk to qualified minority applicants. I do stress qualified. They just don't want to hire minorities because they are a minority. They want to hire qualified people."

The Career Planning and Placement Office also possesses a career information center that has books and articles on careers and jobs. Staff hold interview and resume-writing workshops throughout the week. Companies arrange interviews through the office with students seeking employment. Counselors are also available to talk about possible career choices.

Rojo's office is in 246 Susan Campbell Hall; her office hours are Monday and Wednesday, 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday, 1 to 2:30 p.m. Meetings can also be scheduled at other times.

"I'm really committed to helping minority students, and I think that we really have some good services to offer here," Rojo says. "We can help not only minority students, but all students, to be prepared for that job interview."

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If you're one of those lucky 4,000 students who are eligible for athletic passes this year, you'd better act fast.

Those students with lottery numbers below 4,000 must purchase their tickets by 5 p.m. today at McArthur Court or else wait until Friday, according to ASUO Vice President Lisa Barnhardt.

Remaining tickets will go on sale Wednesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. to select a few with lottery numbers above 4,000.

For example, if 600 tickets are unclaimed after the first two days, then students with lottery numbers from 4,001 to 4,600 can still buy tickets. Those with lottery numbers below 4,000 may not purchase tickets at this time.

Tickets still left after Thursday will be sold Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on a first-come, first-served basis. All students will be eligible.

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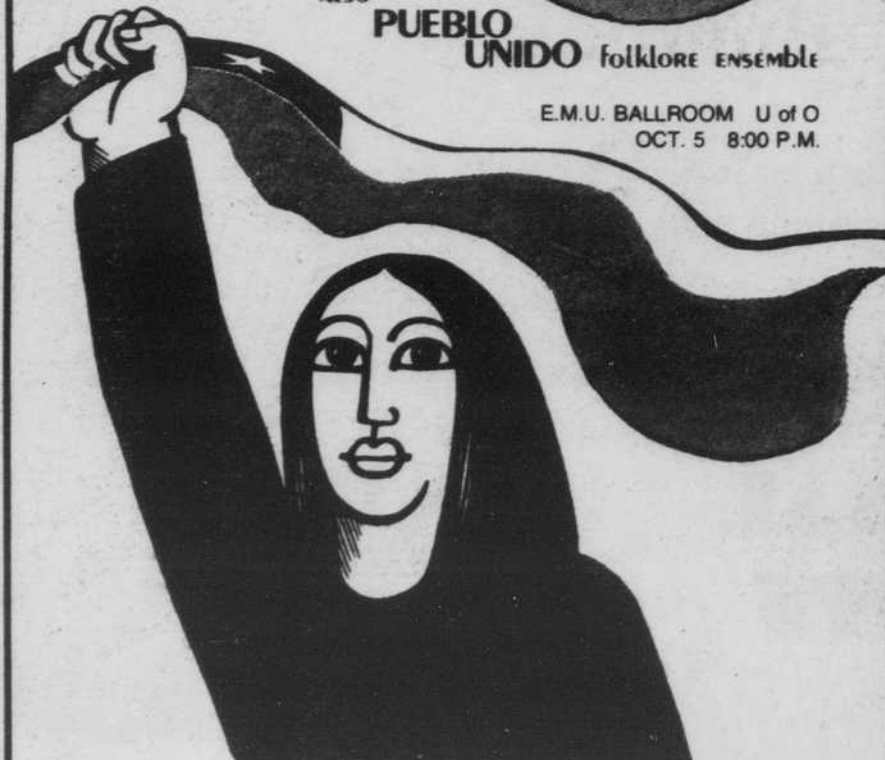
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