

University Bookstore sells books, more



Emerald photo

The University Bookstore is a non-profit corporation owned and operated by students and faculty to provide students with textbooks at a low cost.

But the bookstore has much more than textbooks. It sells products ranging from mini-calculators to monster cookies to art-supplies.

By ALETA ZAK
Of the Emerald

Students can cash a check, get some film developed, have a gift wrapped or rent a typewriter in the same building they buy textbooks — The University Bookstore, 13th Avenue and Kincaid Street.

The Bookstore is a non-profit corporation owned and operated by the students, faculty, and staff of the University. Eight students and two faculty members elected annually in general student elections make up the corporation's board of directors, whose job is to oversee the operation of the store. The board meets once a month to make policy decisions on things such as store hours, textbooks, discounts, and any special problems that occur.

In January of 1979 the board voted to raise the discount on textbooks from 10 to 11 percent. The textbook department

stocks approximately 3,500 titles and more than 150,000 books, while the trade book section carries 40,000 individual titles.

"It's the largest bookstore in Oregon as far as the number of trade books," Williams says.

Both trade books and textbooks are located on the second floor of the bookstore, along with the buy-back counter.

The Bookstore regularly buys used textbooks from students at the end of the term, and students receive half of the price they paid for a book if a professor is using it the following term. Books not being used can be sold for standard used book prices.

The first floor offers general merchandise such as custom t-shirt printing, clothing, greeting cards, school and academic supplies, electronic calculators and photo processing.

Art supplies and free gift-wrapping for store purchases are found in the art department at the rear of the store. This department also has a Xerox 7000, capable of duplicating and reducing oversize materials up to 60 percent.

The cashier's office and the bookstore's main office are located behind the art department offering free check-cashing for amounts up to \$10, postage stamps, Lane Transit District bus passes, and Emerald classified advertisements.

The Bookstore is now distributing a handbook for new students, with a complete listing of all services and facilities offered.

A student might even find a job at the Bookstore, which employs about 40 part-time workers. Most of these are students, and Williams says work-study certification is unnecessary.

Williams encourages any student with a complaint or question to either write it out and drop it in the Sounding Board box on the second floor or to visit the main office and ask to see him personally. The comments and suggestions are brought up at the next board meeting.

"I'm the only one who has a key (to the Sounding Board box)," Williams assures. "And suggestions go right from there to the top of the organization. We try to be responsive to the students' needs, like extending our hours, putting up bike racks and benches and adding an express lane in the book departments."

Regular school year hours are 8:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 2 a.m. on Saturday. Extended hours for fall term will be Friday, September 21, open until 8 p.m.; Saturday from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.; and Monday until 8 a.m.



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