

Chilean prof lends experience to classes

By GABRIEL BOEHMER
For the Emerald

University Prof. Juan Armando Epple left his native Chile in 1974 after General Pinochet's military coup replaced the socialist President Salvador Allende.

"Most professors were forced to leave the country," Epple says. "There was strong censorship after the coup."

"The libraries were searched by the military, and they took out all the books they considered dangerous. Any book with the word 'revolution' in it was burned."

Epple, hired to fill a vacancy in the Romance Languages Department, will teach courses in Chicano, Spanish-American and possibly Brazilian literature.

After earning his masters and doctorate degrees from Harvard University, Epple accepted a position as a Spanish instructor at Ohio State University, where he taught during the 1979-80 academic year.

"I left Ohio State because I was only teaching Spanish. My contract was only for three years with no chance of tenure," he says.

While at the University, Epple will teach courses in two areas — Chicano studies and Spanish-American literature.

"I'd like to teach Brazilian literature," he says. "My dissertation was on Hispanic and Brazilian poetry."

Epple is also teaching a third year Spanish class this term, and in the winter will instruct a course in Chicano literature. During spring term he plans to conduct a seminar for graduate students in Hispanic-American poetry.

"The problem with Ohio State is that they have too large a department. There are 35 different Spanish courses on the first-, second- and third-year level," Epple says.

"The department at the

University is a little smaller, and one has the opportunity to exchange information with other faculty members and share experiences. You can approach the students better here."

Epple has published several articles on Latin American literature in Mexico, Venezuela, Guatemala, Spain and the United States. In addition, he compiled an anthology of recent Chilean poetry that was published in Spain and translated for several other countries.

Next spring Epple will publish an anthology of Chilean short stories he edited with Prof. Fernando Allegria of Stanford University. "Most Chilean writers are living in exile after the military coup," he explains. "Many are living in Europe, especially in France, Germany and Spain."

Epple serves as a member of the editorial board for *Literatura Chilena En El Exilio*, a quarterly literary magazine supported by Harvard. The magazine is an important forum for Chilean writers living in exile, he says.

Unlike most teachers who left Chile after the coup, Epple isn't officially in exile. He left Chile in 1974 for Harvard with a student visa, and he has studied and taught in this country for so long that the Immigration and Naturalization Bureau has offered him an immigration visa.

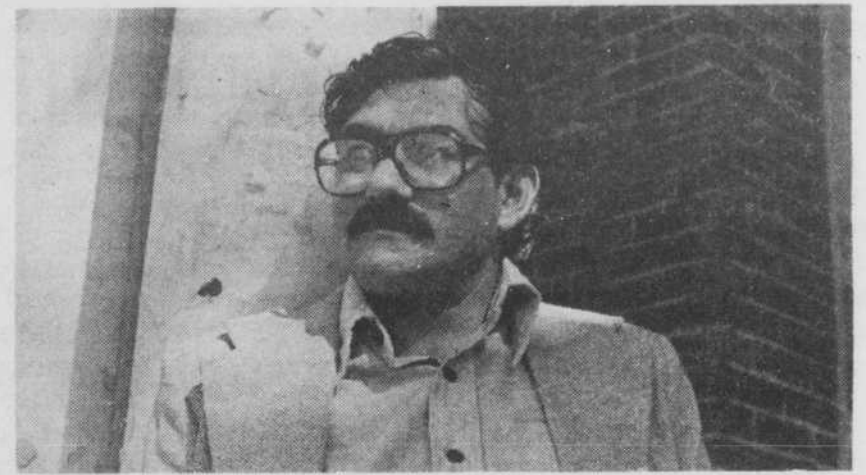
"I plan to return to Chile, but not in the next few years — maybe in five or ten years. I plan to teach at a university there," Epple says, adding that the military now controls Chilean universities.

"It is difficult to work under censorship. In Chile, if you ap-

ply for a job teaching at a university you must be approved by a military committee. Most people who get the teaching jobs, then, are pro-government."

While in Eugene, Epple is working with the Eugene Committee for Human Rights in Latin America, formerly the Eugene Committee for a Free Chile.

Epple says he, his wife Alicia and their daughter have not returned to Chile since they left in 1974. "But I'm not homesick because I have been working in some way with Chile ever since I left."

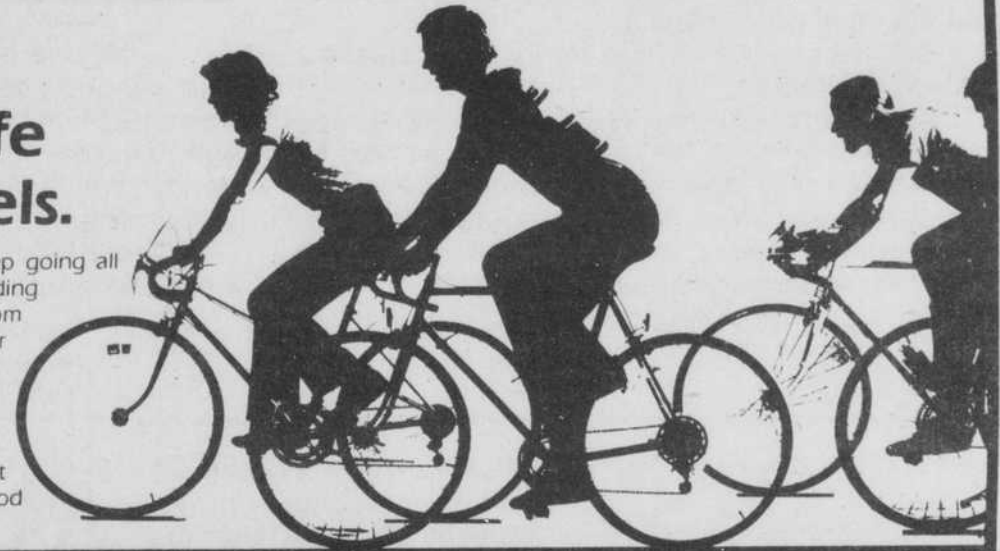


Prof. Juan Epple

Photo by Dennis Tachibana

Put the Good Life on wheels.

Pedal into Fall and keep going all year long on a smooth riding Miyata or Mikado from Hawkeye's. Whether you're after a new bike, a rental, winter accessories or high quality repairs, let Hawkeye's friendly bike experts get you rolling into the Good Life today!



HAWKEYE'S THE GOOD LIFE

On the corner of 13th & Oak in Eugene, 343-5722

emu Cultural Forum Presents

Fifth Annual Oregon Blues Festival



October 3 and 4
EMU Ballroom

Doors open each night at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 3

J.C. Burris
Pete Karnes Blooz Band
Floyd Dixon
Sonny Rhodes
Little Charlie and the Nightcats

Saturday, Oct. 4

John Lee Hooker
Blind Joe Hill
Little Charlie and the Nightcats

Festival Tickets (both nights)

\$10.00 Students
\$12.00 General Public

Tickets available at the EMU Main Desk, UO Bookstore and Toad Hall Hi-Fi

Single Tickets (one night)

\$5.50 Students
\$6.50 General Public

Rise...



...and Give Thanks.

A great way to begin the day! Authentic Mexican breakfasts from the Mission, featuring Huevos Rancheros, Machaca Omelettes, Spanish Rice plus a lot more. Que Bueno! Start your day at the Mission, Compadres!

East Broadway at Patterson, Eugene, 686-8226 (TACO)



Fine Mexican breakfasts daily

Fri. & Sat. 7 am to 11 pm
Mon. thru Sun. 7 am to 10 pm