

Architecture students redesign biology facilities

By MARIAN GREEN
Of the Emerald

While many departments and schools suffer overcrowding because of a budget-related construction halt, the biology and architecture departments are pooling their resources to find a solution.

An architecture design class is studying the feasibility of reorganizing and centralizing the research, administrative and teaching functions in the biology department.

At present, these functions are scattered throughout the Science II and III buildings. The lack of centralization causes inefficiency, says biology planning commission chairer Russell Fernald.

"Because of no hope of new construction, renovation seemed to be a reasonable way of arranging space so everyone wins," Fernald says.

The renovation began when the planning commission submitted a plan to architecture and allied arts school dean Robert Harris. Harris then assigned the biology department's problem to architecture Prof. Cherry Hemaker's design class.

Fernald attributes the space problem in the biology department to a lack of centralization.

Because the department's teaching labs are located in both Science II and III, Fernald says "there is a lot of duplication of materials."

The people who prepare labs must set up equipment such as petri dishes and microscopes for as many as nine class sections of 24-30 people in labs scattered throughout the two buildings, he says.

Another major problem is the Science II Annex — the building connecting Science I and III by a bridge-type corridor of tiny office spaces where many biology faculty members conduct research, Fernald says.

"It's not a very good place for faculty to do work," he says.

The faculty can't perform research that requires fine movement because of the building's "bounce," he explains.

Fernald says the biology department is impressed with the renovation work being done by the design class.

"We've found out what a fantastic professional school it is," he says.

Working on the biology department's problem has given the class experience that approximates working in the real world, Hemaker says.

"Very seldom do students get to work on something that's ever going to get done," Hemaker says. "It's really been neat to work with people from another department. We speak different languages, but we're all after the same thing."

Fernald echoes her sentiments.

"It's nice for the architecture students because they're working with professional constraints, and we (the biology department and the design class) both find out about a whole different discipline," he says.

Because the problem's scope is so large, the class' 14 students, who range in design experience from one to four years, are divided into four study groups. The groups have met three times a week for four hours this term, Hemaker says.

This design-team approach is foreign to the students, she says.

"In school, design students work on their own, but in the real world architects rarely work alone," Hemaker explains. "From that standpoint, it was very helpful, but it was also very difficult for them."

The students have learned to communicate with "users," the biology department's staff, because the problem required "extensive" research and "intense" interviewing, Hemaker says.

"That's invaluable. You do that all the time in practice," Hemaker says.

Design students Ann Boettcher and Karen Bates agree with Hemaker.

"It's nothing like we've ever done before," Boettcher says.

"It's great experience for when you get out in the real world," Bates agrees.

Author discusses Korean trip

University graduate and journalist Tim Shorrock will give an eyewitness report on South Korea at 7:30 p.m. Monday in Room 125 of the law school.

Shorrock spent five weeks in South Korea during February and March researching the country's economy. He also recently visited Japan to give a workshop at an international conference on Korea.

Shorrock's research focused on U.S. and Japanese involvement in Korean development plans and investigation of South Korea's nuclear power program and opposition movement. He visited Seoul, Kwangju — the site of rioting last year's — and the industrial city of Pusan.

While in South Korea, Shorrock interviewed both U.S. and South Korean embassy officials and businessmen, as well as missionaries,

students and opposition leaders.

Shorrock grew up in South Korea and Japan as the son of missionary parents working for Church World service. He is a former resident of Eugene with a graduate degree in Asian studies from the University.

He is the author of a study, "The Political Economy of the Pacific Rim," now being translated into Japanese, and of numerous articles on South Korea.

Shorrock currently works with Nautilus International, a California-based research project. He also serves on the national steering committee of CALC.

The presentation is sponsored by Clergy and Laity Concerned, the Asian-American Alliance, the University Asian Studies Department and the National Lawyers Guild.

Ram Dass leads workshop

Ram Dass, former Harvard research psychologist turned spiritual teacher, will be in Eugene Sunday to conduct a seminar on dying.

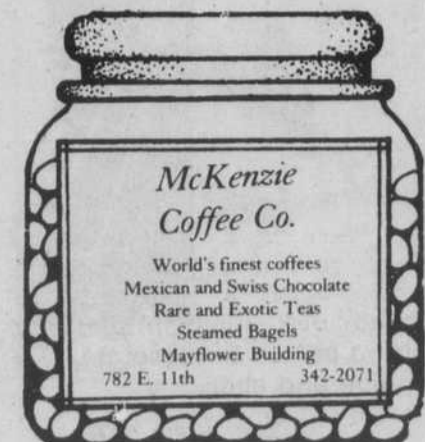
Dass will be joined by Tibetan lama Gyaltrul Rinpoche and medical anthropologist Joan Halifax for the seminar, "Going Home: A Transformative View of Dying and Death."

During the seminar the three will discuss their experiences working with the dying. They will focus on overcoming fear of death, the psy-

chological nature of death, visionary experience at the moment of death, and death as an opportunity for inner understanding. A question and answer period will follow the discussion.

The seminar begins at 9 a.m. in the Agriculture Pavilion of the Lane County Fairgrounds. Tickets are \$15 and are available at the Paper Trader Annex, Perelandra Books and the Kiva Bookstore.

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