

Tuition increase causes drop in grad enrollment

By Steve Knight
Of the Emerald

Graduate enrollment at the University declined four percent this academic year, a few percentage points higher than the national trend.

A recent survey of 275 institutions by the Council of Graduate Schools showed graduate enrollment nationwide is down by just over one percent.

Shirley Menaker, associate dean of the University's graduate school, says last year's tuition increase is one major reason for the larger-than-average dip in the number of graduate students attending the University.

Non-resident students — who saw their tuition jump last fall from \$2,443 a year to \$2,835 — dropped out in particularly large numbers last year, she says. Graduate enrollment records show 1,744 graduates enrolled in University master degree programs in the 1980-81 academic year. That number dropped to 1,659 during the 1981-82 school year, in which 78 of the 85 fewer students were out-of-state residents.

The population of community

education students — local residents enrolled in graduate school but not registered for a degree — also "voted with their feet" and did not return in the fall, she says.

Along with a hefty tuition hike, Oregon's poor economy is driving away many non-resident graduates as well, Menaker says.

Many non-residents look for local jobs to help pay for their education, but in Lane County the jobs just aren't there anymore," she says.

Another problem is competition for out-of-state graduates by other universities in the region, she says. Menaker says the University of Washington didn't increase its tuition last fall and as a result siphoned off many University graduate students. But Washington plans a "phenomenal" tuition increase this fall, she says.

Although the number of overall University graduate students is down, Menaker says the decline is not "consistent across all disciplines." The actual number of graduates seeking a master's degree in business and computer science is up, while the big decreases are in the humanities and social sciences

fields, she says.

With a tuition hike planned for the fall, and a possible \$49 surcharge, Menaker believes the graduate student population on campus will continue to decline for a couple of more years.

"This downward trend will eventually hit a "trough" and level out when Oregon's economy improves."

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Early printing exhibit set

Activities marking the University library's centennial and the Eugene public library's 75th anniversary continue this month at the Lane County Museum with an exhibit and lecture focusing on early printing styles in the county and two men who influenced them.

The exhibit on books and printing in early Lane County opens Sunday and runs until May 2. The material, from the museum's collection, includes books and newspapers the first Lane County settlers brought with them in the 1840-50s.

A related lecture on two printers, William Morris and John Henry Nash, will be presented at the museum at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 16.

John J. Walsdorf, assistant to the president of Blackwell North American and himself a private collector of Morris prints, will speak on the significant influence Morris had on book design and production.

Morris, a 19th century English poet and craftsman, is best known for breaking away from mass production and returning to the high-quality style of the earliest printers.

Nash was a printer at the University and a lecturer in typography at the School of Journalism from 1938-43. Randy Mafit, senior management analyst with Lane County and a private collector of Nash prints, will lecture on the styles of Nash's prints.

Who St. Valentine was...

According to one legend, St. Valentine was a Roman priest with a special feeling for young people. When the Roman Empire needed soldiers, Emperor Claudius II decreed no one could marry or become engaged. Claudius believed marriage made men want to stay home instead of fighting wars. Valentine defied the decree and married the couples. He was arrested and put to death.

The legend goes on to say

that while in jail he made friends with the jailer's daughter, and by miracle he restored her sight. The morning of his execution, he sent her a message signed, "From your Valentine."

Valentine was beheaded and near his grave a tree burst into pink blossoms — a symbol of lasting love.*

*Excerpt from 'Hearts, Cupids and Red Roses' By Edna Barth Clarion Books Available in The Book Department.

Whoever your Valentine Is....

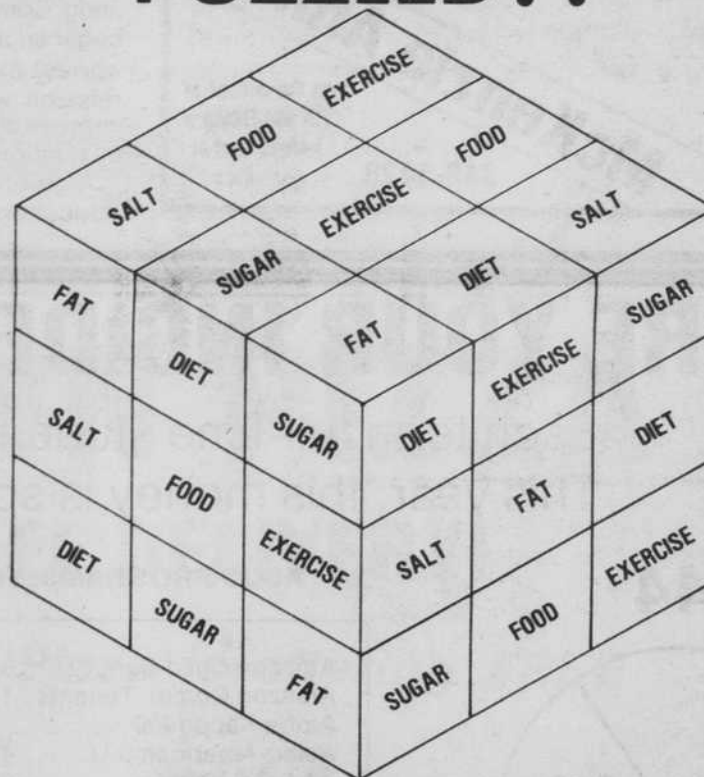
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