

Events introduce 'Higher Ed Week'

By Debbie Howlett
Of the Emerald

Two events in Eugene this Sunday and Monday will mark the opening of the second annual national "Higher Education Week."

On Sunday, the city and the University will jointly present a public "open house" from 1:30 to 11 p.m. at the new Hult Performing Arts Center.

On Monday, the University will cancel afternoon classes for a "science and culture" convocation featuring Stanford University Pres. Donald Kennedy.

The convocation and the open house were planned to provide forums supporting the academic values of the University, Olum said.

"These have been rough times, and we want to restate in an upbeat way our belief in higher education," he said.

The open house will begin at 1:30 p.m. Sunday in the lobby of the performing

Arts center holds open house; classes end at noon on Monday

arts center with speeches by University Pres. Paul Olum and city officials and a performance by the University's brass choir. Guided tours of the facility will be conducted from 2 to 8 p.m.

The center's technical staff will stage special shows throughout the day to demonstrate the facility's state-of-the-art equipment. Refreshments also will be served at the free event.

Several musical groups from the University will perform during the day-long event. To cap off the open house, University faculty members from the dance, music and theater departments will perform in the Silva Concert Hall at 8:30 p.m. in "An Evening with the University of Oregon Performing Arts

Faculty."

Also performing during the day will be the University's song and dance troupe and cast members from the summer theater production of "Harvey."

Lectures from faculty members will include "Computergraphics" by fine arts professor Ken O'Connell and "Holography: Three-Dimensional Laser Images" by physics professor David Sokoloff.

Both University and community members are invited to the open house.

The science and culture convocation will begin at 1:30 p.m. Monday with a procession of the University faculty in full academic regalia.

After the procession, Kennedy will

speaking on the influence of new scientific ideas on the humanities and contemporary culture.

The ceremony will be held outside in the Memorial Quadrangle north of the University Library. In case of rain, the procession and convocation will move to the EMU Ballroom.

All afternoon classes will be canceled to allow students and faculty to attend.

Several special seminars will be held Monday afternoon, beginning at 2:30 p.m. The seminars include a speech on "Cell Biology: The New High Tech," and the film "The Day After Trinity," with commentaries by Olum and Aaron Novick, biology department chair. Both men worked on the first atomic bomb at Los Alamos, New Mexico.

Other seminar topics are "Hormones from the Brain — Control of Human Feelings," "Evolution and Religious Truth" and "Darwinism."

SUAB tries again for cheaper bus passes

Students need to match funds

By David Brown
Of the Emerald

This fall, the Student University Affairs Board may try again for subsidized Lane Transit District bus passes for University students.

Last fall, LTD proposed that the student governments of the University and Lane Community College help fund a pilot program offering discounted quarterly bus passes to students.

ASUO funds, which totaled about \$3 million last year, generally go either to academic, physically or culturally enriching programs, ASUO comptroller Alan Contreras says. But "marginal" programs have been funded with incidental fees in the past, he says.

Members of SUAB, which represents students in matters of University legislation, "tried as many financial openings as possible" last year but did not have enough time to investigate all sources of funding, says SUAB member Mike Prothe.

The pilot program already is successful at LCC, where it began last winter term.

The Associated Students of LCC now pay the transit district a \$1,200-per-term subsidy out of an annual budget of \$50,000.

In turn, the transit district charges a discount rate of \$36 per quarter to full-time LCC students, ASLCC Pres. Paquita Garetea says. The passes are good for unlimited bus rides within the Eugene-Springfield area.

Other students and bus patrons must pay \$54 for the same three months



Photo by Bob Baker

A \$400,000 remodeling of the downtown Lane Transit District bus terminal began this week. But University students won't be getting fare discounts that Lane Community College commuters are used to.

worth of passes.

Close to 800 discount passes were sold at LCC each term last winter and spring. Based on that rate, the transit district's share of the subsidy could come to \$3,600 this fall, says Ed Bergeron, LTD marketing director.

That projection doesn't leave much

room for revenue, Bergeron says, but it does establish a strong patronage among LCC students, who make up more than 15 percent of the buses' ridership. The quarterly passes also eliminate the cost of processing passes on a monthly basis, he says.

At the University, SUAB has run into

"some rather large stumbling blocks" since the transit district suggested the program last fall, Prothe says.

During spring term, he says, SUAB proposed that the ticket subsidy be funded by the University administration with revenue from University parking meters, parking passes and citations.

But the students were turned down, Prothe says.

The University already pays a mandatory employer's tax to the transit district, says Ray Hawk, vice-president for administration and finance. That tax amounted to \$276,000 on nearly 57 million dollars last year, he says.

"We all are very sympathetic to (SUAB's) goals and objectives," Hawk says. But the University should not have to pay LTD twice, he says.

At LCC, the discount passes are valuable because the community college campus is a long distance from downtown Eugene, Prothe says. At the University, the passes could help reduce traffic congestion, he says.

ASUO officials may reconsider the pilot program this Wednesday at the year's first University Senate meeting, Prothe says.

Bus depot moves around the corner

Don't expect to hop aboard a Lane Transit District bus from the 10th Avenue terminal near the downtown mall.

Beginning this week, all Lane Transit District buses traveling Eugene routes will sojourn at a temporary central terminal on Charnelton Street near the downtown mall.

The new location allows workers to revamp the old downtown mall terminal.

Renovation blueprints include a widened sidewalk extending one lane into 10th Avenue, six weather shelters, trees and six boarding sections, which will consolidate buses covering similar areas of town.

Buses will depart from five alphabetized sections of Charnelton Street between 8th and 11th avenues until renovation of the old terminal is completed.

The terminal is set for completion Dec. 17. The LTD customer service center also has relocated to Charnelton, in the E & R Building at the corner of 10th Avenue.

Riders have requested these improvements for many years, says Ed Bergeron, LTD marketing director. Some people said they would ride the bus only if the terminal were improved, he says.

The Eugene government's push for capital improvements adds a second

incentive for construction, Bergeron says.

The project is co-sponsored by the City of Eugene and Lane Transit District, with the total cost about \$425,000, according to an LTD budget report.

Eugene will foot about one third of that bill, and LTD will provide the rest, the report states.

Last May, Hank Perry, who was then executive board officer of the union representing LTD drivers, said that the money should be used to avoid a June lay-off of 19 employees.

"Our main charge is to carry people from one place to another. . . It's not to do all these things when times are lean," Perry said.