

# Orientation aids both parents and students

By Mike Duncan  
Of the Emerald

Acquainting 1,500 students and 1,000 parents with the University this last week, the Early Orientation and Registration Program had its biggest success since the program began in 1978, EORP organizers said.

"The purpose of the program is to give an entering freshman a personalized introduction to the University and to make the transition to college life an easy one," said Gregg Lobisser, director of orientation.

Students who participate in the program meet in Room 150 Geology for a general introduction by faculty members, attend a small-group academic workshop, see a faculty adviser for one-on-one assistance and then register for fall classes.

"It's a lot of information all at once, but the workshop was helpful. And it's nice knowing that I'm already enrolled; I feel that I have a jump on things," said Debbie Ault, a freshman from Portland.

"The fact that we're dealing with 1,500 students and each

receives an individualized information packet specific to their needs says something about the quality of the program," Lobisser said.

Although the basic purpose of the program is to register and orient students early, an equal emphasis is placed on introducing the University and faculty to the parents.

Parents who participate in the program meet for a general introduction by University faculty and administrators, go to a wine and cheese party in Gerlinger lounge and then attend a variety of interest sessions. Session topics include financial aid, housing options and "answers and advice" given by a panel of parents and students.

"In many ways, the transition to college life is just as tough for parents as it is for students," said Suzanne Colgan, assistant director of orientation. "We try to cater to the needs and concerns that the parents may have, and I think that it's this personal element that makes this program special."

John Ingles, a parent from California participating in the program, said that the program

helped to alleviate some of his concerns about the University.

"The choice of what college to attend is not something to be taken lightly. Now that I've seen the campus and met with the faculty, I feel much more involved with this University and my daughter's education," he said.

Steve Bardi, of the orientation office, noted that it took the cooperation of the whole campus to make this year's orientation a success.

"All the departments, the offices of the registrar and academic advising, faculty, housing and housekeeping, physical plant and maintenance pulled together to make this program work. They all did a great job," he said.

Acting as mediators for both students and parents, the 15 orientation aides played a "key role," in the program, Lobisser said.

"It's been my observation that the parents and students go to the faculty for information, but they go to the aides for truth. The aides definitely have more credibility with the students," he said.

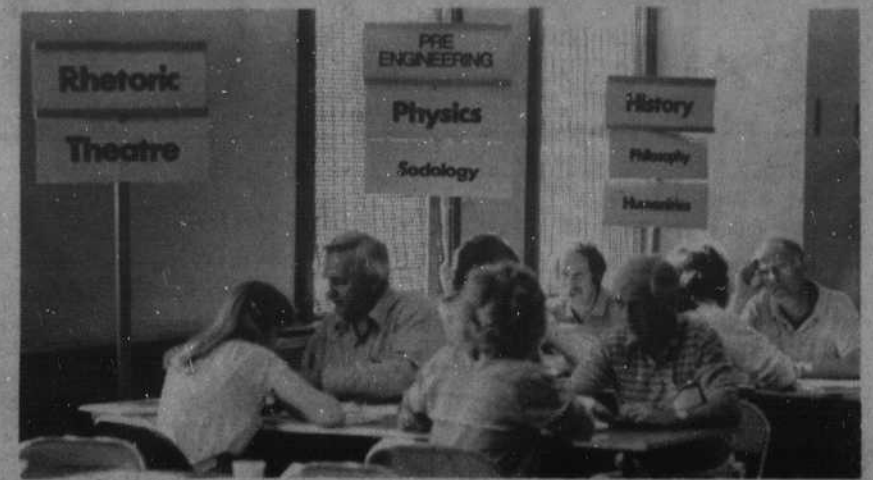


Photo by Michael Clapp

Members of the University's faculty helped new students and their parents adjust to local campus atmosphere last week during an orientation program.

The money taken in for housing reservations, about \$10,000, did not come close to offsetting the \$100,000 total program cost. But the increased enrollment and low freshman drop-out rate for program participants more than pays back the program cost, Lobisser said.

The only real problem that the program encountered was the physical limitations of the University's largest lecture hall, Room 150 Geology.

"We put 140 folding chairs in

150 Geology, which brought the seating capacity up to about 650," Colgan said. "We just can't accommodate any more than that. That is our only real limitation."

Next year the program will be improved by using a computer network that will allow faster processing of registration and housing information for EORP participants. And, as Bardi states, "from the way things are looking now, we can only grow."



## At the movies

# Cinema 7 brings international film festival to area

Fear not, Eugene film buffs. Portland may have its Northwest Film Studies Center, and Seattle it's massive annual film festival, but Eugene's got its own movie event starting soon: Cinema 7's 1984 Eugene International Film Festival. The festival provides a small but significant bit of diversion for film scholars and cinema junkies alike.

Opening Aug. 24, the festival is admittedly small with 22 films playing over an eight week period. Although it isn't a conventional festival where films change daily, it does bring some more obscure films to Eugene, and a few surprises as well.

"My basic feeling is that the cinema has an ongoing film festival all year," says Cinema 7 owner-manager Stephen Bove. "But this little time we devote to a lot of these special films. They are basically films that don't have a large audience, but that create interest among people who go to films — and they should be seen."

The festival is becoming something of a tradition for Cinema 7, as this is its fourth yearly incarnation.

"I don't like calling it an annual film festival, although it is our fourth annual film festival," Bove says. "This is the 1984 Film Festival. It's so expensive that I don't know whether it can be annual or not. Each year it depends on the amount of support we get."

It's easy to tell that the films are picked



Photo courtesy of Cinema 7

Hanna Schygulla and Gunter Lamprecht are among the many international film stars that will highlight Cinema 7's film festival to begin Aug. 24.

for as much Bove's personal interest as for what will sell. A die-hard film buff, he grins with pleasure when describing the Labor Day marathon of Rainer Werner Fassbinder's 15 hour "Berlin Alexanderplatz." The literary double bill featuring Luis Bunuel's surrealistic

adaptation of "Wuthering Heights" and Robert Bresson's recent "L'Argent," adapted from the Tolstoy short story, will also be supported by the enthusiasm of the management.

The majority of the festival features Eugene premieres, roughly 20, with only a few previously featured films. The selection covers foreign and domestic films, large and small budget productions, fictional films and documentaries, and a large number of independent productions.

"There's a lot of human politics in the schedule. It represents what's going on in the world right now as opposed to American-insulated 'Gremlins' and 'Ghostbusters.'" Issues addressed in some of the films include oppression (the acclaimed Chinese documentary "Boat People"), poverty (1983 Cannes Festival Grand Prize winner "Ballad of Nariama"), international politics (the Iranian "The Mission"), and feminism (addressed by a number of selections, including "Born In Flames," a science fiction feature by New York feminist filmmaker Lizzie Borden).

Not all the selections contain such serious themes, however. The festival opens with the American independent comedy "Cold Feet," a love story about second-time-around romance.

Other comedy highlights include "That Sinking Feeling," the first film by Bill Forsythe who's famous for "Local

Hero" and "Gregory's Girl." The light-hearted Russian feature "The Jazzmen" is yet another comedy to be shown.

A special surprise is Francis Ford Coppola's big budget studio breaking musical love story comedy "One From The Heart." "Probably more has been written and said about this unseen film than any other (such) film in 15 years," Bove says.

The selections are generally scheduled in five-day and two-day runs. A film with a wider audience, such as the festival opener "Cold Feet," will start on a Friday and run through Tuesday. A smaller appeal selection, such as the feminist double bill "Born In Flames" and "Jeanne Dielman" will run Wednesday and Thursday.

A very special double feature will run a full week — "The Battle of Nariama," an award-winning Japanese feature which plays with the acclaimed "Boat People." Bove says that this could be the highlight of the festival.

The diversity is surprising for a festival so small, and it's impressive. Most of these films might have never made it to Eugene.

But Bove is modest about the project. "It's just a chance to catch up on all the cinema that's out there and have fun with movies."

Complete schedules will be available from Cinema 7 by August 21.

By Sean Axmaker

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