

Who is Chris Metzler
and what's he doing in
The Friday Edition?
See Page 1B



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'Sexist' sign in EMU to go

By Dave Berns
Of the Emerald

The EMU Board cleared up one controversy while potentially opening another at its meeting Thursday afternoon.

In resolving an 11-month debate, the board decided unanimously to remove the controversial EMU sign that critics charge contains sexist language. The sign, adjacent to the Fishbowl, has been the subject of discussion since January when former ASUO President Mary Hotchkiss requested its removal.

Opponents of the sign say its references to "man's" and "men" are discriminatory toward women and objectionable to all members of the campus community.

Board members heard testimony from several students, who were all opposed to the sign.

The resolution passed by the board calls for the removal of the sign as soon as physically possible. EMU Director Adell McMillan assured board members that the sign will be removed no later than the start of winter term.

The board also agreed to create a special committee to investigate replacements for the sign as well as alternatives for its commemoration in the EMU.

In related business, board member Margie

Boyd introduced a resolution calling for the modification of the ASUO Constitution.

Under her proposal, the EMU Board would adopt a non-discrimination policy in line with University affirmative action guidelines. Any group not adhering to these guidelines would be denied the opportunity to use EMU facilities.

"If affirmative action policies don't have any teeth, what's the sense of having them? If people are going to discriminate against others, we don't have to go out of our way to offer them services," Boyd said.

Board member Kevin Lewis raised concerns that such a policy may prevent the Muslim Students Association, Panhellenic and the Interfraternity Council from using EMU facilities. McMillan assured Lewis, however, that Title IX exempted fraternities and sororities from such requirements.

One board member, who wished to remain anonymous, claimed the proposal is motivated by Boyd's attempt to keep military recruiters off campus. Boyd, however, denied such a "hidden agenda."

In response to fears that Boyd's proposal may supersede University policies, the committee agreed to refer the resolution to the University's attorney, Peter Swann, for a legal opinion.

Filipinos' sufferings recounted

By Thomas Henderson
Of the Emerald

The Philippines is in torment, and the United States is an accomplice to its misery, Filipino educator, journalist and community organizer Irene Santiago said Thursday.

Santiago told the audience in Gerlinger Hall's Alumni Lounge that the situation in the Philippines is almost as bad as it was during the Japanese occupation of World War II.

At the heart of the country's problems, she said, is the presidency of Ferdinand Marcos and the political and economic support he receives

from the United States. Marcos was constitutionally limited to two terms, Santiago said he declared martial law in 1972 as a means of extending his presidency indefinitely.

He not only extended it through time, she added, he extended it through law. Once martial law was declared, Marcos increased the size of the army from 60,000 to 200,000 troops and allowed freedom of the press only for those papers owned by his family and friends, she said.

Marcos also initiated a policy of "preventive detention," imprisoning people on the suspicion that they might be planning insurrection, said Santiago. Such detention, she said, could only be repealed by Marcos himself.

In addition, she charged that the Marcos regime used money from a World Bank loan to rewrite school textbooks to serve as official propaganda.

Santiago accused the United States of giving nearly a blank check of support to the Marcos government. Even the Carter administration, with its emphasis on human rights, did little to curb Marcos' excesses, she said. In fact, military assistance to the Philippines actually increased during Carter's presidency, she added.

Political oppression adds to the Philippines' many other problems, Santiago said, including staggering economic deprivations.

With 25 percent unemployment and inflation running at more than 60 percent, Santiago said people are taking whatever work they can find. For women and children such work is often prostitution. If they don't become prostitutes, many women attempt to become "mail order brides" for American men, she said.

Santiago said food shortages

have resulted in reliance on what street vendors are calling "devaluation food," food the people have endowed with colorful euphemisms. Chicken feet are called "Adidas," pigs' ears are called "walkmans" and chicken intestines are called "I.U.D.s" (the abbreviation for inter-uterine devices).

The Philippines' economic problems, according to Santiago, are the result of its heavy dependence on foreign aid, particularly loans from the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

"I always categorize the World Bank and IMF as drug pushers," said Santiago, explaining that the country's dependence on international loans has imprisoned it in a cycle of debt that is dragging down the Philippine economy. Currently, she said, the country is saddled with a \$26 billion debt.

Although elections were recently held in the Philippines, Santiago claimed it was merely a pageant staged by the Marcos government for a western audience. The officials overseeing the election, she said, were almost all Marcos subordinates.

"How can you have clean and honest elections with no freedom of the press, no freedom of assembly?" she asked. Theoretically, she said, there is freedom of expression in the Philippines, but there is no freedom after expression.

Reagan's warnings that the Marcos government must be supported lest the Philippines be taken over by communists is greatly exaggerated, she said. Although there is a communist movement in the country, Santiago said the vast majority of those opposed to Marcos want to establish a coalition government.



Photo by Kirk Hirota

The Eugene City Council planned Thursday to allow the public to vote on whether or not these 90-year-old maple trees should be removed in a street-widening project.

Voters may decide historic trees' fate

By Cynthia Whitfield
Of the Emerald

The Eugene City Council voted Thursday night to tentatively schedule a March 26 public vote on the proposed widening of Sixth and Seventh avenues for highway construction which would require the controversial removal of six 90-year-old maple trees.

The council was previously opposed to putting the issue to a vote, claiming that contracts for the project had already been signed. The six trees are not protected under a new city charter amendment that calls for voter approval of any street-widening project requiring the removal of historic trees within the city's 1915 boundaries.

But the state requested a public vote on the issue because they feared litigation would arise from opponents of the widening project. If citizens challenged the legality of the project and the state went to court, the state could lose funds and construction could be delayed, said city attorney Tim Sercombe.

Citizens' Alliance for Trees member Tom Bowerman said the group "may or may not" take a position on the Sixth and Seventh avenue widening. The group first organized Ballot Measure 52 calling for implementation of the new charter amendment.

"The citizens of Eugene have made their position known by the passage of the Historic Street Tree Charter Amendment. We find that the city's position that eight lanes of highway through the downtown area are necessary to be unsupported... we continue in our determination that Unit 1 (on Sixth and Seventh avenues) widening is destruction of the downtown environment, physically and aesthetically," he said.

The highway plan is divided into three units extending west from Sixth and Seventh avenue to the Willow Creek area, targeted for future industry development. Councilor members Debra Ehrman, Richard Hansen and Freeman Holmer expressed interest in putting the entire project to a vote at the March election, instead of holding three separate votes on each section of the highway plan.

But Chris Anderson, public works director, said a design for the entire project could not be completed before the election.



Irene Santiago

from the United States.

Capital investments in the Philippines by American firms and transnational corporations give the United States a vested interest in preserving the Marcos regime, Santiago said, a regime she accused of a long list of abuses.

Marcos was elected president of the Philippines in 1965 and re-elected in 1969. Though Mar-