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Student exchange deadline nears

By Randy Choy
Of the Emerald

Friday is the last day to apply to the National Student Exchange program for next fall. Although many students already have completed their applications, last minute shoppers are always welcome, says Joe Wade, NSE coordinator and acting director of the University's Academic Advising and Student Services.

Yes, University students have found fun, excitement and adventure in academia through this program, which provides a chance to work toward a degree while studying at one of 48 colleges and universities throughout the country.

Tuition for attending one of the host schools runs about the same as tuition at the University, Wade says.

Since its inception 17 years ago, the national program has facilitated the exchange of more than 14,500 students around the states, stretching from the University of Hawaii at Manoa

to the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Other schools in the arrangement include universities in Maine, Delaware, Alabama, Minnesota, and Illinois.

This academic year 77 students have gone from the University to other schools and 86 have come here. Wade says the University of Hawaii at Manoa, the University of

University in the fall from a semester on exchange at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

"I wanted to experience new places, people, and a different lifestyle," Porter says. "It was a good chance to see the world."

"I did a lot of outside activities, especially at the beach," he says. Porter says he also became more independent during his stay in Hawaii.

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— Dan Porter

Massachusetts at Amherst, Rutgers College of the Rutgers University System in New Brunswick, N.J., and the University of Oregon are the most popular schools in the program.

Dan Porter, a junior from Portland, returned to the

"I learned to rely on myself more instead of relying on someone else," the pre-business major says.

Janet Burnett, who is on exchange at the University from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, says of NSE, "It's a good opportunity to see dif-

ferent things if you need a change."

Burnett's first choice was Oregon because she wanted to see the West Coast and the Northwest. "Oregon has a lot to offer," the junior finance major says.

Comparing Oregon to Massachusetts, Burnett says the lifestyle on the East Coast is faster paced; the weather is colder and more crisp, and the autumns are beautiful.

Catalogs, brochures and additional information about the 48 schools in the NSE program are available at the Office of Academic Advising and Student Services, Room 164 Oregon Hall.

To be considered for exchange from this school, students must be Oregon residents, maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.5, and be of freshman or sophomore standing when they apply. However, some exceptions are made for juniors, though they are not permitted to graduate from the host schools. A non-refundable \$25 application fee is required.

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