

Holland offers students overseas cultural, academic change of pace

By this time last year I had made the decision to study overseas. I didn't know exactly what or where or even for how long but these, it seemed, were only minor details.

What I wanted was a change from typical university life, a chance to see things from a different perspective. I wanted to participate in another culture, possibly learn a new language, and find out if the United States really was the center of the universe.

Well, here I am studying international business at Nijenrode Hogeschool voor Bedrijfskunde (The Netherlands School of Business). There are six students from the University of Oregon this year. The fact that all of them are men does nothing to improve the male-female ratio of 3-1, but, nonetheless, they all seem fairly glad to be here.

The school Nijenrode was founded in 1946 by several large Dutch multinational corporations (such as Shell, Unilever and Phillips). It got its name from the 13th century castle that is located at the entrance to the campus.

Since my familiarity with castles was relatively non-existent, I was amazed (and still am) at the thought of having a real castle right on campus. And as if that weren't enough, it also has a real moat, a real drawbridge and a real dungeon — which has been converted to a real student bar (that serves only Heineken beer).

Past Nijenrodeans used to live and study in the castle, but as a result of increasing enrollment it has been necessary to construct new student housing and teaching facilities.

American students live in the dormitories and are required to have a Dutch roommate. This is supposed to help us integrate better into the culture and make us feel more a part of campus life.

Pete Miller, a Phi Delt from Oregon, says: "Having a Dutch roommate has given me an opportunity to see how different a foreign culture can be from the United States. It has caused my once narrow-mindedness to open to a different lifestyle and view of the world."

"Besides, he goes home almost every weekend and I have the room to myself."

Miller adds.

Despite the fact you've probably never heard of it, Nijenrode has an excellent reputation in the Netherlands and is considered one of the best schools in Europe. It is a very difficult school to get admitted to, with only one out of every 14 Dutch applicants accepted.

There are approximately 600 students at Nijenrode, all of whom are studying business. After three or four years of successful study, they receive what is the equivalent of a B.B.A. in the States.

This concentration of business at times seems a little narrowly focused, however. There is no typical "find yourself" period as in most U.S. universities. Once Dutch

money into them. One party last November took about seven weeks of planning and decorating, cost more than 60,000 guilders (about \$20,000) and had an attendance of more than 1,500 (which is quite a bit considering there are only 600 Nijenrodeans).

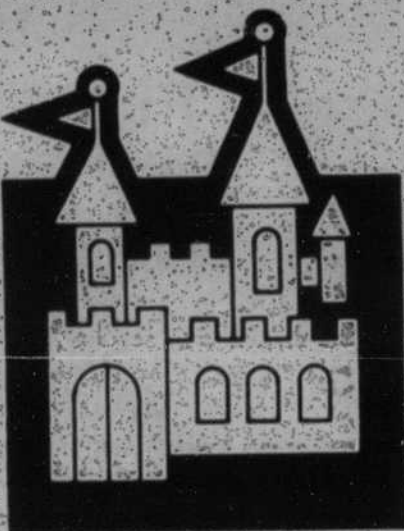
Besides the parties, there also are many clubs and committees people can get involved in. Nearly every aspect of campus life is run by the students through specialized committees such as the N.C.V. (student union), the "Bar Committee" and the Nijenrode Sports Association. Each member is delegated a certain amount of responsibility and everyone is expected to work together toward achieving specific goals.

There also are "year clubs," a kind of mini-fraternity formed by 10-12 first-year students. These are groups of close friends ("for life") who do many things together such as study, bar-hop in Amsterdam or weekend travel.

The theory behind this integration of the academic and social aspects of Nijenrode is that successful managers not only need academic and theoretical preparation for future careers in business, but also need to be able to communicate on a social level. This is quite a bit different than most Western universities, which place more emphasis on grades and academic accomplishment.

The Americans here have benefited greatly from this social and academic mix. Each of us must take at least six courses (about 20 hours), all of which are taught in English (thank God). The curriculum varies from "European Politics" to "Financial Management," and we are also required to take at least one language. This sounds like a lot, but most of us find spare time to go to a few parties and do some traveling.

We also have breaks during which we can go virtually anywhere. This past Christmas, a few of us traveled extensively through Europe — some went skiing in the Alps, some flew home to the States. During spring break, most of us probably will go to Greece or another



students decide to attend Nijenrode, they almost certainly will end up with careers in business-related fields.

Another major difference between a typical American university and Nijenrode is the amount of emphasis given to the social aspect of campus life. At large schools like Oregon, it is up to individuals how involved in campus activities they want to be. But at Nijenrode, a person is virtually drawn into the social life.

There are usually about two or three parties, each planned by different groups on campus. Nearly every party has a theme, such as Casino Night, Christmas in September and Flower Power, to which all invited guests come dressed accordingly.

The students who plan the parties put a lot of time (sometimes weeks), energy and

Continued on Page 10

Sweet Offerings
For Your Valentine.
Fenton & Lee Chocolates
135 East 13th M-Sat. 10-5
343-7629

Coupon **Agate Video** Coupon
Presents
Monday - Thursday Special
2 Movies \$6.95 & VCR
1495 E. 19th 344-2691
expires 2/30/86

VOLVO Owners
Preventive Maintenance Special
FREE
SAFETY INSPECTION
\$10.50 OIL CHANGE
4 cyl. includes oil & filter
Located at 12th & Main in Springfield
Call 726-1808 for appointment
ALL WORK GUARANTEED

NEW! ASUO STUDENT
HEALTH INSURANCE
just **\$224.00**
Covers you through September 21, 1986
or
by the term only **\$75.00**
Also available...
✓ Dependent Coverage
✓ Catastrophic Benefits
Ask about the Dentiplan Program
For details call **686-3724**
from noon to 4, Mon. - Fri.
ASUO Office - Suite 4 EMU

UO Bookstore

Attention Freshmen!
POSITION AVAILABLE:
**UO Bookstore Board of Directors,
Freshman Representative**

There is an immediate opening on the Board of Directors of the U of O Bookstore for a Freshman Representative. To be eligible, you must be a Freshman at the U of O and maintain a course load of 12 units.

Student Board Members receive a stipend of \$20 for each monthly meeting from October to June. This term of office will run until May 1987.

Applications are available at the Administrative Office of the U of O Bookstore, and will be accepted through Monday, February 17th, 5:30 p.m. For more information, contact UO Bookstore General Manager, Jim Williams at 686-4331.

High Quality
COPIES
3¢ All Day
★ Every Day
Collating
Binding
Print America
519 E. 13th
485-1940

**PAUL'S
BIKE
SHOP**

FEB. - MARCH SPECIALS
WHILE THEY LAST!

Cruturian Accordo... **\$229.00**
Campy Triumphe hubs... **\$25.00**
ESGE fenders... **\$10.75**
Service Special... **25% off**
parts w/tuneup!

Union Halogen
light set... **\$16.00**
Lock & Cable set... **\$5.00**
Top Gear cycling gloves... **\$6.95**

2480 Alder, Eugene
342-6155