

Oregon Daily Emerald

'Bedroom Window'
opens eyes
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Research park report gives project go-ahead

By Deborah Janes
Of the Emerald

The presentation of a feasibility report to the Riverfront Project Commission on Wednesday night brought the 71-acre project one step closer to becoming a reality.

Charley Minshall, the author of the feasibility study and representative of the Battelle consulting firm, outlined the report and gave a green light to the project to be built across Franklin Boulevard north of the University, near the duck pond.

The 190-page report assessed Eugene's attractiveness to industries, what type of industries the project should house and the time schedule for construction.

The University split the \$25,000 fee for the report with the City of Eugene.

"The University is a beautifully logical extension to the Riverfront Project," Minshall said. He suggested the University should be part of the "anchor structure," the core of the research park. He suggested developing the park in four phases, with the initial phase involving a 20-acre chunk housing research and data processing industries.

The park should provide

"technically-orientated incubator space for graduate students and professors that need a place to develop their ideas for commercialization," he said.

The park would be a boon to the University by providing job opportunities for students and also attracting research specialists who could double as visiting professors.

The sight should also recruit software and data processing firms, real estate, insurance and light manufacturing industries, such as pharmaceutical companies.

Some commission members were critical of the report's ambiguous suggestions for potential industries. "Why didn't you ask specific industries whether or not they would locate here? What is the market potential of the park?" commission member Sally Weston asked.

Minshall presented in clear terms what industries the park should avoid.

"We can't put something dirty like Weyerhaeuser in there. Or do you want to put in a trucking company to fill up 20 acres and then hate yourself in the morning? In this day and

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Safe sex, community awareness needed to curb AIDS epidemic

By Karen Creighton
Of the Emerald

About 250 people attended a public presentation on Wednesday evening telling how AIDS affects the local community.

The event, entitled "Bringing it Home," was sponsored by three local volunteer groups with the cooperation of Sacred Heart General Hospital.

Bloodsisters of Eugene, Shanti in Oregon, Inc., and the Willamette AIDS Council developed the program, which included speakers, a panel discussion, and an exercise to demonstrate how AIDS can be spread among the general population.

Shanti in Oregon Executive Director Ken Storer told a story of a woman afflicted with AIDS to show what AIDS means for people who have to live with it everyday.

The woman had an operation three years ago and received blood contaminated with the AIDS virus. She now has to deal not only with her imminent death, but also with the issues of being gay, Storer said. Even though she is not gay, she has to hide her disease as if she were, he said.

"She has to deal with living in a community where, were they aware of what she was living with and what her issues are, they would ask her to leave," he said. She and her children have to hide her medical and emotional problems for fear of community rejection.

A mother of two children told at the presentation her story of living with AIDS. Her talk had been taped earlier so she wouldn't have to appear on stage and risk harm to her family by



Photo by Michael Wilhelm
Robert McAlister, State of Oregon Health Division AIDS program coordinator, speaks at Sacred Heart Hospital about the need for community awareness of AIDS.

letting people know that she is an AIDS victim.

"I never dreamed I would have AIDS. I

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Interest clash prods councilor to abstain from condo law vote

By Jolayne Houtz
Of the Emerald

A Eugene city councilor worried about conflict of interest has decided not to vote in an upcoming decision on a controversial ordinance change.

The amendment would allow developers to convert rental units into condominiums without having to find comparable housing for elderly, handicapped or low-income residents.

Councilor Rob Bennett told other city councilors at a work session Wednesday that he is afraid Eugene residents might think he has a conflict of interest.

Bennett is a real estate developer, and he and his wife own the Eugene Manor, one of only three high-rise, private apartment complexes in the city that has not yet been converted into condominiums.

While the city's attorney decided that Bennett did not have a conflict of interest because he has not declared his intent to convert the property, Bennett said he is sensitive about the issue and will not vote, although he will participate in discussion of the amendment.

Bennett also served on the Eugene Planning Commission, which is recommending the ordinance change, until his election as a city councilor in November.

The Planning Commission originally set out to streamline the seven-year-old ordinance in October 1985. But after looking closely at the measure, members decided to revise the protec-

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Decision not to evacuate buildings during bomb threat raises questions

By Scott Maben
Of the Emerald

While police and FBI agents are still investigating a bomb threat received at the University three weeks ago, the way officials handled the matter has generated a study of proper emergency procedures.

The Oregon Public Employee's Union has protested the Eugene Police Department's decision not to evacuate union personnel from three campus buildings. That decision was made by EPD Sgt. Chuck Tilby, criminal investigator for the University, effective January 9, the day after the "non-specifically addressed" letter ended up on the desk of University Dean of Students Shirley Wilson, Tilby said.

'I think that whenever there's a bomb threat, you should evacuate first and not question if it's authentic or a hoax.'

— Lisa Sieracki

The letter contained "no indication that anything about the threat was serious," Tilby said. As a result, security officials were forced to speculate as to which buildings might have been the intended targets because of the vagueness of the letter, he said.

Police uncovered evidence indicating the letter was authored by an individual, not by a mysterious organization as the letter indicated, Tilby said.

The author of the letter threatened to plant bombs in the "administration building" if certain demands pertaining to two California prison inmates were not met.

"Administration building" was interpreted as either Oregon Hall, Johnson Hall, or McArthur Court. Tilby alerted administrators in each area to conduct visual checks for anything out of the ordinary.

OPEU has stepped in, questioning whether it was appropriate to allow employees to search for explosives instead of conducting immediate evacuations.

"I don't think the University showed very much common sense in what transpired from the threat," said Kurt Willcox, Eugene-area field representative for OPEU.

Willcox claimed the decision to not evacuate and to use employees as bloodhounds resulted from the lack of University guidelines on what should be done in the case of a bomb threat.

In the safety and health portion of the 1985-1987 OPEU contract with the State Board of Higher Education, the University is required to produce "a written procedure for the safe evacuation of buildings in the event of... threats involving explosive devices."

"As far as we know, there's no consistent policy right now. We want to know why that policy doesn't exist and make sure that in the future, employees are not put through what they were the other day," Willcox said.

The University has taken steps to comply with OPEU's contract, said Oakley Glenn, Office of Public Safety director.

A policy does exist and has for some time, according to Glenn. In case of emergencies his agency works under a basic plan of action, devised about 15 years ago, Glenn said.

Criteria for this plan have been reviewed and revised each year since then, taking into account new buildings, changes in personnel, and the like, Glenn

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