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last year) is sort of embarrassing," said George Beres in releasing the figure. Beres, assistant director of Community Services, is heading this year's drive on campus.

Beres is hoping to boost donations by distributing flyers featuring campus personalities, including Ramey, who have benefited from cancer treatments.

"I'm here because of all the research that people did to be able to design the chemotherapy that was obviously correct for me," Ramey said.

Surgery was not possible in Ramey's case because the cancer was so extensive in both breasts. She underwent an extensive series of radiation treatments and a year of chemotherapy treatment.

"It's unusual to have chemotherapy and radiation at the same time but they (the doctors) decided they had to go for broke," she said.

After a year the doctors decided they had done all that they



Marjory Ramey

could and discontinued the treatments.

"They didn't know whether they had been successful or what the predictions were, but I was still alive."

Ramey was working at the housing office at the time. Despite feeling ill from the

chemotherapy, she didn't miss a day of work except when she had biopsies.

"I had tremendous support from the people here (in the housing office) who just didn't give me an opportunity to feel sorry for myself," she said. "I had a job and I just had to get right at it. That was the best therapy I could have had."

Ramey remembers a lot of black moments in that first year.

"But then I was able to develop a philosophy that was sort of fun in a way. I realized that I could—or any one of us, including you—could step right out here to this corner and be hit by a truck.

"In a very real sense no one of us is any closer to death than the other. This brings the essence of mortality a good deal closer to you."

Ramey has a CAT scan each year to determine if her bones have become cancerous.

When she gets the annual scan "there's always a high

level of anxiety, even after ten years," Ramey, though, is able to laugh about the anxiety.

She also goes to her doctor every three months for a check-up.

"They do keep very close check because they wouldn't be surprised, I guess, if it reoccurred. But that's all right — I've had 10 good years," she said.

"My goodness, are you ever happy to see every day that the sun comes up. You enjoy small things much more. And my husband and I have traveled extensively in the ensuing 10 years, because we feel we should."

"I'm sort of reluctant about the invasion of privacy, but it's for a good cause, and so I'm happy to share the experience with you. If it does any good to raise more money for research, we'll all benefit," she said.

The focus of this year's cancer drive is a push to encourage

women to have mammograms, a low-dose X-ray examination of the breast for early detection of malignancies.

During the month of May six medical centers in Lane County will offer mammograms at \$45, a discount from the normal cost of between \$100-\$120. Wynn Fischer of the Lane County chapter of the American Cancer Society said.

The Cancer Society is recommending that women over 35 have mammograms. For more information call 484-2211.

Donations to the Cancer Society in the form of checks or money orders can be made out to The American Cancer Society and can be sent in campus mail to the Community Services.

Beres said he is willing to pick up cash donations from anywhere on campus. His extension is 5555. Beres hopes to have all the donations in by May 15.

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in which DNA molecules break apart and recombine. Sprague studies the ways in which yeast cells utilize genetic material. Bernstein studies the nervous system of fruit flies to see how cells communicate with each other using "messenger molecules."

But all three of the grant recipients emphasize that basic research about cells is critical to understanding the nature of cancer.

"The Cancer Society recognizes that progress in treatment and prevention of cancer is absolutely dependent on a deeper and broader understanding of how cells work," Stahl said.

Without this broader understanding, researchers who work on problems directly related to cancer will soon run into "insurmountable hurdles," Sprague said.

"One hopes that basic research will ultimately benefit mankind someday in some way that simply can't be specified," Sprague said. "It's not possible to predict what avenue of exploration will really be fruitful in the sense that it will have an impact on the entire population."

Stahl belongs to a select group of 25 scientists nation-

wide who have received the Cancer Society's lifetime research professorship grant.

"It's a great break for me that they considered the work (as having) potential relevance," Stahl said. "They're paying me to do what I was going to do anyway."

"Getting support to do basic science research is extremely difficult," Stahl said. "The State of Oregon doesn't give us any support. We have to go out and fight for it."

University researchers face stiff competition from medical schools and research institutes in the quest for grant money, he said.

Grants from organizations such as the American Cancer Society, the National Institute of Health and the National Science Foundation are critical to biology research at universities.

"They (the grants) are our bread and butter. They're what keeps us going," Sprague said.

Along with 17 others nationwide in 1985, Sprague was awarded a 5-year grant, which pays most of his salary, to continue his project on yeast cells.

Bernstein, a post-doctoral fellow, was awarded a 2-year grant in 1985.

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