



Graphic by Lorraine Rath

Travel Center extends services

By Eden Godbey
Of the Emerald

A trip to Europe or a hot-air balloon adventure may seem out of the question as a travel possibility for most students, but the campus travel agency can make many such trips a reality.

Valentine's Campus Travel Center, located on the concourse of the first floor of the EMU, can offer discount fares on charter flights, as well as arrange hot-air balloon, ranch or bicycle trips, according to Dan Valentine, president.

The agency is a campus branch of Valentine's Travel by Design located at 2821 Oak St. in Eugene. The campus branch was added two years ago because the EMU approached Valentine at the main branch to bid for rental space. Valentine said he had noticed it was the only major campus on the West Coast without a travel agency.

"All of this is designed for students. You can't go to another travel agency and get a white water or dude ranch trip. Students need to have good prices, good service, and they like to do unusual

things," he said.

According to Valentine, a \$900 charter flight can cost a student who uses the agency \$635. Cheaper rates are possible through the agency's new affiliation with Student Travel Network (STN).

STN is an organization based in Switzerland that specializes in arranging inexpensive travel and lodging for students. It has over 100 offices worldwide to assist student travelers, according to a brochure.

The agency also helps students with applying for visas and passports and finding English-speaking doctors, Valentine said.

The main desk at the EMU sells international student identification cards. These cards were sold prior to the agency's affiliation with STN, but the cards prove to STN who is eligible for its student travel and entertainment discounts worldwide, according to Valentine.

To be eligible a person must be a full-time student working toward a degree. The fee for the card is \$10.

White water raft trips can be

reduced as much as 20 percent depending on how many people go and when they go. Cost also varies on hot-air balloon trips. Balloon trips usually cost \$75 and up.

Mostly Asian students use the services, but Valentine says he hopes in the 1987-88 school year students form a student travel club, and give slide shows to attract more students.

"Several students have expressed an interest (in the travel club). Obviously, students have to organize it," Valentine said.

The agency has added an Apollo Reservation System this fall. Campus branch director Kate Herber believes the addition will attract more students.

"It will attract more students because they won't have to wait as long (for reservation information). They will feel it's more of a travel agency with the computers there," she said.

She added that before the installation of the system, the campus branch had to refer to the main branch by phone for such information.



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