

labeled homosexual.

"Because of my interest on the subject, many people have asked me if I was gay or if I had AIDS. The answer to both those questions is 'no.' I am doing this because I hope it will save some lives," he said.

Regan also is the coordinator of the ASUO Wellness Sym-

posium's "Safer Sex Day." The events will take place today in the EMU Gumwood Room beginning at noon.

Presentations scheduled are those by Dr. Richard Keeling, director of the University of Virginia's Health Center and chairman of the American College Health Association's Task

Force on AIDS; and Stephen Beck, chairman of the National Association of People With AIDS.

"We have put a lot of effort in this symposium and hope that students will take this opportunity to learn something about AIDS by attending it," Regan said.

Cin Chubb and Laurene Shields are graduate teaching fellows with the School of Community Health who have taught health classes at the University for the last year.

They said that although the department did not require instructors to include AIDS in their curriculum, many of them looked on it as an unwritten rule to do so.

Chubb and Shields agree that students have been receptive to AIDS education but have not begun to realize the seriousness of the disease.

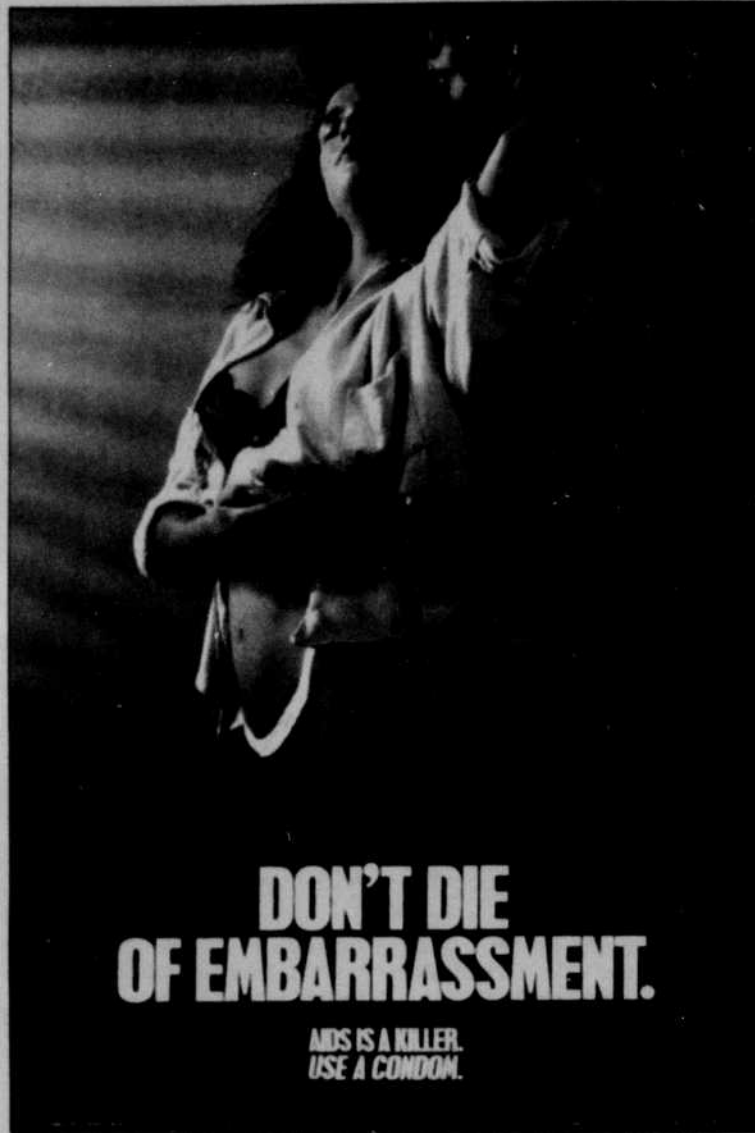
"We need to be able to talk about it in our daily lives," Chubb said, explaining that only then will in-depth education be possible.

They agreed that although the text used in the health classes offered information on the disease, most of them were outdated because new facts are being discovered daily. To supplement the texts, most instructors brought in speakers from the community who were well-versed on the topic, they added.

"I think that providing information is where we should start, and that we have done. What we have to do is start affecting the emotional part, and we have a long way to go," Shields said.

She added that most of the negative attitudes come from reaction to homosexuality and drug abuse, and not reactions from the threat of AIDS itself.

They agreed other departments should begin incorporating the AIDS issue in their



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classes to help encourage students in discussion.

"Because we are health educators, we feel that we have to offer this kind of education to our students. I wonder if other people feel the same way?" Chubb said.

The University administration also has recognized the im-

portance of AIDS education by forming the University's AIDS Task Force.

Gerard Moseley, vice provost for student affairs and chairman of the University's AIDS Task Force, said the administration formed the task force to decide on policies the University may have to address.

He believes education about the disease is not sufficient because it needs to be done on a continual basis as new students enter the University.

"Each fall we have a completely new set of students who would not have heard much of what has been said in the last year. It is important to be current and to be thorough," he said.

He believes the University's goal should be to educate the community and make sure that students are current on the issue.

"We consider anyone who is sexually active to be at risk to AIDS, and I feel that we need to make the information available to all students," he said.

Education on campus also has involved many people from the community. Rev. Ken Storer, director of Shanti in Oregon, Inc., has spoken on the AIDS issue many times in the last year.

"I feel that there is information out there, but it is only information for the head and not the heart," he said.

Shanti is an organization in Lane County that provides emotional support to those with AIDS, AIDS-Related Complexes (ARC) and to those indirectly affected by a loved one's illness.

He added that people need to start taking the disease more seriously as well as emotionally.

"I think, however, that the University in general is doing an incredibly good job on AIDS education," Storer said.

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