

# Oregon Daily Emerald

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## Student activist party joins campus politics

By Jeff Morgan  
Emerald Reporter

ASUO election season got an early start this weekend with the formation of a new student political party, Student Activist Network.

In a prepared statement, SAN spokesman Tim Hughes said, "The network has formed in response to frustration of alternatives offered by student government both past and present. We feel that no current political party on campus adequately addresses the diverse range of student needs. We are appalled at the naive arrogance displayed by the current administration in its presumption that the average student is not concerned with minority issues or issues beyond the boundaries of this campus."

SAN has not yet chosen its nominees for ASUO offices and is only now forming its election platform. By the end of the month they expect to have their platform set and their endorsement committee selected.

Hughes, who also is co-director of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance, claimed that SAN is a broad-based coalition of representatives from many different student unions and political organizations. So far, SAN has about 17 active members, the most active being Hughes, last year's Students' for a Progressive Agenda presidential candidate Sarah Lachkar, and former SPA member Angee Hill. Another member is Robert Ball, who ran as vice presidential nominee of the short-lived People's Choice party in last year's election with Phil Levinson.

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## Lack of signatures kills proposals

By Betsy Clayton  
Emerald Reporter

Backers of two initiatives that would amend Eugene's city charter said they did not meet a Friday deadline to put their urban renewal and riverfront rezoning measures on the May 17 primary election ballot.

Both groups intend to continue collecting signatures and aim for later ballots. Petitions of at least 5,520 signatures from each group must be submitted to the city within 100 days beginning on the day of the first signature, the law states.

The next general election ballot is Nov. 8, but a city ordinance gives the City Council

the option of scheduling earlier elections. Catherine Lauris, an officer for the political action committee Citizens for Fair Tax Distribution, said the group will continue collecting signatures in hopes of being placed on a June ballot.

Citizens for Fair Tax Distribution has been circulating a measure since the first week of January that would require voter approval of new urban renewal plans and amendments to existing urban renewal plans. Current city urban renewal projects involve revitalization of downtown Eugene and development of the Riverfront Research Park.

"Our petition is simple and people are

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Photo by Jeremy Choo

Prospective University students see what Oregon's got at the Oregon Preview's Information Fair in the EMU Saturday. More than 1,600 high school students and their parents attended they day-long series of events.

## Future Ducks see campus

By Frank Byers  
Emerald Contributor

More than 1,600 high school students and their parents from as far away as New Jersey converged on the University Saturday for the 1988 University of Oregon Preview.

Oregon Preview is a program of lectures and tours sponsored by the admissions office to show off the campus to prospective students.

"It's really tough for high school students to make up their minds about exactly where they want to attend until they've had a chance to get a flavor of the University," said

Martha Pitts, associate director of admissions.

About two-thirds of the visitors were parents, according to Pitts, who noted that college selection can be a long process.

"Families feel like they get the individual attention and the time to talk to the people they need to in order to make a decision about the University," she said.

The day's schedule consisted of an opening address by University President Paul Olum and Admissions Director Jim Buch, followed by interest sessions in 57 academic

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## Sister cities bring social, economic benefits to Eugene

By Andrew LaMar  
Emerald Associate Editor

There are many social and economic benefits from sister city relationships, according to local officials.

Perhaps that's why Eugene has three sister cities and is developing ties to two others while Lane County tries to develop a sister county relationship.

For the past 10 years, Eugene has actively maintained only one sister city relationship — with Kakegawa, Japan. But in the last year, Eugene has begun developing another relationship with the Soviet city Irkutsk.

Two other relationships — with Kathmandu, Nepal and Chinju, South Korea — have been dormant for more than a decade. However, officials are attempting to rekindle those relationships as well.

Last August, a delegation from the West German county St. Wendel visited Lane County and invited the county to become its sister county. And most recently, the mayor of Chinhoyi, Zimbabwe, invited

Eugene to become its sister city.

"I'd like to think that (the sister city programs are) expanding because Eugene is becoming more available and is presenting itself in more of an international manner," said Mary Wright

McIntosh, the city program director for sister city relationships. "I think we are becoming known as a city that's well-rounded, has a good reputation for taking care of international delegations and is interested in getting outside of Eugene."

Eugene benefits primarily culturally and socially from the ties, McIntosh said. People who host delegates from a sister city or represent Eugene by traveling to the foreign city often develop lasting personal relationships

with the sister city's residents, she said. They also learn a great deal about the country's culture.



Graphic by  
Lorraine Rath

But in a larger sense, all city residents benefit culturally from the relationships, she said. Meeting foreigners helps break

common American stereotypes about them, she said.

"You find out that they're just people like you and me," McIntosh said.

Also, the relationships foster greater cultural awareness, she said. For instance, children at Roosevelt Middle School are

now taught the traditional Japanese coal miner's dance and area high school students may learn Japanese.

Jim Dougher, chairman of the Eugene Sister City Commission,

said the relationships are particularly beneficial for children, broadening their horizons and giving them a sense of the international community.

"It certainly makes a difference when all you know is Eugene and Portland," Dougher said.

The relationships also benefit Eugene economically. Each year Kakegawa sends a delegation to Eugene and Eugene sends a delegation to Kakegawa.

McIntosh said the last delegation from Kakegawa had 30 people in it who spent a minimum of \$200 a day. They also spent a night in the Hilton.

"They go to the bookstore and clean it out; they go to the 5th Street Market and clean it out," McIntosh said.

Kakegawa officials have invited a Eugene delegation to visit in March to help celebrate the opening of a bullet-train station. The Kakegawa mayor invited Eugene to exhibit goods produced in the Eugene area at the celebration.

About 20 local products will be sent, according to Duff Wilkins, director of the Willamette Valley Trade Center. Because of the size of the request, the sister city program had to refer the responsibility of gathering and sending the goods to the trade center and the state international trade

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