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Truth of toxic dump at river may be worse

By Robert Wolfe
Emerald Contributor

The recently publicized dumping of chemical and other wastes at the Riverfront Research Park site may have been more extensive than University officials originally admitted.

A document obtained from the office of Dan Williams, vice president for administrative services, contains these statements (names of the interviewees were omitted from the one-page summary of information):

"(Blank) said he dumped approximately 6-8 times (probably closer to eight times) over a period until 1973 or 1974, at a frequency of about every three or four months.

"They went out when they had a 3/4-ton truck load filled up to edge of bed but not heaping. Physical Plant backhoe came over, dug shallow holes approximately chest height, or 4-5 feet deep.

"... said that whatever containers the chemicals came back from the labs in is what they dumped, i.e. glass one-gallon containers, small glass bottles, tin/metal cans, etc.

"(Blank) knew of two, possibly three, times when Eugene fire trucks came because fires got out of control; said the chemicals exploded and the cardboard boxes caught fire."

Asbestos, waste oil, steam plant incinerator ash and spent batteries were dumped at the site, according to the document. Officials at a press conference, in response to reporters' inquiries, mentioned only sulphuric and nitric acid.

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Crunch Time

As finals week approaches, the EMU Skylight is home to Brandy Graves (left), Christy Hillman and Norman Hwa. The three studying statistics, mass media and English, respectively, spend Wednesday night with their munchies, books and 18,000 other students yearning for finals week to pass.

Photo by Mark Ylen

Task force researches racial issues Brand promises better affirmative action

By Kim Mitchell
Emerald Contributor

Last January, racial incidents on a national and local level prompted campus administrators to take a closer look at what was happening in Eugene and at the University.

Eugene, a community which always has prided itself on its appreciation of cultural diversity, saw racial slurs directed at individuals, burning crosses on lawns and housing discrimination deemed as racially moti-

agement strategies for responding to racism and awareness of ethnic/cultural diversity.

"We pride ourselves on being a culturally appreciative community, but Eugene also has problems," said Gerard Moseley, vice-provost for student services. "We've looked into it, and we have information."

"The new president (Myles Brand) will carry forth a new, aggressive platform," Moseley added. "We'll use policy material from other institutions, task

Brand's affirmative action policy which takes a tough stand on racism. The affirmative action budget has been nearly doubled under his administration, and Brand has given affirmative action director Diane Wong new responsibilities and increased authority in three primary areas of leadership.

Brand said recruitment and retention of people of color and women in the student body, faculty and staff is of primary importance.

Moreover, the University curriculum will reflect the diversity of our culture better. New curriculum requirements will include exposure to non-western and non-white cultures.

In addition, Brand hopes to cultivate and maintain a campus environment which is sensitive to and supportive of the needs of people of all cultural backgrounds, ethnic groups, physical abilities and sexual orientations.

The office of affirmative action has received substantial increases for data processing, record keeping and travel for recruitment of minority graduate students and faculty.

Training for faculty and staff promoting sensitivity in affirmative action issues also will be provided.

"In the future, we need to express interest in ensuring that racial equity becomes a reality through planning."

— Nancie Fadeley

ated. The task force was created to research those issues and to plan strategies to combat racism at the University.

The task force was divided into five subcommittees. The first developed a profile of the ethnic makeup of students, faculty and staff.

The other four groups examined policies regarding classroom curriculum, campus life external to the classroom, man-

forces, and publications to determine how to proceed."

Nancie Fadeley, assistant to the provost, described the task force as a fundamental part of the overall planning process.

"In the future, we need to express interest in ensuring that racial equity becomes a reality through planning," Fadeley said.

The original subcommittees have been absorbed into

University upset by article

By Chris Bouneff
Emerald Associate Editor

University administrators and athletic department officials are upset over an article appearing in Wednesday's *Register-Guard* that suggested the University was misusing funds by inviting local politicians to the Dec. 16 Independence Bowl.

"The story, I think, was premature and not at all well-researched," said Sandy Walton, assistant athletic director for internal management. "They made it sound like a big party."

University President Myles Brand also felt the article was missing essential facts that would have presented a different image of who was paying for local politicians and higher education officials to attend the game in Shreveport, La.

The article, appearing on the front page of the *Register-Guard*, left readers with the impression the University was using its own money to finance trips for such officials as the mayors of Eugene and Springfield and members of the Oregon State Board of Higher Education, Walton said.

Brand said the article never mentioned that the athlet-

ic department money funding the trip is for athletic functions only and cannot be transferred to another University department.

Herb Yamanaka, special assistant to the athletic director, said the cost of the trip already is fixed because a plane was chartered earlier for the University's band.

The cost will be the same even if invited officials decline the invitation to attend the game, Yamanaka said.

Brand said the University is required by the terms of accepting the bowl bid to have an official party representing the school and community.

In addition to mayors Jeff Miller and Bill Morrisette, the chancellor and state board members were offered expense paid trips to Shreveport.

The officials, if they accept the invitation, are permitted to bring their spouse or one guest. Hotel costs are \$55 a day for two people, Walton said.

Gov. Neil Goldschmidt and Oregon's congressional delegation were offered free game tickets provided they paid for their own transportation and lodging.

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