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Photo by Mark Ylen

ASUO Vice President and SHIC Chairman Scott Wyckoff fields a question from student Armando Morales at an insurance forum Tuesday night.

Students, SHIC discuss insurance

By Jolie Andrade
Emerald Reporter

Although a vote on a health insurance policy will be held spring term, students had many questions about the mandatory program during the Student Health Insurance forum Tuesday night.

Students asked if SHIC could guarantee that the benefits will be greater if a mandatory health plan was instituted.

"Are you prepared to tell the student body that you will guarantee they will get an increase in insurance benefits?" asked student Lawrence Birch.

"I can guarantee it," said Scott Wyckoff ASUO vice president and SHIC chairman.

Other students wanted estimates of the cost of a mandatory health plan, and a few students brought

up the issues of affordability.

"I don't have financial aid and I can't afford to pay \$300 more," said freshman Jill Anderson. "For me it might mean that I may not be coming back."

Subsidy programs would be established for students who could not afford mandatory insurance, Clark said.

Students also wanted information on the three choices — a mandatory policy, a mandatory policy with a restrictive waiver, and a voluntary policy.

"In order for the students to make a choice it should seem they should have some idea of what it will cost and what the benefits will be," said Peter Mark, a graduate student in computer science.

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Hotline reached in phone mix-up

By Peter Cogswell
Emerald Reporter

People calling the University's English department without using the new prefix necessary for campus extension calls reached Eugene's 911 emergency hotline instead.

Before the switchover to the campus' new phone system system, the extension for the English department was 3911. Under the new system, the English department number is 63911.

People unaware of the changes in the phone system who dialed the old number inadvertently called the hotline.

Under the new system, the prefix 3 connects the caller with an automatic routing system, which selects the least expensive routing system for outgoing long distance calls, said Larry Craig, a communications supervisor for the Eugene Department of Public Safety.

Because of this, people can dial the old number and not receive a recording announcing the changes made in the phone system.

The automatic routing system works on any campus phone hooked into the new system.

The mix-up caused some problems with the tying up of emergency phone lines downtown, Craig said.

"It started out hot and heavy on the day shift when the University first switched over, but the frequency of these calls has gone down," Craig said, adding that the English department seems to be the only one having the problems.

"We are aware of other numbers on campus like 4911 and 5911, but these do not seem to have the same problem," Craig said.

Craig said he has talked with AT&T and U.S. West Communications about solutions to the problem, but he said they do not believe that it is their problem. Getting the word out is the best solution, Craig said.

The English department has placed notices in professors' boxes, and has asked that the notices be read in classes, said Janet Maylor an English department secretary.

The mix-up has not really affected the English department, as people using the old number are redirected by the 911 operator, Maylor said.

People who feel like calling and seeing for themselves if they get the 911 hotline should be warned that operators can trace callers and can return the calls and seize lines, Craig said.

Monkeys returning to University for research Return renews rights questions

By Chris Bouneff
Emerald Associate Editor

Monkeys will return to the University for research purposes as part of a grant looking into the mechanisms that control mental processes and brain functions in humans.

The research of brain activity in macaque monkeys is one part of a larger project sponsored by a \$720,000 grant from the James S. McDonnell foundation of St. Louis and The Pew Charitable trusts of Philadelphia.

With the grant, the University becomes one of eight national centers for cognitive neuroscience research.

"To some extent the grant is a validation of the cognitive science program here at the University," said John Moseley, University vice president

for research.

Psychology professor Michael Posner will head the University's Center for the cognitive Neuroscience of Attention and help coordinate the work of seven faculty members in the neuroscience and cognitive science institutes.

"The problem is trying to develop the brain areas that are involved in selective attention," Posner said. "We're trying to study the internal organ that deals with the environmental aspect of reading the written word."

Researchers will take advantage of several computerized imaging devices that allow investigators to see activity inside the human mind.

Posner said the larger part of the study will deal with human subjects, although a colony of six to eight macaque monkeys

will be kept each year of the three-year grant.

The fact that monkeys are returning to the University already has animal rights groups on the alert.

Psychology professor Richard Morrocco will conduct both invasive and non-invasive research on the monkeys, which worries some groups because they say Morrocco has abused research subjects in the past.

Jill Freidberg, director of Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals and spokeswoman for the national group People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, said evidence shows that Morrocco has been responsible for the deaths of several monkeys in the past.

The evidence comes mainly from the trial stemming from the October 1986 break-in at the University's animal re-



Photo by Mark Ylen

Psychology professor Richard Morrocco will be doing invasive and non-invasive research on monkeys as early as March.

search facilities. Freidberg said the trial shows that Morrocco has a pretty bad track

"Our concern with [monkeys returning] is that evidence we

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