

Oregon Daily Emerald

Tuesday, April 10, 1990

Eugene, Oregon

Volume 91, Number 127

Inside

- Muslim holidays, Page 4
- IFC update, Page 5
- 'From the sidelines', Page 7
- Womenspace auction, Page 14



In the groove

Debbie Owen, a student in Kim Wilson's Aerobics I class, moves to the music while learning the benefits of aerobic exercise.

Photo by Andre Ranieri

Undergrad tuition may increase 9.95 percent fall term

By Stephanie Holland
Emerald Reporter

Oregon undergraduates returning to the University this fall may pay an extra 9.95 percent for tuition if the state's higher education board approves a request for tuition increases.

Chancellor Thomas Bartlett at a news conference last week announced his request for a 9.95 percent increase for the University, Oregon State University and Portland State University.

Bartlett recommended an 8.25 percent tuition increase for Oregon Health Sciences University, Oregon Institute of Technology, Southern Oregon State College, Eastern Oregon State College and Western Oregon State College.

The 8.25 percent addition for next year would match the increase approved for the current academic year.

Out-of-state tuition at all eight schools would increase by 12 percent.

This amount reflects the target figure of 100 percent that the state's higher education board has decided non-residents should pay for tuition.

Oregon residents are expected to pay about 25 percent of their higher education expenses.

The 1.7 percent difference in tuition between the universities and colleges would raise about \$1.1 million in revenue, said Jim Sellers, director of communications for the Oregon State System of Higher Education.

"It makes sense to have a differential between tuition charges at the universities compared to colleges because the costs at universities, such as large library

Turn to Tuition, Page 6

Housing policy nears decision

By Chris Bouneff
Emerald Associate Editor

University officials are about three weeks away from deciding the fate of a proposal allowing domestic partnership agreements in subsidized family housing.

Dan Williams, University vice president for administration, said Friday that a decision will definitely be made by the end of the term, but he hopes to make one within the next two weeks.

A domestic partnership agreement is a contract between two individuals that defines the role of each partner in the relationship.

Williams, who oversees University housing, will make a recommendation on whether domestic partnerships should be allowed in student family housing.

The final decision, however, rests with University President Myles Brand.

"(The decision) is kind of a tough one," Williams said. "We have to think through everything that makes sense."

The domestic partnership issue was raised this fall when Natasha Brady, 21, and Robert Fueher, 26, and Brady's 2-year-old son were threatened with eviction from family housing because they were not married.

University housing asked the couple to move out or get married. Instead, Brady and Fueher produced a domestic partnership agreement.

Brady and Fueher received an extension in December on their eviction until a decision is made.

Since that time, the Westmoreland and Amazon tenants councils approved motions in favor of domestic partnerships, and the President's Task Force on Lesbian and Gay Concerns passed a resolution supporting the proposal.

Moreover, the Office of Student Advocacy circulated a petition urging the University to accept a proposal expanding family housing eligi-

bility that collected about 200 signatures, said third-year law student Debra Ogara.

"We want domestic partnership agreements to be accepted in lieu of a marriage certificate, and under that we're asking housing to prioritize, in some form, families with children," Ogara said.

Williams said he is considering the petition, resolution and motions, but the final decision rests upon other factors.

"We have the signatures and recommendations from a number of people who want us to do it," Williams said. "(But) these are not the kind of issues that are made upon popularity."

Williams' office has received an equal number of letters opposing the expansion of eligibility rules, he said.

Joe Kidd, Westmoreland tenants council member, said many family housing residents fear an abuse of domestic partnerships if the proposal is approved.

The motion the Westmoreland council approved requests that couples with children be allowed in family housing whether they are married or in domestic partnerships.

The motion avoids calling for the expansion of the definition of family to include couples in domestic partnerships without children.

"We felt it was important to give priority to families with children, but we felt that opening up housing was too loose," Kidd said.

Sarah Douglas, co-chairwoman of the lesbian and gay concerns task force, said current housing policies are discriminatory because they forbid same-sex partners as family units.

"It is very discriminatory toward same-sex partners and same-sex partners that have families," she said.

Douglas said University officials will have a difficult time "drawing a line" of eligibility without opening themselves up to discrimination charges.

Students with children find affordable housing

By Marina Swain
Emerald Contributor

When Cynthia Norman first arrived in Eugene she had no place to live. More importantly her children, Doug and David, were without shelter.

Norman, like other single parents, discovered that children are not always welcome additions in a tight housing market.

"I'd never experienced someone not even reading my reference letter or caring," Norman said of the cold reception she got from many landlords.

And if children were permitted the price was often too high. "There's a \$275 difference between having kids and not having kids," the Wyoming native said.

But as a University student Norman held an important advantage which she quickly acted upon. She was eligible for one of more than 700 units deemed married student housing. Now happily settled in Westmoreland for almost two years, Norman is currently vice president of its tenant's council.

Serving nearly 1,400 people, Westmoreland and its counterparts on east campus and Amazon, cater to married couples with or without children, single parents and a select number of graduate students.

"I think it's almost entirely economics," director of University Housing Marjory Ramey said of its popularity. "It's less than half of what you'd pay at market."

Most tenants agree, citing the financial benefits of such housing.

"The main thing was that it was cheaper here," Westmoreland resident Miriam Swanson said. "The other advantage is living in an area with a lot of other students. It's rough when you don't live around anyone going to school."

Swanson's husband, Scott, appreciates the relative quiet

Turn to Housing, Page 6