

# RAPES

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"A large percentage of our services go to University students," Stanley said.

She said the amount of students Rape Crisis Network serves has been steadily increasing over the last couple of years.

In response to the high number of unreported rapes, the task force, which involves Rape Crisis Network, is now compiling a form that will allow sexual assault victims to file an unofficial report.

"It will allow the University to keep track of rapes on campus without the survivors having to file a police report," Gibson said. Details of the incident will be included on the form, but the victim's name will not.

The form is expected to be completed by the end of fall term.

Gibson hopes that by creating this form, the University administration and the public will become more aware of how serious the problem is. "The problem is bad. It is much more common than people think and grossly underreported."

"I think the University is aware that date rape and sexual assault is prevalent, and they are frustrated that it's not reported," Stanley said.

Suzie Hunter, crime prevention officer for the University Office of Public Safety, said defining the rape problem is difficult because the University lacks accurate statistics.

Hunter is involved in educating and preventing sexual assault, and coordinating students to combat the problem.

"The University is starting to realize what a serious problem it is," Hunter said. "They have turned the corner."

So, why don't women report sexual assault incidents?

Stanley said it's hard for women to report the case to the police because they are forced to relive the situation.

Moreover, Hunter said many women balk at reporting rape because it occurs at a party or social situation where the woman may even know her assailant.

"A lot of women are preoccupied with the bushy-haired stranger, (but) what we are seeing is more date/acquaintance rape," Hunter said. "Because it's not stereotypical rape, they hesitate to report it."

"We have to change our attitude about reporting rape. It is a very sensitive issue," Stanley said. "We need to develop a system in which the victim can report the rape and does not feel like she's being re-raped by the system."

## Counseling

The Rape Crisis Network offers community members counseling services to "help the victims get through a day," Stanley said.

"We are supportive to the victims, whether they want to report the incident or not," she said.

For victims that don't want to file a report, Rape Crisis Network offers an alternative: a third-party report. The report allows the victim to give information to the network, which will then be kept on record in case the perpetrator commits other crimes.

The network also offers limited one-on-one peer counseling, information, support groups and a crisis

line.

"It's important to know that the crisis line is not just for a crisis situation. It is for the exploration of feelings. They don't need to wait until they are falling apart to call us," Stanley said. "They can call if they just want to talk."

On campus, the Student Health Center houses the Crisis Center, which offers counseling to students by telephone or in private.

"A crisis team is on hand 24 hours a day to offer on the spot counseling and give referrals to survivors of rape," said Nancy Kemp, co-director of the Crisis Center Hotline. Referrals often include advocacy in the legal system and the Rape Crisis Network for further counseling.

The center will also go to victims if they cannot come to the health center, Kemp said.

Kemp has tallied only one rape call to the hotline since the term began.

"It was a date rape incident, in which a friend called for a friend," Kemp said, adding that the hotline receives a total of 700 to 800 calls a year on various subjects.

"The hotline isn't only for rape survivors, but it is for partners and friends, also. They need support too, and often feel forgotten and helpless," Kemp said.

## Intervention

The task force, which is just one of the University groups dealing with campus sexual assault, offers two upper-division classes on creating a rape free environment.

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### INFORMATION TABLE

October 30-31, EMU 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, Drop by and talk with a Peace Corps Representative

### PRESENTATIONS

Film: *Peace Corps Impressions*, October 30, 12:00-1:00 pm, EMU Walnut Room  
Film: *Eat of the Forest*, October 31, 12:00-1:00 pm, EMU Walnut Room

### A NOM PARTY!

October 30, 7:00-9:00 pm, COME ONE, COME ALL! Nominees, applicants and families, other interested people and Returned Peace Corps Volunteers. Here's an opportunity to find out more about Peace Corps. Place to be determined.

### INTERVIEWS

November 14-15, Call Career Planning and Placement (346-3235) to schedule an interview. Suzette Horspool is your campus Rep. You must bring a completed application to the interview.

## LIGHTING

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in especially dark areas. Coots said. Also, lights that were burnt out were reported and repaired.

The ASUO does not know exactly how much the lighting will cost, although they're estimating it to be about \$50,000, said George Hecht, Director of the University Physical Plant.

Money to fund the lighting project comes from a building use credit fund, Hecht said. About \$250,000 a year is allocated for this fund, primarily for building projects. This

money is obtained through grants.

The three phase plan developed by the ASUO is to be completed over a three year span. The ASUO is currently in phase two, Bailey said.

Phase two, which is more costly than phase one, focuses on lighting in the Old Campus Quad area. The ASUO is now planning the layout for the new lighting.

Phase three will address the request for additional lighting of the lane south of the library to the School of Music. Also, additional lighting to the Bean parking lot may be added.

## BARRIERS

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ers when necessary.

But she said the cultural barriers seem to present problems.

"They're afraid to ask for help for fear of rejection or being humiliated," Stanley said, adding that international students represent about 5 percent of the people who seek help at the Rape Crisis Network.

The push for change on campus has come from members of international student groups rather than from University staff and administrators, Lee

said.

"There has been hesitancy to dealing with this issue," he said. "The University makes a lot of money from international students and they didn't want to scare them off."

But administrators are dealing with the issue more seriously, he said. A workshop on sexual harassment was included as part of international student orientation week this year.

The subcommittee is currently gathering information for a brochure about sexual harassment and rape to be written in several languages and sensitive to cultural diversity.

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Thursday, October 25, 1990