

# First King celebration to take place in January

By Peter Cogswell  
Emerald Associate Editor

University President Myles Brand's appointed Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Committee is well on its way to organizing the first annual Martin Luther King Jr. Conference, scheduled for Jan. 21.

Frank Geltner, chairman of the committee, has confirmed that Attallah Shabazz, oldest daughter of Malcolm X and Dr. Betty Shabazz, will give the keynote address at the conference, which is being held on the national holiday set aside to recognize King's birthdate.

The conference is scheduled to be held as part of Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Week, which spans from Jan. 15, King's real birthday, to the 21st.

While this is the first year University students will not be required to attend class, Brand warned that this is not necessarily a holiday from learning.

"This is not a holiday," he said. "It is a celebration

of cultural diversity for all peoples."

Brand said that when he first came to the University he was surprised to find that nothing was done to honor King's work on civil rights in the United States.

To change this, he worked toward, and eventually succeeded in, getting King's birthdate declared a holiday for students so that they could concentrate on issues of race and cultural diversity at the University.

So far, the committee has raised \$3,600 to fund the conference and Geltner believes the committee will have no trouble making it to \$5,000.

"We're doing very well (raising money)," he said. "We shouldn't have any problems."

The committee is in the process of sending out letters to students, faculty and staff members asking for proposals for presentations to be included in either the conference or during the week, Geltner said.

Brand praised Geltner and the rest of the committee members for their work, saying he is pleased with their progress. Brand has agreed to match money

raised by the committee to fund the celebration up to \$5,000, Geltner said.

Proposals should focus on the conference's theme "To rededicate commitment to civil rights, cultural diversity, racial equality, and economic equity."

University sponsored events for the week will correspond with community events sponsored by groups like the Eugene Minority Commission and its Martin Luther King Jr. Task Force.

University events for the week include a presentation by the African American Drama Company entitled "Sister, Can I speak for You?", and a Black Student Union sponsored candlelight vigil.

Community events include a Martin Luther King, Jr. memorial march and a Human Rights Fair.

The committee is currently made up of 15 members, but Geltner encourages all who are interested in the committee's work to come to its meetings, held at 3:30 p.m. every Thursday in the EMU. The room number can be found on the EMU's daily schedule.

## University's OPS obtains new director

The University has hired a new director of the Office of Public Safety, Vice President for administration Dan Williams announced last week.

Carey Drayton, a Washington D.C. campus police officer with 10 years of experience in collegiate law enforcement and security, was selected by a 12-member search panel headed by Williams.



Carey Drayton

Drayton replaces Oakley Glenn, who retired Sept. 20 after serving the University for 20 years. Tom Hicks had been serving as interim director.

Drayton had served as a police officer at George Washington University since March. He previously served as director of university police at the University of Southwestern Louisiana. He will assume his position at the University Dec. 15.

Williams said Drayton, who visited with various University groups during the interview process, was highly recommended to the search committee by a large number of individuals and groups across campus.

Drayton said he is prepared to deal with a number of campus security issues facing the University and other higher education institutions across the United States.

He added that as an immediate priority, he will work to rebuild the student confidence in the office of public safety from the reduced level that is evident in the recently released report of the campus task force on lesbian and gay concerns.

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