

## OPEN LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT'S TASK FORCE ON LESBIAN AND GAY CONCERNS

We wish to acknowledge the courageous act of Greg Johnson, whose honesty serves as a statement that sexual orientation is no longer a reason to be silent. We recognize a heterosexist climate that supports and encourages hostility toward Gays and Lesbians prevails at the University of Oregon. However, we hardly expected such an overt example of this to be displayed by the School of Law administration. Many of us have found ourselves in circumstances similar to that of Greg Johnson at one time or another, the difference being that we are not usually subjected to the public humiliation imposed on Johnson. Intimidation and silencing are more often accomplished behind closed doors.

It is not uncommon for departments to receive student complaints about classroom instructors. It is, however, unheard of for a department to coerce an instructor into an admission of wrong-doing for identifying her or him-self as a member of a protected class. If an African American instructor had chosen to discuss Civil Rights on Martin Luther King's birthday and had discussed her involvement in that movement, the University would have, no doubt, supported these actions. And rightly so.

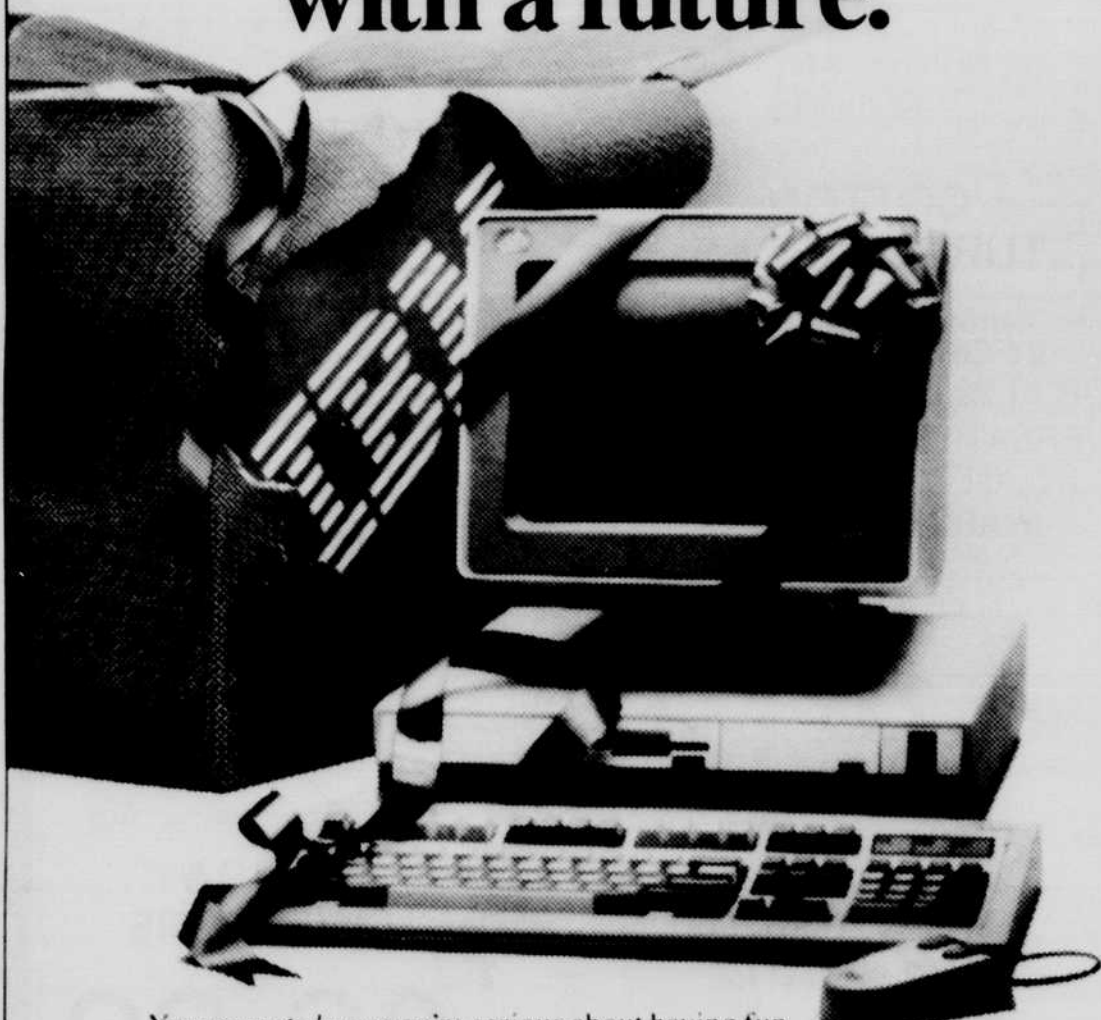
The President's Task Force on Lesbian and Gay Concerns recently released a report documenting the discriminatory practices and attitudes encountered by Lesbian and Gay students, faculty, and staff. (Copies of the report are available through the President's office.)

President Brand has been very clear about his commitment to diversity and tolerance on campus. The Law School administration displayed its disrespect for the President's agenda, its disregard for University policies, and its obvious contempt for Lesbians and Gays.

The unfortunate message conveyed by the actions of the Law School administration is that it is permissible to silence certain individuals by virtue of their minority status. Gays and Lesbians are being told to keep quiet and run back into the closet. This is the same administration which has historically devalued African Americans, Hispanics, and women. Intentional or not, the Law School has created a dehumanizing atmosphere that has a chilling effect on all of us and is an embarrassment to a progressive educational institution.

The President's Task Force on Lesbian and Gay Concerns, University of Oregon  
November 27, 1990

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## UNIVERSITY

### IFC to meet in Board Room

MEETINGS

The Incidental Fee Committee meets at 7 p.m. in the EMU Board Room. Call 346-3749 for more information.

### Et als

University of Oregon/University of El Salvador Sister University Project general meeting is at 5 p.m. in EMU Suite 1. Call 346-3194 for more information.

Lesbian and Bisexual Women's Campus Group organizational meeting is at 5 p.m. in EMU Century Room A. Call 346-3360 for more information.

MISCELLANEOUS

Men Against Rape and the Women's Center are sponsoring a memorial at noon in the EMU Courtyard for the 14 women murdered in the Montreal massacre.

Psi Chi Honor Society is sponsoring a Psi Chi Pizza party at 6:30 p.m. at Pegasus Pizza.

Psi Chi members meet outside the EMU Gumwood Room for Storm the Stairs ceremonies from 3:45 to 5 p.m.

Oregon Book Connection textbook exchange table will be in the EMU Fishbowl from 10

a.m. to 5 p.m. this week.

The Humanities Center is sponsoring J. Baird Callicott, philosophy professor at University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, who will lecture on "The Wilderness Idea Revisited: The Sustainable Development Alternative" at 7:30 p.m. in the EMU Gumwood Room. A public reception follows the talk. Call 346-3934 for more information.

Rap with the Rabbi open discussion group, sponsored by Hillel, is at 4 p.m. at the Koinonia Center, 1414 Kincaid St. Call 343-8920 for information.

The Newman Center, 1850 Emerald St., is sponsoring advent communal penance service at 7:30 p.m. Call 343-7021 for more information.

The Wesley Center, 1236 Kincaid St., is sponsoring a study on the gospel of Luke at noon. For more information call 346-4694.

Deadline for submitting Et als to the Emerald front desk, EMU Suite 300, is noon the day before publication. Et als run the day of the event unless the event takes place before noon.

Notices of events with a donation or admission charge will not be accepted.

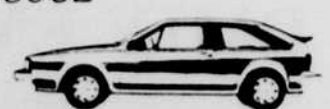
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THE OREGON HUMANITIES CENTER PRESENTS:

*The Wilderness Idea Revisited:  
The Sustainable Development Alternative*

a public lecture by

**J. Baird Callicott**

Professor of Philosophy and Natural Resources  
University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point

7:30 p.m. Thursday, December 6, 1990  
Gumwood Room, EMU

Professor Callicott is the author or editor of several books including *In Defense of the Land Ethic: Essays in Environmental Philosophy* (1989), *Nature in Asian Traditions of Thought*, co edited with Roger T. Ames (1989), and *Clothed-in-Fur and Other Tales: An Introduction to an Ojibwa World View* (1982).

also:

Michael McCloskey, National Chairman, The Sierra Club  
Tuesday, February 5, 1991 ♦ 7:30 p.m., Gerlinger Alumni Lounge

These lectures, free and open to the public, are part of the 1990-91 Autzen Lectures in the Humanities and the Professions series entitled "Ethics and Free Enterprise: The Social Responsibility of Business." The lectures will be followed by a reception.