

# NINIAN SMART

PROFESSOR AND CHAIR, DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

WILL PRESENT A SERIES OF LECTURES ON:

## RELIGION AND POLITICS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13  
**RELIGIOUS STUDIES AND THE GULF WAR**

WALNUT ROOM, EMU, 7:30 PM

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14  
**RELIGION AND SOUTH ASIA**

WALNUT ROOM, EMU, 7:30 PM

Conversation with Professor Smart at Koinonia Center, 1414 Kincaid

For: University Students, Faculty, and Friends

Time: 3:30-5:30 p.m., Thursday, February 14

Auspices: Campus Interfaith Ministry and Religious Directors Association

Lectures sponsored by the Department of Religious Studies  
Distinguished Visiting Lecturer Program, 1991

# COMMUNITY



Eugene Planning Commission members (from right) Ken Tollenaar, Jenny Sirmio, Jerry Gaydos and John Van Laningham discuss recommendations for the downtown redesign plan.

## Downtown design gains approval

By Brian Bloch  
Emerald Reporter

The Eugene Planning Commission gave the proposed downtown redesign another go-ahead nod Monday, unanimously approving the city's plan to improve access to the downtown area.

After a public hearing on the design proposal Feb. 5, the planning commission reviewed public input and raised specific questions about the design during its Monday meeting.

The 7-0 vote and recommendations will be passed on to the Eugene City Council for a public hearing Feb. 25. The Eugene Downtown Commission is also gathering its recommendations on the design plans.

After all recommendations are made, the city council will likely place the design proposal on the spring ballot for public approval.

Although the commission approved the de-

signs, it included recommendations for specific design changes to the city council.

After a lengthy discussion, the commission voted 6-1 to recommend that Olive Street be opened to standard-sized city buses, while traffic on Willamette Street would be limited to smaller, shuttle buses.

The current design proposal allows for vehicular, bicycle and pedestrian traffic on both Willamette and Olive streets, but specifies only limited, shuttle-type bus traffic on those streets.

The planning commission also voted unanimously to recommend that the city sponsor an open art competition to encourage local artists to submit artistic proposals for the design.

In addition, commissioners expressed concerns about the design of a proposed downtown public plaza and the opening of E. Broadway. The planning commission split its view on the opening of Broadway 4-3, with recommendations to leave the street closed to vehicular traffic.

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## EWEB

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The proposed electric rate increases would cover a \$3.4 million increase in EWEB power supply costs during 1991 due to 5 percent increases in the purchase power costs from the Bonneville Power Administration. Purchase power costs ac-

count for 2 percent of the 6 percent increase, Helgeson said.

In March, Eugene voters will be asked to decide whether EWEB should issue \$22 million in bonds to fund major electric system improvements over a three-year period. The planned improvements would upgrade system reliability, enhance safety and environmental as-

pects of the facilities.

Helgeson stressed that EWEB is publicly owned and makes no profit.

The board will vote on the proposed rate increases following the public hearing on March 11, 7:30 p.m. at the EWEB headquarters, 500 East Fourth Ave. For more information call 484-2411.

## EMU CULTURAL FORUM PRESENTS

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