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Asian Americans looking for state recognition

Minority scholarships exclude Asian students

By Daralyn Trappe
Emerald Reporter

Statistics will tell you that Tai Truong is a minority.

His parents moved to the United States from Vietnam 11 years ago. They don't speak English well, a fact that limits their earning potential. With 10 children, they are further limited in the amount of financial help they can provide Truong, a junior architecture major at the University.

He is getting through college with financial aid — grants and loans — because like every other Asian American in Oregon, he is classified as a minority but is not eligible for a state minority scholarship.

Three years ago, the Oregon State System of Higher Education formed a program known as UMASP — the Underrepresented Minority Academic Scholarship Program. It is the only state minority scholarship that OSSHE supports, said Tom Coley, state system assistant vice chancellor. The scholarships provide full tuition for up to five years.

The decision to exclude Asian Americans was "based on historical data that showed that blacks, Hispanics and American Indians were grossly underrepresented (in higher education)," Coley said. "The program was set up to meet those needs."

But many Asian American students at the University are concerned about the criteria used to form this decision. The term Asian American is applied to those whose heritage traces back to all of East-



Tai Truong (left), from the Vietnamese Student Association, and Gary Hoh and Theresa Chin, Asian Pacific American Student Union members, believe minority scholarship programs should include Asian Americans.

ern Asia, from China to Malaysia and the Pacific Islands.

"All the Asians are lumped in together, and people like Cambodians, Laotians and Vietnamese students are not represented compared to Japanese, Korean and Chinese American students," said Bobby Lee, a Korean American student and ASUO affirmative action coordinator.

There are about 850 Asian American

students on campus, representing more than half of all the American minority students here. But Truong, vice president of the Vietnamese Student Association, estimates that only about 50 are Vietnamese Americans.

"It's a different situation for different Asian groups," Truong said. "People who have lived here for just one genera-

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Asian course absent from curriculum

By Miko Sian Yim
Emerald Contributor

Despite the University's vow to create "A University for Everyone," several Asian American students believe the school has not committed itself to one minority group — Asian Americans.

To kick off the school year, the University held a solemn convocation ceremony in September vowing a commitment to collective awareness and "A University for Everyone."

As part of that commitment, the University imposed a three-credit "race, gender, non-European requirement" for all incoming students.

Out of the 159 courses that meet the requirement, only one deals with Asian Americans, an ethnic studies course called "Introduction to the Asian-American Experience."

This class has been listed in the course catalog for 14 years and was listed in this year's spring schedule of classes, but it has not been taught consistently. In fact, Professor Edwin Coleman, director of the ethnic studies program,

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Eugene rough for skinheads

By Gerrit Koepping
Emerald Contributor

Charlie doesn't look like a skinhead. His blond curly hair sticks out from under his cap, his easygoing manner and quick smile obscure a dark past. The only hint of his skinhead affiliation is his flight jacket and leather work boots.

He learned early that looking like a skinhead can be very unhealthy.

About two years ago, Charlie, who at the time had his head fully shaved, was arrested for trespassing while distributing anti-racist pamphlets at a high school in Boise, Idaho.

He was in Boise while a number of white supremacists were on trial — proceedings that attracted both racist and

anti-racist skinheads to the area.

Charlie was jailed for nine days and released one day after the trial ended.

"They just wanted skins off the streets. It didn't matter if you were Nazi or not," he said.

But, he said, if you have a shaved head, everyone pretty much assumes you're a Nazi anyway.

The Portland murder of Ethiopian Mulugeta Seraw and last fall's trial of Tom Metzger have contributed to an image of skinheads that elicits suspicion, distrust and hatred from most of the public.

In spite of the stereotype, most Eugene skinheads say they lack any real racist beliefs and have no link to white

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(From left) "Smash," Dan and other Eugene skinheads say they ban together for a sense of family and not to espouse racist doctrines.

Regionally

SALEM (AP) A bill to make it a crime to interfere with or vandalize research projects involving animals was unanimously approved Monday by the Oregon House.

The animal research measure, HB 2934, was passed after its chief sponsor said research centers have become a target of "terror-

ist" acts by people who oppose use of animals in laboratory experiments.

Rep. Walt Schroeder, R-Gold Beach, said about 100 such incidents have been recorded around the country in the past decade, including one at the University.

In that October 1986 incident, a science laboratory was vandalized and 150 laboratory animals were taken. Damage to equipment was

estimated at more than \$50,000.

Schroeder said those kinds of actions often delay or destroy valuable medical experiments.

The bill sets out a range of penalties for the crime of research and animal interference. A maximum 20-year term could be imposed if vandalism to a research center exceeded \$100,000.



Art Skipper

Sports

Both Oregon track teams added five qualifiers for this week's NCAA meet at Hayward Field off the provisional NCAA lists Saturday night.

Past NCAA participants Rosie Williams, Colin Dalton and Art Skipper all made it into the meet.

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