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## Co-ops provide shelter from the commonplace

Members share responsibilities, social activities

By Tammy Batey  
Emerald Reporter

Bits of conversation overheard at a living organization's group meetings give you an idea of what it's like to live there.

"I did laundry yesterday, and some nice person folded it. It totally made my day."

"We'll play for \$125, and for an extra \$50, we'll play naked."

"(A juicer) is cheaper than Genesis." "Isn't everything?"

However, these comments weren't heard at the meeting of just any community. This group prides itself on living in not just a house but a home.

Bordering the University along Alder Street are the usual sororities, fraternities and apartment complexes. But there are also three rambling old houses that constitute half of the six University co-ops.

Residents of Janet Smith, Lorax Manor and Campbell Club co-ops say there are many advantages to cooperative living.

"The reason I moved in is, I wanted to be living, not just existing," said Lorax Manor resident Tom Higbey. "America is a very alienating society. Co-ops are a very useful way to bring people together."

There are 22 students living in Janet Smith, 30 in Lorax Manor and 34 in Campbell Club. All three co-ops are still recruiting new residents for fall term.

The Students' Co-operative Association owns the three houses, and residents are considered partial owners of their co-op. This brings students both advantages and responsibilities.

Because co-op residents don't



Sonya Herbolzheimer, a resident of Campbell Club co-op, takes her turn at washing dishes. Cooperative living means assigned household chores and a lively social atmosphere. "Your social life is right here," Herbolzheimer says.

have a landlord or resident assistant to oversee repairs, they must fix everything themselves. Change is just a paint brush away.

"You no longer have a landlord making decisions for you, because you are the landlord," Campbell Club resident John Flannery said. "You and the people you are living with determine your living environment."

Each of the three houses holds weekly meetings at which residents discuss issues such as unwanted guests, up-

coming parties and the purchase of new appliances.

Co-op living can be cheaper than many other living arrangements, including on-campus housing. SCA's ownership of the three houses helps keep costs low.

At Lorax Manor, the cost per school year is \$3,000 for a single room and about \$2,400 for residents who share a room.

In the residence halls, excluding the University Inn, the cost per school year is \$3,992 for a single and \$3,076 for a multiple.

Janet Smith, Lorax Manor and Campbell Club also offer students the option of being a boarder. Boarders don't live at the co-op but may eat there and are considered co-op members. The cost for boarders is about \$5 a day.

Many co-op residents like cooperative living because there is always someone around if they're in the mood for conversation.

"Your social life is right here at home," said Sonya Herbolzheimer, a Campbell Club resident. "It's nice to go

out and have a social life, but it's nicer to have it where you're living. There's always something to do."

Living in a co-op does not mean a life of no work and all play, however. Each resident is responsible for about six to seven hours of work in the co-op each week. That could mean anything from cooking meals to cleaning bathrooms.

The co-ops also hold work parties during which residents tackle the bigger chores that

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## Class evaluations chaotic, misplaced

By Dennis Fitzgerald  
Emerald Reporter

It's a week before registration, and you want to get some background information about prospective professors. You go to the Knight Library to look at the collected teacher evaluations, but all you find is a mess.

A quick flip through the binders, some of them falling apart, reveals a few readable documents, some impossibly faded photocopies and computer printouts that may as well be in hieroglyphics.

Summaries for classes in physics, health and computer information science contain page after page of impressive columns and rows of tabulated responses — without copies of the corresponding questions.

The binders for classes in the Honors College and the women's studies department are empty.

Problems with student course evaluations are not new, and they're not limited to bad documentation, said John Powell,

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## Program gives instructors feedback on performance

By Carrie Dennett  
Emerald Associate Editor

It's a good bet you've had courses from some instructors who put you to sleep and courses from others who actually made you look forward to attending class.

Why the difference? Are some instructors more knowledgeable than others? Perhaps, but the real difference usually comes from how well they can communicate their knowledge to their students — in short, how skilled they are at teaching.

University President Myles Brand has discussed increasing the University's commitment to undergraduate education, including merit pay based on

teaching quality.

On an individual basis, many faculty and graduate teaching fellows are taking advantage of services to help make them better teachers.

The Teaching Effectiveness Program, part of Academic Learning Services, offers several ways for instructors to get free, confidential feedback on how well they are conducting their classes.

Anne Laskaya, a senior instructor in the English department, has used the program's midterm analysis of teaching in some of her classes.

"When you teach a new course, I think it's really useful to get feedback from students

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### Horses



People with disabilities are seeing the outdoors from a new perspective with the help of a program that trains horses to accommodate disabled riders.

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### Golf

The Oregon women's golf team escaped the cellar but still finished 16th out of 18 at the Ping Lady Sun Devil Collegiate Golf Tournament, held at Arizona State.

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