

## Office set for major overhaul

By Carrie Dennett  
Emerald Associate Editor

The University is looking to increase accountability of affirmative action cases on campus by creating a new, decentralized model — a move that is drawing both praise and criticism.

Responsibility for affirmative action now falls solely on the Office of Affirmative Action, headed by Diane Wong.

Under the new model, the Office of Affirmative Action would focus on minority faculty recruitment and promoting a campus environment that is more tolerant of diversity.

The responsibility for hearing and investigating complaints will be directed to Vice Provost Lorraine Davis, the Office of the Dean of Students and the Office of Human Resources.

University President Myles Brand announced the restructuring proposal last week, but said it has yet to be officially adopted.

"We've asked more people who are knowledgeable and capable to take more responsibility for affirmative action," he said.

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### Good day, sunshine

Shawn Jarvey, (left) a senior in fine arts and psychology, enjoys Wednesday's summerlike weather with Tori Keydy, a senior psychology major, and Keydy's dog, Oliver. The trio, at the corner of University Street and 15th Avenue, made the most of the unseasonably warm weather.

Photo by Jeff Paslay

## State board eyes ethics of free trips

By Carrie Dennett  
Emerald Associate Editor

The state Government Ethics Commission is investigating the possibility that University President Myles Brand broke the law by offering free Independence Bowl trips to the wives of Eugene's and Springfield's mayors.

The commission found Tuesday that there was probable cause to investigate Brand's role in the offer.

The investigation previously focused on whether Eugene Mayor Jeff Miller and Springfield Mayor Bill Morrisette State broke state ethics laws by accepting the trips.

Brand said Wednesday that he is "disappointed and puzzled" by the commission's decision.

"The University believed it was acting properly when it paid for the trip expenses of the mayors and their wives because of the promotional and economic development duties each was called upon to perform while in Shreveport, La.," Brand said in a written statement.

"The University's actions were based on the provision of state ethics law that allows public officials to accept food, lodging and travel when appearing in an official capacity at an event related to the public official's office."

While state ethics law does permit such gifts to public offi-

cial, the laws prohibit someone with legislative or economic interest in a public official's decisions from offering gifts worth more than \$100 a year to any member of the official's family.

**'The University believed it was acting properly when it paid for the trip expenses of the mayors and their wives because of the promotional and economic development duties each was called upon to perform while in Shreveport, La.'**

— Myles Brand  
University President

The University put the cost of the trip at \$1,358 a couple.

Brand said the ethics laws were examined carefully by University and city attorneys before the letters of invitation were sent in Dec. 1989 to the mayors and their wives.

"We felt that the wives were an integral part," he said.

"They were put to work just as much, they were not just along for the ride."

Brand said the Millers and the Morrisettes spent about 9-12 hours daily promoting the Eugene-Springfield area while they were in Shreveport.

"In recent years, the University has been asked — rightly, we believe — to help in advancing the economic development of the region," Brand said. "The participation of the mayors and their wives in the trip was arranged to publicize both local communities to potential tourists, sports fans, college applicants and relocating employees."

"That we're being told now to restrict and encumber that effort appear odd at best."

Commission Director Patrick Hearn said that Tuesday's decision was based on two letters of legal advice from the commission's legal counsel.

Hearn said the legal opinions in the letters were based on the determination that the University does have legal or economic interest in the cities of Eugene and Springfield distinct from general public interest.

The commission said the University has interest in the cities' decisions because it receives yearly hotel tax revenues totaling \$65,000 from Eugene and \$15,000 from Springfield.

The tax revenue is allocated by vote of the Eugene and Springfield city councils.

The commission concluded



Myles Brand

that Miller and Morrisette made the trip in their official roles, so were not at fault for accepting the trips.

The commission earlier found probable cause to believe that Miller and Morrisette broke the law by accepting the trips for their wives.

Brand said the University did not invite the mayors to the 1990 Freedom Bowl in Anaheim, Calif., because there was already some question about the Shreveport trip.

The commission will hold a hearing on the investigation Nov. 5.

Brand said he will participate in the hearing and "make a strong case," and will abide by the commission's final decision.

Hearn said the maximum penalty is a \$1,000 fine.

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### Crime fighters—

University Housing and the Office of Public Safety have collaborated to curb crime in residence halls by posting notices in dorm residents' concerning security and safety in the dorms.

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### Injury parade—

The Oregon football injury situation went from bad to worse Tuesday when Oregon coach Rick Brooks announced that starting quarterback Danny O'Neil will be sidelined the rest of the season with a right-thumb injury.

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### Pot shots—

Oregon State Police game officers were skeptical when they began using a stuffed deer to trap illegal hunters. They didn't think it was realistic enough.

The officers were dead wrong, and hunters took advantage of the lifelike, unmoving "Scruff," who had more than 70 bullet holes and had been pierced with arrows about 30 times before he was pulled from service.

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