

# UNIVERSITY

## Donors to eat in 'exclusive' club

By Colleen Pohlig  
Emerald Reporter

At the same time the University administration has been promoting diversity on campus, the University Foundation will have its annual luncheon for key donors at an exclusive Portland club with a reputation for denying memberships to women and African-Americans.

The foundation, a fund-raising body separate from the University, chose the Waverley Country Club to host the annual honorary luncheon on May 9 for about 100 of the "President's Associates," or people who contribute considerable amounts of money to the school.

"We have been assured that (the club) doesn't discriminate," said University spokesman L.G. Blanchard. "They intend to have full members that are African-Americans and females."

President Myles Brand said he will not attend the event because he will be traveling but said if he were organizing the luncheon, he wouldn't have planned to have it at the Waverley.

"If I were organizing the event, I would not plan it at a place that excludes minorities, as a matter of principle," Brand said.

*Willamette Week* reported the reputation of the club as being "Portland's most exclusive bastion of rich white manhood."

The general manager of the club, David Chism, denied this claim.

Until September 1990, the club had a policy barring women from becoming full members, and as recently as last fall, the club still had no black members, according to *Willamette Week*.

Chism denies this last statement as well as the entire *Willamette Week* article, saying the story is "totally false."

Chism said the club has always allowed women, but not as "proprietary members" until recently. Proprietary members have voting rights and full membership.

Chism also said there are some women and African-Americans on the waiting lists but as of yet, no females were granted membership and Chism refused to comment on whether any African-

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— David Chism,  
Waverley Country Club  
general manager

Americans were currently members.

"I can't say (whether we have African-American members) because we don't ask about their nationality," Chism said. "We've never discriminated against blacks or any other minority."

The University Foundation is a non-profit organization that helps to raise funds for the school. Although it is autonomous, it follows the same basic policies of non-discrimination.

"There was absolutely no intent to represent the wealthy, caucasian male," said foundation Director Peter Cadigan. "We have been assured that (the club's) current policies are not exclusive."

Barbara Edwards, associate vice president for public affairs, said the University should be supporting the club.

"Supporting an institution that changed those policies (of discrimination) is exactly what we should be doing," Edwards said. "If in 18 months or two years, there are still no women or African-Americans, then the University needs to reconsider its business with them."

Cadigan said one of the reasons for having the luncheon at the Waverley is because one of the donors, who is a member of the club, offered to use his membership to have the luncheon there.

As for future business with the club, Blanchard said the University will take an interest in the club in terms of whether they stick to their relatively new policy of granting minorities membership.

"If we don't detect any change, then that will give us reason to look elsewhere in the future," Blanchard said.

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