

# ASSAULT

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alone. "For international students, communication is always an issue, whether with language or unspoken signals," Stark said.

Unfamiliarity with cultural communication and behavior can lead to misinterpretations that can lead to trouble. "Someone may assume that 'I love you' means 'I want to marry you,'" Stark said.

Stark, along with Erin Collier of Sexual Assault Support Services, just completed a video for international students called "But I Thought You Wanted To," Cultural Differences of Rape and Sexual Harassment."

The video, to be released next month, is a training tool that provides international students with "model behaviors" to use in uncomfortable or potentially dangerous situations, such as those that can lead to date and acquaintance rape.

In such situations, Collier

said, the need to be assertive and cultural norms often come into conflict.

In one scenario in the video, a Japanese student is having dinner with her host family when the son touches her under the table. The student doesn't want to do anything that might offend the host mother, but she is very uncomfortable with the son's behavior.

Other issues confronting international students are stereotypes about their cultures, and misconceptions the students themselves might have about Americans.

The "submissive" Asian woman, the "strong" African woman and the "sexy" Hispanic woman are some of the pervasive stereotypes Stark and Collier mentioned. These kinds of assumptions can lead Americans to treat foreigners in insensitive and/or inappropriate ways.

For this reason, Collier said SASS volunteers receive multicultural training to con-

front their own assumptions about the people they serve.

Seeking help after sexual assault or harassment can also be an additional trauma for international students.

"It's hard enough for Americans to seek help," Stark said. "But for many other cultures, counseling and therapy is for crazy people."

In addition to the upcoming video, other campus resources provide bilingual and culturally sensitive materials to international students about personal safety and sexual assault.

CARE, Creating A Rape-free Environment, offers a bilingual English-Japanese pamphlet that includes a section on social and cultural differences, four scenarios in which Japanese students might find themselves, and tips on rape prevention and intervention.

Safaride distributes informational brochures in four different languages: Chinese, Japanese, Korean and Spanish.

# NASU

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"Most of the time, we tell them where they can get the information," Baker said.

In addition, NASU members make trips to Oregon and Washington reservations to encourage more Native Americans to come to the University. Last fall, 1 percent of U.S. students enrolled at the University were Native American.

Baker said recruitment is one of the more difficult activities NASU does because of what she considers to be the University's minimal support for people of color.

"It's hard to recruit people when there's no Native American studies program and only one Native American teaching faculty," she said.

Next fall, NASU will be sponsoring a conference on indigenous peoples in conjunction with the 500th anniversary of Columbus' voyage to the Americas.

Perhaps the activities NASU is best known for at the University are its twice-yearly free powwows. The first one this year was in October.

The next is scheduled for May 16-17 in McArthur Court. Baker said people from all over the country will be participating. Although the group has not set a final date, NASU would also like to have a Native American film festival some day close to the spring powwow.

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**A lot of campus rapes start here.**  
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For further information, you may contact any one of these resources:  
• Sexual Assault Support Services.....485-6700  
• UO Counseling Center.....346-3227  
• UO Crisis Line.....346-4488  
• UO Student Health Center.....346-4441  
• Dean of Students.....346-3210  
• UO Office of Public Safety.....346-5444  
• UO Women's Center.....346-4096  
• Men Against Rape.....346-4206  
• Gay and Lesbian Hotline.....683-2428  
Sponsored by the Office of the Dean of Students,  
Unwanted Sexual Behavior Task force.

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**THE FAR SIDE** By GARY LARSON  
"Keep the door shut, Ernie! I just know that dang cat is going to try dragging that thing into the house."