Tutoring tucked away below PLC

Emerald Contributor

Tucked away in the dark recesses of the basement in Prince Lucien Campbell Hall, Academic Learning Services may be one of the University's best kept secrets.

But for the 1,300 students who venture into ALS, it can be just the right nudge needed to make it through a tough class. The service provides tutoring and other instruction for nearly all curriculum on campus.

In Addition to tutoring, Academic Learning Services offers ALS 101, Introduction to University Study. This one- to four-credit course is designed to help students improve study habits, writing ability, exam taking and research tech-

For students seeking calculating help, the math tutors, usually undergraduates, are skilled through calculus (except MTH 150), with some experience in statistics.

And what about struggling writers? Writing tutors are usually first year graduate students who will be teaching Writing 121 or 122. Many come to ALS as experienced journalists or college and high school teachers.

Shannon Greer, a biology major who uses the drop-in math service, said the tutoring is a great resource that sometimes gets stretched too thin.

"At times there are too many students and not enough tutors," she said, adding that she believes more students need help and would come if more tutors were available.

Akiko Tekahara, an Asian studies major who has used the drop-in writing lab for about two years, agreed that ALS could use more tutors.

"They are very helpful checking grammar and structure," she said, "but at the end of the the

quarter sometimes people wait one to two hours

to get help."
Yet Tekahara is quick to praise the quality of instruction. "I hope they increase the number of

tutors available." ALS Tutorial Supervisor Kim Lilley said a shortage of tutors often results from students not thinking in advance.

"The number of tutors hired depends on the demand," she said. "Unfortunately many students do not plan ahead at mid-term and finals time, consequently at these times there is an unusually large number of students seeking help."

Instructors are available, at no cost on a drop-in basis from 9 a.m to 4 p.m.. The office is located in the basement of PLC.

For those wishing to avoid having to wait, for a fee ALS offers small group and individual tutoring through their Residency and Registry pro-

The Residency program is designed for small groups of three to four. At a cost of \$60 per term, per participant, an ALS staff tutor is available for almost every discipline on campus. These tutors are often used for foreign language and math cur-

The registry program consists of a list of ALSqualified student tutors. At a cost of \$5 to \$7 dollars per hour for lower division, and \$6 to \$10 dollars per hour for upper division coursework, ALS will provide the student with up to three names of registry tutors, again for almost any discipline on campus. It is up to the student and tu-tor to negotiate the fee within these guidelines.

To help students pass graduate school entrance exams such as the Graduate Record Exam, and the National Teachers Exam, ALS offers preparatory course work and classroom instruction.

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SU sets fire damage at \$3 million

CORVALLIS (AP) - A fire that destroyed half a building at



Oregon State University may have caused \$3 million in damage, officials said.

Meanwhile, 43 employees were told Tuesday to stay home until the university finds a temporary location for the charred building's mail and printing services.

'Our first concern is for those people who have endured the shock of seeing their workplace and many of their personal belongings go up in flames," said M. Lynn Spruill, vice president for university relations.

University officials were not able to enter the building Tuesday as firefighters knocked down a wall to dampen the few remaining hot spots.

The Industrial Building was valued at \$1.9 million, but total damage to supplies and equipment won't be known for several weeks, said Charles Peckham, director of the department of printing and mailing services. The building contained \$4 million in printing presses.

The \$150,000 computer that runs a press was apparently under water, Peckman said.

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'Our first concern is for those people who have endured the shock of seeing their workplace and many of their personal belongings go up in

> M. Lynn Spruill, vice president for OSU relations.

A \$750,000 printing press had recently been installed in the building and officials hadn't determined if it could be salvaged.

University officials also were worried about several research documents and 2,000 publications, mostly for the school's Extension Service, worth close to \$700,000.

Total damage could reach \$3

million, Spruill said Tuesday.

The building's mailroom had been destroyed and letters left there after 11 a.m. probably were burned, said Dave Stauth, a university spokesman. The mail apparently included a

large batch of admission letters notifying prospective college students that their applications had been accepted, he said.

One Indonesian graduate student was mourning the destruction of 1,500 books he gathered for a library at Syiah Kuala University on the island of Sumatra. Qismullah Yusuf said it had taken him a year to put together the collection of books on reading, veterinary medicine and science, mostly from used book stores.

Wayne Haverson, director of Oregon State's School of Education, said the Indonesian university's library served 16,000 students but was virtually empty except for books donated by Oregon State faculty and sent by Yusuf in 1990.

The fire started about 1 p.m. Monday when hot asphalt leaked into the truck's burners and burst into flames. The river of asphalt ignited 13 vehicles in the parking lot before flames leapt to the Industrial Building.

The fire, fed by thousands of pounds of mail and documents, spread quickly through half the second floor, blowing out windows and sending flames shooting 20 feet in the air.





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