

UNIVERSITY

Police say students must report brutality

By Mandy Baucum
Emerald Reporter

The primary causes for student-police problems on campus are stereotypes and incorrect perceptions, a group of Eugene police officers, administration officials and students agreed Tuesday night.

Students and police are equally frustrated with each other, University Office of Public Safety Director Carey Drayton said at a panel discussion organized by the ASUO.

The problem with police-student relations seems to be related to the officers who work the campus area and the officers that work the downtown area, said Jan Oliver, assistant vice president for institutional affairs.

Oliver said campus police rarely have altercations with students while on the job because they see students during the day, going to class and tending to daily student activities.

"That's why officers like to work the campus," she said.

EPD officer Dennis Baker said all officers who work the campus have asked for the duty.

The problems occur, officers said, because downtown cops are the ones who see students committing crimes while under the influence of alcohol.

Oliver said she has listened to perceptions of both police and students and "there are narrow-minded stereotypes coming from both sides."

Ilona Koleszar, an attorney with the University's legal services, attended the discussion and spoke about the rise she has seen in student altercations, saying there is a "marked increase in these types of contacts."

Koleszar acted as a student advocate, explaining the problems students can encounter from seemingly petty misdemeanors, such as a false swearing on keg licenses.

Students who apply for a



Photo by Pat Malach
OPS Director Carey Drayton told a crowd of 20 people Tuesday night that police and students are equally frustrated with each other.

teaching certificate or state issued licenses encounter difficulties that may also prevent them from getting jobs in an already tough economy, she said.

Another woman from the audience said if more information were given to students on the matter of keg licenses and other misdemeanor offenses, the problem could be lessened.

Drayton said minors who drink are extremely susceptible to rape and sexual assault.

Drayton and the other officers emphasized the importance of telling someone about any incidence of police brutality or harassment as soon as possible.

"We've got to break the silence," Drayton said.

POLICE BEAT

The following incidents were reported to the University Office of Public Safety and the Eugene police department from Nov. 16-23.

- A burglary at the University music building, 961 E. 18th Ave., was reported on Nov. 16. A flute valued at \$300 was taken from a locker. The suspects gained entrance to the building after-hours and cut a lock off the locker. There was no sign of forced entry on the exterior doors of the building. The burglary was the third of its kind in the past three weeks.

- A bike valued at \$900 was reported stolen on Nov. 16. The bike was taken from the 1200 block of East 13th Avenue while the owner was studying in the EMU. The bike was locked to itself, but was not locked to any other object.

- A University student was arrested for assault on Nov. 18. The student is suspected of assaulting another student at the Public Enemy concert in the EMU Ballroom on Nov. 6. The student was the second person arrested as a suspect in the assault.

- A 32-year-old man was arrested for criminal trespass and harassment on Nov. 19. Police found the man lying on a bench on the 1500 block of Kincaid Street. According to police reports, the man was visibly intoxicated and could not sit up straight. When police asked the man how much he had to drink the man replied, "A whole bunch of Old Milwaukee." The man then asked the officer to arrest him. The officer said he intended to take the man to a detoxification center. The man struggled when the officer tried to put him in the car. Once in the car, the man began to kick the window separating him from the officer. The officer then took the man to jail and cited him.

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- A bicyclist and motorist were involved in an accident on Nov. 20. The bicyclist was traveling in the middle of the East 14th Avenue and had no headlight, according to police reports. The bicyclist was attempting to turn left onto Alder Street when she hit a car that was traveling south on Alder and was making a left onto East 14th Avenue. The bicyclist suffered minor cuts and bruises and no one was cited in the accident.

- Police responded to a complaint of people on the roof of an apartment complex on the 700 block of East 15th Avenue. When police arrived at the scene, they observed two men fighting in the alley. According to police reports, the fight was between a resident of the apartment complex and a pledge of the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity. The fight started when pledges of the fraternity jumped on the roof of the complex and challenged the residents of the complex to a fight. Police said all the people at the scene were visibly intoxicated and no arrests were made.

- A University student was cited with unlawful possession of a controlled substance on Nov. 21. Police responded to a call that the student had overdosed at the Riley dorm. The student had taken psilocybin mushrooms by mixing them with tea before drinking the substance. The student was alert and breathing when police arrived. After the student said police could search his room, police found mushrooms and later cited the student at the hospital. The student was released from the hospital after a brief observation.

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