

HIGHER ED UPDATE

Sauceda appointed OMA director

Marshall Sauceda has been appointed director of the University Office of Multicultural Affairs, according to an announcement last Wednesday by University Provost Norman Wessells.

Sauceda, who has served as the office's acting director since September 1990, began his new position Dec. 1. He is responsible for OMA programs supporting the recruitment, orientation, retention and recognition of students of color, among other duties.

"Marshall has demonstrated unusual ability and special talent for the role of director of OMA," said Gerry Moseley, vice provost for academic support and student services.

Holland takes new position

University law school professor and former dean Maurice Holland was named executive director of the Oregon Council on Court Procedures.

Holland, who began the position in late September, replaced law school Professor Fredric Merrill, who died in April 1992.

The OCCP was established in 1977 to publish rules governing pleading, practice and procedure on all civil proceedings in all courts of the state.

Holland received his law degree, master of laws and Ph.D. from Harvard. He was dean of the law school from 1985 to 1991.

Restored meteorite replica unveiled

The University Museum of Natural History unveiled its restored model of the Willamette Meteorite Dec. 6.

The meteorite was found in 1902 near the town of Willamette, which is now a part of West Linn. The model once stood under the Onyx Bridge in the science complex, but it fell prey to graffiti, so the museum adopted the replica with hopes of restoring it.

The Friends of the Museum of Natural History decided last year to undertake the restoration of the weathered model. The group chose local sculptor Peter Helzer to complete the work, which included constructing a new base, repairing damaged areas and applying a weather-resistant outer layer of resin.

Begun begins as college director

David Begun, the former development officer for Pennsylvania State University, took over as the development director for the University's College of Arts and Sciences Oct. 1.

The College of Arts and Sciences encompasses more than 30 departments in the humanities, sciences and social sciences, and it serves as the central academic division of the University.

Begun served as director of development for the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences at Pennsylvania State University from 1990 to the present.

STUDENTS

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lem with both minority representation on campus and ethnic curriculum, but they said change takes time.

The University is working hard to increase minority representation in both faculty and students, said Diane Wong, special assistant to the president for affirmative action and equal opportunity.

"We are moving to become a multicultural university, but higher education doesn't move fast," Wong said. "We do have a target of opportunity program that recruits exceptional minority candidates for faculty positions."

Wong said the University is also planning to develop a comprehensive plan to recruit and retain minority students.

The University must find a way to keep minority students once they enroll, said Mentha Hynes, assistant director of admissions.

"Retention efforts are a priority," Hynes said. "People are disappearing, and the University as a whole is now evaluating the retention rate. We have to take a look at what students are doing once they get here."

Students said they've heard it

all before.

Minority professors often teach ethnic classes without being paid, which is indicative of how deep the University's commitment to diversity lies, said student Jose Balderas.

"If the University really wants to support minority students and faculty, why don't they pay professors who teach some ethnic studies classes?" Balderas said. "Last year, Professor Jim Garcia taught an intro to Chicano Studies class for free. We paid for tuition and books for the class, but he didn't get paid."

Other professors have taught ethnic studies classes without pay, and the situation reflects the University's true indifference to diversity, said Clarence Spigner, assistant professor of anthropology.

"Not being paid is one thing, but I think that speaks to how the University values what we do," Spigner said. "It's one of the things minority professors have to do. It's that extra mile that their white counterparts don't even have to think about."

In addition to feeling isolated, minority students often believe they are unfairly seen as representatives of their entire ethnic group, said Geo. Ann

Baker.

Baker said she is often seen by faculty and students as a representative of all Native Americans, when she really only represents herself.

"I didn't come here prepared," Baker said. "You have to be sure of what you are, of your culture and traditions, because if you aren't, they will hurt you."

Many minority students say they have been tempted to leave the University, but have stayed to get an education.

That's why Shaffer-Strathman decided to return to the University.

"The teachers went on strike, so I came back," he said. "I feel a lot more comfortable than my freshman year because two of my professors, Dr. Coleman and Dr. Spigner, became my counselors."

Shaffer-Strathman said he believes he is getting a good education at the University, but would choose another university if given a chance to start over.

"Realistically, I'd go someplace else — one that had more black students," he said. "College is more than just an academic experience."

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