

## Students air concerns over housing proposal

Eligibility requirements concern several students

By Sarah Clark  
Emerald Reporter

The Office of University Housing is digesting testimony about proposed family housing eligibility requirements, and housing director Michael Eyster said he expects to make a final decision winter term.

The testimony was taken at a Dec. 3 hearing in the EMU.

Some students at the hearing praised the proposal for letting students who are not married — such as homosexual couples — have the same opportunity for family housing as students who are married. However, some said the proposal should specifically recognize domestic partnerships.

Many students objected to the proposal's emphasis on financial need. The proposal would give students with financial need higher priority than for students without financial need, even if the latter have children.

Others objected that undergraduates applying for family housing would have to be at least 21 years old.

Eyster said he is deciding how to process the testimony. The Family Housing Board will be involved in the process, he said. He may enlist the help of other people, too, but he said he has not decided on a format.

"Even though the input (at the hearing) was very controversial and represented a number of different perspectives, I think there's a pattern," Eyster said. "I think we can use that input to make something that will work for a number of different constituencies."

Eyster did not specify which parts of the proposal he will change, saying he is "still open to guidance."

However, Eyster said family housing

**'The housing is so inexpensive, it constitutes financial assistance.'**

— Michael Eyster,  
University housing director

needs new eligibility requirements, because students with financial need should be a higher priority for family housing than students without financial need. Current requirements don't specify financial need.

"The housing is so inexpensive, it constitutes financial assistance," Eyster said. "It seems to me it's only fair to have this based on need."

Students at the hearing who have children said they should have top priority for family housing, even if they don't have financial need.

University Housing has not yet defined "financial need," Eyster said. Housing plans to work with the Office of Student Financial Aid to create a definition, he said.

The proposal defines "financial need" as students who qualify for financial aid, but Eyster said that is a mistake.

Some students will still be classified as having financial need even if they aren't eligible for student financial aid, Eyster said. For example, some students can't get their parents to sign a Financial Aid Form, which they need to apply for aid, he said. Other are disqualified under government technicalities, he said.

Eyster said students who have children will be more likely to have "financial need" than students without children.

"It's going to continue to be primarily families that live (in family housing)," he said.

## Small Frosty to go



Photo by Jeff Paslay

There may not have been enough snow in the Eugene area early Monday morning to build life-size snowmen, but someone left this wee tyke on the back of a car parked in front of the EMU.

## Students say even 'positive' stereotypes are harmful

Assumptions based on race subject minorities to limited roles, say students

By Tammy Batey  
Emerald Associate Editor

When freshman Bryan Murray is at a dance, his white friends often expect him to be the first one out on the dance floor, he said.

Senior Meri Li said when she is in class, fellow students — and sometimes the instructor — expect her to be at the top of the grade curve.

The reason for these assumptions about what they can do well, Murray and Li said, is as plain as the color of their skin.

World War II and Adolf Hitler's attempt to eliminate

the Jews is the reason why Murray and Li experience these subtle stereotypes, said Quintard Taylor, acting director of ethnic studies.

"The international struggle forced people to deal with their own overt racism and overt embracing of white supremacy," Taylor said. "It was much harder to say, 'I believe all blacks are inferior' or 'All Asians are dangerous to society.' There was a shift in the model to more subtle things."

These subtle stereotypes can easily be turned around to have negative implications, Taylor said. For example, if people say African-Americans are good athletes, there's a buried assumption they aren't good scholars.



University students of color say people often make assumptions about what they can do well based on their race. These assumptions may be more subtle than the more obviously negative stereotypes, they say, but they are just as destructive.

Murray once attended a dance, but nobody was dancing. Murray said a white friend told him, "Come on, I know you can do the 'Running Man.'"

"It made me feel weird," he said. "I kind of thought we were past that. I thought we were friends, but there are stereotypes between me and you."

Besides a natural sense of rhythm, people also assume all African-Americans are good at sports, junior Andre Brown said.

Turn to RACISM, Page 5

## WEATHER



The weather system responsible for the icy conditions over the weekend should be swept out of the area by today. Rain will be heavy at times today with the highs in the 40s.

### Today in History

On Dec. 8, 1941, the United States entered World War II as it declared war on Japan a day after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

## STICKS AND STONES ...

CORVALLIS (AP) — Police broke up an early morning snowball fight in Corvallis, that left two people injured near Oregon State University. Police said 200 to 250 people were involved in the melee in front of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity. Two people were hospitalized after being hit by snowballs packed with rocks and tomatoes. Ten windows were broken out at the fraternity house. The morning rush hour was more of a crawl for some Portland commuters Monday as snow fell atop already icy roads. U.S. Highway 26, the main route through Portland's west hills, resembled a parking lot early in the morning commute.

## SPORTS

NEW YORK (AP) — Notre Dame linebacker Jim Lynch, Michigan running-back Ron Johnson, California quarterback Craig Morton and eight other former players will be inducted in the College Football Hall of Fame tonight. The other inductees are defensive lineman Jack Youngblood of Florida; tackle-linebacker Lou Michaels of Kentucky; center-linebacker Larry Morris of Georgia Tech; running back Bob Odell of Pennsylvania; tackle Loyd Phillips of Arkansas; receiver Howard Twilley of Tulsa; tackle Jim Weatherall of Oklahoma; and end Art Weiner of North Carolina.