

COAST

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just for seniors either; we've had some very successful freshmen as well."

Three days a week students attend classes that focus on problems or themes having to do with the Oregon Coast.

Students spend the remaining days on their individual research projects, which they choose and develop throughout the term.

Projects have ranged from developing a permanent plan to save an elk herd, to rearranging Charleston's downtown, to developing an interpretive trail guide for a national recreation area.

Medler said the project ideas, which the students come up with on their own, are endless. He said many research projects, besides giving the students hands-on experience in that area, develop into plans and programs that benefit the Charleston community and the coast.

"If students hadn't have done the leg work, the nation's first estuary marine reserve on the south slew of Coos Bay wouldn't have gotten sanctuary status as quickly," Medler said. "This is an example of something dramatic that actually came from what they did."

Medler said the program has two distinct goals.

"First, we try to give students the skills to solve environmental problems by using and learning marine biology, cartography, landscape architecture classes and analytic skills like political science

to help them in public policy and management to solve these problems," Medler said.

"Everybody wants to save the world, but they need the skills to do it," he said.

Medler said the second goal of OIMB is to teach a broader, more theoretical understanding of environmental issues.

Many OIMB students said they received better grades while in Charleston.

"I got better grades, even though it's a lot of fun, because you're learning and you're right there in it," senior history major Dan Blake said. "If you sleep in for a class, the professors will come in and wake you up."

Medler said the main difference is that students are living in what they're actually studying.

"It's not like walking down 13th Avenue," he said. "Here, you're walking down the bay with the wind in your face and you're studying where you are; it's at your feet and in front of your eyes as opposed to in a text book."

Besides the different educational experience OIMB offers, the social aspect is memorable as well, some students said.

"It's the ideal educational experience because here at the University we're totally detached and there, you're all together and part of the process," Wagner said.

Students and professors alike agreed the weekends, although some students go

home or back to campus on occasion, are a time to relax and party together.

"We have the weekends off, but the program develops its own momentum," Medler said. "Picnics, parties, excursions — it's an all-the-time program."

Medler said the program hasn't denied anyone admittance, but he said certain kinds of people are more conducive to the program's environment than others.

"The right kind of people are those who like to put things together and do things by themselves," Medler said. "Those who like to connect the science area to the social science area and see how things go together are the best for the program."

The only prerequisite class that is needed before acceptance is Introduction to Ecology.

Tuition for OIMB is the same as the campus tuition and the dorm cost are also equivalent to the dorms here. Financial aid can be applied to the program, and most students take between 14 to 20 credit hours, Medler said.

Those interested in applying for the program shouldn't register with Duck Call, Medler said, because the registration is done in Charleston at the beginning of spring term.

Many students who have gone through the program say it's an experience they will never forget. "It's a place I'll always go back to," Wagner said. "There is definitely a part of me that is still there."

FEES

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and the National Organization for Women.

Similar fees are imposed at the other eight UC campuses. The 19 California State University campuses also collect some mandatory student fees.

Anthony Caso, a Pacific Legal Foundation lawyer who helped represent the 36 dissident students in the case, said it would be easy for the university to distinguish between the non-political chess club and the political Sierra Club. He called the ruling a victory for free speech.

"It reinforces the now long line of decisions that individuals may not be compelled by their government to support political activities," he said.

But Mark Himmelstein, lawyer for the Associated Students of the University of California, said the ruling was unworkable. The State Bar, ordered by the U.S. Supreme Court to refund part of lawyers' dues in a similar case, has spent huge sums trying to define political activities, and the university's task would be even more elusive, he said.

Accusing the court of fostering a "tyranny of the minority," Himmelstein asked, "What's the purpose of the university? Is

it simply to create robots who don't think about anything except their major field of study?"

He said he would recommend an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The students originally sued in 1979 and 1980. Lower courts ruled against them, but the state's high court revived the case after the 1990 U.S. Supreme Court decision on State Bar dues.

A state appeals court ruled that political groups could be funded as long as the funding was open to all groups. Panelli disagreed, saying the funding of diverse groups with a mandatory fee merely meant that students on all sides would be offended.

"The university can teach civics in other ways that involve a lesser burden" on dissidents' rights, Panelli said.

He also said a mandatory fee could not be used by the student government to lobby state or local legislative bodies on any issue, because lobbying has no educational benefits for any students except the lobbyists. Arabian agreed with that part of the ruling, saying only on-campus activities qualified for legal protection.

ET ALS

MEETINGS

EMU Board will have a budget meeting today at 2:30 p.m. in the EMU Board Room. For more information, call 346-3720.

ASUO will have a student health insurance committee meeting today at 2 p.m. in the Student Health Center Medical Library. For more information, call 346-3702.

RELIGION

Restoration Campus Ministry will have a discussion titled "Should Public Schools Teach About Religion?" today from 12:30 to 2 p.m. in the EMU Ben Linder Room. For more information, call 726-5480.

MISCELLANEOUS

UO Museum of Natural History will sponsor a presentation and reception with Elizabeth Reid Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Museum of Natural History. For more information, call 346-3024.

EMU Craft Center will present its 13th Annual Family Album Show beginning today and continuing through Sunday, Feb. 14 in the EMU Fir Room. Exhibit times are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 1 to 5 p.m. weekends. For more information, call 346-4361.

Japanese Student Organization will have a table in Room 111 Pacific today from 3:30 to 5 p.m. For more information, call 344-6784.

OSPIRG will have a legislative watch campaign table today from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. outside the EMU fishbowl. For more information, call 346-4377.

K. C. Gorman will have an exhibit at the Argus Fine Arts Corporation beginning today and continuing through March 20th. There will be a reception and gallery walk today from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. For more information, call 344-5580.

Jewish Student Union will be giving away tree saplings today from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the EMU lobby. For more information, call 346-4366.

Deadline for submitting Et Als to the Emerald front desk, EMU Suite 300, is noon the day before publication.

University to host law forum

By Sarah Clark
Emerald Reporter

Sarah Weddington, who represented Jane Roe in Roe vs. Wade, will discuss her struggle to keep the landmark abortion rights case afloat at the 1993 Women's Law Forum Conference Saturday.

The conference, which begins with a Friday night reception in Geringer Hall, is designed to look at how far women have come in society and where they should be in the future, said Sarah Krick, co-director for the conference.

"The conference will discuss, deal with and resolve issues that have evolved as a result of women moving forward in all realms of life," Krick said. "It's not going to be a legally oriented conference that's difficult to understand."

The conference is open to the public free of charge. Weddington will deliver her keynote address Saturday at 5 p.m. in Room 129 Law.

Saturday's events include a series of panel discussions in Room 129 Law, with topics ranging from scandal-tainted U.S. Sen. Bob Packwood to birth control in different religions. Panel members include a former Oregon Supreme Court justice, several University professors and a witch.

A look at the "super mom" syndrome starts the series. Panel members will discuss how women have better access to the workforce now, and how child care, elder care and related issues can be improved.

Betty Roberts, the former justice who has been instrumental in pushing the U.S. Senate Ethics Committee into examining the accusations against Packwood, will be one of the panel members during the discussion of Packwood and sexual harassment. The panel will analyze how men in positions of power have traditionally gotten away with sexual harassment, and what society can do to change that, Krick said.

A panel on recent developments in the law will include law Professor Caroline Forell, whose research helped make Oregon the first state to ban sex between attorneys and their clients. Other panelists will discuss gender bias in the courtroom, such as a husband-and-wife crime team that is charged differently, and other issues.

A Catholic nun and a witch comprise part of a panel discussing women and religion. The panelists will describe the role women play in their religions and how they view birth control.

Cash

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Good through February 27, 1993.