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# Law conference begins today

By Scott Andre  
Emerald Reporter

Billed as the largest student-run gathering of its kind in the world, the 11th annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference begins today at the University law school.

Organized and hosted by the law student group Land, Air and Water, this year's conference focuses on protecting indigenous cultures around the world and on exploring possible solutions to the continuing Northwest timber stalemate.

"The primary, holistic concern (of the conference) is the continued degradation of indigenous persons' ancestral homelands around the world in the face of continuing population expansion and development," said LAW co-director David Evans.

Ancestral homelands currently threatened by population expansion and development range from areas as far south as the Amazon rainforest to the northern reaches of James Bay, Canada, Evans said.

During the conference, which runs March 4-7, an international array of attorneys, scholars and activists will lead about 20 panel discussions on legal, cultural and sociological concerns facing indigenous people worldwide.

Panel topics include preserving sacred land sites, Indian religious issues and cultural resource preservation.

"At a minimum, we want to give indigenous persons the voice that they deserve so that they can be heard and that their vision can be seen by mainstream Americans," Evans said.

In addition to panels focusing on indigenous people's issues, the conference will feature about 60 panels that address a wide range of environmental issues.

Some of these topics include international per-

spectives on the North American Free Trade Agreement, poaching and environmental cleanup efforts.

Anyone interested in attending a panel discussion should register at tables set up in front of the law school this afternoon. Admission is free, but LAW is asking for donations of \$10 to \$25.

Conference brochures, which include a complete listing of panel topics, are available before noon today in Room 161 Law.

One of the most high-profile panels is slated for Friday and addresses Northwest forest and logging concerns. Moderated by Congressman Peter DeFazio, the panel will feature representatives from local timber industry and environmental groups.

"I just hope (this panel) is a significant step in educating and bringing together the diverse interests in the Northwest," DeFazio said. "We're going to have to have some common ground to move forward. The solution (to the timber crisis) is going to be national legislation, but we're going to have to live with it. And it would be helpful if we're invested in that solution and if we help to construct it."

The Northwest forest summit panel discussion begins at 2:30 p.m. Friday in the law library's instructional media classroom. The event is closed to the public, but will be broadcast live on the University's ED NET closed-circuit television system to 16 community colleges and state universities in Oregon.

Viewers can call in questions from any of the 16 reception sites during the broadcast, said John Greynanus, a campus ED NET coordinator.

Locally, students can watch the panel and call in questions from the University's Prince Lucien Campbell Hall auditorium. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at the conference registration tables this afternoon.

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### MEETINGS

**Unwanted Sexual Behavior Outreach Committee** will have an informational meeting on training of trainers tonight from 5:30 to 6:30 in EMU Gumwood Room. For more information, call 346-3227.

**Outdoor Program** will present "Nepal Whitewater Journey," a slide show by Eric Evans and Charlie Munsey, tonight at 7 in Room 100 Willamette.

**Incidental Fee Committee** will have budget hearings tonight at 6:30 in EMU

Cedar Room C regarding the following groups: Crises Center, Avenu, WCT, Constitution Court, Saferide and ISA. For more information, call 346-3749.

**Southeast Asian Studies** brown bag talks will present "The Thai King and His Multiple Roles" by Dr. Gerald Fry today from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in EMU Cedar Room B. For more information, call 346-1521.

**Pacific Island Studies** will have an informal discussion on historic preservation and cultural conservation in the Pacific with Dr. Felicia Beardsley today

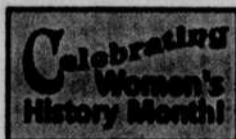
from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. in Room 313 Condon. For more information, call 346-1521.

**APASU** will meet and have nominations for co-directorship tonight at 6 at the Counseling Center. For more information, call 346-4342.

**President's Office** will present an informational meeting on new proposals regarding anti-sexual harassment and other discrimination rules today at 3:30 in Room 110 Willamette.

**Circle K International** will meet tonight at 7:30 in EMU Cedar Room A. For more information, call 484-0989.

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judi johnson • operations personnel manager

judi began working at the bookstore here 27 years ago. She now handles all staffing, employee benefits, and ordering supplies. She is highly creative, enjoys travel, sports, grandchildren, crocheting, watching people, and listening.

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A: Part-time lessons

q: What do you like most about your job at the Bookstore?  
A: Like the people I work with and the UO students & faculty I have met over the years

q: As a woman, what do you bring to your work?  
A: Caring for all, a mothering if you will, and an organized view of my job

q: What would you like most to see happen for women?  
A: Equality for all



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