

Proposed housing rules would violate state law

□ The University will work to modify non-marriage rules

By Sarah Clark
Emerald Reporter

Proposed changes to family housing eligibility requirements violate an Oregon Administrative Rule that requires childless University undergraduate family housing residents to be married.

The proposed changes would eliminate marriage as a consideration for family housing, according to a draft of the proposal.

The University will have to spend another six to 10 weeks changing OAR 571-22-105 before it can adopt the new eligibility requirements, said Alison Baker, executive assistant to University President Myles Brand.

The process would require another hearing if it is requested, she said.

University Housing Director Mike Eyster said he'd hoped to adopt the new requirements this week so they would be ready for fall applicants. However, he said he doubts the delay will change either the new rules or their implementation date.

The new requirements place highest priority on students with financial need, which would be calculated by subtracting major expenses such as tuition and child care from household income. If expenses exceed income, the student has financial need.

"Family housing constitutes a significant form of financial assistance, Eyster said. "It's only fair that financial aid need be the highest priority."

Currently, University Housing gives priority to students with children or married students without children.

At a December hearing on the proposal, students applauded the University's

HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

PROPOSED PRIORITIES APPLICANTS WITH FINANCIAL NEED

1. Student(s) with child(ren)
2. Graduate student(s) without child(ren)
3. Undergraduate student(s) 21 years of age or older without child(ren)

APPLICANTS WITHOUT FINANCIAL NEED

4. Student(s) with child(ren)
5. Graduate student(s) without child(ren)
6. Undergraduate student(s) 21 years of age or older without child(ren)

OLD PRIORITIES

1. Graduate students with child(ren)
2. Undergraduate students with child(ren)
3. Married graduate student(s) without children
4. Married undergraduate students without children
5. Single graduate students

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attempt to end discrimination against gays and lesbians by eliminating marriage as a consideration for family housing.

However, students expressed concern this would encourage roommates to sign up for family housing. As apartments filled with students who don't have children but qualify for financial need, students testified, the idea of "family" housing could be destroyed.

Housing officials point out that students with children who qualify for financial need will always have top priority.

"You'll always have turnover," said Family Housing Director Ron Tendick. "Any time you have turnover, people with children will get in first."

Students at the hearing said the problem could be solved if the University would distinguish between students who are just roommates and students who live together in domestic partnerships.

But University Housing can not put priority on those people because Oregon state

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Charitable brew



Photo by Anthony Forney

Full Sail Ales marketing assistant Catherine Dutcher draws a tall cool one for a beer lover attending the microbrew convention Saturday. The convention was a benefit for the Easter Seals Society.

Psychologist, students offer tips to cool school stress

□ Symptoms range from concentration problems and anxiety to shaky hands

By Scott Andre
Emerald Reporter

Near the end of the term, Greg Evans, a clinical psychologist with the University counseling center, said he often sees stressed-out students who say they can't concentrate.

"They pick up a book, and after half an hour, they realize they're still on the same page," Evans said.

Stress-related concentration problems can show up in more dramatic ways, too.

"Some students have the symptom of just going blank in a test, or thinking (they are) in the wrong room and taking the wrong test because they don't recognize the prob-

lems," said Mary Brau, an adviser with Academic Learning Services.

University senior John Thomas once blanked out before an art history midterm. Listening to his classmates' conversations before the test began, Thomas realized he "had no idea what anyone was talking about."

Thomas said he finished the test, but dropped the class shortly thereafter.

Concentration problems are just one sign of stress, Evans said. Other symptoms can include anxiety, depression, insomnia, headaches, stomach aches and shaky hands.

The symptoms stem from the "fight-or-flight" response, where the body produces high levels of adrenaline in response to a danger, such as meeting a bear in the woods, Brau said.

However, college students are more likely to encounter

dangers that require mental, rather than physical responses — exams, papers and projects. The result is an adrenalin-primed body with no place to go.

And that translates into stress.

"If you are not dealing with that stress by Finals Week, or the end of the term, the stress is just going to keep inching up," Evans said. "It's almost like a hydraulic system."

So how can students cope?

Senior Diana Kirk said she used to be "a classic stress case" when it came to taking tests and writing papers. She got stomachaches and said she spent too much time worrying about stress.

Now, when exams approach and paper due dates draw near, Kirk blows off steam by climbing on a stairmaster or stepping her way through an aerobics class at a local health club.

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WEATHER

Today will bring mostly cloudy skies complimented with occasional showers, possibly breaking up in the evening. Highs will be in the mid 50s.

Just A Reminder

This is the final issue of the Emerald for winter term. The Emerald will resume publication March 29.

HATE CRIMES GO NATIONAL

Washington (AP) - Criminals acting out of bias against minorities would get longer jail time under a "hate crime" bill gaining ground in Congress despite qualms it would curb individual rights.

"We've seen the bigots drive a wedge through the heart of American society," said Rep. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y. "It's long overdue for the good people to send a message to the bad: Intolerance won't be tolerated."

Schumer's measure is part of a broader movement within the city councils, state legislatures and elsewhere across the country to combat what sponsors call a wave of hate crimes by violent skinheads, gay bashers and a host of other bigoted lawbreakers.

At least 20 states have laws authorizing longer sentences for crimes prompted by bias against racial, ethnic and other minorities.

SPORTS

The Oregon women's basketball team ended its season with a 90-74 loss to California in Berkeley.

The Bears jumped out to a 21-4 lead to start the game, but the Ducks were able to cut Cal's lead to nine points by halftime. Oregon was down by only six early in the second half, but the Bears went on a 21-2 run to put Oregon away.

Debbie Sporcich hit eight of 16 shots in her bid for a Pacific-10 Conference shooting record.

Unfortunately, the Bears' Kesha Martin hit seven of 11 shots to finish with a 60.5 percentage for the season, compared with Sporcich's 60.2 season percentage.