

## Free clinics will provide immunizing

Parents who have not yet immunized their children may do so Friday at free clinics to be offered in Eugene and Springfield.

Children who are 18 months or older should be immunized for polio, meningitis, measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis B, diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis, said Jeannette Bobst, Lane County Public Health Service manager.

Bobst said that about 50 percent of children five years old and younger in Lane County are not immunized.

"There are a large number of young parents who think it's unimportant and many others who put it off until another day," Bobst said.

Most children in school or licensed day-care centers are immunized, she said.

"If we can keep 95 percent immunized, then that leaves less than 5 percent at risk and reduces the chance that people suffering from immuno-suppressed diseases such as AIDS or those going through cancer therapy will be affected," Bobst said.

The Lane County Immunization Consortium is sponsoring the clinics, which will run from 1 to 4 p.m. Friday at the Whiteaker Center in Eugene and at Saint Alice's School, 1510 F. St., in Springfield.

Parents should bring along any records they have from prior immunizations.

## NETWORK

Continued from Page 1

channel that allows one-way, live video transmission and two-way audio interaction.

In other words, people watching at a Network I reception site can interact with the broadcast by calling the transmit site by telephone. Gov. Barbara Roberts conducted her 1991-92 "Conversations with Oregonians" on this system.

In addition to Network I's transmission sites, state ED NET coordinators eventually plan to install 500 reception sites around the state at public schools, state agency field offices, libraries, hospitals and community learning centers.

Like Network I, Network II is also transmitted by satellite, but this channel allows two-way video interaction in addition to two-way audio action. In other words, people can see each other as well as talk to each other on Network II.

In Eugene, the University's ED NET system is housed in the Instructional Media Center at the Knight Library. Technicians completed work on the school's Network I transmission site in February, said Jim Mahoney, IMC director.

Network I transmissions originating from the University are beamed by microwave from the roof of the library to a reception tower owned by Eugene Fox affiliate KLSR-TV, Mahoney said. From KLSR's tower, the signal is transmitted to an adjacent Oregon Public Broadcasting tower, then sent by microwave up the Willamette Valley to relay stations in Corvallis, Salem and, finally, Portland.

Once in Portland, the signal is up-linked to a communications satellite orbiting 22,300 miles above the equator and is shot back down to reception sites throughout Oregon.

The University's Network I transmission site saw its first action March 5 during the Public Interest Environmental Law Conference, where representatives from timber and environmental groups took part in a live, televised "Northwest Timber Summit." During the broadcast, panelists took calls from 16 reception sites around the state.

In addition to Network I, the University's Network II transmission site has operated since last summer, Mahoney said.

Unlike Network I, Network II does not require a microwave relay system. Instead, it transmits directly from the roof of the Knight Library to an orbiting satellite.

Now that both systems are up and running, University educators and administrators are looking for ways to utilize this interactive, high-tech telecommunications system.

### Educational applications

"We're still trying to figure out what the benefits are," said Carl Hosticka, University professor, state representative and member of the ED NET steering committee. "The theory is that it allows you to deliver your educational programs to a wider audience. It literally allows you to be in more than one place at one time."

The ability to have faculty in more than one place at one time appeals to Curt Lind, director of the University continuing education program.

"We could use it in the place of sending faculty to off-campus sites," Lind said. "We currently have sites around the state (e.g. Portland, Coos Bay, Bend and Roseburg), where we send faculty routinely and the notion is that the ED NET resource will allow us to keep faculty here in Eugene and simply transmit those lectures to off-campus sites."

While Lind and his colleagues investigate ED NET's possibilities, some departments on campus are already teaching courses on the system.

For example, the University's computer science department is teaching a course in conjunction with Oregon State University's computer science department this quarter on Network II, Root said.

Professors teach one half of the course from Oregon State's Network II studio and teach the other half of the course from the University's studio.

Other University departments plan to teach courses on ED NET in the near future. The College of Education plans to offer a sequence of courses in special education on system beginning the fall term of 1993.

"We're delighted to have the ED NET technology," said Dianne Ferguson, an associate professor of special education who is coordinating the project.

Ferguson said ED NET broadcasts will allow teachers in rural communities such as Burns, La Grande, Ontario and Medford to take required special education courses without having to commute to Eugene.

In addition to the departments of computer science, continuing education and the College of Education, Hosticka said he believes the University's business college could use ED NET to reach students in Southern Oregon.

"One of the things we're talking about is consolidating some of the business programs in the state," he said. "One of the places that may lose some local business programs would be at Southern Oregon State College. There still might be students who need business education there, so ED NET could help deal with that problem."

### Obstacles remain

Before they begin widely using ED NET, educators must clear a few obstacles. The biggest hurdle they face is cost: Each academic department must pay for its own programming.

According to the IMC's Mahoney, renting satellite time on Network I costs \$160 an hour. Satellite time on Network II costs \$30 an hour.

Mahoney said Network II is less expensive to run because it uses a compressed video signal, which takes less bandwidth space on a satellite channel than a Network I signal. Consequently, Network II broadcasts do not transmit on-screen motion as well as Network I does.

In addition to renting satellite time, edu-

cators must also pay a crew of people to produce their broadcasts.

"Any time you see any television program and you look at the credits when it is over, you've got a half-dozen to a dozen people that supported that program," Mahoney said. "You have graphic support, audio support, engineering support, directing support. You have camera operators and floor managers."

Will program costs prevent educators from using ED NET? So far, the answer is "no."

Federal and state grants are available to fund programming.

For example, a \$300,000 federal grant currently funds a baccalaureate degree program in nursing that is broadcast from Oregon Health Sciences University in Portland to five sites in the Willamette Valley coastal region, Root said. The grant also funds degree programs in liberal studies and agribusiness from Oregon State.

In Eugene, the University's College of Education has applied for federal grants and state matching funds to help pay for its upcoming special education course on ED NET, Professor Ferguson said.

In addition to federal and state money, ED NET administrators hope that high student demand will help keep programming costs down.

"If you're sending out to a dozen sites with one person each there, it could be quite expensive," Hosticka said. "If you send it to tow with 60 people each, then it could become an efficient way to do it, from a monetary point of view."

Programming costs aside, Mahoney said educators must overcome two constraints before they fully utilize ED NET. First, educators must get used to lecturing in front of two or three television cameras.

"I've seen instructors come in for their presentation and freeze," he said. "They'll actually get white knuckles holding on to the podium."

To prevent this form of stage fright, Mahoney said he encourages instructors to come in and practice lecturing in front of the cameras.

The second constraint educators must overcome is in redesigning their teaching methodology to suit the medium of broadcast, Mahoney said.

"The methodology is totally different from that which is used in the classroom," he said. "So we encourage instructors to come over as early as a semester before and work with us."

Mahoney said instructors can supplement their broadcast lectures with computer graphics and videotape inserts. However, teaching aids such as these require a lot of preparation and planning.

In short, ED NET offers educators the opportunity to reach a wider range of students in more parts of the state. But before professors can widely use the system, they must obtain funding for their programs and devise new teaching methods.

"There's a lot of different questions that we'll have to work out in practice," Hosticka said.

## ET ALS

### MEETINGS

**Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Alliance** will meet tonight at 6 in EMU Suite 319. For more information, call 346-3360.

**Asian- and Pacific-American Student Union** will conduct an election for its spring term co-director today at 5 p.m. in the APASU office. For more information, call 346-9315.

**American Indian Science and Engineering Society** will meet tonight at 6 in EMU Cedar Room B. For more information, call 687-7127.

**Jewish Student Union** will meet today at 4:30 p.m. in EMU Suite 5. For more information, call 346-4366.

**Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Alliance** weekly lunch group will meet today from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in EMU Suite 319. For more information, call 346-3360.

### RELIGION

**United Methodist Ministry** invites students to Wesley Night Fellowship for topical discussion tonight at 7. For more information, call 346-4694.

### MISCELLANEOUS

**International Education and Exchange** will present a follow-up tax assistance workshop for international students and faculty tonight from 7 to 9 in the EMU Walnut Room. For more information, call 346-3206.

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