

ET ALS

MEETINGS

Sister University Project will meet tonight at 5:15 in EMU Century Room A. For more information, call 346-3194.
Returning Students Association will meet tonight at 5 in Room 232 Gilbert. For more information, call 346-4305.
Student Senate will meet tonight at 6 in EMU Century Room A. For more information, call 346-0630.

RELIGION

Bible Study on "Praying with the Scriptures" with Rev. Janet Cromwell, will meet today from 1:30 to 2:15 p.m. at the Wesley Foundation, 1236 Kincaid St. For more information, call 346-4694.

MISCELLANEOUS

Southeast Asian/International Studies programs will present Dr. Nguyen Kim Cuc and Mr. Hoang Cong Thuy, the first Vietnamese intellectuals to accept in-resident visiting professorships at an institution of higher learning in the United States during the post-Vietnam War era, to talk today from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in the EMU Oak Room. For more information, call 346-1521.

Academic Advising will sponsor "Applying to Law School," discover the best majors and courses and learn how to prepare for the LSAT, today at 3:30 p.m. in Room 164 Oregon Hall. For more information, call 346-3211.

Scholar details changes in Africa

By Mandy Baucum
 For the Oregon Daily Emerald

The changes in Africa have been both good and bad since the end of the Cold War, said an internationally known African scholar at a University lecture Monday night.

Dr. Ali Mazrui, originally of Kenya, said one of the things Africa benefits from in the post-Cold War era is the United States' effort to advocate peace.

"The world is not telling Africans to kill more," he said. "They are helping Africans make peace instead of promoting violence."

Mazrui said the United States sold more weapons for warring countries during the Cold War than it does now. This eventually cost many warring countries huge debts.

But there are costs of the post-Cold War era as well. Mazrui said the Africa lost many allies who previously had called themselves socialists.

Mazrui said many countries, such as Czech and Hungary, are

no longer interested in third-world countries, they want to follow America's lead.

Also, India will probably become one of Africa's rivals as a result of the post-Cold War era, Mazrui said.

Mazrui said he wasn't criticizing the possibility of his predictions but just wanted to make his people aware of them.

"Africans should know there is a cost that comes with these changes," he said.

Mazrui said during the Cold War era African-Americans were asked to forget about their African roots.

"Forget where you came from, remember what you look like. Forget you're African, remember you are black, look at the mirror don't look at the map. ... Forget your triumphs, remember your fears. ... Forget your potential. Remember your current impotence," he said.

Mazrui said that now that the Cold War is over, a more global African community is forming and there is a trend in which

'Forget you're African, remember you are black, look at the mirror don't look at the map.'

— Dr. Ali Mazrui,
 African scholar

blacks recognize their African ancestry, but yet remain American.

For example, Mazrui said, the Rev. Jesse Jackson was one of the activists who helped bring the term African-American to the English language and yet ran for president — an example of support for the American political system.

"Jackson campaigned for a Pan-African name but was not incompatible with American politics," he said.

This phenomena is an example of the globalization rather than "tribalization" of African heritage, Mazrui said.

Volunteers frustrated by their limits

By Tammy Batey
 Oregon Daily Emerald

The call was like many student volunteer Kristina Vatne answered on the Sexual Assault Support Services crisis line.

The caller said her boyfriend raped her 10-year-old daughter a couple of days earlier. The woman's voice shook as she told Vatne she didn't know if she could keep on living.

After half of an hour, the woman hung up because her boyfriend was getting off work and would be coming over soon. Vatne feared for the safety of the woman's daughter, but she had no way of reaching the woman or her daughter.

Vatne took a few deep breaths as she had after other tough calls. Her frustration was nothing new.

Student volunteers share Vatne's frustration. They say they feel good knowing they're helping people in need. But they feel bad at the limits to the time and help they have to offer.

Last year, Michele Hanna felt that frustration. She worked eight hours on Wednesdays talking with kids who were placed in the Skipworth Juvenile Detention Center after committing crimes. Kids sometimes told her about their crimes, but they avoided talking about their families.

The kids at the detention center were wise for their years, Hanna said. The 10-year-old to 17-year-old center residents knew volunteers like Hanna were temporary and held back in expressing their emotions, she said.

"They know eventually we won't be here or they won't be here," she said.

Kids filter quickly through the center, where they usually spend about two weeks. Repeat offenders may be transferred to the MacLaren Training School for Boys in Woodburn or the Hillcrest Training School for Girls in Salem. Some kids go home and others are moved to foster homes.

The kids stay at the center only a few weeks. But the ones Hanna met taught her some frustrating lessons about volunteer work.

A 14-year-old boy once told Hanna he was looking forward to getting out because his uncle would buy him alcohol. Hanna didn't know what his crime was but knew of his former addictions to alcohol and drugs.

"Why would you want to go back to that?" she asked. The boy looked at her point-blank and said, "You have no idea what it's like, do you?" It was tough for Hanna to hear him tell her what she already knew: There was only so much she could do.

Terrance Cathey volunteers six hours a week at Catholic Community Services of Lane County providing emergency assistance to poor people and homeless people. People in need either call or stop by the office for bus tokens, clothing, food boxes or referrals to other service agencies.

Cathey gets a sense of satisfaction knowing the referrals and help he offers will give poor and homeless people a full belly or a place to sleep for a night.

But Cathey often has no way of getting in touch



Photo by Anthony Forney
 Kristina Vatne, who volunteers for Sexual Assault Support Services' crisis line, said volunteering is a fragile mix of satisfaction and frustration.

with someone he's helped. He said he's frustrated when he thinks of a resource to refer someone to after they've hung up the phone or left the office.

The emergency assistance branch of Catholic Community Services has a limited amount of cash it can give to people. If a homeless person has family members living outside the city and can shell out 75 percent of the cost of a bus ticket, the service will provide the rest. But that's about the extent of its monetary contributions.

Thin people come in wearing torn, dirty clothes and say they're hungry and need food. They also need money to get back on their feet. Instead of cash, Cathey hands them a food box, but he knows the food will only last a few days. After that, the people will return again — hungry and tired. Cathey wishes there were more he could do.

"It's frustrating to always say 'no' to people in need," he said.

Student volunteers like Kristina Vatne say volunteering is a fragile mix of satisfaction and frustration. Vatne believes she helps women just by agreeing that what happened to them was rape. At the end of many conversations, callers sound more confident in themselves. But Vatne also talks to a few callers hitting the bottom who call the crisis line and ask "Why can't you do anything for me?"

As a volunteer, Vatne said she must recognize her limitations. She sometimes recommends callers seek professional counseling. She knows a 20-minute conversation is not always enough.

"We're not superheroes," she said. "But at least we're there and we're trying."

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