

Fall in full bloom



Denell Solberg, junior in journalism, chooses a lily from the University Rhythm & Blooms stand.

LESLIE GALLIANO/Emerald

Students allege discrimination from professor

□ Professor Arnulf Zweig denies all harassment charges

By Edward Klopfenstein
Oregon Daily Emerald

Alleged sexual harassment victim Sandra Newman doesn't just point fingers at her former teacher, Professor Arnulf Zweig, she also blames the University for maintaining a system that ignores the rights of University students and staff.

"The issue is a system that allows people like Zweig to continue to harass women," she said in a telephone interview Saturday. "What I'm interested in is that these issues need to be addressed."

In the complaint filed with the attorney general's office, Newman said she will do whatever is necessary to end not only harassment by Zweig, but also "to correct the philosophy department's systematic discrimination against female graduate students."

Allegations of sexual harassment were confirmed by the Dec. 16, 1991, resignation letter of Professor Catherine Wilson, chairwoman of the philosophy department before Zweig. A section of the letter was included in Newman's complaint.

Wilson said in the letter that many of the department's graduate students complained of being "systematically" oppressed. Wilson decided the complaints were not so much sexual harassment, but loose talk by faculty

Turn to ZWEIG, Page 3A

Resident assistant position defies easy explanation

□ RA keeps order, pulls pranks

By Arik Hesseldahl
Oregon Daily Emerald

Whenever you read these words, you can bet Larry Hoffman has already been busy at work.

Pay Hoffman a visit or a phone call as late as 1 a.m., and you are likely to get a civil answer, rather than a rancorous monster raving about lack of sleep.

The earliest hours of the morning are considered prime working hours among those in Hoffman's profession. Hoffman

is one of 56 RAs in the University Housing system. All humorous explanations of the initials aside (most cannot be printed here), the letters stand for Resident Assistant, and the job defies an easy description to those unfamiliar with dorm life.

Conventional wisdom, and just a bit of traditional college mythology, have carved certain expectations of the RA role in dormitory life into stone. Yes, it is true, RAs do tend to break up dorm parties, but Hoffman, a third-year RA in McClain Hall, will tell you there is nothing fun about that end of the job.

"Who in their right mind would want

to piss off the 800 people they live with?" Hoffman asked rhetorically of the idea that RAs are on power trips.

"Having to document an incident (usually a dorm party) is the worst part of the job. I try to take the position of helping the person who has made the choice to party in the dorms understand the possible consequences of their actions. In some cases they're not mature enough to see it that way," he said.

It makes you wonder how and why he started the job, or why anyone would.

"I've always been a student activist," he said, and ran down a long list of previous student leadership positions,

including various high school positions and Grand Poobah of his sophomore dorm.

After two years of majoring in indecision (four majors and six minors), the RA position helped Hoffman zero in on a management and finance double major, and to pursue a career in human resources. This year he will write a senior thesis on the role of RAs as educators.

"For anybody who wants to work with people, this is the most incredible job," he said. "I think of it like an internship. Most internships are not worth the mon-

Turn to DORMS, Page 13A

Research might carry too much weight in tenure process

□ Commission to address concerns about overemphasis on research and publishing

By Julie Swensen
Oregon Daily Emerald

Whether the granting of tenure at the University weighs too heavily upon the research a professor produces, instead of the quality of that professor's teaching, has been a topic of debate on this campus and campuses nationwide.

It's a fact of life that some professors may not be given tenure because they haven't done enough research, giving true meaning to the phrase, "publish or perish."

Some professors may have believed they didn't have enough time to do research, or have chosen not to, concentrating on other areas. Others may not have been clear as to what the expectations of successful tenure candidates were.

As a result of the current process, some professors say a terrific researcher — who may be barely adequate as a teacher — is more likely to get tenure than a master teacher who may be barely adequate as a researcher.

Tom Wheeler, an associate professor in the journalism school, said he has heard other professors discuss that possibility.

"I think it's fair to say that there is a concern that that is really

the way it is," Wheeler said. "It's a concern that I assume is not mine alone."

At a time when universities across the country are scrutinizing the expectations of teaching and research from faculty, the University is no exception.

The Commission on Faculty Rewards and Development, established by University President Myles Brand earlier this year, is looking into the tenure and promotion process, and could possibly make some changes.

The commission will address — among other issues — whether an instructor could be promoted to professor primarily on the basis of teaching excellence, and whether the quantity of research expected from faculty is emphasized more than quality.

In fields where traditional publishing is not carried out, the commission will address what the proper definition and weight of creative contributions should be for teachers in those fields.

If a faculty member chooses not to publish or do research, the commission should decide what other criteria should be used, according to a mission statement given to faculty from University Professor Dan Udovic, chairman of the commission.

But if the commission does make any changes, those may come too

Turn to TENURE, Page 13A



Second of two parts



Larry Singell