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Asian-American racism prevalent at University

Intolerance: Campus incidents mirror nationwide discrimination

By Edward Klopfenstein
Oregon Daily Emerald

Before coming to the University last fall, Brandon Sugiyama's California friends told him Oregon is a racist state.

Two weeks into the term, Sugiyama was a believer.

While he and a friend were waiting on a red light by the University Inn, a car pulled up next to the car he was in.

It was filled with what seemed like the perfect nuclear family of four with the daughter poking her head out the back window and chatting about his yellow skin.

"What?" he said.

As the light changed and the two cars sped up, she told Sugiyama, "Go back to wherever the fuck

you came from," he said.

For him, home is California. He's American.

Like many Asian-Americans nationwide, Asian-Americans at the University experience a kind of discrimination that attacks deep down to their sense of citizenship.

"Many Asian-Americans on this campus suffer from the model minority myth," said Randy Choy, program coordinator for the Office of Multicultural Affairs. "The Asian-American myth is that they are not aggressive and don't act... People get surprised when Asian-Americans speak out."

Myths like these help ignite hatred against the Asian community here.

On Jan. 10, the bulletin board outside of the APA-SU office was set on fire after the perpetrator carved a swastika into it.

Another swastika was carved into the same board last May.

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Students view letter as ignorant, biased

Controversy: Brand calls Asian-Americans 'international students'

By Edward Klopfenstein
Oregon Daily Emerald

When members of the Asian/Pacific American Student Union think of ignorance, they point to a letter from University President

Myles Brand where he refers to Asian-Americans as "international students."

In the Dec. 23 letter, he politely declined an invitation to APASU's student and faculty reception, then added that, "International students bring significant cultural diversity to our campus."

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UNIVERSITY

Most 3-credit classes will increase to four credits

Change: Beginning fall 1994, students can take one fewer class each academic term

By Heatherle Himes
Oregon Daily Emerald

Curriculum changes at the University will prepare for a future of scarce teaching resources and what the administrators hope will be a larger student population.

But budget constraints prevent the hiring of more teachers.

With that in mind, the University Assembly approved earlier this term a change in the number of credits awarded for most undergraduate classes. Starting fall 1994, students will earn four credits for classes currently offered for three credits.

The change means that full-time students will take one less class per term and still earn a bachelor's degree in four years. It also means that courses now taught in 3-term sequences, such as introductory English courses, will be condensed into two terms.

Because most students will take only four classes each, teachers will not be overburdened.

But faculty and administrators say that teaching more students with fewer teachers is not the entire motivation for the credit conversion.

Most quarter-system universities teach 4-credit courses, University President Myles Brand said. Students study four courses each term.

Students at schools on the semester system take five 3-credit classes each term to graduate in four years. At the University, students have typically been taking five courses per quarter.

"Students have been trying to shove a semester's worth of work into a quarter," Brand said. "Students were complaining 'We're overloaded,' and they were right."

Charles Wright, a math professor involved in redesigning the curriculum, agrees that the workload of students has

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Sam Noell, a sophomore at South Eugene High School, shows off his air move in front of his friend, Oscar Basham.

GOOD MORNING

► SALEM (AP) — Developers have turned over more than 2,000 artifacts unearthed from ancient village sites near the Columbia River to the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community.

The items were found at sites up to 1,000 years old near the boundary between Portland and Gresham. Safeco Properties and Winmar Co., owners of the sites, presented them to the Grand Ronde during a ceremony at the Capitol on Tuesday.

"I can't describe the feeling of knowing that my ancestors used this," said Kathryn Harrison, tribal vice chairwoman and a tribal elder, as she turned a flat, oval stone in her hand.

David Ellis of Archaeological Investigations Northwest said the sites where the items were found existed about 950 A.D. Ellis' firm conducted the archaeological studies for the Seattle development companies.

► OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — A group of students who were

HIGH
48°
LOW
35°



kicked out of a showing of the film "Schindler's List" have invited director Steven Spielberg to participate in a program designed to teach the youths about such issues as genocide and racism.

Spielberg hopes to attend if his schedule allows it, his spokesman said Tuesday.

School officials invited Spielberg to take part in the program a week after 69 Castlemont High School students were ejected from a showing of his film. Patrons had complained that some students laughed at depictions of Nazi atrocities.

Student representatives later apologized for the incident. But they also said the whole group had been unfairly blamed for the actions of a few and denied that anti-Semitism was behind the behavior.