

CREDITS

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been overwhelming.

"In some sense we have been way behind the times," Wright said. "When you look at other universities and look at the carrying load of the students, it's more like four classes, because it's typically 4-credit classes."

Professor Tim Gleason, the chairman of the School of Journalism and Communication curriculum committee, agrees.

"Most of our peer universities are on a 4- or 5-credit model," he said. "We are one of the few universities that used the 3-credit model."

The 3-credit model fragments both learning and teaching, said academic adviser Marliiss Strange. Students and teachers will be better able to concentrate after the 4-credit conversion.

However, Strange said, community colleges are not changing to a 4-credit model. She said this will make the transition to the University complicated for transfer students.

For example, a student at a community college on a 3-credit model takes the first class of Introduction to Literature during fall term. To finish the sequence at the community college, he or she would take two more terms of this class, for a total of nine credits.

If the student transfers to the University winter term and enrolls in the second class of Introduction to Literature, he or she will miss one-sixth of the course content because that year-long course has been condensed into two 4-credit classes.

Registrar Herbert Chereck said he does not expect non-transfer students to be confused when registering under the 4-credit model. However, the course catalog describing the changes will come out two months after students

register for fall 1994.

The change will require some bureaucratic juggling, the curriculum committee said, but the committee further justified the change by saying it will give students greater responsibility for their own learning experience.

The curriculum committee cited Brand's 1992 strategic plan for undergraduate education, which says 4-credit classes will "foster intensity of learning through courses emphasizing in-depth study and guided, independent work."

Despite the increased number of students enrolled in classes, departments will require teachers to give assignments that require critical and analytical thinking, to lead group projects, to increase the amount of class discussion and to encourage students to relate different types of material to each other.

In lower-division classes, three hours of lecture will be accompanied by an hour-long discussion class, a method already used by the history and anthropology departments.

In English classes, students will be required to write papers that are reviewed one-on-one with a graduate teaching fellow and then rewritten.

English Professor Mike Stein told the University Assembly that the opportunity for students to discuss and improve their papers with GTFs would be a valuable experience that is not possible under the 3-credit class structure.

Wright said that taking on challenging coursework is invaluable to students' learning.

"As we do this we're giving students a bigger share of the responsibility for their own learning," Wright said. "Ultimately that is what we hope students would come away from here with — the ability to learn for themselves."

RACISM

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Asian-Americans nationwide experience similar violence.

Last fall, the Japanese American Citizen's League had two of their Los Angeles offices firebombed.

In Texas, activists worked for about a year to change a road named "Jap" to "Japanese", and the town wouldn't budge.

Even in the University's own slide collection located in Lawrence Hall, the classification used for Japanese or Asian is either "Jap" or "Oriental." Both words considered derogatory by most Asian-Americans.

But mostly, APASU members say the discrimination against Asian-Americans here is more subtle.

"People don't know how to deal with you because they look at you and you speak in English," said Scott Fukumoto, co-director for APASU.

Jan Harada, another APASU co-director, said Asian-Americans face that kind of subtle discrimination daily in class.

"(A professor) will say something about Asian history and turn to you and say, 'Isn't that right?' and you're expected to know because you look Asian," Harada said.

Tina Koida, another co-director for APASU, said she ran into a similar problem in the payroll office at the EMU when a clerk asked to see her passport.

"Yes, I have a passport, but I don't know what good it's going to do because I am an American citizen and was born here," Koida remembered herself saying. "She just assumed. I never had anyone ask for that before."

When looking for examples, all of the APASU members point to the University's Office of Multicultural Affairs.

Members say Asian-Americans are ignored in both the OMA's policies and the minority scholarships they administer.

The Underrepresented Minority Achievement Scholarship represents one of the group's biggest concerns.

"You could get a leadership award from the OMA, but you couldn't get a financial scholarship," Fukumoto said. "Their reasoning was that Asian-Americans were overrepresented as a minority, but I think that what they overlooked in that thinking was that in the Asian-American group, there are a lot of different ethnic groups."

Marshall Saucedo, director of the OMA, said he couldn't agree more.

"The scholarship is something we have tried to educate folks on yearly," Saucedo said. "People just don't get the message."

The UMAS, he said, is only managed out of the University's OMA office. It's the Oregon State System of Higher Education that sets policy on the scholarship, he said.

The OMA has pushed to change state policy for several years, Saucedo said, agreeing with APASU that the state's definition of Asian-American is too broad and doesn't further define those people, like first-generation Laotian-Americans, who have real needs for the money.

"If you take people who are Japanese-American or Chinese-American, they might have been here

LETTER

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After students complained about the letter, Brand sent a hand-written reply on Jan. 13 saying, "The mistake was the result of a hurried response made during the press of daily business. But, that's no excuse. I was wrong, and I apologize."

Christopher Simpson, director of the University's communication and marketing department, said the December letter wasn't even written by Brand but by his staff instead.

Simpson agreed that although Brand didn't write it, he is ultimately responsible because he signed it.

APASU members point to the letter as a prime example of how deep ignorance against Asian-Americans runs at the University.

"That's exactly it, and that's the problem," said Jan Harada, APASU co-director. "People will look at us and think we're foreign when we're American."

"He was trying to tell us that it was a busy day and that he had a lot on his mind," said Scott Fukumoto, another APASU co-director.

"So, you just forgot that we're American," Harada said.

for four generations or more, whereas if you take people from Laos ... they are first-generation and a lot of them need that financial aid," Fukumoto said.

"Because they include everyone but us, it's like saying we're not a minority anymore," Harada said.

Robin Brown, director of scholastic relations and academic affairs for the OSSHE, was not available, but her assistant Barbara Nehring said the OSSHE excludes Asian-Americans from the scholarship because they are not underrepresented.

According to the data OSSHE uses to make that decision, more Asian-Americans go to college than any other minority group, she said.

Nehring couldn't break the data down further and also could not answer why the OSSHE doesn't break the Asian-American classification down to into smaller ethnic groups.

Although there is more the OMA could do for undergraduate students, Saucedo said there is, at least, a scholarship open to Asian-Americans entering graduate school.

"Racism, prejudice and discrimination are not as overt as they were when racial segregation was sanctified in this country. Asian-Americans have come a long way," said Jimmy Tokeshi, the regional director for the Pacific Southwest District of the JACL. "Now there is a much more sophisticated level of racism."

Sugiyama agrees, but says discrimination is one fight he will always stand up to.

"I'm going to face racism anyway, throughout my whole life," he said. "I can't just run away from it and stay in safe places."

POLICE BEAT

The following incidents were reported to the University Office of Public Safety and the Eugene police department Jan. 18-26.

- A student reported her wallet stolen on the 1800 block of Ferry Street Jan. 19. According to police reports, the wallet was stolen during a party the woman was attending. The loss amounted to \$45.

- Three people were charged for theft and criminal mischief on the 1700 block of Columbia Street Jan. 20. According to police reports, the suspects were caught while they were breaking into a car, and police found cars in the neighborhood that had just been entered. Cassette players, speakers, tools, compact discs and a vacuum cleaner were among the items the suspects had taken. Two of the suspects were University students.

- A theft from a vehicle was reported on the 1700 block of East 13th Avenue Jan. 20. According to police reports, \$300 worth of property was stolen, including a stereo, speakers, compact discs and an amplifier.

- A student reported a \$200 bicycle stolen from the 1300 block of Agate Street Jan. 20.

- A 19-year-old male was cited for second-degree theft and second-degree forgery on 29th Avenue and Willamette Street Jan.

- 20. According to police reports, the suspects purchased pizza and videos with stolen checks belonging to a student.

- A female student reported a theft from her room on the 1500 block of Agate Street Jan. 21. According to police reports, the student had been away on vacation and found her wallet stolen when she returned. The wallet contained checks, credit cards, cash and a driver's license, amounting to a loss of \$200.

- Criminal mischief was reported on the 1300 block of East 13th Avenue Jan. 21. According to police reports, a \$700 trash can was found broken into pieces at the University Physical Plant. According to police reports, the trash can must have been tipped over, rolled about 100 feet and then rolled over an edge, causing the trash can to break.

- A male student reported his \$800 bicycle stolen from the 1200 block of East 13th Avenue Jan. 21.

- A vehicle was reported stolen at East 15th Avenue and Kincaid Street Jan. 21. According to police reports, a University catering van had been stolen and then recovered at East 18th Avenue and Hilyard Street Jan. 22. The keys to the van were left inside just before the theft occurred.

- A noise complaint was reported on the

- 1400 block of Kincaid Street Jan. 22. According to police reports, a group of yelling people was observed by an officer who heard them scream, "Phi Delta, party party." Then one of the members of the group threw an object through the front window of a car belonging to a female student. When the officer appeared, the people ran away, and police are now looking into the episode.

- A female student reported second-degree criminal mischief on the 1200 block of Alder Street Jan. 22. According to police reports, the student found three of her car tires slashed, which caused \$140 worth of damage.

- Second-degree menacing and criminal trespass were reported at the Kappa Sigma fraternity Jan. 22. According to police reports, three skinheads had knocked on the door of the fraternity and started yelling and screaming: "Heil Hitler." Some fraternity members told them to leave the property as one of the skinheads broke a beer bottle and threatened them to fight. Police officers were dispatched after a phone call, and the three suspects were arrested.

- A student reported a burglary from the 1400 block of East 19th Avenue Jan. 23. According to police reports, somebody

- entered her unlocked room and took \$3 in cash.

- A Lane Community College student was cited for minor in possession and for giving a false name to police officers on East 16th Avenue and Patterson Street Jan. 23.

- A 30-year-old male transient was arrested for trespassing on the 200 block of East 13th Avenue Jan. 24.

- Two 19-year-old males were arrested for shoplifting on the 200 block of East 13th Avenue Jan. 25.

- An officer was dispatched to a suspected graffiti vandal at the EMU Jan. 24. According to police reports, the officer was paged by an OPS officer who requested cover of a disorderly person writing graffiti in the basement of the EMU. The officer tried to contact the other officers over the radio to check if they were safe, but no response was given. OPS tried to reach them, but still no contact was made. The officer realized that this was a situation that could be violent and used his lights and sirens to reach the EMU as quickly as possible and also to warn pedestrians and traffic. When the officer reached the EMU, the suspect was allowed to go, as he had actually just been reading graffiti.