

Foundation hosts fund-raising event

By Stephanie Sisson
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Asian-American Foundation of Oregon raised more than \$7,000 Friday night at the foundation's East-West Auction, its first fund-raising event.

The auction, which took place at the Valley River Inn, attracted 181 attendees, and 123 donated auction items and door prizes. Ken Nagao, treasurer of the Asian-American Foundation, said the event more than fulfilled the foundation's expectations.

"The profits (from the auction) will give us a cash reserve that will start the foundation up," Nagao said.

The nonprofit foundation, which was established just a few months ago by the Eugene-Springfield Asian Council, was created to provide scholarships for students interested in Asian

studies. Nagao said the foundation just received an enviable 501C3 charitable foundation status from the IRS, which allows people who donate cash to the foundation to get full tax credit.

Membership in the foundation is open to anyone interested in Asian or Asian-American cultures. Many of the foundation's current members come from organized Asian ethnic community groups such as the Philippine American Association, the Chinese Benevolent Association and the Japanese-American Community Group.

None of the members of the Asian-American Foundation of Oregon or of the Eugene-Springfield Asian Council receives a salary. All events are run by volunteers, and all profits from events are used for other events in the community.

PROGRAM

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gramming, Cooper said, is recognizing that a dichotomy exists between what residents desire and what the University wants students to know. Ideally, successful programs meet both ends of that dichotomy. Cooper gauges student interests through a careful watch of the media.

"I watch MTV and read *Rolling Stone* magazine for ideas. I watch contemporary trends, and keep track of what's popular," she said.

Once Cooper thinks of a program idea, she "develops it by thinking of steps which would be necessary to make the idea work." Those steps include good publicity, preparation, and timing.

"A program wouldn't go well if it was during the middle of midterms or finals week," Cooper said.

Among the more successful

events Cooper has put on was a debate over whether or not *Beavis and Butt-head* is art or trash. Cooper brought in two professors from the School of Journalism, and 40 people attended the discussion. A recent Valentine's Day dance organized by Cooper drew more than 100 residents.

"For the most part, I have never walked away from a program disappointed," Cooper said.

Freshman Erin O'Brien, who is applying for a PA position next year, believes she can improve the success of programs through better publicity.

"Better advertisement would make the programs work better. A lot of times, I don't know of many programs until the night they're put on," O'Brien said.

O'Brien would also like to put on social events, such as more dances, which could increase the unity between the halls within a complex.



What is the most useless thing you have learned in college so far?

"The fact that the centrifugal forest doesn't exist."



BRIAN MURPHY
theater, junior

"The names of the horses in the Trojan wars."



SANDY LAUREN
general science, sophomore

"Two terms of calculus."



BETH WAHLIN
history, junior

"Sigmund Freud's theory of child development."



CHRIS STAFFORD
general science, sophomore

"The entire computer information science sequence."



TED MILLER
journalism, junior

"The approximation error of Simpson's rule."



CYNTHIA RYAN
journalism, freshman

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