

CHRISTIAN

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been thinking about the University's religious studies department when he was making out his will at least a decade ago.

Professor J.T. Sanders said not much at all is known about Gaston, save the fact that he was a native of Astoria before coming to Eugene to attend the University. Apparently, there had been no previous indications that he would suddenly decide to donate \$113,000 of his estate to what would be, in his own words, "teaching activity related to the Christian religion."

But why wonder? The University graciously accepted the gift, and subsequently set up a committee, chaired by Sanders, that would decide how best to use it.

Some members of the religious studies department, as well as others from the history, sociology and art history departments determined not to spend the principal sum, but rather the interest on it, so that it might be possible to have some kind of event which could happen on a yearly basis.

While past programs supported by the Ira Gaston Bequest have included "Christianity and Society," "Early Jewish-Christian Relations" and "Evolution and Christian Views on Creation," the committee wanted to do something different this year. Because no program took place last year, there was also a bit extra to spend on this spring's event.

"The idea this year," Sanders said, "is to look at the creative impact of Christianity on the arts."

Thus, the "Christianity and Artistic Creativity" lecture series evolved. The focus will be on the plastic and visual arts, architecture, music, literature and film.

Professors from universities across the country will be speaking on a variety of related topics. Included in the program will be a lecture given by Frank Horbeck, an art professor at the University of Wisconsin, which will examine the history and development of the Mount Athos monastery in Greece.

Other lectures on art and architecture will be "Christianity and the Arts," given by Professor Doug Adams, of the Pacific

School of Religion in Berkeley, and "Christianity and Architecture," presented by the University of Notre Dame's Thomas Gordon Smith. Both intend to focus on how Christian themes have significantly influenced the works of some modern artists and architects.

In addition to the lectures, the movies *Jesus of Montreal* and *Ironweed* will be shown, and University of Houston Professor Ted Estess will also use scenes from at least one of these films in his lecture on the impact of Christianity on literary artistry.

The series will begin today, and the last lecture, which will take place April 21, will be a panel discussion led by speakers McKenzie, Adams, Smith, Estess and selected University faculty.

Indeed, the event has left Sanders, chairman of the committee that organized it, eager to share his enthusiasm about the project. He also expressed hope that similar series will be possible for other religions currently taught in the department if funding is made available some time in the future.

PROGRAM

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development teams that are working on a computer flight simulation game called "Silent Thunder." The students were to analyze the development team at work, present it with a brief summary of their observations and recommend changes in the way that they work together.

Dynamix was chosen as the company that the class would observe because it is successful,

and employees routinely work in teams, Kellet said.

The main project of the term is for the teams to design their own businesses, from concept to business plan. In the pilot program, the business is an alternative health care business for women.

In addition to the projects, students will visit businesses which have combined design and communication into their businesses, such as Niketown in Portland.

Students for the class were recruited by professors in the

three schools, based on their talent and their enthusiasm for the program.

"I took the course because it was presented to me as a challenge," said Joy Archer, a junior in the journalism school.

The program meets in a studio in the architecture school and has access to the resources and people of the community. The program is funded by a number of area businesses, the University, Corporate Design Foundation of Boston and Nike, Inc.



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