

# Physical Therapy Club gives advice, help with schools

By Marcelene Edwards  
For the Oregon Daily Emerald

Competition is fierce for students applying to physical therapy programs. The Physical Therapy Club was created to cut those odds.

Students in the club get together to trade secrets and get ready for the application process to graduate schools.

"I have known since I was a senior in high school that I wanted to go into physical therapy," said Laura Poole, the president of the Physical Therapy Club. Meeting with friends interested in the same thing will help her realize her goal. They offer support and advice, Poole said.

"I think it is really helpful that the club can stay together and lend support," said Aimee Gridley, the vice president of the club.

The Physical Therapy Club is for any undergraduate student who is interested in going into the physical therapy and occupational therapy fields. It is a support group that shares information on the medical field and the application process for graduate schools.

"It is primarily to get students familiar with all the different requirements for physical therapy schools," Poole said.

The University doesn't have a specific program for physical therapy pre-majors, so it is hard for the students to know what they need to do to get into graduate schools, Poole said. A few years ago a pre-physical therapy major existed, but Measure 5 cuts caused the University to drop the program. That left the

club and peer advising as the only guidance for students. An exercise and movement science major has since been created. This is a compatible area for therapy students; however, the main place they receive help for planning their career is the club.

The club works well, Poole said, because it gives the student an opportunity to talk to peers. The club brings in graduates who are in physical therapy school to give advice to the undergraduates.

"It is really valuable because any time people can look back it is helpful to other people," Poole said.

The group will hold a panel on Wednesday, April 27 that is comprised of current University students who have applied to physical therapy schools. They will share their experiences and offer advice to younger students.

Speakers periodically attend the monthly meetings to talk about current trends in health care and new discoveries in the medical field. Examples include one speaker who addressed the Clinton health plan and a massage therapist who talked about different conventions in medicine.

In addition to the speakers and the support meetings, the club offers community service work to groups such as the Special Olympics. Later this spring, members of the club will help in various capacities in the games, Gridley said. Last week the Physical Therapy Club sold tickets and T-shirts for "Ducks on a Roll."

The last meeting for the year is April 22 and elections for new officers will be held May 4.

## ROTC fray



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### FROM THE PAST:

Police tried to put out a fire on the lawn of the ROTC building in May 1972. A bon fire was built on the front lawn of the ROTC headquarters and the "Army ROTC" sign in front of the building was burned by approximately 300 anti-war protesters. The demonstration began with an hour of live music by the

"Peace, Bread and Land Band" at the EMU terrace, and had been billed as a torchlight demonstration and was supposed to conclude with the burning of an effigy of the U.S. government. The sign had recently been replaced in cement after being dug up during the digging of "bomb craters" at the building a week before.

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