

STUDENT ADVISORS WANTED

**Applications due
Monday
Feb. 20, 1995**

Applications should be submitted to the ASUO office or SHC's director's office.



For any questions, please call 346-4447.

Nothing risqué, nothing gained. —Alexander Woolcott

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Black History Month Saturday, February 18th

"IN CELEBRATION OF OUR BLACK MEN"

Ebony Man Showcase Workshop

Sponsored by Black Women of Achievement (BWA)

11:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., EMU Ballroom

Dealing with leadership, success,
and political action.

THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY REVISITED

**6:00-8:00 p.m., EMU Ballroom
Caribbean Banquet**

Keynote Speaker: David Hilliard,
former Black Panther Party member

Guest Speaker: Fredrika Newton,
widow of Huey P. Newton, co-founding
member of the Black Panther Party.

\$8.00 General Public, \$3.00 Children (ages 7-12), Free (6 and under)
Free child care (15 months-3 years) and scholarships provided by
request. Contact B.S.U. at (503) 346-4379.

DANCE HALL JAM

10:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m., EMU Ballroom, \$3.00

GO DUCKS!

RECIPIENTS

Continued from Page 1

and was initially state-supported. Currently, funds come from indirect cost recovery, which the office receives on each research grant.

The main purposes of the award are to support any qualified and chosen research endeavor and to give faculty members an opportunity to research for eight weeks without the time pressures of teaching, office director Paula Burkhart said.

"It's quite a popular program," she said. "It speaks highly of the University's support of faculty to do their own individual research."

The Faculty Research Committee is composed of professors from various departments including biology, mathematics, psychology and architecture.

Researchers propose their ideas to the committee, and acceptance often depends on how effectively professors can explain their research ideas to the diverse committee.

"It's a different kind of review in front of peers in all different fields," Burkhart said. "For the researchers, it's rewarding to be recognized by your peers, and it also educates faculty on the committee about the research being done in a way they wouldn't otherwise have a chance to know."

Researchers receive the award money in the summer and they can use it in any way, within state rules, she said. Because they are required to spend at least eight weeks of their summer researching and are prohibited from teaching, many use the money as supplementary salaries.

Anthropology Professor Carol Silverman, a second-time recipient of the award, will stay in Eugene and work on her book about the politics of culture among Balkan Gypsies. Because her nine trips to Eastern Europe since 1971 have provided her with more than enough research, she said she will use the award money as supplementary salary.

In addition to her book, Silverman's research of Gypsies in Bulgaria and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia filters into her teaching of ethnicity and nationalism in Eastern Europe, she said.

Seattle professor learns new facts about brain

Tiffany Smith
Oregon Daily Emerald

A lifelong interest in the human mind and a constant flow of new findings and information are what keep the director of the Institute of Cognitive and Decision Sciences motivated.

Michael Posner, who is also a professor of psychology, said. "I've always been interested in trying to understand the human mind; that's been my main interest. There's more being found out all the time so there's new things to learn."

The 58-year-old Seattle, Wash. native has been at the University since 1965. He spent four years in St. Louis, Mo. from 1985 to 1988 working with new scanning mechanisms that greatly expanded the way researchers look at the brain.

"Just a few years ago it would have been kind of impossible to understand the brain mechanisms that underlie thought processes, cognitive processes," he said.

"In the last 10 years a wide variety of methods have become available so there have been lots of new results coming out that give us the feeling or illusion of progress."

Three developments in particular have sparked progress in leaps and bounds throughout the last 10 years that allowed researchers, ultimately, to trace the thought process in real time.

It started when "it was possible to get pictures of the anatomy of the human brain, first from x-rays, and then a bunch of algorithms for reconstructing the brain," he said.

Later using Magnetic Resonance Imaging, it was possible to see the areas of the brain where lesions were located. Lesions are dead brain tissue which result from an insult, an accident, stroke or tumor.

"Before that, you didn't know where the lesion was and you had to wait until the person had died and there would have to be an autopsy,"

he said. "Suddenly you could look, while the person lived, at the brain where the insult was."

"Then a few years later it became possible, in normal people, to trace changes in cerebral blood flow," Posner said. "When neurons are active they change their local blood supply so when you're thinking, parts of your brain become active. I can trace that dynamically with changes in cerebral blood flow."

From there, Posner said, "you could say where in the brain activity occurred, from changes in cerebral blood flow. Then it became possible to interpret electrical signals from the scalp because now you knew where the generators were."

That allows Posner to trace thought processes in real time.

The electrical signals are picked up from a net-like mechanism which attaches electrodes to the subject's head.

He is currently working on what he calls the circuitry of the brain with new learning and with development at the Institute of Cognitive and Decision Sciences.

The Institute was set up in 1987 with a goal to develop a cross-departmental research group. The creators, he said, hoped to give students something they wouldn't find in any one department.

Over eight years, the Institute developed into three loose groupings. One group works in the cognitive neuroscience area, the second is centered on language in cognition and includes a lot of work on cultural differences, and the third is a social cognition and decision making group. However, a lot of the time, the areas overlap into one another.

As many as 70 graduate students work with 33 faculty members at the world-renown laboratories. People come from all over the world to work at the Institute.

The Science, Technology and Society Lectures

Fuzzy Dr. Bart Kosko



Thinking

All or nothing. Black or white. True or false. For Western scientists from Aristotle to Sagan there are only these options. But for fuzzy logicians and engineers, like Bart Kosko, there is an infinite number of "truths" in between, just as Buddhist and other Eastern philosophers have been saying for centuries.

8:00 p.m., Feb. 19, Hult Center

Tickets at the Hult Center box office or call 687-5000.
Student, senior and OPB member discounts available.

Presented by the Institute for Science, Engineering and Public Policy and co-sponsored by Oregon Public Broadcasting, the high-tech PR firm Waggener Edstrom, University of Oregon, In-Focus Systems and The Business Journal. Additional support provided by Linn-Benton Community College and the Eugene Hilton.



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