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Grant workshop offered

Brian Womack
Oregon Daily Emerald

For students who are interested in studying, traveling or research abroad and short on cash, a workshop discussing scholarships Thursday might be for them.

The workshop will discuss the selection, criteria and application procedure for awards, including Fulbright, Rhodes and Marshall. It is offered at 3:30 p.m. in the EMU Gumwood Room.

The 1996-97 school year awards are for American citizens who are juniors, seniors and graduate students with strong academic records.

The workshop will feature presentations on the awards followed by a question and answer period.

"The purpose of this [workshop] is to point potential students with the requirements, application deadlines and procedures [for the awards]," said Tom Mills, director of the Office of International Education and Exchange.

Students shouldn't think a 4.0 GPA is a requirement for getting the awards. For instance, Mills said, "If you're a capable student with a 3.2 [GPA] and want to go and study in Costa Rica, have had 3 years or so of Spanish, and you've got a project in mind or a course of study, do it."

He added that a 3.0 GPA would probably be a minimum for legitimate consideration.

These awards usually cover travel to the host country, a graduate stipend, health insurance and books, he said.

Several scholarships and awards offered are:

- Oxford University in England offers the Rhodes Scholarship. There are 32 scholarships offered for Americans. The deadline is early October.
- Fulbright grants for study abroad were given to eight University students last year. The deadline for preliminary critique is May 10.
- Counsel on International Educational Exchange sponsors travel grants to developing countries. The deadline is October 1.
- National Security Education Programs scholarships, for study abroad, is money the Clinton administration took from the defense budget for the scholarships. The tentative deadline is early fall.

BUDGET

Continued from Page 1

Oregon Industries last week voted unanimously to support higher education, Frohnmayer said. They asked the legislative leadership to restore the higher education budget to no less than five percent lower than last year's appropriations.

"That's significant and very heartening support from the largest industrial and employer group of the state," he said.

The extra "equity funding" for K-12, which is on top of Gov. John Kitzhaber's spending level of 98 percent of current appropriation plus inflation growth, will elevate low-spending school districts to the level of presently capped high-spending districts.

Higher education faces 15 percent cuts totaling $85 million over the next two years, which could translate to an $8 to $10 million annual cut to the University. Additionally, Kitzhaber proposes an annual 4 percent tuition increase.

The University is not against funding for K-12, said Randy MacDonald, director of legislative and community relations at the University. However, he said there needs to be at least equal appropriation and consideration given to both K-12 and higher education.

If the higher education budget suffers further cuts after the major budgets are passed, Frohnmayer said there may still be money added back in what is termed a "Christmas Tree add-back."

"This may be another source of revenue," Frohnmayer said. "If we get short-changed the first time around, I'm not giving up hope that the second go-around we can do better."

The vote for the additional K-12 funds apparently came after only a recess and a hallway discussion among Education Subcommittee Co-chairs, according to a recent legislative update by the Oregon State System of Higher Education.

University music professor 'locks into the groove'

Tony Lystra
For the Oregon Daily Emerald

University music professor Charles Dowd plays drums — plain and simple. He figures he began pounding on pots and pans at birth.

Since then, Dowd has forged his way through an eclectic musical career, snapping at snare drums in a high school marching band, rumbling on timpani drums in symphony orchestras and thundering a drum kit in college funk bands.

Tonight, Dowd will perform and conduct with multiple saxophonist Thom Bergeron, The Oregon Marimba Quartet and six members of The Oregon Percussion Ensemble at Beall Concert Hall at 8 p.m. The performance, titled "Avant-Detente: Edison Denisov meets the West," brings 104 percussion instruments together in what Dowd describes as a "big stew, a big boiling cauldron."

Dowd said Denisov, a Russian composer, spent his early years isolated in the Soviet Union. Unable to leave his country, Denisov was estranged from the trappings of Western conventional music and created his own unique sound.

The result is gongs from China and Thailand, marimbas from Africa, Latin instruments, Turkish instruments, chimes and church bells in a symbiosis of global sound.

"Denisov mixes all these percussion instruments with Bergeron's saxophone to create something never done before," Dowd said.

"You're going to see a stage covered in percussion instruments from all around the world; you're going to hear instruments from all around the world, and your going to hear modern abstract twentieth century classical art — like listening to to an abstract painting," he said. "The experience of sitting inside of this music and having it wash all around you is never boring — never a dull moment."

Dowd talked about his love of drums with the verve and intellectual passion of an artist connected to the world through a love of music.

"I've always liked the sound of drums and percussion instruments," he said. "The sound is very special. No other instrument sounds like drums. We drummers from all over the world know this.

"There's a magical thing in a music performance. It can be especially magical for drummers and it's very rare. The music locks into such a deep groove, all the musicians become one mind. Your conscious, physical body and your spirit kind of separate and you float above the stage and you look down and see the music being performed. It's a kind of separation between the spirit and the physical world and that's only happened to me three times in my life."

COURTESY

University music professor Charles Dowd will perform tonight at 8 p.m. in Beall Concert Hall.

Dowd was inducted into the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences last year, an honor that allowed him to judge at this year's Grammy Awards.

He judged in the Classical Music and Jazz categories. In the Classical category, he voted for an album called *The Yellow Shark*, performed by Ensemble Modern, a group conducted by the late Frank Zappa.

"A lot of people don't know that Frank Zappa is a classical composer," Dowd said. "We percussionists play Frank Zappa as a classical composer. [*The Yellow Shark*] is a brilliant album."

Despite his connection with the musical circles of New York, Los Angeles and San Francisco, Dowd has lived in Eugene and taught at the University since 1974.

"The Hult Center and Beall Hall and other performing and recording venues offer a nutritious outlet for my art," he said. "I travel a lot so I'm never bored and stuck here. I sort of have a love-hate relationship with New York City and a love-hate relationship with Eugene."

Dowd said he stuck with the University, partly because he was able to design several percussion studios in the music hall where percussion students disappear for hours, refining their art.

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