

ADVISING

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Harada, who now sees an Asian adviser in the OMA. More counselors are needed but probably won't be hired because of today's anti-affirmative action political climate and lack of funds, he said.

When Michelle Joye came to the University from an all-Native American high school near Salem, she saw a Native American OMA counselor because she was afraid she

wouldn't succeed in such a diverse environment.

"The counselors were really understanding about where I was coming from," she said.

Many minority students may feel uncomfortable discussing racism with Caucasian advisers and instead talk to OMA counselors, said LaRoya Hankins, a BSU member.

"It's not that some Caucasian counselors can't do the job, but it's a matter of comfort," Cervantes said.

It would be ideal if all depart-

ments had minority advisers who could provide academic and cultural counsel to minority students, but not all departments have faculty of color, Harada said.

Of the 1,144 professors, instructors and research assistants hired by the University, 100 are minorities, according to 1994 University institutional profiles.

While some minority students think they should be able to get their academic and cultural needs met by the same person,

others prefer separate advisers for each.

"We go to our advisers just to talk and I feel sorry for non-native students who don't," said Mitch Wilkinson, co-director of the Native American Student Union.

Counselors at OMA are available for academic and cultural advice. However, because there are so few of them, sometimes minority students seek advice from other minority faculty members, said Marshall Saucedo, director of OMA.

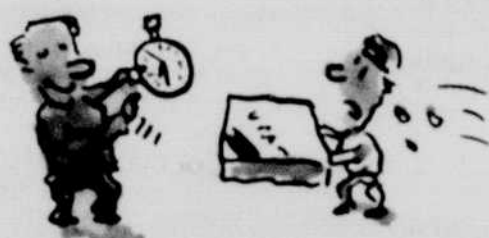
"They seek them out for other kinds of support, for somebody to talk to, to tell them they're on the right track and for somebody to support them on a personal level," he said.

Other faculty members also provide different perspectives on issues, he said.

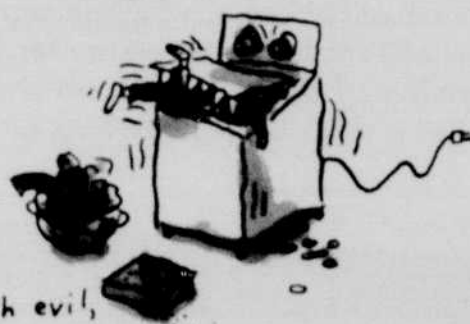
Lisa Suzuki, a Japanese-American assistant professor in counseling psychology, said if a minority student has a minority instructor for a class, the student may feel more comfortable going to them for advice.

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CANDIDATES

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date for Student Senate seat 1, was instrumental in getting all the candidates together, said Erica Tubbs, candidate for Student Senate seat 13.

The only Progressive candidates who did not move on to the general elections were Joey Lyons, a write-in candidate for seat 1, and Michelle Jurjovic, candidate for seat 11.

Sven Orozco, Progressive candidate for Student Senate seat 10, won his bid outright with more than 50 percent of the total votes cast for the seat.

Common involvement in student groups is part of what has unified the candidates, said Katy Anthes, a candidate for Student Senate seat 3. She said many of the Progressive Students already knew each other because they had worked together in the various student groups.

"Almost everybody is from student groups that have worked together in the past," Anthes said. "We knew where everybody stood on these issues."

Concern over the use of incidental fees because of the recent OSPIRG funding debates is another issue that united the group, Anthes said.

"Students are concerned and confused about where their money is going," she said. "It's tuition that's blowing students' bank accounts away, not the incidental fee. The incidental fee is not what we need to be targeting."

Student Senate candidate Erica Tubbs agreed student incidental fees are a concern for the slate.

"We were concerned about the incidental fee," Tubbs said. "It seemed like a good idea to run with people who had the same concerns."

The Progressive slate also takes a stand about the importance of student groups on campus.

"They're a very necessary part and all contribute to dialogue that should take place on campus," Tubbs said.

"We are dedicated to openness on campus and the fact that there needs to be a forum for anything that needs to happen," she said.

Running as the Progressive slate has given the candidates important support during the primaries, Tubbs said.

"Running together gave us moral strength," she said. "It's nice to know I'm not out there fighting for something I believe in by myself."

The group plans to continue passing out flyers and putting up posters during general elections week.