

The ASUO MultiCultural Center presents:

Implications of Teachers' Perceptions of Multiculturalism

Michelle Maher

Syracuse University, University of Oregon

May 18th, Thursday, 5:30 p.m.

MultiCultural Center, EMU Refreshments

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Include in your cover letter the number of position(s) you are interested in:

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Student insurance bill passes

Mara Stine

Oregon Daily Emerald

Senate Bill 503, which will define student health insurance and allow student government organizations to negotiate health insurance policies, unanimously passed the state House of Representatives Tuesday.

The bill defines student health insurance as a separate category of insurance, said Brain Corcoran, insurance consultant for the University's Student Health Center.

Previously student health insurance was defined as blanket insurance, which provides limited coverage to a select group of people for a limited amount of time, Corcoran said.

Because the University offers a variety of policies for single students, students with dependents and international students, it does not comply with the definition of blanket insurance.

"It just allows us to work with the insurance companies to develop the best possible programs for our students," said Bob Petit, medical administrator of the health center.

"The insurance isn't just group or blanket, and the bill allows us to work within the insurance guidelines to develop ... insurance programs for the students," Petit said.

Defining student health insurance clears up

what the policies can and can not do, said Jane Lesser, legislative director for the Oregon Student Lobby.

"This clearly defines exactly what student health insurance is and gives it some structure so that we know exactly what our limitations and capabilities are in providing health insurance in an educational setting," she said.

Lesser also said the bill gives state schools flexibility in administering the policies.

"[It] allows colleges and universities the flexibility to provide their own student health insurance and give coverage to different groups of people," she said.

Petit said the bill also allows colleges and universities to take advantage of evolving insurance technologies such as Health Maintenance Organizations, which contract doctors and hospitals to cover a group of people for a small fee.

The University's policy is administered by the health center.

Oregon State University is the only school in Oregon to have its insurance policy administered by students.

"Students don't have to take whatever is given to them, and they have a say in their health care system in terms of rates and benefits," said Cynthia Wooten, House representative for Eugene.

VIOLENCE

Continued from Page 1

one can be a victim of abuse, say counselors, police officers and social workers. Abuse victims come from all social, ethnic and religious backgrounds, they say.

"It's a very hidden violence," said Jennifer Beach, assistant director of community education for Womenspace, a local shelter for battered women. "People forget it is happening."

College students are vulnerable to abuse because of their unique circumstances, Beach said. They are often geographically isolated from friends and family who could recognize signs of abuse and convince them to leave harmful relationships.

Students may not be aware of resources available to help them, Beach said. She said students can develop a high degree of dependency on their romantic partners because they are adjusting to a new environment.

Abuse gives the abuser control over the victim, said Janis Altman, a New York based psychotherapist who spoke at a recent University seminar.

Physically violent relationships follow a three-phased cycle, according to a common model of domestic abuse. It begins with a tension building phase, where the abuser becomes tense and threatening.

In the second phase, the abuser explodes violently, often injuring the victim. Sometimes victims will try to trigger an outburst to stop the tension that built up during the first phase, Altman said.

The third phase has been coined the "honeymoon phase" because the abuser apologizes for the violence and is extremely loving and penitential, she said. Abusers lavish their victims with attention.

"The honeymoon stage is very important," Altman said. "It creates a false sense of hope that the abuser will change."

The frequency of abuse varies for every relationship, Altman said. The abuser may be nice most of the time, and this may cause the victim to blame him or herself for instigating the abuse, she said. But victims can do nothing to prevent abuse, Altman said. Batterers will find an

ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIPS

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■ **TODAY:** The signs, symptoms and effects of physical abuse.

■ **THURSDAY:** The signs, symptoms and effects of mental abuse.

■ **FRIDAY:** How women can break the cycle of abuse.

EMERALD

excuse to hit no matter how hard their victims work to appease them, she said.

Abuse can appear in the beginning stages of a relationship, said officer Kris Martes of the Eugene Police Department. Abuse begins as a cutting remark, a push or a slap, warning signs of an abusive person, she said. She also said abuse is a cycle of violence.

"If [abuse] occurs once, it's going to occur again," she said.

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