

## RELATIONSHIPS

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the student's class work, which would avoid the possibility of a conflict of interest, Lehrman said. This is similar to the University of Wisconsin's policy, one task force members are looking to fashion the University policy after.

"It's not a ban; it's basically a reporting requirement," he said.

Professor-student dating boils down to an issue of power because the professor has ultimate control of a student's grade, Lehrman said. Therefore, the committee's goal is to develop a policy that would avoid conflicts of interest, and that would be fair to the other students in the class.

Lehrman said a major need for the policy is to protect the student.

"The student may want out of the relationship but she's afraid of the power the professor has over her; maybe there's still the mid-term to go

or her dissertation review," he said.

A committee that would evaluate the student's work would alleviate any pressure to stay in the relationship if he or she wanted out, and it also decreases the prospect of grade retaliation, Lehrman said.

The policy would also aim to protect professors' rights, Lehrman said.

"The rule would try to protect both parties," he said. "Before they get entangled in a relationship, we'll disentangle it now."

There will be a sanction for faculty members who fail to report relationships with students, he said. For example, if a student files a sexual harassment claim against a professor he or she was involved with, the burden of responsibility for proving the relationship was consensual would fall on the professor.

"This would make it easier to prove sexual harassment," he said.

He also said letters of reprimand, which would likely go into a profes-

sor's personnel file, are possible if a faculty member fails to inform the department head of a relationship.

Committee members said they hope to present one or more proposals for a policy by the end of the summer. However, a policy wouldn't be accepted until there is substantial public discussion first, Lehrman said.

Lehrman and other task force members have begun meeting with some student groups to gather input on the issue, and he said he plans to meet with many more students before the group proposes the models.

"This is an institution of shared governance, so we want to give students a chance to give their input," he said.

If University President Dave Frohnmayer agrees that there is a need for such a policy, the issue would then likely go to the University Senate for discussion and a vote. However, before it became an Oregon Administrative Rule, there would have to be a public hearing, Lehrman said.

## STUDENT

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the jail. He said he was harassed because he is a well-known football player. Racial remarks also were made, he said.

Jensen was not available for comment. McLemore said he is afraid this incident will put him in a negative light.

"I hope the community will see me as a human being and not as a big macho football player," he said.

Mike Bellotti, head football coach, said Wednesday the incident was blown out of proportion by the media. He has spoken to McLemore and is waiting to see what develops before making any disciplinary decisions.

Bellotti said the athletic department does not condone civil disobedience but does not have a policy in dealing with athletes who find themselves in trouble with the law.

"I have a role to handle things in the best interest of those involved," he said. "I'm basically responsible for these young men as a surrogate parent."

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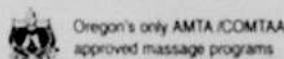
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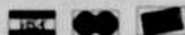
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## PROFESSOR

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Wanta said.

Ismach said he nominated Wanta for the award because of his exceptional work in the field of research, his work reviewing journal articles and his success as a teacher.

Wanta's research focuses on how the news media influence public opinion. He has done more research in this area since he came to the University than any other scholar, Ismach said.

"He hit the ground running," he said.

Wanta has presented more than 30 research papers at conferences around the world, said Crosiar. Two of his manuscripts were named top papers by the AEJMC.

Research, said Wanta, is vital for success in the academic world. His research has been strong since he was in graduate school, he said. Wanta enjoys research, but considers his role as a teacher important as well.

"I think of myself as a teacher who likes doing research also," Wanta said.

Wanta also serves on the editorial boards of three academic journals. This gives him the opportunity to critique the work

of others, he said.

Wanta believes service like this is important to his work, but says it is often overlooked when a professor is seeking tenure from promotional committees. However, he was tenured shortly before he was notified that he would receive the Kriehbaum award.

The award places Wanta in the same category as some of the top journalists in the nation, including former journalism school dean Everette Davis, who is now the executive director of the Freedom Forum Media Studies Center at Columbia University.

"It's really a star-studded list of amazing people in our field," Wanta said. "I really had no expectation of winning this thing."

But Wanta refuses to take full credit for his success, attributing his colleagues with giving him the support he needed to excel, he said.

"You don't win an award like this without someone helping you along," he said.

Now that Wanta has won the award, he feels as if he must live up to a new standard, he said.

"I feel like there are expectations now. I need to go to the next level of research," he said.

## ■ ET ALS

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