

Biology professor elected into Academy of Arts and Sciences

Sarah Gray

For the Oregon Daily Emerald

Working on a computer with a screen-saver of moving seahorses, crabs and tropical fish and studying the mutated embryo of the zebra fish are only two ways to describe how science is central to Biology professor Charles Kimmel's life.

Kimmel, who was recently elected into the Academy of Arts and Sciences, says he thinks he inherited his interest in biology from his father, who was involved with the sciences.

"My mother wanted me to be a medical doctor, and I was always interested in biology," Kimmel said. "When I was a kid I was out in the woods a lot, looking under

rocks for bugs."

Being raised in the East, Kimmel wanted to leave what he called "the Eastern rat race" in the 1960s, so he studied in California and then came to teach biology at the University. Being able to work with George Streisinger, the professor who began work on the zebra fish and is the namesake of Streisinger hall, attracted Kimmel to Oregon.

"This work on fish has put Oregon on the map in developmental neurobiology," Kimmel said. "I think a good deal of the recognition that I received when I got this award is actually due to George's work and me jumping in on that, along with my colleagues' work."

Kimmel began teaching at the Univer-

sity in 1969 and feels that his many years of teaching contributed to his award.

"In some sense I'm the team player in this group and maybe have been at it a little longer and maybe was chosen for this honor at this point because of that," Kimmel said. "Having this program of study to try to learn about the development of this little creature at this University and me being here at the right time and place to get in on it, that is a good piece of why I'm being singled out."

The Academy of Arts and Sciences was founded by John Adams in 1780 and today has 3,700 members, with 550 foreign honorary members. The members, or "fellows," come from all areas of academia, including the media, humanities, public

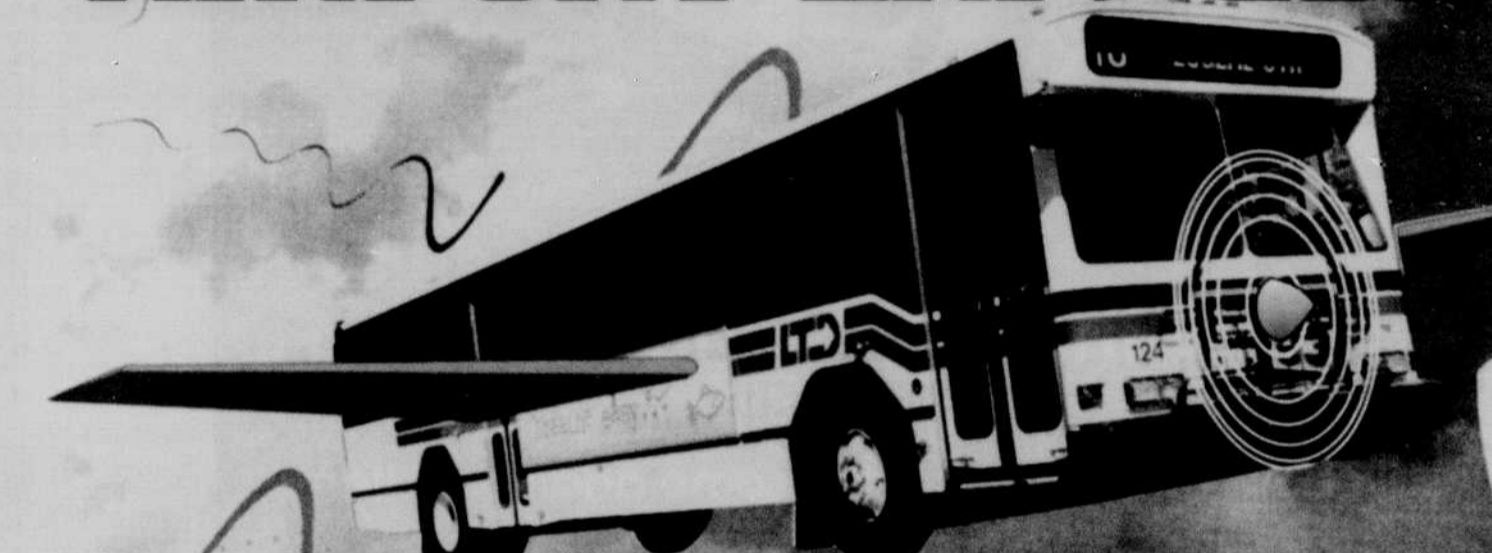
politics, law and science. One of the goals of the Academy is to combine the opinions and ideas of people from different aspects of life to work on solving national and global problems.

Kimmel feels an important area for biologists to study is the extinction of animals and loss of natural habitats.

"I think that biologists have some role to play in our screwing up the environment," Kimmel said. "If I get a little bit of honor and if people pay attention to me more, then I can blow a horn and say, 'Hey, look, here's the biology side of this; look at the long-term signals you're sending.'"

Kimmel was generally pleased to learn of his award, but he refuses to take full credit for it.

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Sex assault task force will rally for new policies

Colleen Pohl

Oregon Daily Emerald

A new student task force, which formed to challenge the University's sexual assault policies, will rally in the EMU courtyard Friday at 1 p.m.

Students for a Sexual Assault Free Environment began meeting more than a month ago to review the University's policies regarding sexual assault and to see how they match up to state and federal laws governing federally funded colleges and universities.

More specifically, SAFE members believe the University is not in compliance with the following areas, which are mandated by the federal Victim's Bill of Rights:

- Universities must inform survivors of their attackers' punishment.
- Universities may not use language that downgrades a charge of rape.
- Universities must allow survivors to have legal representation and character witnesses that have been denied them but allowed to the attackers.
- Universities must have proactive sexual assault awareness education available to all students.

Elaine Greene, associate dean of students and student conduct coordinator, agreed that the University sexual assault policy is not perfect. She said she is willing to work with SAFE members to review the policies and come up with acceptable rules, if any are needed.

"I appreciate the group's efforts in reviewing the policies," Greene said.

Senior Heather Fowler, who founded SAFE, said she and SAFE members only want the University to have acceptable policies, which comply with federal laws and are fair to women students.

"I see [SAFE's work] as a supportive thing for the University," Fowler said.

At the march, SAFE members plan to present alternative sexual assault policies they believe will address students' concerns more than the current policies.

Former Sen. Tricia Smith will also speak at the rally, followed by student survivors who will share their experiences with current University policy.