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TODAY

Daylight Savings ends this weekend. Don't forget to move your clocks back one hour at 2 a.m. Sunday morning.



INSIDE

The Ducks try to win their third straight against Washington for the first time since 1931

Oregon Congressman Peter DeFazio visited a freshman seminar Thursday

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WEATHER

Showers.
High 50. Low 45.

University of Oregon
Eugene, Oregon

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Proposed sex policy sparks debate

■ **SENATE:** Resolution offers 'one more voice of the student body' to support changes to the conduct code

By Kristin Bailey
Student Activities Editor

In a symbolic gesture, the ASUO Student Senate recently approved a resolution supporting proposed changes in the Student Conduct Code.

Should the changes be approved by the University Senate, a governmental body composed of faculty and students, the language pertaining to sexual misconduct would change. If implemented, the changes would remove the burden of proving consent from the survivor.

"These are critical changes, and we wanted to show our support," Senate President Kalpana Krishnamurthy said.

The Senate cannot officially endorse such changes or participate in the decision process. However, Krishnamurthy said the resolution reflects more than bureaucratic approval.

"This is one more voice of the student body," she said. "This comes from the voice of the elected student officers. It gives weight that the Exec and the Student Senate have shown formal support."

In the resolution, the Senate refers to unclear language in the current conduct code and the difficulties in both interpreting and upholding the existing rules. The resolution, approved Wednesday night, also asserts the proposed changes would prove beneficial to the conduct code as a whole.

"Whereas there is a need for language within the conduct code deeming what is acceptable and unacceptable behavior. . .," it states. "Whereas the current language in the conduct code dealing with sexual mis-

THE CURRENT CONDUCT CODE

Current Oregon Administrative Rule 571-1-030(20)

Unwanted Sexual Behavior is sexual behavior directed toward an individual, which:

- a) Occurs on University property or at University-sponsored/supervised activities; or
- b) Would materially interfere with the individual's academic performance at the University, or participation in University-sponsored/supervised activities, or performance of University employment; or
- c) Such behavior may be accomplished by words or conduct of a sexual nature that threatens imminent physical harm, endangers the health or safety of any person, or which a reasonable person would know was unwanted and would cause emotional distress. Words conveyed by telephonic, written or electronic means shall be included in the definition of "words" herein.

THE PROPOSED CHANGES

Proposed Draft Language

■ Sexual misconduct, an offense the University recognizes as an act of violence, is defined as rape, sexual assault or unwanted sexual behavior and is committed on or off campus or during University activities.

■ Explicit consent means "voluntary, non-coercive and clear communication indicating a willingness to engage in the particular act in response to a reasonably clear request to engage in that particular act. Explicit consent includes, but is not limited to, an affirmative verbal response."

Proposed language of the conduct code clarifies definitions of rape and consent

By Tamyra Howser
Higher Education Reporter

Everybody knows or should know what rape and the meaning of consent are.

The University's proposed sexual conduct code, which is drawing media attention and comparisons to Antioch University's policies, has redefined consent and sexual misconduct between students and has also revised jurisdiction limits from its current code.

However, law student Mustafa Kasubhai of the Unwanted Sexual Behavior Task Force said the proposed language of the code is creating confusion and misinformation.

The revised consent states that it is the initiator's responsibility to ask and receive permission before engaging in a sexual activity. But it does not automatically shift the burden onto the defendant to prove he or she obtained permission, Kasubhai said. The University always carries the responsibility of proving non-consent in a formal or informal hearing.

"I can understand the misconception," he said. "But the language creates mutual responsibility for both parties. With the current code, it was the responsibility of the victim for expressing non-consent or consent."

Kasubhai also stresses that the code's language is to regulate sexual violence such as assault and rape and not what students do in the bedroom.

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With the current code, it was the responsibility of the victim for expressing non-consent or consent.

— Mustafa Kasubhai
Unwanted Sexual Behavior Task Force

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"The student conduct code focuses on unacceptable behavior and not on intimate acts," he said.

The proposed definition of consent is similar to Antioch University's, a tiny private college in Yellow Springs, Ohio. Three years ago, the college created a heated controversy when a group of undergraduate women developed a 12-page sexual offense policy that "verbal consent should be obtained with each new level of physical and/or sexual contact/conduct in any given interaction."

"Antioch is another school that also says it is the responsibility of the initiator to seek and obtain consent," said Elaine Green, associate dean of Student Life and University student conduct coordinator. "[However], our definition is not modeled after theirs."

Becky Kline, an Antioch University senior and member of the task force that revised the sexual offense policy last spring, is working to increase awareness of the policy.

"People are opposed to our policy be-

Turn to CODE, Page 8A

The mayor's race

Torrey, Weaver debate about city spending

■ **MAYOR:** The two men disagreed on the Hyundai plant and the E. 13th Ave. dog ban in their debate Thursday

By Doug Irving
Community Reporter

For Jim Torrey, the issue was public safety.

For Jim Weaver, the issue was Hyundai.

The two candidates vying to be Eugene's next mayor met Thursday for a debate in Louie's Village, a Chinese restaurant. The debate was sponsored by the Rubicon Society, a moderate Republican group.

Under Chinese lanterns, flanked by lacquered panels, Torrey and Weaver compared their visions for the future of Eugene. And their discussion centered mainly around city funding.

"This election is about money,"



WEAVER



TORREY

Weaver said. "I want to cut city spending. Mr. Torrey is a big spender."

However, Torrey said the real issue was not how much money is spent, but how it is spent. He based his opening statement around public safety.

"We need to make sure that not one cent is being misspent [in the public safety budget]," he said. "I am the most fiscally conservative person on the Eugene City Council."

Although there are some things in the

public safety budget that might be cut, these cuts must be made extremely carefully, he said. For example, there is now a police officer in every high school in Eugene, he said.

"It is unfortunate that we need it," he said. "But we do."

Weaver focused his opening statement on Torrey's record with Hyundai. As a member of the Budget Committee and City Council, Torrey allowed a loophole for Hyundai, Weaver said.

All new buildings in Eugene pay a systems development charge for sewage and other services, Weaver said. However, Hyundai's charge was calculated using a different formula than other commercial buildings, Weaver explained.

"Had we used the same formula for Hyundai, Hyundai would've paid \$9 million more," he said. "That's just a gift."

Turn to MAYOR, Page 3A

Reform candidate visits campus

U.S. vice presidential candidate Pat Choate will speak tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the EMU Ballroom.

Choate, who heads the Reform Party's ticket as Ross Perot's running mate, is making appearances at college campuses across the country in the last weeks preceding the Nov. 5 presidential election.

He joined Perot in opposing both the NAFTA and GATT agreements. In 1993 the pair co-authored "Save Your Job, Save our Country: Why NAFTA Must Be Stopped Now."

Choate currently hosts "The Week Ahead," a weekly radio talk show that is carried on 300 radio stations and teaches at the Graduate School of Political Management at George Washington University.



CHOATE