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Family housing director chosen

■ POSITION: Lou Vijayakar was named to the recently vacated housing position

By Sarah Keech
Higher Education Reporter

After a three-month internal search, the University's housing department has found a new director of family housing.

Lou Vijayakar, employed in the housing department since 1981, has been given the position. She replaces Ronald Tendick, who will be retiring from his position as director of business affairs and family housing at the end of March.

Vijayakar took over as director of family housing on March 1 and is currently working on the transition with Tendick. As director, she oversees activities at Westmoreland, East Campus and the new housing community Spencer

View.

With the retirement of Tendick, the housing administration decided to restructure his position by making two separate jobs: director of business affairs, which will be a full-time position, and director of family housing, which will be part-time.

Michael Eyster, director of housing, said there were three applicants for the family housing position, and Vijayakar was chosen because of her dedication to student housing.

"She has a broad base of experience and has served in a number of positions within the housing department," Eyster said.

Prior to becoming the director of family housing, Vijayakar was the assistant director for residence life in the dorms.

Vijayakar explained she is getting to know more about the position and all it entails on a day-to-

day basis. She attended her first budget meeting on Monday.

"I will no longer deal with issues from the residence halls. I will be in charge of the budget, facilities, maintenance and tenant issues of off-campus family housing," Vijayakar said.

Vijayakar explained having children is not the only reason students live in family housing. The different types of family housing near the University campus are available through a priority system that takes into account many factors about the applicant.

"Highest priority is given to students with children, then to graduate students without children and then to undergraduate students over the age of 21 without children," Vijayakar said.

"We also take into consideration financial status and the date of the application," she said.

Greeks continue fight against rape

■ GROUP: The Greeks Against Rape hope to organize groups to walk home from greek parties, along with many other plans

By Sarah Keech
Higher Education Reporter

For years, Greeks Against Rape (GAR) has existed on campus, but in light of recent events, including the attempted rape in Pioneer Cemetery last spring, GAR is putting more effort into educating fraternities, sororities and the community about preventing rape.

"There are no other rape prevention education resources on campus," said Melissa Freund, ASUO greek liaison and a member of GAR.

"The Women's Center and other community organizations do rape counseling, but our focus is on rape prevention," she explained.

Working in conjunction with the ASUO Women's Center, members of GAR are learning the leadership and communication skills to go out into the community to teach others about rape prevention.

GAR has put together a game show-style quiz on rape statistics to get students actively involved, while at the same time reinforcing the importance of rape prevention.

"We're planning a presentation at Thurston High School soon, and during spring term we hope to speak to students in the residence halls," Katherine Yurosko, co-director of GAR, said.

GAR is also planning to invite nationally renowned speaker Katie Koestner to campus during spring term.

A rape survivor, Koestner has appeared on the cover of *Time* magazine and on television talk shows discussing the issue of date rape.

"We're hoping that she'll be able to come to campus. We just need to raise the money to pay for her visit," Yurosko said.

GAR hopes to raise the \$2,700 needed to pay for Koestner's visit through sponsorships and other fund-raising activities.

Many of the nearly 40 active members of GAR are men, Freund said.

For men, GAR provides an outlet to talk about the issue of rape.

"There seems to be a stereotype on campus that men in fraternities only like to get drunk and that we don't care about rape," Nate Koach, co-director of GAR, said. "At GAR, we are able to talk about the issues and learn to communicate with other men as well as women."

There has been one reported rape of a student this year, but numbers do not necessarily reveal the whole story.

"Most rapes go unreported, so the true statistic of how many rapes and attempted rapes occur is really unknown," Freund said.

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Where? The Multicultural Center in the EMU
Food? YES! For your sweet tooth

Multicultural Center Mission Statement:

The MCC brings together undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, staff, and the community at large. Our primary goal is to promote personal growth, cultural pluralism, community education, positive social change, and the ending of human oppression by examining issues of gender, sexuality and culture with primary focus on race and ethnicity.

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