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## Delta Lambda Phi visits convention

**CONVENTION:** The University's chapter of the gay fraternity is the only one in the Pacific Northwest

By Nicole Kristal  
*Oregon Daily Emerald*

About 150-200 members of Delta Lambda Phi, the country's only gay, bisexual and "progressive" fraternity, convened in Atlanta, Ga., last week to meet with other chapters and define future goals.

Four representatives from the University's 11 member chapter attended the four day convention: Jim Ransier, Brad Dunshee, Adam Lutzow and Brian Myers.

"It was such a positive experience," said Ransier, President of the Eugene chapter. "It was all about leadership, brotherhood, friendship, giving your time to others and helping out."

About 30 chapters from across the nation attended the convention, which was hosted by the Atlanta chapter.

The convention was comprised of workshops and activities. At the workshops, members discussed strategies for increasing membership, maintaining membership, fostering leadership and

effective fund raising. In addition, a workshop was held to encourage safe sex in the gay community.

But for Ransier and his other fraternity brothers, the most memorable part of the trip were the activities.

"None of us had ever been to Atlanta before," said Ransier. "We saw the city, went to Centennial Park and did the whole tourist thing."

The "tourist thing" also included a visits to the Coca-Cola museum and the CNN center. While the Eugene chapter chose not to attend a trip to Six Flags, it was a popular item on the itinerary.

Members also attended a banquet at the Carter Presidential Center.

"It was a really nice, formal event," Ransier said. "Everyone dressed up."

At the end of every day's activities, members went to clubs, often finding themselves amongst their fraternity brothers.

"We spent a lot of our time getting to know the national people, meeting names with faces we had been reading forever," said Dunshee, one of the founders of the Eugene chapter.

"We came home really energized," said Ransier, who is now

*"It was such a positive experience. It was all about leadership, brotherhood, friendship, giving your time to others and helping out."*

**Jim Ransier**  
UO Delta Lambda Phi President

eager to work on increasing membership and helping start a chapter in Seattle.

Ransier is also working with Delta Lambda Phi alumnus Enrique Andrade to reestablish a Portland chapter.

Members at the convention discussed possible locations for next year's convention. So far, Minneapolis and Washington D.C. are the main contenders. Wherever next year's convention is held, Ransier and Dunshee plan to attend.

"It was really a unifying experience," said Dunshee.

The University's chapter has been in existence since April 1996. The Eugene chapter is the only Delta Lambda Phi chapter in the Pacific Northwest.

## LTD to implement scanning procedures

**BUSES:** Though the new identification cards do not have term stickers, officials warn graduates against using them for bus service

By Carl Yeh  
*Associate Editor*

Students who have recently graduated may want to think twice about using their University ID to ride LTD buses for free. Just because the new ID cards that were issued last fall do not have the term stickers, which prevented non-current students from getting free bus service in the past, doesn't mean that people can get away with it.

"One of the things we're looking into doing are 'spot checks' with handheld scanners," said Andy Vobora, service planning and marketing manager. "We would have fare checkers that would come on the buses randomly. Under current Eugene ordinances, they can fine people up to \$250 and confiscate their card."

However, Vobora said, "We're not interested in doing a lot of fines or confiscating cards, but finding out how bad the problem is."

Eventually, LTD may retrofit all of the fare boxes in the boxes with scanners. "We're watching the technology," Vobora said. "We have in our budget to retrofit all of the fare boxes sometime in 1999. But that's dependent on federal funding for capital improvements — we're looking at \$1 million dollars [for this improvement]."

In other news, construction is about six to eight weeks ahead of schedule for the new LTD bus station

*"We're not interested in doing a lot of fines or confiscating cards, but finding out how bad the problem is."*

**Andy Vobora**  
LTD Service Planning and Marketing Manager

that is being built in downtown Eugene.

"They may be done at the end of this year," Vobora said. "If that's the case then we would have some time to move in and do some training for the bus drivers, such as moving in and out of the departure bays."

There will also be some changes in bus routes for this fall.

"We're restructuring West 18th Avenue service," Vobora said. "This should help out the students who live out there, especially those in Westmoreland Housing." LTD also plans to expand service to Duck's Village..

"We're also building a new Park n' Ride in Springfield at the intersection of Main street and the Eugene-Springfield Highway," Vobora said. "From this Park n' Ride there will be an express service via the freeway. This will be a quick way to get from the Thurston area to the University."

The new Park n' Ride is scheduled to be completed for school service starting Sept. 22.

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