

ASUO Street Fair brings food, festivities to campus

The ASUO has a list of more than 300 vendors despite their decision to raise vendor fees

By Felicity Ayles
Freelance Reporter

Where can you find anything from boomerangs to tie-dyed underwear? Paintings, jewelry, clothes, hand-blown glass, bumper-stickers and various kinds of hats?

The ASUO Street Fair. The fair has taken over the campus part of 13th Avenue again, enticing students with its exotic smells and sounds.

Food is, as always, one of the most popular items at the fair, with edibles from just around the corner or from the other side of the world. Students can sample chicken, burritos, enchiladas, noodles, rice and beans, tofu and



CHAD PATTESON/Emerald

Bangkok Grill employee Molly Breitzmann serves up plates of pad thai to grad students Uli Mueller (left) and Amy Barlow.

anything else their taste buds desire.

Ritta's Burritos, a street fair regular, goes through more than

1,000 tortillas and four large pots of beans every time they come to the fair. Students consume more than 270 pieces of chicken each

day from Victory Oriental, also a veteran of the fair.

Food isn't the only exciting thing at the street fair. Students can buy almost any kind of boomerang at Rangsmith, a Saturday Market regular that started coming to the fair last spring. Vendor T.W. Smith will give you a boomerang-throwing demonstration and will show you the many handouts he has on the subject.

You can purchase hand-blown glass vases and pipes from The Clothing Gourmet — "For Tobacco Use Only."

Many support services from around Eugene are also present at the fair, including the University Health Education program, the Substance Abuse Prevention program, the Race Task Force and the Unwanted Sexual Behavior Task Force.

Homecoming organizers reserved the space above 13th Av-

enue for their banner before the ASUO could, so many students said they didn't know the street fair was coming. The fair was postponed for the same week as Homecoming because of the EMU construction.

Every year, the ASUO has a waiting list of vendors vying for a space at the fair. Both fall and spring fairs are always completely booked said Kelli McCartan, ASUO fund-raising coordinator. Some vendors have been coming to the fair for more than a decade.

But some who have been at the fair this long considered not returning because of the ASUO's decision to raise the prices last spring. However, the ASUO still maintains a mailing list of more than 300 interested vendors, despite the new prices.

"I came to the street fair last fall and decided to participate [this year] as a vendor," said Anthony Vanderford, a tie-dye clothier.

Educational program offers tutoring, counseling services

Students who face a number of challenges can look to the program for help

By Meyan Turner
Higher Education Reporter

The Educational Opportunities Program offers a wide range of services to assist low-income students, first-generation college students or students with disabilities.

The program, located in Room 68 PLC, provides assistance with course selection, career exploration, advising, advocacy and

academic and personal counseling, as well as many workshops on topics such as stress management, statistical strategies and grammar improvement.

"Our mission is to provide a full spectrum of services so that students who come to the University will graduate," said Donna Wong, Educational Opportunities Program advisor. "We help them find the resources to make it a positive experience, so they will get that degree."

Education major Loretta Falcon took advantage of the services EOP offers when she took Math

111, 211, 212 and 213 last year. Falcon finds math very difficult, but because it is required to receive an educational studies degree, she knew she would need to seek tutoring. She later found out that EOP offered a two-term Math 111 class, which she found to be just what she needed.

"It was really cool," she said. "The teacher was really nice, really slow and really thorough. I don't know what I would have done without the unlimited support. It was really helpful."

Falcon pays for her own education and also comes from a single-

parent background, so she easily qualified for EOP services. She also received free tutoring and "unlimited support" in tackling not just math-related problems.

"You can go in there with any problem and they can help you," she said.

Although Falcon currently is not using the program very often, she knows there will come a time to seek out EOP services again, especially next spring, when she will be writing her thesis.

Students of any age or ethnicity are encouraged to apply for EOP assistance, Wong said. Many older

and transfer students, as well as students who are also parents, are among those currently using EOP's services. Many students who have a first language other than English are also in the program. However, students must be a U.S. citizen to be accepted.

Wong said the criteria are broad enough so that as many as 3,000 students could qualify for this program; however, there are only 360 students currently receiving EOP assistance. Because funding is limited, students are advised to pick up an application as soon as possible.



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