

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Mortar Board honors late Russian teacher

University Russian instructor Tatyana Gorokhovskaya posthumously received the October professor of the month award from Mortar Board, a national senior honor society.

"Several members of our group wanted to pay a tribute to her because of how important she is to the school," Mortar Board Vice President Marisa Tabizon said.

Gorokhovskaya died Oct. 1 after suffering from fatal injuries

sustained in a car accident on Sept. 27. She was 50.

Gorokhovskaya was a passenger in a car driving on Highway 58 when the driver swerved and hit a tree, said her daughter Yana Gorokhovskaya.

Gorokhovskaya was an instructor of first-, second- and fourth-year Russian.

"She brought life," said Russian Department Head Virpi Zuck. "I think she brought Russia to the students in many ways. Their concept of Russia would not be there without Natalie."

Labor activist to give lecture on campus

The national coordinator of the Campaign for Labor Rights will discuss global sweatshops at 7 p.m. in the Knight Library Browsing Room.

Trim Bissell will explore the underlying causes of sweatshops, taking examples from Nike and Hyundai. The Campaign for Labor Rights organized an international mobilization against Nike's labor practices and is helping organize a Hyundai boycott.

Groups will discuss environment issues

Several local groups will meet at 11 a.m. today in the Ben Linder Room to speak for stronger environmental protections.

Representatives from the ASUO, OSPiRG, Lane Community College and community groups will demand that Congress strengthen its environmental policies. OSPiRG has gathered about 1,600 signatures, which it will send to local congressional representatives.

ASUO to host seminar on rape awareness

The ASUO will present a "pro-awareness seminar" at 6 p.m. tonight in 180 Prince Lucien Campbell.

The presentation will include facts and myths about the University's recently revised conduct code. Speakers will also advise students on what to do if they or someone they know is raped.

Students can also learn basic self-defense moves at the seminar.

Program offers conflict resolution

The Mediation Program provides one-on-one coaching on how to deal with conflicts

By Nicole Kristal
Higher Education Reporter

Are you angry with your roommate?

Have issues with a professor?

Worrying about a relationship with a co-worker?

The Mediation Program is here to help.

"The hardest part is getting people to the table," said program director Diane LeResche. "Once you're willing to come to the table, then we can do something."

The program, located in EMU Room 318, has been helping people affiliated with the University to resolve conflicts for the past nine years.

According to LeResche, people often wait too long to seek resolution until the situation is almost hopeless.

"They need to come when [con-

flict is] ripe," LeResche said. "Otherwise, it just builds up until you have a wall that you can't tear down. I'd rather help people build bridges than walls."

LeResche said she advocates adopting an open, honest and respectful attitude toward people.

She tries to help identify the underlying needs that aren't being met and work with those issues rather than the surface issues that people are accustomed to talking about.

"People may come in complaining about a toothbrush, but what it really is is 'she doesn't respect my space,'" LeResche said.

LeResche said most people fear conflict, and this fear usually prevents the parties involved from seeking help when it's needed.

"But there are people who like what I call 'conflict highs,'" LeResche said. "They enjoy poking pins in people. They enjoy what they call 'a good fight' and the excitement."

LeResche said she does not consider conflict to be negative be-

cause it helps people become aware of others' thoughts and beliefs.

"It can make your lives so much better if it's handled appropriately," LeResche said.

The program provides a number of other services besides mediation, such as one-on-one coaching on how to deal with specific situations. For this reason, the program plans to change its name to Conflict Resolution Services.

To be eligible for the program, one of the parties involved must be affiliated with the University. But some people visit the program for problems that should be addressed in other areas.

"It is sometimes very difficult to know whether people should go to the ombuds person, a counselor or legal advocacy," LeResche.

The program is funded 60 percent by the ASUO and 40 percent by the Office of Student Life.

LeResche, who replaced program founder Jacquie Gibson, has directed the program for the past two and a half months.

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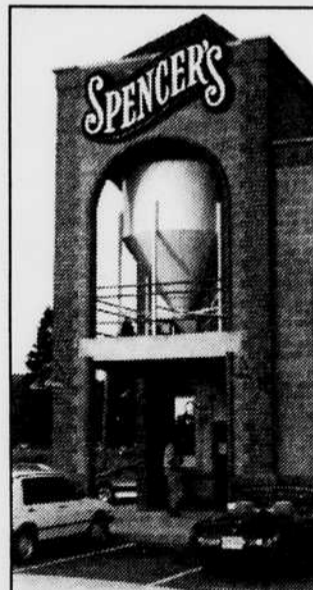
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