UO to lease downtown Register-Guard space

Two new programs will move into the building after it is vacated

By Michael Burnham
Community Reporter

Move over, Register-Guard, and make room for the University.

There will be space for University programs to join printing and mailing services at the current downtown Register-Guard building at 975 High St. on Jan. 26 after the 121-year-old newspaper finishes moving all of its facilities to its current printing location on Chad Road.

The move, which has been planned since the Register-Guard opened its current printing facility near the intersection of Beltline Road and I-5 in 1994, will allow the University to lease more than 80,000 square feet of the vacated building space.

A portion of the space is already in use, as the University moved its printing and mailing services to the building in 1995.

According to J.R. Gaddis, director of printing services for the University, the printing presses and mailing services occupy approximately 21,500 square feet of the total space.

Gaddis said the facility will benefit the University by freeing up downtown space for academic use, while giving the University a greater presence there. However, he credits the consolidation of the printing and mailing services at the new location as the most cost-efficient component of the move.

Before the consolidation two years ago, he said the printing presses were cramped in the basement of Allen Hall, while paper storage and mailing services were spread over three other locations across campus.

In addition to the printing and mailing services, the University plans to send two new tenants to the downtown location.

Allan Chung, planning associate at the Planning Office, said the University will use a portion of the space for archive storage. In addition, the continuing education component of the University's Continuation Center is slated as the main tenant in the building, he said.

"It's a good place for continuing education because it's the front door to the public," he said.

However, he said the summer session and community education components of the Continuation Center will remain at their present campus locations.

According to Scott Diehl, who negotiated the lease with the University for the Register-Guard's parent company, Guard Publishing Co., the University was contacted because of the presence it will bring to the downtown area.

"We were really interested in the University being the tenant, and we approached them first," he said. "I think we made it attractive enough that they were interested early on."

So why is the Register-Guard moving?

Bridget Baker, public relations director for the Register-Guard, said the newspaper will be moving out of its home since 1952 to the new location for many of the same reasons the University moved its printing and mailing services: finances and time.

Baker said the costs outweighed the benefits of having two separate facilities for the newspaper. Currently, the newspaper has to have earlier printing deadlines because of the added transportation time between the downtown newsroom and the printing facility.

"The quicker we can get the trucks out, the later we can make our deadlines," she said.

The move will also enable the Register-Guard to double its space from approximately 80,000 square feet to 160,000 square feet.

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5:00-5:50	Dance Aerobics Mind-Body Fitness 220 GER Melissa	Body Sculpt 220 GER Maggie	Dance Aerobics 220 GER Melissa	Body Sculpt 220 GER Maggie	
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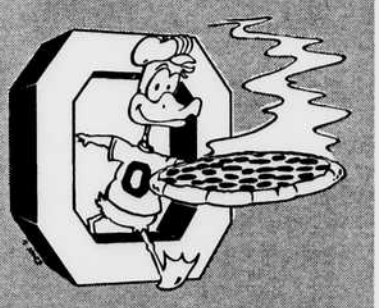

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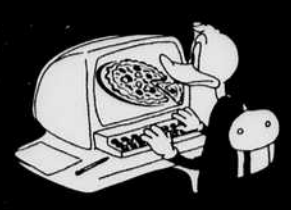

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