

# Program offers chance to study here or abroad

Students can take classes that are not available at the University through a national exchange

By Tammy Salman  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Jasmina Gradistanac, a senior linguistics and anthropology major, spent fall term at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff studying Native-American cultures, learning to cook Navajo dishes, writing in her diary and reflecting on life.

Gradistanac became interested in Native-American cultures through anthropology classes and wanted to visit actual reservations and learn about them first-hand instead of strictly from books. She found out about Northern Arizona University through National Student Exchange, a 29-year-old program that sends more than 3,000 students a year to other colleges and universities across the United States.

Students participating in the program have their choice of 148 campuses, including schools in 48

states, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and Guam.

Joe Wade, National Student Exchange coordinator and director of Academic Advising and Student Services, said students use the exchange program for a variety of reasons.

"The NSE program should be looked upon as an opportunity to expand the University's curriculum," Wade said. "Academic programs available at some of these schools simply are not available on our campus."

Some students use the program to find internships or overseas programs not found at the University. For example, Wade said students in broadcast journalism often find internships with television and radio stations through schools on the East Coast.

Gradistanac considers her experience at Northern Arizona one of the most enlightening in her life.

"It was very much an experience learning about myself," she said.

Gradistanac, who is originally from Belgrade, Serbia, wanted to "taste another side of the United States" before she graduated and

put her knowledge to a more practical use.

"So many students finish their senior year and have nowhere to go," she said. "You stop with this vast horizon in front of you, and you don't know what to do."

Brynn McInturff, a junior majoring in accounting, wanted to come to the University of Oregon after her senior year in high school, but ended up attending Western Washington University because out-of-state tuition was too high.

Then, McInturff discovered the National Student Exchange program, which gives students the option of paying tuition to their home institution or paying tuition to the host school, depending on which is more cost efficient.

Financial aid is still available to students who opt to go on national exchanges, Wade said. However, if the cost of living and tuition are higher than the University's, students should apply for financial aid at the host school.

Along with tuition worries, Wade said students are sometimes reluctant to join the program for fear credits from another school

will not transfer.

According to Wade, the exchange program is a consortium of institutions, and the University renews its commitment to the exchange agreement every year.

"Part of that agreement is that [schools] will accept whatever credit hours students have earned."

The intrigue of attending another university is the little differences students encounter in their travels.

McInturff discovered the world of screaming Duck fans and large crowds at sporting events soon after arriving in Eugene, something she never experienced at Western Washington.

Gradistanac found out she liked the 15-week semester system better than the quarter system and is having trouble readjusting to the fast pace.

"During midterms and finals students, don't have the air of frustration because of sleepless nights. People were much more enthusiastic at the end of the semester."

Gradistanac hopes to visit Arizona again and recommends students go on a national exchange.

## Movie theater construction to begin soon

Cinemark plans to build a state-of-the-art film complex at Gateway

By Jim Seckler  
Freelance Reporter

Construction on the new 17-screen theater complex at Gateway Mall is due to begin in 15 to 30 days, said Bob Buchanan, general manager of General Growth Management Inc., the Chicago-based company who owns the mall.

"The construction will take about a year to complete," Buchanan said. Once completed, the 3,952-seat, 78,000-square-foot theater will be the largest and most advanced in the Eugene-Springfield area. The new complex adds to the existing 2,000-seat, 38,000-square-foot Movies 12 facility already at the mall.

Cinemark, a Texas-based chain, and the nation's fifth largest theater chain with over 17,000 screens in the U.S. and overseas, will run the new theater complex as well as continue to operate the

Movies 12 facility.

The complex is called Tinseltown, Cinemark's name for its theaters featuring state-of-the-art movie technology, including a wall-to-wall curved screen, the most up-to-date sound system and "stadium-style seating."

Standard theaters have a gentle slope front to back, whereas the stadium-style seating in the new theater will have a 16-inch height difference between each row, allowing for greater visibility and an unobstructed view of the screen. The distance between rows will also allow for extra leg room.

A new 15-screen Tinseltown theater opened in Medford last December. When the new Gateway theater opens, they will be the only two Tinseltown theaters in Oregon. Cinemark currently operates 18 theaters nationwide with stadium-style seating.

The new theater complex will show first-run movies, while the existing Movies 12 theater will show second-run movies, said John Tamulonis, Springfield's

economic development manager.

"Our biggest concern [about the new cinema] was the traffic," Tamulonis said. However, with further review, the city decided that there shouldn't be any major traffic problems. "With peak movie times being Friday and Saturday nights, the theater's traffic flow will be at a different time than with the mall's main shopping traffic," Tamulonis said.

The theater will be built off the mall's west entrance facing Interstate 5 and in what is now the parking lot between Emporium and Sears. No additional parking will be added because the site was reserved for a future tenant.

Most of the theater's construction will take place outside, allowing for a minimum of interference with normal operation inside the mall.

An information kiosk will be placed in front of the theater, working with Springfield's Chamber of Commerce to promote the city and attract tourist dollars, Tamulonis said.

## CAMPUS BRIEFS

### Harvard professor to discuss race

Cornel West, Harvard University professor of African-American studies and philosophy, will speak about "Restoring Hope" at the University today.

West is the author of 13 books, including the 1993 bestseller "Race Matters" about the future of race relations and social change.

The Oregon Humanities Center is sponsoring the speech, which is the final event recognizing Martin Luther King Jr. West is the 1998 Robert and Beverly Lewis Lecturer in Humanities, which was created to bring national leaders in the humanities to the University.

West will speak at 4 p.m. in the EMU Ballroom. Admission is free.

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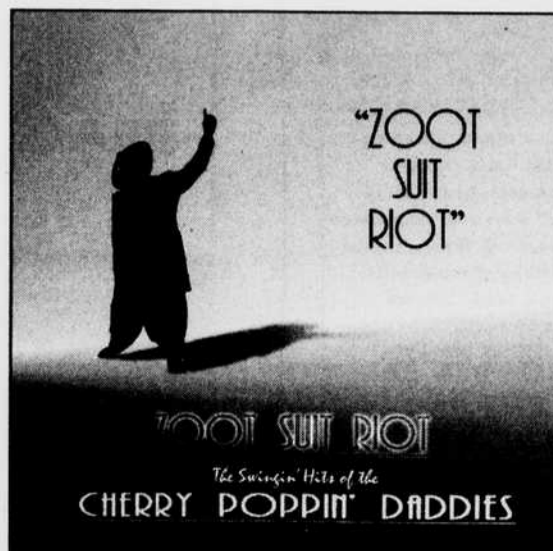
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