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ing," said Alan J. Scharn, deputy director of the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training in Monmouth. "It's good to see that it's a statewide effort."

The Oregon tribes have had interaction with the federal government in the past, but this is an effort to form partnerships with the tribes and the state government.

Wanda Johnson, tribal leader of Burn Paiute Tribe, said working with the state could be beneficial

to both parties.

The Burn Paiute Tribe has run into conflict with the Oregon Department of Transportation over road construction, Johnson said. If ODOT finds artifacts or human remains during construction, there are certain procedures to follow, but in the past some procedures may not have been followed, Johnson said.

"We assumed that they knew the procedure on how things like that work," Johnson said. "They

knew at the top, but not those working on the street."

Johnson said one way they could have worked together was to have a tribal monitor during construction.

Partnerships would allow better conversations and more creative solutions because people would have the opportunity to get to know one another, said Dianne Middle, director of the department of public safety standards and training.

Smaller groups of participants, or clusters, meet in a series of work sessions throughout the two-day conference to exchange ideas and concerns on various topics such as the juvenile criminal justice system, gaming, land management and fish and wildlife.

The clusters identify three to five large issues to discuss at next year's conference, commit to regular meetings and consider the upcoming legislative sessions, Kitzhaber said.

With the clusters meeting regularly, it would become second nature for state agencies and tribal counsels to turn to one another first to discuss a potential conflict.

"The success in this is getting the right people in the room," said Chip Lazenby Jr., legal counsel for the office of the governor. "Every place you look, we've made people realize that this process exists."

Kitzhaber said people need to be less reactive and more proactive in their involvement.

University President Dave Frohnmayer told participants that

the University is doing its part to further Native American issues through the Oregon Native Initiative. The initiative includes resident tuition rates for members of Native American tribes whose descendants were displaced from their Oregon homelands, and linguistics studies in Oregon native languages.

The University also plans to build a traditional longhouse on the east end of campus near the Museum of Natural History that will be used for cultural and educational purposes.

"Some of the tribes recognize there's a need to be partners with each other and work together," Johnson said.

Jeff Mitchell, of the Klamath Tribe, challenged administrative heads, staffs and state agency leaders to find solutions to the issues and work toward building on the current executive order to make it stronger.

"The issues aren't getting any easier," Mitchell said. "Just look across the table and we can find the solutions together."

Packets

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But ideally the evaluations will expand to include more information, Cowling said.

Beginning fall term 1999, the evaluations will include two new questions that were approved by the University Senate. The third and fourth questions will read:

"3) In comparison with other UO courses of this size and level, do you believe that the class time was well organized and efficiently used throughout the course?"

"4) In comparison with other UO courses of this size and level, how well did your instructor encourage communication outside of class time?"

"I'm sure if we could get more [information], students would want more,"

Cowling said. "The ultimate goal of this is having the professors starting to care more and valuing what students are learning so they can become better teachers."

Some students don't believe the evaluations are an accurate portrayal of an instructor's course or performance.

"Unless you're going to decide between two classes, it's not going to do you much good," student Andrew Schneider said.

Undergraduate Morgan Davis said he doesn't think the evaluations should be published.

"Haven't you filled them out before and just railed out a teacher?" he asked.

The evaluations could be more accurate, said Jack Rice, associate vice provost for academic affairs.

"Whoever takes on the responsibility [to compile the evaluations], it's important to make sure that all the data are correctly portrayed," Rice said. "There's still quite a few of those nagging little typos or mistakes."

There have been mistakes, Cowling said, including one professor who received a five instead of an eight.

But the future of student feedback is online, Rice said.

"Ultimately, we would really like to see a Web-based database because that's the best way to share this information that we have," Rice said.

Last summer, Cory Coleman, an undergraduate in psychology and computer science, prepared a system that would display the evaluations online.

Coleman hopes to add a feature where people will be able to write and post comments online.

Some professors use the evaluations to check their progress in the classroom.

"I haven't felt like comparing my evaluations to anyone else," said Ted Gerber, a sociology professor. "It seems best to compare the evaluations to the others in the department."

Gerber received perfect scores on one evaluation, a 10 for his sociological research methods course and a 10 for the quality of his instruction.

"It makes sense to me that they should publish it to provide students with more information when selecting classes," he said.

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Jack Rice

Associate vice provost for academic affairs



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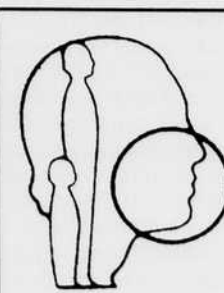
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