

# Pride Week events commence

Speakers and more address issues of gender and sexual orientation

By Victor Runyan  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Pride Week offers a mix of fun and serious activities intended to promote understanding between people of all genders and sexual orientations. The event reaches out to educate others but also to provide a sense of belonging for LGBT students.

The week's events began on Sunday with a picnic and hike and continued with a program fair supporting LGBT issues in the EMU Amphitheater on Monday. Later that night, Ellen DeGeneres, an openly lesbian celebrity, spoke at the Hult Center.

Peter Larson, LGBT co-director, said the event is a chance for the community to come together and address the tough questions, such as what gender and sexual preference mean.

"It's a chance to assert visibility," he said.

The LGBTA will have hand painting in its office today. A panel including a transgender person, a person of color, and other representatives from the University community will speak at a town hall meeting tonight. It is open to the public as a forum to discuss what issues are of concern to the community.

The LGBTA's weekly general meeting will convene Wednesday night. Two movies, "Brandon Teena Story," a real-life story, and "Edge of Seventeen," a coming-of-age story, will follow.

A brown bag discussion Wednesday at the LGBTA will feature a speaker on issues important to the LGBT community. That night the LGBTA will host bowling at Southtowne Lanes as a chance to unwind and get to know each other.

The EMU will host a performance by Kate Bornstein and her partner entitled, "Too Tall Blondes Do Sex, Death and Gender" and a performance by WYMPROV!, a local improv comedy troupe on Friday.

"We're going to explore the na-

## LGBT Pride Week

■ **Tuesday:** 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Hand Painting in the LGBTA  
5 to 7 p.m., Town Hall Meeting in 204 Condon

■ **Wednesday:** 6 p.m., LGBT General Meeting  
7 to 10 p.m. Movies in the Ben Linder Forum

■ **Thursday:** 12 noon, Brown Bag Discussion in the LGBTA  
6 p.m., Bowling at Southtowne Lanes, 2486 Willamette, Cost \$2

■ **Friday:** 8 to 11 p.m. Kate Bornstein, "Cut & Paste" and WYMPROV! in the EMU Ballroom

■ **Saturday:** 8 to 11 p.m., Dance at the Agate Auditorium, 18th and Agate, Cost \$2

■ **Sunday:** 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Keynote with Kevin Jennings at Agate Auditorium, Cost \$10 for luncheon.

ture of gender," Bornstein said.

Bornstein will also speak at the conference on what gender is and how it is defined. She doesn't believe that she is male or female.



LGBTA members Lisa Finkelstein and Matt Woodburn talk to friends from their booth Monday afternoon at the EMU Amphitheater.

There will be a dance Saturday night in the Agate Auditorium at 18th Avenue and Agate Street. It will cost \$2.

The third annual Northwest Regional Queer Conference, the finale of the week, will start on Friday and continue through Sunday.

It will address topics such as racism, homophobia, transgender issues, safe sex, bisexual identity, advocacy and other topics important to the LGBT community.

The conference costs \$40 for the general public and \$10 for University faculty, staff and students.

# First OUS report card indicates improvements in education

The system's progress is a step toward meeting further goals by 2005

By Teri Meeuwse  
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Oregon University System got a P for progress on its first report card for improving the access to and the quality of education.

The State Board of Higher Education received the report card last week. It outlined the improvements made by the system in the quality of education, the employability of graduates and the number of degrees awarded throughout the state. The University also has to deal with these goals and have specific goals for the campus.

"We've received a very good grade with what we've dealt with," said Diane Christopher, the vice

president of the board. "We've dealt with problems with poise and creativity and determination. There are various areas we're doing better than in other areas."

In these areas, or performance measures, there has been an overall increase toward meeting the goals of increased access, quality, cost-effectiveness and employability. The effort was launched by the board in January 1997 that would transform public higher education while meeting the needs of the state by 2005.

"We don't really see any of these being a problem for [the University]," said John Moseley, vice president for academic affairs. "The challenges are out there, and we do our work to meet them and succeed."

The governor and the Legislature have endorsed these goals.

Oregon law now supports development and practice of these performance indicators.

To measure the progress of the goals, the eight proposed performance measures have been refined by the board, the chancellor's office and campus leaders.

According to the report, areas that have increased in numbers since previous years include attracting higher-ability Oregon high school graduates to the Oregon public universities. Of the entering freshmen, 16 percent had 3.75 or higher grade-point average in the 1996-97 school year, and 19 percent in 1997-98.

Attracting and providing access to first-time resident students increased from 29,422 students in the 1995-96 school year to 30,665. Having entering freshmen com-

plete a baccalaureate from state institutions also went up from 53 percent in 1995 to 55 percent in 1997.

The quality of education was rated better over all by recent graduates in the 1996-97 school year compared to graduates in the 1994-95 school year.

The total number of degrees awarded in the state also increased from 12,386 in the 1996-97 school year to 12,686 in the 1997-98 school year.

"The board feels we have a quality product," Christopher said. "If people understand what we're doing, they will probably be supportive."

The enrollment of racial/ethnic minority students in the system has remained the same the past three years at 13 percent of the students enrolled.

"The UO has the largest ethnic population, and we are already near the total goal for the system," Moseley said. "We don't see it as a big problem, but we're going to try to do better than that."

There was also a decrease in community college students who transfer into system — from 2,451 in 1995 to 2,428 in 1997.

"You can always do better," Moseley said.

To do so, the importance of funding the system needs to be stressed, he said. Out of all the problems that need to be tackled, funding the system so these goals can be met is really important, he said. The higher education budget is currently on the table in Salem. Higher education advocates have asked to \$116 million, while Adams has proposed \$100 million.

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