Community briefs

Alumni Association reveals new board president

John Halgren recently began serving his year-long term as president of the University Alumni Association Board of Directors, replacing Christine Sullivan.

Halgren's previous contributions to the association include serving as one of its directors since 1994. He also worked with its advocacy program, which is dedicated to lobbying state legislators for the needs of universities and higher education, and he was the chair of the board's Advocacy Committee. Halgren will head the 50-member board of directors, which sets policy for the association.

Womenspace art show at WOW Hall during October

The WOW Hall will sponsor an art show during October presented by Womenspace Domestic Violence Services. The event coincides with Domestic Violence Awareness Month, an annual na-

tionwide event to increase awareness of domestic violence.

The show will display original works depicting themes from the costs of domestic violence to the empowerment of women. Featured in the show will be works by child survivors of domestic violence.

An opening reception will be held during the First Friday Gallery Walk, Oct. 1 from 6 to 8 p.m. The Wow Hall is located at Eighth Avenue and Lincoln Street.

For more information, call Theresa Guerrero at 485-6535.

Gay, lesbian students share ideas on diversity

■ The LGBTA and ASUO discuss with students ways to promote acceptance

By Jeremy Lang

The issue of the PRIDE Hall and the development of many programs through the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Alliance represent attempts the University has made to address gay and lesbian issues on campus. But according to ASUO Outreach Director Peter Larson, the University still has a long way to go.

"There is lots of tolerance on campus, but sometimes that is not enough. I would like to see more recognition and celebration of nonheterosexual lifestyles," he said.

Larson met with Stephanie Carnahan, director of the LGBTA Educational and Support Services Program, and 17 students Friday at a new student orientation meeting called "You're here, you're queer. Now what?" The group introduced programs to promote acceptance of alternate lifestyles.

Students learned about on-campus social events and advocacy programs the LGBTA is involved with. Those programs include a weekly Residence Hall Queer Friendly Group, places where non-heterosexual students can safely explore their religious beliefs and "Bridges," where students share coming-out stories and play a game called "Guess the Straight Person."

"It's a chance to break down stereotypes," Carnahan said. "We invite University students to ask questions to a panel such as 'Where do you shop?' and 'Who is your favorite band?' and then guess who is straight and who is not."

Larson told how the ASUO and the LGBTA work together on issues such as curbing the recent trend of Halloween riots and improving diversity as a whole.

He said that student unions and multicultural groups such as the ASUO and LGBTA need to combine efforts to promote and celebrate diversity "because by and large—we have a long way to go."

Students then asked questions and told stories about tolerance in their hometowns. They also discussed what they wanted to see this year to improve non-heterosexual life at the University and in Eugene. Most of the suggestions were social, including dances and more activities in general for students who are not 21 years of age.

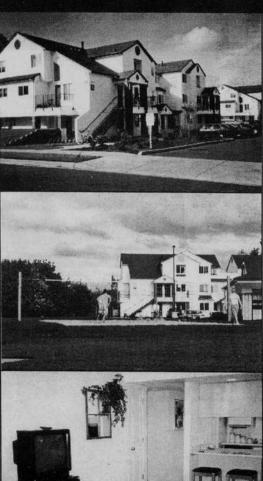
Carnahan also spoke briefly about planning events for National Coming Out Day on Oct. 11, the National Queer Film Festival in February, and restarting talks with the administration about the PRIDE Hall, proposed last year as a hate-free and tolerant living environment. University administrators denied creation of the new dorm because of safety concerns that the dorm's residents would be an easy target for hate and segregation, Carnahan said.

She said her ultimate goal is to see a campus where there isn't a need for a support service to help non-heterosexual students. "I'd love it if my job didn't need to exist and all students could hold themselves accountable." she said

selves accountable," she said. Students with questions or interested in getting involved can reach Carnahan at 346-1134.



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