

Oregon Daily Emerald

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WEATHER

Today



THURSDAY



MOSTLY SUNNY

Women run into top 25

The women's cross country team, now ranked No. 23, joins the No. 12 men's squad in the most recent top-25 poll after both had a successful weekend at the Pre-NCAAs. PAGE 7



Domestic violence prevention

Lane County's grant toward helping to eliminate the problem has expired, and a new one will not be granted based on little evidence that previous funding was successful. PAGE 3

Unraveling the String of Truth

Group protests for full-disclosure on companies that produce University apparel

By Christopher Arnold
for the Emerald

Human Rights Alliance members showcased their "alternative fashion show" at the EMU Amphitheater on Tuesday to protest the University name being licensed to corporations that use foreign contract manufacturing.

About 10 alliance members wore University apparel in an effort to present University policies on merchandising to passers-by. After modeling their fashions, the group headed to Johnson Hall, where they submitted their demand for the establishment of a University Corporate Code of Conduct by Nov. 17. The group then took off their apparel to showcase "full disclosure" written across their chests.

A code of conduct would require all licensees using the University name to provide full disclosure of factory locations and working conditions where University apparel is manufactured, said Sarah Jacobson, a member of the alliance. The University of Wisconsin, Duke and Dartmouth have already passed such a proposal.

"We began working on these issues last February after the passage of a corporate code of conduct at Duke and at other large universities. It alerted us to the possibility of establishing one here and brought to our attention the importance of these issues," Jacobson said.

Duncan McDonald, vice president of public affairs and development and overseer of the licensing of the University name to companies, said the University will turn to protest. Page 3



Jamuna Golden (front) and Kristin Valasek pose during the sweatshops fashion show in the EMU Amphitheater on Tuesday afternoon.

Diversity Program faces up to challenges

Members of the recently formed Diversity Program implement plans created during the summer

By Jeremy Lang
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Summer Diversity Program will continue this school year, but with a new look and a newly created position.

A Coordinating Diversity Intern position was created this term to bring together the remaining interns from the summer program and help implement their ideas, according to ASUO President Wylie Chen. In about two weeks, members of the ASUO, Faculty Advisory Council and the University Administration will begin searching for someone to fill the position.

Of the original 10 summer Diversity Interns, seven graduated and three are still at the University and working in different offices across campus. The summer program was instituted in response to a sit-in protest for more campus diversity on May 18, at Johnson Hall.

Dave Hubin, University executive assistant president, said the new position is crucial to keeping diversity a priority on campus. "Over the summer, the Diversity Interns had the energy and took initiative, but they weren't connected to any campus groups. Now the program needs to be fused into the everyday operation of the University," he said.

Money to finance the position will come from either the Academic Affairs or the President's budget, University Provost John Moseley said. He anticipates the new pro-

Turn to Diversity, Page 3

Board to decide whether gay partners will receive tuition discount

A decision by the State Board of Higher Education regarding the amendment is expected Thursday

Stefanie Knowlton
Oregon Daily Emerald

University graduate Sean Brient paid \$10,000 more for his college education because he is gay, he testified at a public hearing Tuesday.

Brient's partner, Jim Warhol, worked at the University in 1996 as a computer programmer when the two of them applied for a resident tuition discount, an employee benefit granted to married couples that secures in-state tuition for out-of-state spouses.

The couple consider themselves married, but under Oregon law, Brient is not a spouse. He was denied benefits.

Three years later, the couple testified at the University public hearing to amend the benefit rule that excluded them. The proposed amendment for the tuition discount

will be voted on by the State Board of Higher Education and a decision is expected Thursday.

"It seems like a reasonable and fair thing, and I'm glad the University is getting around to doing it," Brient said.

The proposed amendment comes after the landmark 1998 Oregon case Tanner v. Oregon Health Science University, in which an Oregon appellate court ruled that offering benefits to married persons and not same-sex domestic partners is discriminatory and violates the state constitution.

Shortly before the decision was handed down, the Public Employees Benefit Board, an Oregon University Systems board, granted domestic partners health and dental coverage.

Additional benefits, such as the tuition discount and life insurance, are still in the process of being awarded to same-sex domestic partners under the Tanner case, OUS spokesman Philip Bransford said.

Stephanie Carnahan, director of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Education-

al and Support Services, said to comply with the ruling, the University has to extend the benefits to same-sex partners.

"It's almost a no brainer," she said. "The University has to come in line with the case."

The board has a temporary rule already in place that grants the tuition discount to same-sex domestic partners retroactively to January 1999, just after the Tanner ruling, Bransford said.

Life insurance, however, is not scheduled to be voted on until January 2000, and this ruling will not be retroactive, he said.

"These actions are taking place at the first available opportunity," Bransford said.

Brient, who graduated last year, will receive a small reimbursement for the tuition he paid during his last term if the amendment passes.

The new rule, however, would require same-sex domestic partners to sign an affidavit swearing cohabitation, commitment, financial responsibility, among other things,

Turn to Hearing, Page 6

Proposed criteria

The University may use the following to establish same-sex domestic partnership:

They share a close personal relationship and consider themselves responsible for each other's welfare.

Each is currently the other's sole domestic partner and neither has had another domestic partner within the preceding six months.

Neither one is married to another partner nor are the couple related by blood closer than would bar marriage in the State of Oregon.

They have jointly shared the same regular and permanent residence for at least six months and have plans to continue this arrangement on an indefinite basis.

They are jointly financially responsible for basic living expenses defined as the cost of food, shelter and any other costs...

SOURCE: The Oct. 21 State Board of Higher Education's meeting