

Health center looks to improve privacy

■ The University Health Center gathers ideas to deal with the problem

By Jessica Blanchard
Oregon Daily Emerald

According to results collected from recent University Health Center patient satisfaction surveys, some students don't feel their privacy is respected when taking care of health needs on campus.

In response, health center administrators have charged the Student Health Advisory Committee (SHAC) with gathering student input and forming proposals for inexpensive ways to improve privacy throughout the health center, according to health center director Dr. Gerald Fleischli.

The privacy issue came into focus when health center administrators were looking at restructuring women's health services during

fall term, Fleischli said. Previously, women's health services had been located in Area D on the second floor of the health center.

While that arrangement benefited women by providing a secluded area for their health services, some students questioned why it was exclusively for women. This term, health center officials disbursed women's services throughout the building and opened the area up to all students. But the privacy issue still remains.

"It really got us started thinking about ways we could increase privacy for everyone and really get that women's center feel for the rest of the health center," said SHAC member Greg Byrd, a senior biology and biochemistry major. "There's always room for improvement."

One of the common complaints was that the large windows near the entrance allowed passersby to see students in the health center,

Solving the privacy issue

The University Health Center is looking at several ideas to help improve privacy for students, including:

Moving benches from in front of the pharmacy to around the corner

Moving rope waiting lines to various medical areas to give patients more

privacy during their appointment check-in

Using blinds or some type of window covering to shield the large windows in the front of the center

Putting up dividers between medical areas

Source: Dr. Gerald Fleischli, University Health Center director

Byrd said. Other ideas offered at the SHAC meeting were instructing nurses to be more discreet when checking students in, rearranging the medical areas to be more secluded, putting maps of the health center at strategic intervals to show people their location and using dividers in certain medical areas between windows.

"I think it's gotten a little better, but still, voices carry," said Caroline Wolfram, a health center

pharmacist. "We try to keep things as confidential as possible and be as sensitive as possible. But I think we need a more private area than this."

Ideally, the health center would like to remodel the existing building, Fleischli said. The health center has put in a proposal for a major building renovation to the Student Building Fee Committee, but any actual construction is a long way off, he said.

Mayoral candidate 'Izzy' poised for third run

■ James Whestine is running on a platform of environmental responsibility, urban sprawl and humor

By Sara Lieberth
Oregon Daily Emerald

He promised the voters in 1992 that he would "be a part of Eugene politics in the future" and his campaign buttons from 1996 coyly read, "Re-elect Izzy in 2000."

James "Izzy" Whestine is back in the race for mayor running with a positive attitude and an undaunted hope that this third time will be the charm.

"I made a commitment to the citizens of Eugene and I won't quit until they come to their senses," he said.

This playful posture carries over to his latest campaign motto, "He's relatively harmless," which

he said will soon be appearing on the lapels of supporters citywide.

Others who have officially filed with the city recorder's office are 21-year-old Uriah Murray, a student at Cascade Institute of Massage, and Lazar Makyadath, owner of Lazar's Bazaar, a local business.

At 61, Whestine is a retired Union Pacific yard master, father of two and grandfather to four children. He has called Eugene home since 1959 and is actively involved in local theater, is a veteran blood donor and can be regularly found rafting the white waters on Oregon's many rivers.

Though his lifestyle might be seen as too light-hearted for a serious run at the office of mayor, he believes campaigning for the post is really a rather funny proposition in the first place.

"A candidate in a town the size of Eugene has to spend about \$60,000 for a job that doesn't pay," he said. "Now, that's funny."

Whestine isn't all humor when it comes to the issues he cares about, though — such as big business and the environment. He fiercely opposed Hyundai's settling locally because "who wants dead fish and drinking water that glows in the dark so someone's computer can work 13 seconds faster?" he said.

The hot-topic of urban sprawl is another issue that gets him en-

gaged, as a recent visit to California reminded him of how happy he was to live here instead.

"It's a symptom of the rebirth, the revitalizing of the downtown core I know," he said. "But growing up is the only real answer."

Critical of the ways in which, according to him, politics in general value bank accounts more than platforms and business contracts more than constituents, Whestine said he hopes his campaigning will change that.

"I think voting against money is probably the best thing the middle and lower classes could do for themselves," he said. "I have no business-oriented goals for this job. I would like to supervise the grinding of the public ax."

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