

# Eugene earns top grades

**■ Economic opportunity is flourishing and the city feels safer from crime, according to citizen survey**

By **Darren Freeman**  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Most Eugene residents are entering this year's election cycle feeling that the city is on the right track, according to the annual Eugene community survey, the city's equivalent to a report card.

More than two-thirds of the 401 participating Eugene residents, chosen to represent each ward, responded that they were satisfied with the direction the city is taking. That figure is up from the previous 19 community surveys.

"The citizens of Eugene are not at all hesitant to tell us what they think, and this survey shows that, for the most part, we've been listening to them," Mayor Jim Torrey

said. "Can we do better? Yes. Next year our goal should be to reach 80 percent" in satisfaction ratings.

About 85 percent of the respondents said they are happy with the city's general services, 73 percent said they are satisfied with city governance and the majority said they felt economic opportunity had stayed the same or improved. This year, more Eugene residents said they feel safer from crime than they had in previous surveys.

About one-third of residents, however, said crime was the biggest problem facing the city. Other repeated concerns included rapidly increasing population, lagging development in downtown and lacking recreation services for children.

Eugene Communications Director Phil Weiler said there is a trade off between increasing economic opportunities and population growth.

"Oregon and Lane County for many years have lagged behind the nation in median income," Weiler said. "Now, we're closing that gap and catching up with the rest of the country. There's a downside: We have a lot more people now."

"People like to live in a community that's about the size Eugene is now," Eugene senior analyst Janice Böhman said. Nonetheless, she said, the population is increasing and will likely continue to increase.

Eugene Police Department Captain Roy Brown said community policing techniques have added to Eugene residents' sense of security, but news coverage of drug busts and car thefts have made people more sensitive to crime.

Nonetheless, Brown said police are considering new strategies to combat the spread of illegal drugs in Eugene.

## ASUO General Elections measures

Beginning Wednesday, students at the University will have the opportunity to vote on eight proposed ballot measures in the ASUO general elections.

### #5 International Resource Center

This ballot measure involves adding a new library facility to the International Lounge in the EMU.

The facility would be equipped with worldwide newspapers and periodicals, computer links and information vital for traveling, studying and living abroad.

The proposed measure would increase student incidental fees by approximately \$1 per student per term.

With this increase, the Office of International Education and Exchange would be able to purchase books, periodicals, supplies and equipment to support the International Resource Center.

About 10 percent of students at the University are from other countries while about 14 percent of students study abroad and travel overseas.

This International Resource Center would be available to the entire campus community.

### #6 ASUO Constitution Changes

The measure pertains to the ASUO Incidental Fee. The appropriate branch of the ASUO would need to review initiative language before it could be presented to the student body for direct vote.

The proposed constitutional amendment would allow the ASUO Constitution to be in line with revisions to the Clark Document.

The Clark Document, named after former University president Robert Clark, was revised in July of 1999. It allows the ASUO to participate in the process of assessing and allocating the incidental fee.

Currently, the ASUO Constitution Court reviews all proposed ballot measures for clarity, objectivity and lack of influential language.

This measure would add to the Clark Document's requirements

for ballot measure review to the court's current review.

In addition, the measure would specify and clarify the Constitution Court's current standards of review for clarity and objectivity.

### #7 Designated Driver Shuttle Funding

This ballot measure deals with providing more funding to the Designated Driver Shuttle so that it is able to operate more frequently during peak hours.

DDS provides transportation for University students to their places of residence. Currently, DDS operates seven days a week, 350 days a year, with as many as 250 riders on weekend evenings. To accommodate the heavy passenger load, DDS is asking for an additional \$16,843.

The proposed measure would increase student incidental fees by about \$.35 per term in order to raise the DDS budget to \$80,000 for the 2000-2001 school year. As of now, DDS is allotted \$63,157 through the student fee.

Without an increase in fees, DDS will be forced to cut operation to only five days a week with only one eight-passenger vehicle each night.

### #8 LTD Unlimited Bus Service

This ballot measure addresses continued allocation of student fees to provide unlimited bus service for all University students on Lane Transit District buses.

Currently, student fees fund the unlimited bus service to anywhere in LTD's service area.

The measure asks whether a student incidental fee should be established at \$7.29 per term for the 2000-2001 school year and \$7.52 per term for the 2001-2002 school year to continue this unlimited access.

The service goes out to all currently registered University students.

Law students would pay \$10.94 per semester for the 2000-2001 school year and \$11.28 per semester for the 2001-2002 school year.

The elections will be held March 1 and 2.

## CRIME WATCH

(Reported Feb. 21 to Feb. 27, 2000)

**Feb. 21:** Shoplift II, 800 block East 13th Avenue, items stolen.

**Feb. 22:** Harassment, 1800 block Kincaid Street, argument between apartment residents.

**Feb. 23:** Theft II, 500 block East 13th Avenue, items stolen from car.

**Feb. 23:** Theft I, 1300 block Kincaid

Street, laptop stolen from bus stop.

**Feb. 23:** Shoplift II, 800 block East 13th Avenue, items stolen.

**Feb. 23:** Theft II, 1000 block Patterson Street, University Inn, mountain bike stolen.

**Feb. 24:** Theft I, II, III, 800 block East 13th Avenue, University Bookstore, books stolen.

**Feb. 25:** Burglary I, 2600 block Adams Street, cash stolen from apartment.

**Feb. 25:** Theft III, 1900 block Onyx Street, items stolen from car.

**Feb. 27:** Theft I, Criminal Mischief I, 1700 block East 15th Avenue, 11 ve-

hicles broken into, vandalized.

### Crime tips of the week from OPS Officer Guse:

**1. Get to know** your neighbors. The best way to prevent the University from getting a good rep to the thieves is to get the word out that a crime against one is a crime against all.

**2. Get a map** from the Office of Public Safety detailing the locations of the emergency phones on campus. There are approximately 26 exterior emergency phones set around campus to get you help when you need it fast.

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