

## Volunteer for Credit

### Leadership development

- **Student Leader Program:** Students who volunteer their time in a position of leadership may receive upper division credit.
- Students who are in a position which involves leadership, decision making, networking, etc may be eligible.
- *Common leadership positions include Greek house officers, club organizers, and coordinators.*
- **Shadow a Leader Program:** Shadow a community leader in the field of your interest.
- Fulfill academic requirements and receive upper division credit.
- *May include a community project.*

### THE BOTTOM LINE

- Broaden your future, sharpen your skills, and prepare for the real world experience.

ELTA 407 CRN 31454 - Practicum Internship CRN 31463 - Any questions contact Nick at [nikhovk@gladstone](mailto:nikhovk@gladstone) - The CIP office is located in the EMU breezeway 346-4351

## Volunteer for Credit

### Mentorship Division

- Mentor children, 5-18 years old, or an adult with a developmental disability.
- Work one-on-one with at-risk youth.
- Organizations include Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Committed Partners for Youth, SMART, Lunch Buddies, CHOICE, and more.
- Earn upper division credit.
- Become a positive peer support, reconnect with youth.
- Develop and apply trust building, communication, teamwork, goal setting, and conflict-resolution skills.

*The experience benefits students pursuing graduate studies.*

### THE BOTTOM LINE

- Broaden the future of a child and make a difference in the lives of the mentally disabled.

ELTA 407 CRN 31453 - Pre-registration required - Any questions contact Jill at [jmccarth@gladstone](mailto:jmccarth@gladstone) - The CIP office is located in the EMU breezeway 346-4351.

## Sexual assault

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the Office of Student Life cited four cases in which students experienced sexual harassment, intimidation or unwanted sexual attention. There were three cases of acquaintance or date rape, one case of public indecency, one case of stranger rape and one case of sexual abuse.

Byron McCrae, assistant dean of student life, said one area of improvement that the University could concentrate on is working to make survivors of sexual assault feel comfortable and encouraged to report incidents.

"We're challenged in terms of straight reporting," McCrae said. "A lot of work needs to be done if survivors don't feel safe reporting sexual assault."

Beyond that, McCrae said there is a lot that men can do to improve the safety of women on campus. McCrae not only educates female students on campus, but he regularly gives talks to men's organizations to educate them on how they can stop sexual assault.

"Men need to be aware of the issues of sexism," McCrae said. "Men need to be out there. They need to be visible and vocal. They need to let people know that sexual assault is not OK."

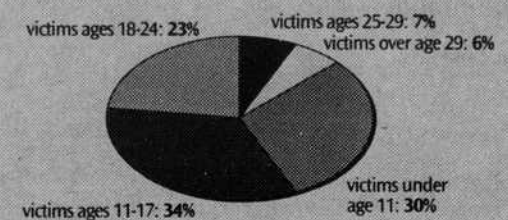
McCrae asks men to be a part of the solution by learning about the rape culture that exists in media and everyday conversation. He said men need to reduce their own defensiveness by listening to what others have to say about the problem.

"Listen to what you hear, what you read," McCrae said. "Try to take in information without feeling you are under attack, even if you are. It's not your fault you're male, but once you know about the problem, your responsibility lies in being part of the solution."

Janet Fiskio works as a community educator for Sexual Assault Support Services, a service supported by student incidental fees. SASS provides advocacy and support for victims of rape and sexual assault. It also works with the ASUO Women's Center to organize "Take Back the Night."

## Reported rapes

According to a 1998 National Violence Against Women Survey, most victims of reported sexual assault are in their teens and early twenties. In most cases where the victim is under 18, the victim was familiar with the assailant.



SOURCE: National Violence Against Women Prevention Research Center

Katie Nesse Emerald

"The University should try to create a safe environment for survivors to speak about their experiences," Fiskio said. "They also need to work on holding offenders accountable to make sure they don't do it again."

Fiskio cited a national statistic that said one in four women will experience sexual assault during their time in college. Fiskio also said that 85 to 90 percent of the time, the sexual offender is known to the victim or survivor.

Although some survivors report sex crimes, Fiskio said a lot of cases go unreported because sexual assault can come in many forms.

"It's important to allow survivors to define their own experiences," Fiskio said. "Sexual assault can be anything from unwanted touching and unwanted phone calls on up to rape. Rape is just one form of sexual assault."

Although education is important to combat rape on campus, there are several services made available to students to improve the level of campus safety. Fiskio said SASS is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to provide support and advocacy to victims of sexual assault. Its hotline can be reached at 343-SASS.

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## Frances Piven

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broaden its perspective of the social policy surrounding the poor and social welfare systems. The speech was the keynote of the conference "Work, Welfare and Politics."

Once Piven started, she scarcely paused for breath as she outlined the politics that have led to major social spending cutbacks in the last two decades. The argument for the cuts center around the idea that "we are in a new economic age characterized by globalization," she said. The conclusion has been that social programs must be restructured.

Piven said people have fought such efforts to cut programs and "unions have stayed strong."

Within the booming U.S. economy that has seen higher rates of growth, higher profit and lower unemployment, U.S. workers have also seen fewer social programs, lower wages and larger employment cuts.

"Let's look at the U.S. success story closer," Piven said.

The unemployment level is lower in the U.S. than in Europe

and profit is up by 100 percent since 1990. Since the sixties, the pay of top executives is up by 48 percent while the worker's wage is down by 10 percent during the same period.

Minimum wage is 27 percent less than the poverty level for a family of three, and 20 percent of the working class receives no benefits. The richest 1 percent of Americans own 48 percent of America's wealth.

Piven said there is a lot of "political noise" to destroy welfare. The argument being that welfare is bad for the country because generous welfare benefits are a disincentive to work.

Piven doesn't completely disagree with this philosophy, but the way it is applied was devastating to poor women. "With welfare reform legislation, we got a shift of administrative authority from federal to state and an increase in the intrusiveness into women's lives."

Now, "we have several million poor and desperate women competing for the same jobs," Piven said.

Another attack on welfare is that it promotes the number of babies born out of wedlock. Piven called the perpetuation of this myth a "statistical slight of hand."

She said across the world the number of babies born out of wedlock has increased and it is obvious that women in other countries are not giving birth to receive American welfare.

The number of teenagers giving birth out of wedlock has risen because fewer pregnant teens were getting married, not because the number of teen pregnancies have significantly risen. "Shotgun marriages are down, which isn't a bad thing," Piven said.

"There is an economic logic [behind cuts in social spending]; it's the logic of unfettered greed imposed by the business class," Piven said.

This leaves the working class earning less per hour for the same work, but working more hours. "Think of it as an increase in exploitation," Piven said.

All of the attacks and scapegoating of poor women, particularly poor women of color, don't leave the situation entirely bleak. Attackers of welfare "are not going to have the last word," Piven said.

"If we show the American poor that we are not against them, I think poor people themselves will begin to move forward," Piven said.

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