



USAS meeting

continued from page 1

will combine the goals of both the USAS and 180/MDE.

"It definitely has a double focus," Jacobson said.

She also said that in light of the recent developments following the University's decision to join the WRC, Eugene seems even more appropriate as a location.

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"It's kind of ironic, in retrospect, that we chose Eugene," Jacobson said. "I think now Eugene would definitely be chosen."

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Brakken said Eugene seemed like a good place to hold the conference because HRA members at the University have been active and involved, and at the time the decision was made, Nike was a major corporate donor. Brakken also said the area from Eugene to Portland has a history of "vibrant" activism and good networks among students.

"Eugene certainly is one of the hotbeds for activism in the country," Brakken said.

But he also pointed out that the decision to hold the conference in Eugene came long before the Johnson Hall protest and sit-ins.

"This was decided upon, really, before all the recent stuff happened with Nike," he said. "Recently, [Eugene] has certainly become the focus."

Jacobson, however, said she did not believe Eugene was a forerunner on sweatshop labor activism, and neither did Duncan McDonald, the University's vice president for public affairs and development.

"Are we any different in that way than other university towns?" McDonald said. "I'm not so sure we are."

McDonald said the area, like many other college towns across the nation, has always seen activism.

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