

An independent newspaper Oregon Daily Emerald

World-music artists

Guitarist Bob Brozman will pair up with Takashi Hirayasu at the WOW Hall tonight. **PAGE 6**

Mountaineering legend

Peter Gillman spoke about mountaineer George Mallory and the mystery of his death. **PAGE 4**

WEATHER TODAY



MOSTLY CLOUDY

high 60, low 45

SINCE 1900 UNIVERSITY OF OREGON EUGENE, OREGON

Spring Term 2000	
Asian/Pacific Islander	954
African-American	255
Hispanic	468
Native American	178
Multi-ethnic	235
Total Minorities	2,090
White, non-Hispanic	11,395
Unknown	993

Spring Term 1998	
Asian/Pacific Islander	1,022
African-American	288
Hispanic	473
Native American	198
Multi-ethnic	44
Total Minorities	1,965
White, non-Hispanic	11,538
Unknown	715

Spring Term 1997	
Asian/Pacific Islander	1,062
African-American	232
Hispanic	459
Native American	166
Multi-ethnic	42
Total Minorities	1,961
White, non-Hispanic	11,357
Unknown	878

Spring Term 1994	
Asian/Pacific Islander	1,126
African-American	252
Hispanic	452
Native American	192
Total Minorities	2,022
White, non-Hispanic	12,177
Unknown	869

Budget increase to help engineers

■ Oregon's engineering and computer science programs could be headed for the nation's top tier due to a recent board decision by the OUS

By Andrew Adams
Oregon Daily Emerald

The State Board of Higher Education decided to request an \$85 million investment plan from the state government to improve Oregon's engineering and computer science programs during its meeting on Oct. 20 at Southern Oregon University in Ashland.

Board members voted 10-1 to approve the plan that will use state and private funds to gradually move engineering programs into the nation's top tier of higher education institutions. The plan will be incorporated into the Oregon University System's total budget request, which is due at Gov. Kitzhaber's office by Nov. 1.

"I personally voted for it because I'm convinced [Oregon] needs top engineering and computer science programs," said Board Member Tom Imeson.

He said the board still has a lot of work to finish before it sends the final version of the total higher education budget, but he said the first steps towards improving engineering education have been made.

"We're going to put [Oregon] on a path for the top tier," he said. According to information released by the OUS, the investment plan requests \$10.63 million each biennium. That amount will be matched by private funding for a total of \$21.2 million, which will supplement \$30 million in state and private funds that have already been earmarked for engineering.

Oregon State University will be the chief recipient of the engineering funds because the school already confers more than half of the state's engineering degrees. The University of Oregon stands to receive about \$8.5 million each biennium for its computer and information science department.

University chemistry professor and board member Geri Richmond, however, took issue with the plan. Richmond cast the lone dissenting vote because she said the plan did not effectively promote what she considered "excellence."

"I didn't think it focused on excellence," she said. "It didn't have quality ideas. I just didn't see in the proposal the quality of state engineering that I'm used to seeing."

In addition to not reaching Richmond's expectations, the plan also attempts to complete too much with too little, she said.

"There's not enough focus on excellence, and it really is trying to do too much," she said.

Despite her misgivings, Richmond said she will still respect the board's decision.

Tom Anderes, OUS vice chancellor for finance and administration, said that even though the first funding request for the plan is minuscule in comparison to the total higher education budget of \$1.45 billion, it will eventually help make significant strides in engineering education.

The first step in the plan, Anderes said, will involve schools hiring new faculty and graduate assistants to develop the infrastructure. Turn to **OUS Budget**, page 5

Struggling for change

The University has taken steps to increase diversity, but it still has a ways to go

By Beata Mostafavi
Oregon Daily Emerald

Despite an increase in the number of minority faculty and students at the University, some of the new voices on campus want to see the administration answer the question of how much progress has actually been made to attain long-term diversity objectives. Multicultural Center Director Erica Fuller,

who took the newly created position this fall, said that while some improvements have been made, the University is still at least 25 years behind in preparing students for the reality of the world.

Fuller, whose came from the University of Florida, said curriculum is one of the biggest reasons the University is behind. Turn to **Diversity**, page 5



BCS rankings released

Take a whiff, Oregon football fans, and get your noses out of the roses.

Instead, try smelling those oranges.

The seventh-ranked Ducks officially entered the race for the Orange Bowl — the national championship game. The Bowl Championship Series came out with its first rankings of the year Monday night and listed Oregon at the No. 8 spot. There are only 15 teams listed, and Washington, at No. 9, is the only other Pacific-10 Conference team.

The computer-generated listing will continue to publish a new set of rankings each week until the end of the season. When all is said and done, the two teams ranked No. 1 and No. 2 will meet in Miami for the national title. Granted, Oregon is a long shot to climb that high up the BCS ladder.

But you never know.

For full coverage, turn to **SPORTS**, page 7.

Raising awareness about disabilities

■ During a symposium on disability studies, Adrienne Asch challenged society to change the way it views disabilities

By Brooke Ross
Oregon Daily Emerald

A Wellesley College professor who spoke at a symposium Monday charged that society needs to change how it views people with disabilities, who make up 15 percent of the population.

"A disability should simply be viewed as a characteristic that influences life just as other characteristics

do," said Adrienne Asch during the symposium "Disability Studies: Where Has It Been? Where is it Going?"

Disability studies is a field of study that shifts the emphasis away from general beliefs about disabled people and instead emphasizes changing the way the public views people with impairments.

In her presentation, Asch stressed the fact that the disabled community should not be viewed differently and separated from the rest of society because so many people have or will suffer from impairments in their lifetimes. Asch estimated that half of the



Following her disability studies lecture, Adrienne Asch speaks with University alumna Catherine Southward.

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