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**Interested in an Internship?**

Attend our CDIP Orientation Meeting:

**Thursday, November 2**

EMU Alesa-Coquille-Metolious Rooms  
**3:30 - 5:00 p.m.**

Sign-ups for interviews will be available following the orientation on a first-come, first-served basis.

Position description available starting October 30 in 244 Hendricks Hall.

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**Teaching America's youth**

■ Teach for America places college graduates in underfunded urban and rural schools across the country

By Kristy Hessman  
Oregon Daily Emerald

University senior and English major Tami Daley wants to make a positive difference in the lives of children, which is why she is eager to spend two years teaching in one of the nation's low-income schools as part of the Teach For America program.

"I am absolutely ecstatic about the opportunity to teach kids who need it," she said.

Teach For America is an Ameri-corps program that recruits recent college graduates from all majors to commit to two years of teaching in urban and rural under-resourced public schools across the country.

At least 25 other University students attended an informational meeting about Teach For America last week in the EMU.

Chosen applicants, known as "corps members," are placed in one of the 15 rural and urban sites across the country, from New York to California, to teach in understaffed and impoverished communities.

"The experience is an eye-opener to me," said Brett Wilson, a University graduate and current corps member. "I came from a middle-class white school that had lots of money and good teachers, but what you see is that education is not like that for the majority of students in this country."

Wilson chose to continue teaching for an extra year after his two-year commitment ended. He is not alone: According to TFA statistics,

about half the corps members go on to teach a third year. Wilson is currently teaching languages and literature to third graders in an elementary school in Oakland, California.

"When you first start, you are learning as you go," he said. "It's like learning how to fly a plane by taking off."

Applicants are not required to have any previous teaching experience, and according to recruitment operations manager Dennis Chiuten the majority of people who apply are not education majors and have never taught before.

"We usually pick people who wouldn't ordinarily decide to go into teaching," he said. "This adds to the pool of outstanding individuals who want to make a difference."

Senior Lindsay Slechta attended the meeting and said she is planning to apply to this year's program. Slechta is a psychology major and plans to become a school counselor.

"I was so excited when I found out about the program," she said. "I have a little brother who learns things slower, so I know what it is like for these kids to need these teachers."

Before corps members begin teaching at their sites, they are required to go through a five-week intensive training course in Houston during the summer.

During the first week, the teacher trainees learn different tools and class management techniques, and by the second week, members are in the classroom teaching in Houston summer high school and elementary school programs. In the evenings, they attend teaching seminars.

"It is intense, but it is good solid training," Chiuten said. "Some people have said that the TFA training

is more effective than masters courses."

Corps members rank their preferences by city, and Chiuten said approximately 85 percent of members receive their first choice. Once placed at a school, members receive the same salary and benefits as the other teachers in their schools. After completion of the two-year period, they receive a stipend of about \$9,500, which can be applied to past loans or future graduate school tuition.

Last year, the program received 24 applications from University graduates, ranking it third among the 60 West Coast schools that participate in the program.

And while many people apply, not everyone is accepted.

According to Chiuten, only about 25 to 33 percent of the applicants are accepted, and many who apply are from prestigious colleges on the East Coast.

"We look for people who display outstanding achievements academically and extracurricularly," Chiuten said.

While most members do not become lifetime teachers, wherever they go after the program, they have the background and experience in education, Chiuten said.

"They have seen the severe problems with education in this country and will be lifelong advocates of promoting education," he said.

Application deadlines are Oct. 30, Jan. 16, and Feb. 26. Applications can be picked up at the Career Center or the Office of Multicultural Affairs, or can be downloaded from the Teach for America website at [www.teachforamerica.org](http://www.teachforamerica.org). More informational meetings should be held on campus within the next year.

**Economist speaks about East Timor**

■ With the help of an interpreter, Ajiza Mango detailed the horrors of life under the Indonesian militia

By Beata Mostafavi  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Ajiza Mango was only a year old when her family fled from her hometown of Bahagia in East Timor to live in the nearby mountains. After Indonesia invaded East Timor

in 1976 for economic and political reasons, Mango's family, along with many others, went into hiding from the militia.

Through interpreter Agatha Scmaedick, a recent International Studies University graduate and tour coordinator for the East Timorese Action Network (ETAN), Mango spoke to about 80 people Friday in Willamette Hall about her frightening experience of living in East Timor during the 24 years of invasion.

Mango, who has since earned an economics degree from the University of Sebelas Maret in Solo Java, an island in Indonesia, came to the U.S. to present her story to people in 32 different cities. ETAN, an organization that supports human rights issues for East Timor, organized her visits to help encourage people to write to Congress and insist that military aid to the United Nations be halted until refugees can return home safely and reconstruction efforts increase. Her visit to Eu-

gene was sponsored by the Women's Center, Black Student Union, Sexual Assault Support Services, ASUO, Survival Center, Alliance for Democracy, Student Life and the YMCA.

Mango shared her memories of watching family members, including one of her sisters, and other residents die from illnesses resulting from difficult living situations or being killed by the Indonesian militia.

Mango, a founder of the East Timorese Women's Forum for Peace, also emphasized the violence and sexual assault many East Timorese women endured. She talked about women who were coerced into marrying Indonesian soldiers or becoming "comfort" wives and constantly being sexually violated.

"Women were systematically raped and had to take care of children when they didn't know who the fathers were," she said.

When Mango was four years old and malnourished, her family left the mountains and moved to Dili, the capital of East Timor. During this time, a few guerilla groups formed to resist the invasion and two women's organizations also joined in the struggle for independence.

Last year, after 78 percent of the people in the country voted for a referendum to become completely independent from Indonesia, Mango's family went to the East Timorese House of Diocese, where the Bishop lives. It was attacked by the Indonesian militia.

"I remember seeing soldiers enter the house and hitting anyone in the way," she said. "The militias were shooting their rifles over my head. I was traumatized but kept telling myself I had to be strong for

my little sister and mother while hearing the sound of the shots going over my head ... I can never forget that sound."

Scmaedick said she admires Mango for sharing these experiences and is happy to help her tell her story.

"It's amazing that someone who has faced such trauma can talk about it so calmly," she said. "It just shows her courage and determination for the truth to be heard."

Mango said the country's reconstruction and attempts at seeking justice for crimes committed against the people has been a slow process, and the U.N. hasn't made a great effort to speed it up.

She mentioned that many schools and infrastructures haven't been restored and the country has a 75 to 80 percent unemployment rate. She added that the U.N. has been setting up a new government without local people's involvement. Women who have been sexually assaulted also don't have any way to get legal assistance for crimes committed against them.

Elisha Harig-Blaine, an OSPIRG campus organizer, said the speech was eye-opening in many ways.

"Events like this help raise awareness of how fortunate we are to be in this country," he said. "It also raises the feeling of responsibility to help others and to act on behalf of people who can't act as strongly themselves."

Calla Schmidt, a freshman geology major, said Mango's presentation shed light on issues that have been hidden in the media.

"I can't believe news coverage about this has been so little," she said. "Listening to her speak made me aware of so many issues in East Timor I hadn't heard much about before."