

Deadline nearing to offer an apple to a tiptop teacher

■ Nominations for the University's annual Thomas F. Herman and Ersted awards are due by Friday

By Brooke Ross
Oregon Daily Emerald

Jon Erlandson, an associate professor of anthropology, was in the middle of presenting slides to a lecture class last spring term when University President Dave Frohnmayer and Erlandson's wife, associate anthropology Professor Madonna Moss, interrupted his class. To Erlandson's surprise, Frohnmayer presented him with a crystal apple, and then surprised Moss by presenting her with one, too.

Both Erlandson and Moss had won the Thomas F. Herman Award, one of the University's two annual Distinguished Teaching Awards. Catching the winners off-guard has become Frohnmayer's traditional way to notify the award recipients.

Besides the crystal apples, Erlandson and Moss also received a \$2,000 stipend and were honored at the University's 2000 commencement ceremony.

“Even though I got the teaching award, I feel there is still so much I want to learn about teaching.”

Madonna Moss
associate professor,
anthropology

This year's nominations for the awards are due by Friday, and any student or faculty member can make a nomination. Forms are located in Room 207 Johnson Hall and can be found in issues of the Emerald. E-mail nominations, including the nominators' contact information and a short paragraph about whom they are nominating and why, can be sent to Gwen Steigelman, assistant vice provost for academic affairs. Steigelman said no more than three faculty members can win either the Herman or Ersted awards annually.

Erlandson said after the initial shock of Frohnmayer's visit to his class wore off, he felt honored to have won, and said he is more likely to nominate a colleague this year.

“Since winning, I now feel even more pressured to prepare and do better, and that's a good thing,” he said. “Good teaching is so essential to what we do here on campus.”

Moss agreed and said she still tries to improve herself as a teacher.

To nominate a professor for the 2001 Distinguished Teaching Awards:

Pick up a nomination form in Room 207 Johnson Hall, from issues of the Emerald, or nominate via e-mail to Gwen Steigelman at gwens@oregon.uoregon.edu.

E-mail nominations must include the nominator's contact information and a short paragraph explaining the nomination.

Nominations are due by Friday.

“Even though I got the teaching award, I feel there is still so much I want to learn about teaching,” she said.

Steigelman said both awards are funded by various donors and University alumni. She said the Ersted Award is for individuals who have taught for six to seven years, and the Herman Award is for senior faculty who have been teaching for more than seven years.

“We're not putting one group against the other,” Steigelman said. “The goal is to recognize distinguished teaching and reward them for a job well done.”

The final decisions are made by the Distinguished Teaching Awards Committee.

“It's very much like a scholarship type of situation,” she said.

Dana Johnston, a professor and department head for geological sciences, is serving his second year on the award committee. He said winners are usually notified during the latter half of spring term.

“It's a pretty thorough screening,” Johnston said. “We want to find [nominees] who can do it all.”

He said the committee is made up of about half a dozen members who filter through nominations to pick out the finalists. He said the finalists' departments are then contacted to gather more information about the nominees, such as student evaluations. Department heads may also be asked for their opinions about the nominees, and committee members may even sit in on a class the nominee teaches.

“Each person ends up with a substantially thick file,” Johnston said. “We seek information until we can reach a decision about the winners.”

The winners also sit on the stage at graduation, are recognized during the ceremony and are also invited to the pre-commencement brunch, he said.

“I think the recipients truly feel this is a great recognition,” he said.

LGBTQA

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entertainment” will include bands, solo artists and performance art, along with spoken word and fire dancing. She said the nine bands are all from different genres and combine old-school lesbian folk singers with up-and-coming stars. Headlining performances will include The Need — a gothic riot girl punk rock group — Ferron, and Phranc.

Phranc will host a Tupperware party at noon Saturday in the LGBTQA office.

“I've needed to buy Tupperware for months,” Hendel said. “And I've been waiting for Phranc's Tupperware party.”

Bonfire Madigan, performing Friday, is a traveling trio known for its punk rock chamber pop. The trio, composed of Madigan Shive on the cello, Sheri Ozeki on the contrabass and Christine Lehmann on the violin, combines contemporary songs and vocals with traditional instruments.

Shive said Bonfire Madigan has already released two records: “... From the Burnpile” in 1998 and “Saddle the Bridge” in 2000, both

released by Washington's Kill Rock Stars record label.

“The music is very visual and emotive,” Shive said. “All musicians and songwriters hope that people are affected and challenged on a new level.”

Shive said that as a queer person, she believes that being queer is an important part of her identity and hopes to inspire others. While she said the band doesn't get first dibs in terms of mainstream media exposure, she has seen more exposure of powerful queer artists in college towns, such as Eugene.

“It is a very close community when you are powerful artists and queer artists,” Shive said.

Shive, whose role varies as a singer, composer, conductor and cellist, said the band's music uses imagery to show how strong women can survive and find their way “through this crazy world.” The 25-year-old artist started her music career as a 14-year-old in garage bands and chamber groups, but she now travels with Bonfire Madigan nationwide.

“People seem to be hungry for music that is composed in a new way,” Shive said.

Lesbopalooza, sponsored by the LGBTQA and the ASUO Women's Center

Cost: \$5 for students, \$7 general admission per night. Tickets are available at the EMU ticket office and Mother Kali's Books.

Friday — 8 p.m., Red Lion Hotel, 205 Coburg Rd.

Featuring: The Need, Phranc, Bonfire Madigan, The Culottes, Djinniah

Saturday — 8 p.m., The WOW Hall, 291 W. 8th Ave.

Featuring: Ferron, Magdalen Hsu-Li, Nedra Johnson, Americunt, DJ Coral. For more information contact the LGBTQA at 346-3360

Whoever takes the co-director position will help the LGBTQA plan its next major event: Lesbian and Gay Pride Week, set for April 16-21, which will include the Portland Gay Men's Chorus. Applications for the position can be picked up in the LGBTQA office, located in Suite 34 of the EMU.

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