

OREGON TRIATHLON
The 2nd Annual
Duck Bill Chill
Sprint Triathlon
April 15, 2001
New Course! 7:30 am
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Taxes

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about what parts of the form he needed to fill out. He said the assistance made the process easier, but it didn't completely eliminate his confusion.

"Next year, I'm hoping it will be easier than this year," Ukai said.

Ginny Stark, the associate director for OIEE who is coordinating workshops and offering tax preparation help for international students, said students from other countries typically have not had to do their taxes at home. She said that in some countries, deductions are automatically taken out of a person's earnings.

But in the United States, individuals who earn income are responsible for filing tax returns.

"On their first paycheck, some students are shocked to see state and federal tax deductions," Stark said. "For international students, from countries with tax treaties with the United States, there are still some forms to file and there is a lot of uncertainty about what to do."

Stark said most students who have been in the United States for more than five years on a student visa are treated as residents for tax purposes. She said international students who have earned income or scholarships usually have to file a tax return with the federal government — and possibly the state government as well.

She advised students to make photocopies of the forms before sending them off, so when tax day rolls around next year, they will have examples for reference.

Stark said U.S. residents have an advantage because they can take certain deductions that international students cannot. For example, unless a student is from Canada,



Ph.D. student Vibha Gaba and OIEE employee Allison Fitzgerald crunch numbers.

Mexico, Japan or South Korea, he or she cannot receive deductions for family members. International students also cannot mark medical expenses as deductions, she added.

To alleviate the anxiety associated with taxes, international students should come to workshops with all their financial documents from the year 2000, along with a W-2 form, a 1042S form, scholarship or treaty benefits, a calculator, pencil, and visa or passport documents.

Stark also said people who think they might have to file their taxes should find out for sure. There can be financial penalties if someone who owes taxes does not file.

International students are not the only ones who can find help this weekend when wrestling with tax forms.

Scott Rawitscher, a senior accounting major and member of Beta Alpha Psi, is co-coordinating a tax preparation workshop April 14 for resident taxpayers. He said the workshop, which is primarily available for students, will offer free "e-filing" of tax forms using a program called Tax Wise, as well as assistance from trained accounting majors and Internal Revenue Service agents.

Tax-related workshops for international students:

Drop-in sessions are for those who have completed their tax forms or have minor questions.

When: April 13, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Where: Room 301A, Allen Hall

When: April 16, 1 to 4 p.m.

Where: Alesa and Coquille Rooms, EMU

The Office of International Education & Exchange tax Web site: <http://oiee.uoregon.edu/oiee/tax/tax.html>

Tax preparation for resident taxpayers:

Beta Alpha Psi fraternity

When: April 14 from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Where: Room 228, Chiles Hall

Rawitscher recommended that students show up early Saturday — the 14 student volunteers from the accounting fraternity will have their hands full with questions.

Rawitscher also said that for students who don't have the time or patience to do their taxes, the workshop is the solution.

"We actually do it for them," Rawitscher said.

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Java

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they may also use utensils.

Dharmawan, a junior computer and information science major, said the ingredients on the menu cannot be found in any local grocery store. Instead, they will come from the Sunrise Oriental Market and China Blue Restaurant.

Annuariah Amirmachmud, a junior pre-journalism major and the secretary of PERMIAS, said the group will be preparing food for about 250 to 300 people.

PERMIAS members will also entertain the audience with a fashion show, wearing traditional clothing from the different islands. The performance will include two traditional and one contemporary dance, singing, piano playing and traditional music from Java. Dharmawan said

they will be singing the country's national anthem, "Indonesia Raya," which explains the freedom of the Indonesian people from colonization by the Dutch and Japanese.

Soekasah said the 15th annual culture night is a way for students from Indonesia to introduce their Javanese culture to the international forum and to American students, as well as faculty and community members.

The island of Java, known for its rich culture, is the capital of Indonesia and one of the country's five largest islands. Soekasah said 26 provinces make up Indonesia, and Bahasa is the national language that most people can understand.

"It is very important for us to have this Indonesian Night every year to inform people from other cultures about our culture," Soekasah said.

Soekasah, a senior economics major, came to the University last year as a transfer student from Lon-

don. She is one of about 150 other Indonesian students on campus. She said there used to be more than 300 Indonesian students on campus, but the value of Indonesian currency has dropped, and it is more expensive for students to study abroad.

Even though Soekasah is far from many of her family members and relatives, she is not alone in the United States. She has three cousins and a younger sister here in Eugene.

"My family wants me to go home every holiday, and be involved in organizations and interact with Indonesian students and students from other cultures," she said.

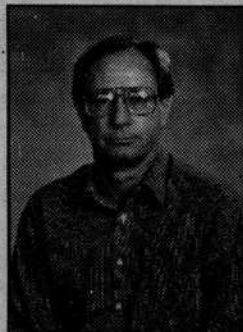
Tickets for "An Evening in Java" are available at the EMU Ticket Office for \$6.

For more information, contact the Indonesian Student Association (PERMIAS) at 683-8929.

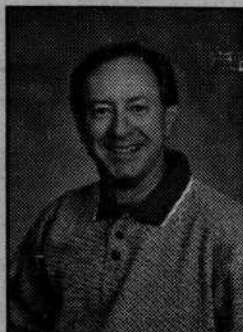
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