

Brooklyn, Nair recast ASUO staff

■ The ASUO Executive has made a few minor changes to the positions in the office

By Beata Mostafavi
Oregon Daily Emerald

Newly inaugurated ASUO President Nilda Brooklyn and Vice President Joy Nair have officially taken the reins.

As the new executive leaders enter their transition period, they are working with former ASUO President Jay Breslow and Vice President Holly Magner, who will help them learn the ropes. They are also bringing in a different version of the ASUO staff to take over the office next year.

Out of the roughly 35 people who applied for positions, Brooklyn and Nair have already hired about 15. While four are returning ASUO staff members and three acted as ASUO interns in the past year, four others are completely new to the ASUO, Nair said.

"We're excited," Nair said. "We hired an amazing group of people that are all really qualified. I'm really privileged to be working with everyone."

Besides hiring a slightly smaller staff than this year's, Brooklyn and Nair have also made a few minor changes to the type of positions in the office. Rearrangements are being made to the outreach team, the pair has added a greek advocate, and there will no longer be a designated "diversity team," Nair said.

"This was just the way we envisioned the staff and how our goals would be tied in to the job descriptions," she said.

Although a multicultural advocate and an international student advocate will still be responsible for working with diverse groups and organizing programs, Brooklyn and Nair do not recognize them as a "diversity team."

In a previous interview, Nair said this change was made because

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Joy Nair
ASUO Vice President

the team believes diversity is an issue that should be consistently worked on, and that it should be weaved into all goals and initiatives. Although the pair spoke about diversity issues during their run for office, diversity was not separated from the other parts of their campaign.

"Diversity is kind of this buzzword right now, and that's why we didn't even have it as a platform," she said. "It's going to be something that's integrated into all different programs."

This year's outreach team included a community outreach director, an outreach director, an outreach associate, a housing advocate and a safety advocate. But next year the team will only comprise a campus advocate and a community advocate, and both

2001-2002 ASUO Staff List

Marketing Co-ordinators —
Tambi Boyle, Thuvan Hoang

Campus Outreach — Dylan
Domaille

Community Outreach — Megan
Hughes

Elections Coordinator — Courtney
Hight

Programs Advocate — Nikaline
Katsilometes

Greek Advocate — Alexis Krohn

University Affairs — Jennifer Levy

State Affairs — Sandra Newton

Non-Trad Advocate — Gabe Sitowski

Federal Affairs — Jessica Southwick

Multicultural Advocate — Mario
Sifuentez

International Advocate — Jennifer
Huang

Financial Coordinator — Maulin
Patel

Source: ASUO Executive

will work in conjunction with the university affairs director.

Jen Levy, returning university affairs director who shared the position with Chad Sullivan this year, said this integration was logical and will be beneficial to the outreach team. She said, for example, that one of her biggest goals is to find students who will fill spots in faculty committees — and she will need the outreach team's help to accomplish this.

Nair added that because the outreach team has fewer people taking on more responsibilities, staff members will also be able to assign more work to interns, utilizing their help more.

Although no specific plans will be underway for a while, the executive has begun setting up contracts with groups such as the Lane Transit District, Nair said. In the next couple of weeks, they will have an overall training session for new staff members, and training will continue into the fall. The executive leaders, who will prepare themselves over the summer in Eugene, have also been consulting with mentors who have advised them along the way, Nair said.

Members of next year's staff said they are excited to take over their positions fall term and start working on specific goals.

Dylan Domaille, a freshman biochemistry major and the new campus outreach advocate, is one staff member who has not had any previous ASUO involvement. But he said after spending some time with people who were involved, he saw that student government actually could make a difference. And, he added, he is excited to contribute.

"Contrary to what I ever noticed, they actually did do a number of important things, and I just wanted to be a part of that," he said. "I'm definitely going to jump in head first."

Levy added that the staff will work together to think of exactly what needs to be done next year.

"I'm just going to roll with the punches," she said. "We just need to see what's going on, make some goals, and then go from there."

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