

BSU

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both ways. "People come up to me after class and say, 'It's really good that you participate in class.'" However, Hutchinson said, she doesn't see white students being singled out for their participation.

One of the group's goals for the year is "to branch out and make our services more well-known," Hutchinson said. Woldu agreed. "A lot of students don't know they can utilize our services," she said.

Though the group's name is "Black Student Union," it welcomes people of all ethnicities.

"Anyone is welcome to join," said Mohammed Jalloh, BSU's program coordinator. BSU is a diverse group, Woldu added.

Member Jamie Offia, a transfer student, identifies himself as Nigerian and Japanese, and the group also has members of Indian descent. BSU is also home to students of diverse academic and personal interests.

"We don't have a lot of representation from athletes, but maybe that's because they don't have a lot of extra time," Hutchinson said.

Along with giving students a social and academic forum, Woldu and Hutchinson would like to see BSU take a more political stance this year. They envision networking with community groups and getting involved with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. They also have a mentoring program at a local middle school.

"We hope to expand our mentoring program to the high school level. We'd like to offer peer counseling to encourage high school kids to achieve their dreams," Woldu said.

BSU also puts on a variety of programs on campus throughout the year. Its season of activities begins this year with the Fall Reception on Thursday at 6 p.m. in the Fir Room of the EMU. BSU also will be celebrating Kwanzaa in November. The group traditionally plans activities during February, which is Black History Month, and celebrates Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

According to its Web site, BSU also is an umbrella organization for other black student groups on campus, including two sororities and two fraternities that have historically had black members or originated as black-only chapters. Alpha Kappa Alpha will sponsor the Black Heritage Fashion Show in the spring and Zeta Phi Beta will put on a Step Show later this year.

Some past events that BSU members have enjoyed include last year's Honoring Black Achievement ceremony, said the group's co-directors. It is traditionally held each spring to honor graduating seniors and leaders in the community. Last year's keynote speaker was Democrat Margaret Carter, a state senator from Portland.

"She was very inspiring," said Lijin Abraham, BSU's outreach coordinator.

The group's co-directors also have a vision for the group's future.

"We'd like to work more with other student organizations and have a stronger presence in the community with community service," Woldu said.

Kara Westervelt is a freelance reporter for the Oregon Daily Emerald.

Statues

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University's Museum of Art joined the lore surrounding the Pioneer statues when a prankster hung a sign on it reading "Pioneer Son," Richard said. The idea behind the sign, he said, was that a child of the Pioneer and Pioneer Mother statues would have to be conceived through the glass of Johnson Hall, making it extremely misshapen.

Courtney Sweet is a freelance reporter for the Oregon Daily Emerald.

CIP

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they gain practical experience.

For many, CIP experience helps them reach their goals. Rohde needed to complete classroom hours before she could apply to her education program. She helps out in a first-grade classroom at Gilham Elementary six hours a week, and she loves it.

"If my schedule would allow it," she said, "I would do more. I really enjoy being there, which makes the time fly by way too fast."

Rohde said she loves her placement for multiple reasons. Not only is she able to apply what she is learning

in her own classes to the kids she works with, she said, she is also working with her former second-grade teacher, whose classroom she enjoyed as a child. Now she has the opportunity to "look in from the other side."

Other students pursue internships separate from their courses of study. Sarah Altemus is a political science major, and this is her third season coaching the Oakridge cross country team and getting CIP credits. Like Rohde, Altemus has returned to her old school to work with someone she admires — coach Ron Hebert.

"I cannot express how thankful I am to Hebert for being so willing to share with me all his know-how," she said.

She said the internship is helping to prepare her for her own future coaching success. The Oakridge team is currently ranked No. 1 in the state. She attributes the team's success to its determination and willingness to give "a 110 percent" effort. Altemus runs with the team, participates in team bonding activities and fills in where the coach needs her.

"I really try to send the message that running is a lifestyle, not just a sport," she said.

Cami Carpenter, a graduate teaching fellow who co-teaches the Public Schools seminar, said she sees the program as valuable not only to the University students who partici-

pate, but to the community at large. She notes the increased need for volunteers in local schools as a result of tight funding.

"Most school districts have been forced to make cuts to their staff and available resources this year," she said. But Carpenter stresses that "the greatest part of this program is the personal rewards that you receive from working with the kids."

For more information, visit the CIP office, located in the EMU breezeway, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. any weekday, call 346-4351.

Courtney Misslin is a freelance reporter for the Oregon Daily Emerald.



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