

Housing

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ried," Cardiff said. "Now it's whatever you define as a family."

Cardiff said the previous rule, which said couples had to be married to live together has changed from the past, when only legally married couples were allowed to live in Family Housing. She said the rule was changed about five years ago.

"We pride ourselves in trying to stay current with how people define a family," Cardiff said.

In order to live in Family Housing, a registered University student must be 21 or older, Cardiff said. She said highest priority is given to households with children, second priority is to graduate students and then undergraduates.

Melissa Franzen's situation is considered in the highest priority category with Family Housing because she is a single parent working towards a master's degree in middle-secondary special education.

"There's not enough legitimate time in the day to spend with

kids," Franzen said. "I'm a parent first, but I also have to provide by earning a degree, and it becomes a balance."

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Melissa Franzen
student, special education

Her experiences are what Gaddini calls "typical" struggles of a student trying to maintain a family.

"It's an incredible balancing act," Gaddini said, "balancing their child's needs ... and doing laundry and studying and going to classes. They (single parents) really have a major challenge, given they do it all alone."

Gaddini said 20 percent of the parents in Family Housing are sin-

gle parents such as Franzen. University Housing tries to help these students out — socially, financially and academically.

Family Housing offers many social programs and activities that encourage families to do things together, Gaddini said.

"We have activities for all ages, from toddlers to seniors," he said.

Cardiff said activities include crafts, after-school sports, storytelling, movie nights and holiday parties.

"It's more than just money and affordability," Cardiff said. "It's a community of students trying to accomplish the same things."

Franzen said that the University helps students with families by offering financial relief.

"They make education really conducive to student parents," Franzen said.

She said the University was the only school she knew of that provided child care subsidies, which pays up to 50 percent of a parent's child care tuition, depending on need.

The apartments are also a bargain, Gaddini said, calling Family Housing "the best deal in town."

Grade submission receives makeover

By **Marty Toohey**
for the Emerald

Last year, University teachers had to be on campus to submit their final grades. This year, they can submit them from anywhere in the world because the University has switched to grade submission via DuckWeb starting this term.

Teachers formerly submitted grades on "bubble sheets," similar to the ones students use for multiple-choice tests. The sheets took up massive amounts of paper, and the "impact printers" that produce the sheets are becoming obsolete and difficult to maintain, according to associate registrar Sue Eveland.

The bubble sheets will no longer be used, according to Eveland.

"Impact printing is a thing of the past," she said. "We needed to come up with a new system."

Under the new system, teachers submit their grades by logging onto DuckWeb and clicking on a link to the grade submission screen. They then select a class, the class roster comes up and the teacher enters each student's grade.

After teachers have finished entering grades for a class, they can submit them as early as Nov. 29. Starting Dec. 3, final grades that have been submitted will be posted on DuckWeb, and every

evening from Dec. 3 to Dec. 11 (the end of finals) the grades will be updated.

"I think this will be convenient for students and help them get their grades sooner," Eveland said, "but I think it'll also help teachers, because this way there's no reason for students to bug teachers to tell them their grades early."

The Registrar's Office is holding seminars for faculty about using the new grading technology. Schedules of the seminars can be obtained by contacting the Registrar's Office.

Marty Toohey is a freelance reporter for the Oregon Daily Emerald.

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Franzen said she pays \$510 a month, which covers rent, utilities and an ethernet connection.

Academically, University Housing provides parents with resources necessary to succeed, Gaddini said.

"Above all," Gaddini said, "We create an environment for households with children to achieve academic success."

Marcus Hathcock is a features reporter for the Oregon Daily Emerald. He can be reached at marcushathcock@dailymerald.com.

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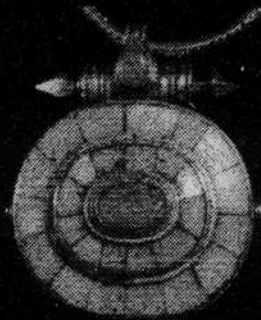
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