Torch

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States boycotted the games. After learning his Olympic dream had ended, Scott moved to Rome with several members of his church and worked for three months building houses after an earthquake.

Sandy Serpas of Eugene said she is "overwhelmed" by the opportunity to carry the torch.

"It's amazing to see so many people show interest in this," Serpas said. "It's amazing to know I'm part of something so big.

Serpas's parents died when she was young, and doctors have told her that she probably had a stroke when she was born, leaving her with a speech disorder and occasional motor skill difficulties with the right side of her body.

She has worked for U.S. Bank for 23 years, and is currently a district operations manager. She was also single while raising her daughter, Christy, now 31.

"Those people are what the relay is all about," Walker said. "They represent what it means to sacrifice and inspire.'

The torch itself represents "a fiery icicle in motion," Walker said. The torch is 33 inches long, weighs 3.5 pounds and is made of glass, copper and silver.

The torch's fire is enclosed in glass, in keeping with the theme of the games, and Walker said rain will not extinguish it.

'We took it through a torrential downpour in Louisville (Ky.)," Walker said. "We should be able to handle the rain in Oregon."

Torrey said relay organizers assured him rain would not extinguish the torch, but if the rain threatens the flame, "we have great umbrellas here.'

Last year, prominent members of the International Olympic Committee received criticism when investigators discovered the members had accepted bribes, such as cash and scholarships for children, from Salt Lake City officials in exchange for choosing the city to host this year's Winter Olympics.

Despite the controversy, the torch has lost none of its luster, Torrey and Walker said.

"The manner in which Salt Lake City acquired the games has caused the image of the IOC to lose luster, but the torch has and continues to rise above those things," Torrey said.

"Our focus is on the torch, the games and the athletes themselves," Walker said. "The torch is still the symbol it's been since it was created. We're hoping for an Olympic Games as fantastic as the relay has been."

E-mail community reporter Marty Toohey at martytoohey@dailyemerald.com.

Arabic

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Hindi/Urdu, Thai, Swahili, Turkish, Portuguese, Cantonese and Nepali. The Arabic program has the largest enrollment this term of the self-study languages.

Chris Holman, an instructor for the program whose experience with Arabic includes serving in the U.S. Army as an interrogator and Arabic linguist, said that while the sudden increase in Arabic study is partially due to the events of Sept. 11, there are additional reasons students participate in the program.

"I'm part Lebanese," senior Gabrielle Kary said. "My family is in Lebanon, and I want to be able to communicate with them. I've always wanted to learn Arabic, so this term I enrolled in the program."

With increased interest in Arabic language courses, Middle Eastern and terrorism studies and Islamicreligion classes, the University and OSU are expanding their ability to accommodate students.

• O'Connor said the University is planning to hire an Islamic scholar who will teach Islamic Religious

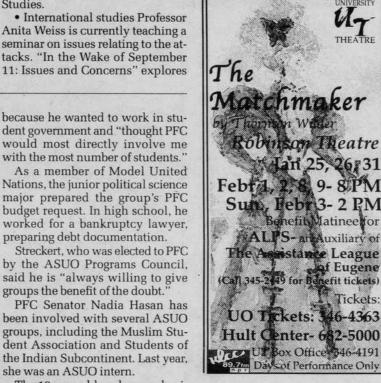
• International studies Professor Anita Weiss is currently teaching a seminar on issues relating to the attacks. "In the Wake of September 11: Issues and Concerns" explores topics including the causes of the attacks and the history of the Arab/Israeli conflict. There are more than 80 students enrolled in

• Oregon State University's philosophy department is implementing an Islamic Religious Studies course beginning spring term, and there is an expected increase in the number of students who will participate in the Arab and French study-abroad program, OSU history Professor Jon Katz said.

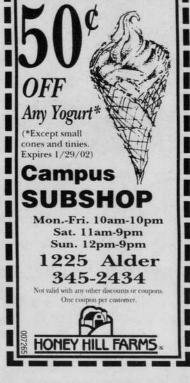
University political science professor Jane Cramer, who participated in the "After September 11" teach-ins fall term, is teaching a class called "Terrorism, Weapons, Mass Destruction and Non-Proliferation" spring term. Cramer said that while Islamic studies have not been a top issue, the focus has shifted since Sept. 11.

There is an overwhelming interest to study these subjects, Cramer said. "Islamic and Middle Eastern studies are receiving greater national interest by both students and faculty."

Katie Ellis is a freelance reporter for the







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- Sports Bus. Marketing Adidas
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- ➤ Consumer Prod. Black & Decker Market Research - Ragatz Assoc.
 - **Management Panel**

6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

- HR Management Sony Disc Man.
- Sales Manage. Enterprise RAC
- ➤ Account Management Jeld-Wen
- Product Manage. E&J Gallo

Track II

Accounting Panel

5:00 to 6:00 p.m.

- > Regional CPA Grant Thornton
- Big 5 Accounting Andersen
- Corporate Acct. Prec. Cast. Corp. ➤ Government Accounting - IRS

Finance Panel

6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

- ➤ Corporate Finance Intel ➤ Financial Advising - Am. Express
- Banking Wells Fargo Analyst - TBA

For more information, please contact James Chang at the LCB, 346-3421

Profile

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new members to decide budgets based on the group's previous spending patterns and to remember "the big picture" — how the budgets they set affect the incidental fees students will pay next year.

'We need to keep in mind that the decisions we make affect students' pocketbooks," she said. "And in some cases even their ability to go to college."

Executive appointee Erin Foote Pursell, 21 and a senior political science and environmental studies major, is vice chairwoman of the committee. She said she likes being a member of PFC because she is in a position to help groups achieve their goals.

Pursell has volunteered as a driver for Project Saferide and has led campaigns for OSPIRG.

She said people shouldn't be concerned that her budgetary bias will lean toward those groups. She said she cares about those programs and wants them to manage their money well, and she is likely to be harder on them than other members.

When deciding budgets, she said she tries to balance the group's past spending with what the group needs to achieve its goals.-

"I have noticed myself being further to the left than other members just in terms of taking a chance on groups," she said.

Member-at-large Russ Tkebuchava, 21, spends a minimum of 15 hours a week in PFC budget hearings, works 30 hours a week as a cashier at ShopKo and is taking 16

class credits this term. He said the extra time he spends in PFC is worth it to him because he wants "a hand in how our money is spent." The experience will help him prepare for a career related to accounting and economics.

Tkebuchava said he has attended many group events and meetings but does not consider himself a member of any program included in the PFC budget.

"When (a hearing) starts I kind of disregard any past relationship I've had with the group and look objectively at the budget," he said. "We're accountants."

Programs appointee Joe Streckert, 21, said he decided to join PFC dent government and "thought PFC would most directly involve me with the most number of students."

As a member of Model United Nations, the junior political science major prepared the group's PFC budget request. In high school, he worked for a bankruptcy lawyer, preparing debt documentation.

Streckert, who was elected to PFC by the ASUO Programs Council, said he is "always willing to give groups the benefit of the doubt.

PFC Senator Nadia Hasan has been involved with several ASUO groups, including the Muslim Student Association and Students of the Indian Subcontinent. Last year, she was an ASUO intern.

The 19-year-old sophomore business major ran for PFC because she wanted to improve the relationship between the ASUO and the groups it governs, she said.

A lot of students feel like the ASUO is out to get them, and I guess I just wanted to see what it was like from the other side.'

E-mail student activities editor Kara Cogswell at karacogswell@dailyemerald.com

Review

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On Tuesday, MEChA members requested a nearly 15 percent increase for 2002-2003. But based on the group's past spending habits, instead voted to

MEChA's budget by 0.24 percent. PFC cut the group's Ganas account, which funds MEChA's middle school mentoring program, from \$400 to \$200. Earlier this year, the group acknowledged misspending funds from the account last year. Receipts from a June 2001 end-of-the-year Ganas party showed the group spent money on food, which is not an approved expense for the account, as well as games and a \$22 set of golf balls.

During the hearing, PFC members also questioned the group's spending from the films account, which is meant to be used for purchasing documentaries and other educational videos, video rentals, and film development costs. A receipt dated June 8, 2001, showed the group made a \$117 purchase from Face the Music with some of the money from its films account.

"If I had seen (the receipt), I would never have approved it," ASUO Accounting Coordinator Jennifer Creighton said.

Sibley, who was an ASUO controller before joining the Commentator staff, approved the purchase.

PFC kept the funding for the films account at \$75, the same amount allocated for 2001-02. PFC members said they did not want to penalize the group for a mistake made by a former member.

The Minority Law Student Association received the largest increase in last week's PFC hearings, jumping from \$1,616 in 2001-02 to \$2,463 for 2002-03. PFC increased funding for MLSA partly because the number of minority law students has increased. MLSA is also adding a new co-director position and expanding its events and programs.

Black Women of Achievement received the sharpest budget cut last week. PFC members voted to cut the group's budget from \$4,499 for 2001-2002 to \$3,809 for 2002-2003 — a decrease of 15.34 percent. Madden said the group had significant budget rollovers in previous years, and members had asked for a funding decrease in some areas of the budget.

Hearings scheduled for Tuesday include the Interfraternity Council, Jewish Student Union and Recreation Sports. Groups scheduled for Thursday include the ASUO Women's Center, the Student Insurgent, Project Saferide and the new Night Rideprogram. Saturday's hearing schedule includes the University Counseling and Testing Center and the International Student Association.

E-mail reporter Danielle Gillespie at daniellegillespie@dailyemerald.com.