

An independent newspaper Oregon Daily Emerald

http://www.dailyemerald.com

Thursday, January 31, 2002

SINCE 1900

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

EUGENE, OREGON

Volume 103, Issue 86

Winter Career Fair



Thomas Patterson Emerald

Terry Taillard, regional human resources director for Frito-Lay Incorporated, was on campus Wednesday representing one of approximately 65 companies — half of last year's number — at the Career Center's 2002 Winter Career Fair in the EMU Ballroom.

All dressed up, nowhere to go

■ Many companies are shying away from recruiting college students as the U.S. economic recovery remains uncertain

By Katie Ellis
Oregon Daily Emerald

From journalism to finance majors, from graduating seniors to aspiring interns, University students in search of jobs and internships were dressed for success at the annual Winter

Career Fair on Wednesday — but the staggering economy is making employment opportunities increasingly difficult to find.

Only half as many companies attended this year's career fair as came to the 2001 Winter Career Fair, according to Mei Yong, marketing and communication specialist for the Career Center.

"There were about 130 companies at the career fair last winter, and there are about 65 here today," Yong said.

Along with a decreased number of companies offering full-time employment opportunities for students, there was a lower number of internships available because of the current state of the economy. The newspaper industry has been particularly affected, cutting back or eliminating student internship programs until the economy improves.

The Oregonian recently canceled its annual summer internship program that

Turn to **Internships**, page 3

Students protest financial aid drug rule

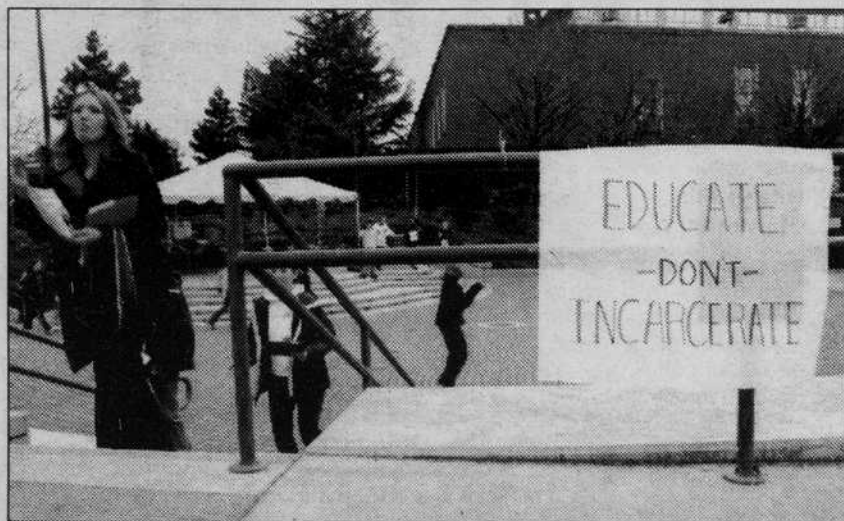
■ Oregon Students of Color Coalition is urging repeal of a federal law barring financial aid to convicted drug offenders

By Robin Weber
Oregon Daily Emerald

Bola Majekobaje is only a University senior, but she's already worried about the next generation's future in higher education.

She fears that if drug offenders' convictions put them at a disadvantage for education, their futures will be filled with "poverty, welfare and inequality." Majekobaje and about a half dozen other Oregon Students of Color Coalition members rallied outside the EMU Amphitheater Wednesday afternoon to protest a federal law denying financial aid to students with drug convictions. The rally was part of a "day of action" sponsored by student groups at Oregon and California public universities advocating the repeal of the Higher Education Act drug provision.

"We want to get the attention of people passing by ... to pass House Resolution 786 to repeal the Higher Education Act drug provision," OSCC



Thomas Patterson Emerald

'Educate Don't Incarcerate' was the message of a 'day of action' organized by the Oregon Students of Color Coalition in the EMU Amphitheater on Wednesday.

board member Mario Sifuentes said.

As the Higher Education Act currently stands, students with drug-related offenses are ineligible for federal financial aid if they answer "yes" to a question on the Free Application for Student Financial Aid asking if they have been convicted of a drug offense. This year, if a

student even skips that question on the form, they can lose aid.

OSCC opposes the law because the group believes it unfairly targets students of color and low-income students.

"Out of the 13 percent of the nation's population that is African American, Turn to **FAFSA**, page 3

Diversity survey gives University mixed grades

■ Forty percent of the 1,500 students say they have experienced harassment at the University

By Diane Huber
Oregon Daily Emerald

Of the approximately 1,500 University students surveyed in spring 2001, 53 percent felt classrooms were not welcoming for underrepresented groups. The campus climate survey, designed by Susan Rankin, senior diversity planning analyst from Pennsylvania State University, asked students, faculty and staff about their personal experiences with harassment, cases in which they'd observed harassment and discriminatory practices on campus, and suggestions for improving the situation, if needed.

Rankin presented the results of the survey Wednesday to a group of about 20 students, staff and faculty.

The University was one of 22 campuses nationwide that participated in the survey. The University was "looking for an assessment to measure campus climate because nothing out there existed," Chicora Martin, the director of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Educational and Support Service Program, said. Martin's group and other campus departments organized the survey, which was funded by the ASUO and the administration.

Rankin said she specifically designed the survey to overrepresent minorities on campus because they experience the most harassment, yet their voices are usually stifled within the majority in surveys where participants are randomly sampled.

Measuring campus climate doesn't refer to tolerance on campus, she added.

"There is a big difference between being tolerated and being welcomed," she said.

And the results are already outdated — since Sept. 11, instances of bias and harassment have most likely gone up, she said.

The survey revealed that 60 percent of respondents had not experienced harassment in the past year. Of the 40 percent that had, harassment was primarily directed toward women and minorities.

Turn to **Diversity**, page 3

Candidate says higher education must be priority

■ Governor hopeful Ted Kulongoski visited the University to talk with students about the future

By Brook Reinhard
Oregon Daily Emerald

Oregon gubernatorial candidate Ted Kulongoski told student leaders Wednesday that they must vote and stay involved in the political process to ensure their future as Oregon citizens.

"I wish we could find more ways to get (students) involved in the process," Kulongoski said.

He said students should vote or they could be drowned out as the aging population of baby boomers begins to blanket the ballot box with issues such as health care and retirement funds.

Kulongoski added that students should care about issues like Medicare because they'll end up supporting it with their tax dollars.

"Who do you think will end up paying for all of this? You!" he said.

Kulongoski is one of three Democrats vying for the gubernatorial endorsement of Oregon's Democratic Party in the May 21, 2002 primary. Another Democrat, Beverly Stein, visited the University this week, but Mike Linman, co-chairman of the University's College Democrats, said that

Turn to **Kulongoski**, page 4

