

# Diversity study: More diverse studies needed

■ Researchers say the University's diversity strategy needs more research

By Mikalos Kloknav  
Oregon Daily Emerald

The University's Department of Diversity Development and Strategy released the results of its two-year "Diversity Strategies Study" on Friday, and administrators said the campus needs a much broader set of diversity studies for the future.

"This study clearly shows the need for more diversity studies — and for more diverse diversity studies," Vice President of Diversity Strategy Tom Morley said. "We remain committed to spending the time necessary to produce a more pluralistic approach to the research of diversity development."

College Republicans President Jebediah Wilkinson, however, criticized the University's "over-reliance on strategic ethnic groups" in order to produce a study that would corroborate the administration's "liberal commitment to funding an influx of so-called 'minorities'" to campus.

The latest study was commissioned in response to strategy papers outlined in February 2000 by Michigan State University Professor Edwin Boldman, who examined the University of Oregon's plans for increasing minority faculty recruitment and retention. At the time, Boldman lambasted the Uni-

versity for its "lack of a cohesive diversity study program," and the administration promptly responded with the creation of the Department of Diversity Development and Strategy and the endowment of two chairs in diversity study research.

Diversity Study Research Professor Sharon Brown said that DDDS was "flabbergasted" by what she called the "racially and culturally biased paradigms" uncovered in the University's overall diversity strategy initiatives — and by the slowness of the University to respond.

"We know the University is not

willing to put its foot down and commit to a diversity strategy that would remain free of bias," she said. "Here again we see that the University is willing to pay lip service to diversity study research, but they refuse to actually get off their asses and put in place a long-term program that will eventually produce an appropriate set of committees charged with the development of workable, effective diversity study strategies."

Morley, who was moved from the Office of Donor Outreach to head DDDS in 2000, said this lat-

est study is proof that the University's commitment to a more diverse diversity plan remains as strong as ever.

"With effort from the whole community and a commitment from our diversity research faculty, we will eventually produce the most comprehensive diversity strategy of any college of a similar size."

Wilkinson blasted DDDS' work as "so much hogwash" and said that the University should be focusing its efforts on teaching and not on recruiting "a select group of people to teach a select set of ideals."

"We aren't reaching a diverse group of people if we only look at minorities," he said. "We need to expand our definition of 'minorities' beyond people of color if we expect to broaden our definition."

A new diversity study is set to begin in September in conjunction with the groundbreaking for a new University Diversity Research and Strategic Initiative Development Center to be built near East 15th Avenue and Columbia Street.

The Emerald hopes you enjoyed this April Fools Day story.

## White men

continued from page 1

Protesters say the RRC is a national think tank that monitors the behavior of campus liberals and conducts studies to determine the level of conservative white male influence on a campus population.

Frohnmayr said he would be willing to consider signing on with the RRC only after an exhaustive examination by a University Senate subcommittee, a Senate committee, the full Senate, and after input from staff, faculty, students, alumni and everyone else in the Southern Willamette Valley.

"The RRC is calling for a minimum 30 percent conservative white male agenda to be expressed in every classroom on campus, and we need to determine if that figure

is in line with the needs and feelings of our community," Frohnmayr said.

The protest began Friday afternoon after the University released a new diversity study calling for more diverse diversity studies. The report came after two years of research by ethnically diverse faculty — and College Republicans, business majors and business faculty say they are angry.

"We have listened to the administration continually kowtow to the interests of the liberal majority at this University," College Republicans President Jebediah Wilkinson said. "Well I, for one, am mad as hell, and I'm not going to take it anymore!"

In a perverse twist on the anti-establishment slogan from the 1976 movie "Network," angry

white male activists continued to chant, "I'm mad as hell, and I'm not going to take it anymore!" throughout the evening.

Business Professor William Schmidt said that he is frustrated by the intolerance he feels from the multitude of liberal lesbian faculty members of color and by the inability of his faculty committee to get any of their pro-conservative male agenda items heard by the University Senate.

"We have tried repeatedly to request studies of the intolerant climate toward conservative white males on this campus, but it seems all the (University) Senate wants to do is prance around and talk about 'diversity,'" Schmidt said. "We're white men in ties, for God's sake, and we're being shut out of faculty lunches!"

Eugene Police Department officers were called in Saturday afternoon to break up fights between the white male protesters and more than 25 counter-demonstrators who said they showed up by mistake.

"We thought this was a righteous rally," senior Rusty Noon said. "But then they started yelling at us and calling us 'dirty hippies' and I said, 'Hey, let's roll!'"

Administrators inside Johnson Hall were rumored to be on the phone with Nike CEO Phil Knight in an effort to negotiate a peaceful end to the demonstration.

The angry white men said they would stay on the Johnson Hall lawn until their demands are met or until their cell phone batteries die.

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