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## 'Diamonds in the rough'

■ Geology Professor Gregory Retallack finds fossils millions of years old at the business school construction site

By Lisa Toth  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Amid the rubble that was once the business school, fossils of 35 million-year-old sea creatures are being discovered.

The approximately 40 specimens being found are only fossils of crustaceans and mollusks, but to Gregory Retallack, a professor in the University's Department of Geological Sciences, they are bona fide diamonds in the rough.

Retallack said fossil digging has been a life-long passion and it was "hard to resist" the chance to sift through the massive hole that was once the Charles H. Lundquist College of Business.

"Not all geology students are into fossils these days," he said. "This is kind of dirty work, but I like it. It's a treasure hunt is what it is."

About two weeks ago, 10 to 12 feet below the surface of the ground, construction workers began finding the fossils, which will be eventually used as learning tools in the classroom. And that's when Retallack knew it was time to show up on site ready to dig.

"It's just bang and grab. There's no super-sophisticated technique," he said.

He said the fossils being found are from the Eugene Formation, a nearly 2,000-meter thick layer of basaltic sandstone that formed in a shallow marine environment just off shore of the foothills of the Western Cascades between Eugene and Salem. The



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Calling this part of paleontology 'treasure hunting,' Professor Gregory Retallack searches among the rubble from the excavation of the Lillis construction site for fossils to possibly add to the University's collection.

formation is composed partly of volcanic ash that erupted from the early Cascades.

Retallack is a campus archeological veteran who has dug through previous University construction sites during his 20 years as a professor here. But he

added that not everyone is as interested in digging as he is. He said geology is a vast field that includes the study of rocks, layers of the earth, plate tectonics and soils — it's not limited to just fossils.

Retallack arrived at the busi-

ness school site Tuesday dressed in a pair of muddy hiking boots, a plaid shirt and weathered pair of Levi's, so preoccupied with this hunt for "treasure" that he darted from spot to spot, barely stopping to say a full sentence.

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## Theft, loss of plates costly for Folk Fest

■ A loss of nearly 500 plates at the Folk Festival causes financial problems and raises questions about the reusable plate system

By Alix Kerl  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Campus Recycling's first attempt to utilize reusable plates at the Willamette Valley Folk Festival was hampered by the loss and theft of nearly 500 of the 4,000 plates.

"Over 500 plates are missing," said Student Recycling Coordinator Jeff Ziglinski. "It just breaks my heart." The total bill for the missing plates is nearly \$800. About 400 of the plates were the 9-inch size, 50 were oval-shaped plates and 30 were a 10-inch size.

Jonathan Borgida, events recycling coordinator, said that there are still plates showing up as campus grounds workers find them in the bushes, but he believes the total missing will stay about 500.

Student and non-student employees at Campus Recycling have been working for years to reduce the amount of waste generated at campus festivals and events. After several years of composting waste at these events, Campus Recycling decided to ask the ASUO for money to purchase reusable plates and forks. In the winter, ASUO gave the group nearly \$8,000 to spend on plates and forks. The money came from over-realized funds, the amount of money left over when projected enrollment is lower than the actual enrollment.

Ziglinski said that the recycling staff used several methods during the

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## Greek leaders question implementation of new 'dry' standards

■ Students are concerned about the necessity for and application of new greek chapter standards that will take effect in December

By Kara Cogswell  
Oregon Daily Emerald

As administrators tout their vision of a new and improved University greek system, fraternity and sorority leaders are feeling like they've been left with the dirty work of carrying out an agenda they didn't set.

"The administration handed us this decision that has a drastic effect on chapter members in a letter," said Jackie Ray, president of the Panhellenic Council, a body of sorority representatives. "They failed to give us the steps to get there."

On May 17, University President Dave Frohnmayer approved

new standards, effective this fall, for all fraternities and sororities that receive school services. The standards require chapters to have alcohol- and drug-free housing and to maintain a chapter grade point average at least as high as the University men's and women's averages. Chapters will also be required to show a commitment to community service and member leadership development.

Frohnmayer said he believed the new standards are necessary to fix a failing greek social policy and to curb reckless underage drinking in fraternity houses.

"Voluntary standards were not only not working, they were actually being flaunted," he said.

Ray said she "understands the validity" of his decision. However, administrators' failure to involve students more closely in the deci-

sion-making process has cost them the support of many chapter members, she said, making it difficult for greek student leaders to implement the new standards.



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to be hard to get those same people to enforce the rules," she said.

The call for change in the greek system began last summer when EMU Director of Student Activities Gregg Lobisser, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Anne Leavitt and Greek Life advisers be-

gan discussing how to improve the organization's social policies.

At the same time, he said, they began to hear from greek alumni who were worried because greek recruitment was declining while University enrollment was rising.

They began meeting with local alumni groups, and found that many greek alumni supported the idea of a dry greek system. Some people said it would "level the playing field" in recruitment, Lobisser said. Other alumni, who graduated in the 1970s and 80s, said they drank too much in their chapters and they wanted a better atmosphere for greek students today.

In the fall, Lobisser said, administrators began meeting with house corporation owners, the landlords of individual chapter houses who are usually greek alumni. Administrators also began meeting with

some greek students, including outgoing Interfraternity and Panhellenic presidents Kevin Gelbrich and Amy Stanton and incoming presidents Ray and Kyle Knepper.

Administrators expanded the scope of their discussion with students in January, meeting with chapter presidents and Interfraternity and Panhellenic council members to discuss the "health of the greek system," Lobisser said.

From students, they heard firsthand that voluntary social policies were no longer working. Some students thought the solution was to have all houses go dry, he said, but a larger number of students said all chapters should be wet.

Lobisser said he and Leavitt took student perspectives into account in making their recommendation to the president, but they didn't

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