

Volunteer

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"If this is the time of year they feel most comfortable doing it, they should do it," he said.

The book-sorting project is overwhelming, to say the least. On Saturday, the fraternity members worked through eight Dumpster-sized boxes, each of which held up to 1,000 pounds of books. While most of the books are carefully sorted by subject on a shelf along the wall, some are sent flying across the room into a box of rejects destined to be recycled at a paper mill.

Nearby, about 20 more giant containers of books, from as far away as Seattle and San Francisco, are stacked two high and two deep, a monolithic reminder that there is no shortage of work to do.

Rebecca Larson, community development director for St. Vincent's, said most of the books will be given away or resold in the soci-

ety's thrift stores. Proceeds from the thrift stores help fund emergency services for the needy, affordable housing and job training programs, she said.

"Volunteers are so helpful in getting this done," Larson said.

McDonald sees a lot of potential in the vast mountain of books. He proudly shows a tattered but intact 1838 tome about atheism, one of the many antiquarian curiosities rescued from the pile.

"It's amazing what the waste stream has in it," he said.

McDonald emphasized the importance of volunteer work.

"At some point, somehow, we should all be involved in direct service to one another," he said. "Life is in the giving."

For Putnam, the motivation for helping out was clear.

"It makes you feel good, because we're doing stuff that wouldn't get done," she said.

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Teach-in

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perceived as evil.

"A lot of Latino communities view the military as a method of upward mobility for economic

and social gains," Garcia said.

Students for Peace member and teach-in organizer Marya Lusky said that in addition to offering students information that has been glossed over by the traditional media, the discussion will give people

the chance to speak out on the issue and get their voices heard.

"It's important to bring this to the surface," she said.

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Race

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The American Anthropological Association published research concluding the current notion of race originated from a European classification system sometime after Christopher Columbus sailed to the Americas.

The system, which linked skin color to perceived behaviors, served as a racial hierarchy for hundreds of years and was a result of the discovery of new people during worldwide exploration at the time.

Using this system, European taxonomists in the 18th century de-

scribed themselves as "white, sanguine, muscular, gentle, acute and inventive," while the African race was described as "relaxed, indolent and negligent."

Later in the 18th century, European anthropologists attempted to remove the behavioral aspects of race but still used physical characteristics like skin color and skull measurements to create systems of racial classifications.

Today, as anthropological research suggests, the study of genetics has debunked the idea of race, even though the term is still widely used.

Although Cougill hasn't heard back from the members of Congress who received a copy of the

bill, he has not given up hope.

We're "looking for the leverage to try and get this bill passed," he said.

In the meantime, Cougill said he will continue to run his nonprofit corporation and fight for equality in the law.

Porter said he also hopes the bill will be successful in Congress.

"All the experts say race is a meaningless word, (and) reasonable people can't agree on what the hell it means," Porter said. "I'm convinced that people are people — and they should be treated as such."

Contact the senior news reporter at janmontry@dailyemerald.com.

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WORLD AIDS DAY
December 1st

"Stigma and Discrimination"

COMMEMORATED SINCE 1988 AS A WAY TO STRENGTHEN THE EXCHANGE OF HIV RELATED INFORMATION AND FORGE A SPIRIT OF SOCIAL TOLERANCE.

Consider how stigma and discrimination against HIV affects the following:

- getting tested
- gaining employment
- maintaining relationships
- admitting HIV positive status publicly
- obtaining health insurance
- entering a foreign country
- seeking treatment

No policy or law alone can combat HIV/AIDS related discrimination. We need to create more supportive environment and increase the visibility of people with HIV/AIDS as a 'normal' part of any society. We must confront the fear based on messages and biased social attitudes, in order to reduce the discrimination and stigma of people who are living with HIV or AIDS.

What can you do?

- Learn more about HIV/AIDS on <http://avert.org/worldaids.htm>
- Get HIV tested at the Health Center (346-2770 for an appointment)
- Pick up a red ribbon at the Health Center or LGBTQA office. Wear it and talk about World AIDS Day with others.
- Attend a discussion at LGBTQA office Dec. 4th at 6:00 pm. Topic: "Who can give blood?"
- Come to LGBTQA Social and Dance Dec. 7th at 8:00 pm - midnight, call 346-3360 for more information.



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Health Center

<http://healthcenter.uoregon.edu>