

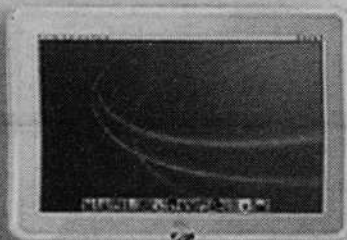
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News briefs

Biologist to give development lecture

Internationally renowned developmental biologist Dr. Charles Kimmel will give a public lecture on early embryonic development today at 4 p.m. in the Gerlinger Alumni Lounge.

Kimmel, winner of a College of Arts and Sciences 2002-03 Distinguished Professor Award for excellence in teaching and research, plans to share his knowledge of how vertebrate DNA orchestrates cellular development from a shapeless mass of cells to an embryo with a backbone.

"Chuck has been a real innovator and a major leader in understanding how embryos develop and how tissues form," University Biology Professor Dr. Monte Westerfield said.

Westerfield said that Kimmel uses a unique combination of classical genetic techniques and state of the art microscopy to study the transparent embryos of zebrafish. After marking zebrafish genes with special dyes, Kimmel uses time-lapse photography to record seamless video of embryonic development. Kimmel said the genes that guide development in zebrafish can be found in many different organisms, and that his lecture will give people a chance to see modern de-

velopmental biology that uses a locally famous animal, the zebrafish.

"By studying zebrafish," Kimmel said, "we learn how development proceeds in vertebrates and mammals, including humans."

— Andrew Black

Faculty Senate follows OSU's anti-war stance

The University Faculty Senate convenes for the first time this year to discuss the upcoming Oregon special election, preview the 2003-04 legislative session and discuss other business at 3 p.m. today in 123 Pacific.

The University meeting comes in the wake of a Oregon State University Faculty Senate meeting Thursday in which the school's governing body passed a resolution 46-16 condemning a U.S.-waged war in Iraq. A similar University Senate effort in December failed to even be approved for discussion on the floor — the motion to consider debate on the subject was voted down 29-8.

OSU senate member and bioengineering Professor John Selker, who introduced and helped craft the successful resolution, said the group took a lesson from the University of Oregon's meeting when writing their resolution.

"The measure failed at the University of Oregon (because) they failed to

make an academic case on why the University should take a stance," Selker said. "The key is to look at the relation between the war in Iraq and ideas. Questions like, is it justified for the U.S. to break international law?"

Selker added that if OSU — a school with a track record of taking more conservative stances on issues — can pass such a resolution by making it an "academic question," the University of Oregon might be able to find success using similar tactics.

Right now, University biology Professor Emeritus Frank Stahl, the architect behind the failed December measure, is trying to rouse campus support for convening a University Assembly meeting to discuss taking a stance against a future war in Iraq.

According to the senate's charter, the assembly is made up of all "officers of instruction, librarians and officers of administration," and can be convened with "full legislative power" if 33 percent of its members sign a petition to do so. Stahl said he's been frustrated in petitioning because the University doesn't keep a comprehensive list of who's in the assembly or how many signatures would equal 33 percent. He plans to bring up the issue with the senate at today's meeting.

— Brook Reinhard

Pledges

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Students can expect to see ASUO staff members out on the street collecting pledges until election day, Petkun said, because it is one of the most effective ways of increasing student voter participation.

"It gives us an opportunity to have face-to-face contact with someone and a chance to stop them and make sure they know about the election and tell them how it affects them," said Petkun, who has also been visiting University classes and

encouraging students to vote.

ASUO Legislative Associate Stefan Myers said encouraging student voting extends beyond just the pledge drive. ASUO staff members will be making numerous presentations to classes regarding the predicted impact of Measure 28, and on election day there will be a big celebration in the EMU Amphitheater with a performance by the band Tympanic.

"Basically, in everything we're doing when we talk to anybody, we're going to be talking about 'yes' and 'no,'" Myers said.

He added that they plan on hav-

ing ASUO staff members available on election day to usher students to and from the Lane County Elections Office if they need to change their voting address.

Shively added it is important to keep pushing the issue at students because the University will be greatly affected by Measure 28 and students need have a hand in the outcome.

"There's this common sentiment that politics is separate from everyday life," Shively said. "But in actuality, it has tremendous impact."

Contact the senior news reporter at jenniferbear@dailymerald.com.

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