

# H.O.P.E.S. tackles new landscape

H.O.P.E.S. conference members will assist with planning and designing a new landscape for the East University area

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Environment/Science/Technology Reporter

The ninth annual Hollsite Options Planet Earth Sustainability conference kicks off tonight with a development activity involving the designing of a new landscape for the East University area.

The conference will continue throughout the weekend with a series of keynote speakers, panels and workshops relating to sustainability. Registration for the conference, titled Ecological Urbanism, is taking place on Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. in the lobby of Lawrence

Hall and is open to the public.

The Ecological Design Center is coordinating the H.O.P.E.S. conference, and approximately 400 people are expected to attend. The event will also include an art show — featuring four women artists — and a fashion show entitled “Trashy Fashion Show.”

Marc Tobin, co-director of EDC, said that historically the H.O.P.E.S. conference has focused on smaller scale projects, such as a single house. This year, however, EDC is wanting to focus on a larger project.

The kick-off event is an example of an activity approached on a larger scale. Students and community members are grouped together in a “charrette” and challenged with designing new ideas for the East Campus neighborhood in a

24-hour period.

Robyn Scofield, a graduate student in the planning, public policy and management program, said the goal of each charrette is to apply the University’s sustainable development plan to the East Campus development plan.

“It’s focused on how to design the new development with sustainability on mind,” she said.

The four keynote speakers at the conference will be talking about everything from ecological designing to co-housing, and the workshops and panels will be covering topics like the politics of renewable energy and the codes for Oregon eco-cities. There are a total of 17 panels, which are broken down into three separate categories: people, parts and places.

The art show, titled Creative Interventions, started on Tuesday in the hearth of Lawrence Hall, and runs through Sunday. One of the exhibits is a “seed bomb,” which University student Kurt McCulloch described as a “grenade-shaped ball of dirt containing wildflower seeds native to the Willamette valley.”

The seed bombs will be available for the public to take home, and there is more information at the art exhibit about how to use them.

Scofield said there are still open spots with the charrette for people who are interested. For more information, visit the EDC’s Web site at <http://edc.uoregon.edu>, or call 346-3696.

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## War

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jihadees (holy warriors), for all their threats of suicide bombs and terrorism, proved too weak to defeat the Arab leader they hated most.

The fact that it was Israel’s friend and protector that toppled Hussein will not be lost on millions of Arabs, either.

“It is a very painful experience that the Arabs are undertaking at the moment,” said Clovis Maksoud, a former ambassador of the Arab League to the United States and the United Nations.

“There will be a lot of soul searching, a period of ferment in the next few months. Profound changes are going to take place.”

Hussein was a complicated character who meant different things to different people. His Baath Party

once flew the banner of pan-Arab unity, a secular ideal espoused by such legendary Arab figures as Egypt’s Gamal Abdel Nasser and Syria’s Hafez al Assad, the father of Syria’s current ruler.

After his defeat in the 1991 Gulf War, Hussein saw an advantage in reshaping himself as a stalwart of Islam, summoning the Muslim faithful to support him in his self-proclaimed jihad against Western imperialism. The pose won him little support from devout Muslims, who did not believe that the same Saddam Hussein who had used poison gas against his own people and brutally crushed religious parties had suddenly become a defender of Islam.

James Zogby, the president of the Arab American Institute in Washington, warns that too much can be made of Hussein as a symbol of the Arab quest for unity and

self-determination.

“Saddam does symbolize the anger in the Arab world. He does symbolize the divide with the West. But I don’t see this as a defeat of Arab nationalism or a defeat for the Arabs. It’s the downfall of a brutally repressive regime.”

Zogby fears that Hussein’s defeat could strengthen Islamic extremists as Arabs search for some way to reclaim their independence from the American conquerors of Baghdad, long a seat of religious authority and education in the Islamic world.

“Whatever happens,” Zogby said, “it is undeniable that Wednesday marked the start of a new relationship between the United States and the Arab world — one that is fraught with great danger.”

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— Jan Montry

## ASUO elections

### Ballot measure pushed out to general election

ASUO Elections Coordinator Andrea Hall announced this week that Ballot Measure 6.15 will not appear in the primary election, but will run instead during the general election.

Hall said the measure, which has been approved by the ASUO Constitution Court, was inadvertently left out when ballot measures were electronically submitted. She received a hard copy of the measure at a later date.

While the measure description ran in Wednesday’s Voter’s Guide, it will not appear on DuckWeb for voting until the general election.

## Asian

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responsible for the large proportion.

Sakura Nakamura, co-president of the Japanese Student Organization, said that universities in Japan are much harder to get into, although academic success comes easier after that.

“Almost everybody graduates,” she said.

After coming to Eugene in 2001 and prior to registering for standard University classes, Okonogi took language classes at the American English Institute at the University. He said his speaking skills have im-

proved, but he has further to go.

Okonogi said he struggles with essay tests because being unable to interpret a single word can prevent him from answering an entire question.

“We never have these kinds of tests in Japan,” he said.

In between classes, Okonogi treks back to his fifth-floor residence in Carson Hall, decorated with photographs of his friends and pieces of art. His bed is one mattress without a frame or box spring — he said it was more comfortable that way. Pairs of shoes are neatly arranged next to the closet.

For entertainment, Okonogi

spends time with his friends. He said there are few alternatives for entertainment on campus. Takahiko Nishiwaki, one of Okonogi’s friends, said the two are usually limited to having dinner together, going to see movies and talking.

“I hope the University has more places for international students (such as) more International Night stuff, more international food (and) more international movies — Chinese or Japanese or Thai or something,” he said.

Nakamura agreed that outside the JSO, there isn’t much for Japanese students to do, but she

said the University does offer cultural social opportunities.

“We have really great diversity, and we can meet people from all over the world,” she said.

Okonogi is not sure yet what he wants to do after graduating, but he is interested in television reporting because he would get to see the whole world.

He said that he plans on staying in the United States after graduation, but is not sure for how long.

“There is so much more possibility to get a job (in the U.S.),” he said.

Contact the reporter at [romangokhman@dailyemerald.com](mailto:romangokhman@dailyemerald.com).

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