

Night

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African singing.

The event also featured a dinner with foods from various countries and culminated in a show about a group of friends — who would normally be considered diverse because they were born outside the United States — learning to understand what difference really is.

The International Student Association organized the event and decorated the EMU with art from all over the world, as well as signs with commonly used street names from countries such as Brazil and Zimbabwe, to fit this year's theme — 40th Street and Cultural Boulevard.

The meal included dishes such as shahi paneer from India, zuppa con pasta e ceci from Italy, mushroom rice from Japan and Japachae from Korea.

"This is a great opportunity for international students to represent their own cultures and countries — and for (U.S.) students, this is a great way to understand different cultures and diversity,"

ISA spokesman Takenori Momiyama said.

The performance opened with a speech by ISA officers and Thomas Mills, associate vice president in the Office of International Programs.

"We're very proud and lucky to have the international students that we do," Mills said, adding that Eugene is a community dedicated to pulling down cultural barriers and welcoming students from a multitude of backgrounds.

More than 100 students volunteered to help create Sunday night's venue for cultural expression, most of them international students.

Isaac Torres, a member of the University chapter of MEChA, a Chicano and Latino student union, and an usher at International Night, said that because he missed the event last year, he wanted to take part in this year's production.

"There's an environment here where it is safe to create dialogue from all over the world," Torres said. "It's a happy and joyous occasion."


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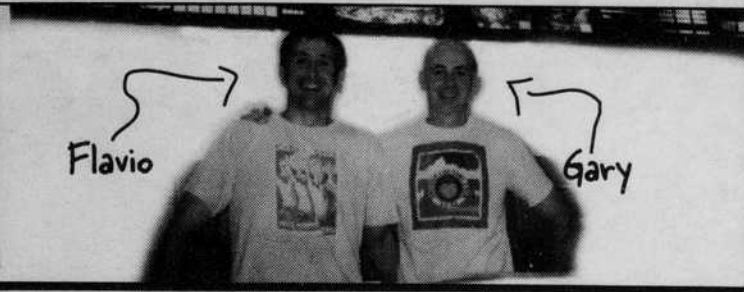
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Eviction

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Loschiavo could not confirm or deny the existence of the case, but said the Office of Housing only issues summary evictions when a student is — in one way or another — threatening the well being of other students in the residence halls.

In reference to drug-related offenses, Vice President and Dean of Students Anne Leavitt said the University has been making greater efforts to step up the level of information, communication and prevention in an effort to encourage students to follow the rules.

"Substance abuse has no place in the residence halls and is contradictory to the kind of environment (the University) wants to encourage," she said. "We don't want that to ever be a surprise to students living in the residence halls."

Brooker said the resolution he reached with Loschiavo cleared the eviction and removed the ban. He was also put on a probation period for the duration of the academic year, which could be reinstated if he is caught with alcohol or drugs after moving back into the residence halls.

Because he was evicted so quickly, and the process of protesting the eviction took so long, Brooker has already signed a new housing contract at Ducks Village.

Brooker said Loschiavo told him to write a three- to five-page paper on his life goals, focusing on how marijuana may prevent him from achieving them.

"Chris was the only person who really cared at all about what happened with me," he said. "Like, if I had a problem with smoking pot, he wanted to help me with that problem and see to it that I have a future."

The specifics of that essay — as well as the rules of his probation — were said to be included in an official letter delivered to him by April 7, Brooker said. Loschiavo said he never would have given a student a deadline or timeframe to receive official notifications.

As of Wednesday evening, Brooker had not received the letter, which he said could be a result of either his change of address or University records that have yet to be updated. In anticipation of the document's arrival, Brooker said he will be glad to see the eviction lifted, although it has not changed his opinion of the process.

"I really disliked the way the school went about it," he said.

Contact the reporter
at caronalarab@dailyemerald.com.



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