



## Speaking out against oppression

Father Roy Bourgeois will speak about the WHISC military school's role in Latin America and his experiences protesting the School of the Americas

**Roman Gokhman**  
Campus/City Culture Reporter

In 1993, a U.N. report on El Salvador revealed that the people who assassinated Bishop Oscar Romero — a popular figure in the country — and those who raped four American women were trained at the U.S. military's School of the Americas.

The school, now called the Western Hemisphere Institute for Securing Cooperation, provides professional education and military training to people from South American countries to increase democracy in the region. But its graduates have often been accused of crimes against humanity.

Father Roy Bourgeois, a Maryknoll priest and a nationally known protester of the school, has served four years in prison for crossing onto WHISC property and protesting. He will speak today at 7 p.m. in 177 Lawrence about the school's role in South America.

Steve Morozumi, program adviser for the Multicultural Center, one of 12 local sponsors of Bourgeois' talk, said if people knew the truth about WHISC, they would not support it.

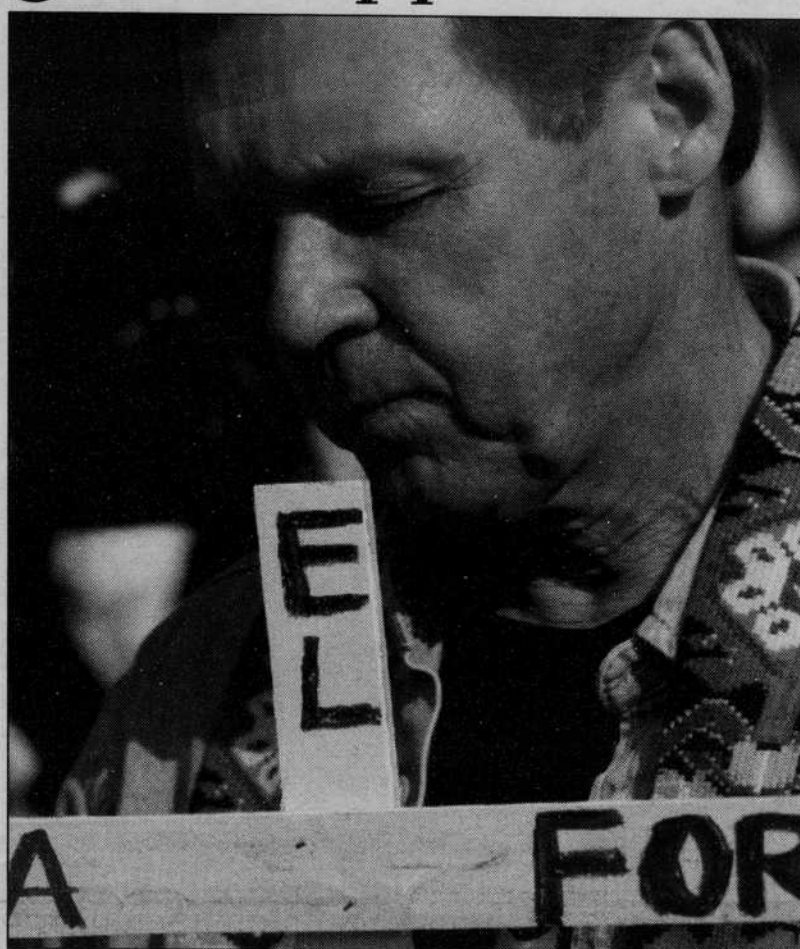
"I think most people on campus don't know about the school," Morozumi said. "An issue like this crosses artificial boundaries between movements."

"A key element of our mission statement is to address issues of ending oppression," he said. "Our own government is going to train people who are committing human rights crimes."

Bourgeois, a Vietnam War veteran, said he had a change of heart after seeing the devastation of war. He met a Catholic missionary while in Vietnam, and in 1972 he was ordained as a priest. He then went to Bolivia, where he lived in La Paz for five years.

"This experience really educated me on the plight of the

Turn to **Bourgeois**, page 4



Courtesy

Father Roy Bourgeois recounts his protest experiences tonight in 177 Lawrence.

## KWVA receives funding

The Senate approves a large transfer of funds to the radio station, which will finance an equipment upgrade

**Jennifer Bear**  
Campus/Federal Politics Reporter

Campus radio station KWVA landed a huge financial victory Wednesday night, receiving \$118,438 from the ASUO Student Senate out of overrealized funds, which are used for emergencies and are not set aside with a specific purpose in mind.

Station General Manager Charlotte Nisser presented KWVA's case to the senate, saying the station is in desperate need of an equipment upgrade because much of what they use now is more than 20 years old.

Some of the key pieces of equipment she said KWVA plans to invest the money in are a master control board, which Nisser said is "the heart of the radio station," and a new piece of equipment needed to comply with federal laws by broadcasting "amber alerts" for missing children.

As the only campus educational environment for students interested in radio broadcasting, Nisser said it is KWVA's responsibility to keep pace with major changes in the radio industry so University students can properly prepare for a career in broadcasting. She stressed that KWVA needs the money in order to move from the outdated analog system and start building a digital foundation to broadcast from. She added this will save money in the long run because it has become difficult for the station's staff to repair and find new parts for its equipment because it is so old and has been faded out by the majority of the radio industry.

Designated Driver Shuttle also received a large sum of money from the overrealized fund. The senate voted to give DDS \$62,400 so the group can buy two new passenger vans that are safer and less likely to roll over.

The senate also approved a flurry of transfers and special requests for surplus money.

Turn to **KWVA**, page 4

## Event honors campus involvement

The inaugural Cross-Cultural Recognition Night awarded students, graduates and faculty for their campus involvements

**Neota Genske**  
Freelance Reporter

Students who have made a difference on campus were honored in the first Cross-Cultural Recognition Night on Wednesday. The event, which was sponsored by the Office of Student Life Diversity Programs, acknowledged the work people have done through campus organizations as well as community involvement. Many of those nominated will be graduating in June and are members of various cultural organizations on campus.

ThuVan Hoang, who works in the ASUO and was one of the event's organizers, said the event honors students who are usually overlooked by

other award ceremonies. The award recipients were nominated by their peers. Students could nominate graduates, departing students or faculty who have influenced their lives in some way.

Senior and Vice president-elect Eddy Morales nominated senior Oscar Arana, whom he has known since he was a freshman.

"In everything he does he shows passion and integrity, and he is a dedicated leader on and off campus and puts other people first," Morales said. "I love him as a brother, and I'm honored to have presented him."

Students who received nominations were also required to nominate a teacher who had inspired them. Senior Kawezya Hutchinson, who received an award, nominated associate art professor Nancy Cheng.

"I always knew how to draw, but not the way you see it ... she helped me learn," Hutchinson said. "She always had an open door."

For their accomplishments, students received a green, yellow, blue and burgundy stole and a certificate. Faculty received a rose and certificate.

It proved to be an emotional event and a time to say farewell. Students broke down in tears and hugged each other during the ceremony. During some moments, there was hearty laughter as they described each other's personalities or nostalgically recalled their time spent together.

"It is a way for students to say goodbye to their peers with an honor," Hoang said.

Hoang said the ceremony will be an annual event. Students can nominate graduating and departing seniors by filling out a small form, describing why they should be nominated and telling what they did for the University and community.

Neota Genske is a freelance writer for the Emerald.



Courtesy

Biology Professor Eric Selker works with fungus to do genetic research.

## Bio-research could open new doors

University researchers are exploring a fungus to find out more about the genes among us

**Lindsay Sauv **  
Family/Health/Education Reporter

People should think twice before tossing that moldy sandwich bread into the garbage — some day mold could be used to cure cancer. Researchers at the University's Institute of Molecular Biology are studying a fungus to explore the biochemical processes essential to many living beings, including humans.

Biology Professor Eric Selker and

his team of researchers work with *Neurospora crassa* to study the mysterious world of genetics. The team uses the fungus because it's a simple organism, having only about 1 percent as many genes as humans do. The mold also has other uses — the filamentous fungus is used to make products such as the Indonesian soy product tempeh.

The Selker team conducts research on DNA methylation, a biochemical process that silences mutated genes. There are still many unknowns about the methylation process, but Selker and his team are doing their best to come up with an-

swers by using *Neurospora*.

One of the Selker team's breakthroughs is the discovery of RIP— Repeat-Induced-Point mutation. RIP occurs during *Neurospora*'s reproductive cycle and causes mutations within duplicated gene sequences. These RIP sequences trigger the process of DNA methylation.

Researchers guess that the process occurs as defense against 'selfish DNA,' which reproduce but serve no purpose to the organism. The study of gene silencing is an important tool that could some day be used to fight cancer. With a better understanding

Turn to **Research**, page 4