

An independent newspaper

# Oregon Daily Emerald

http://www.dailyemerald.com



Friday, June 6, 2003

SINCE 1900 UNIVERSITY OF OREGON EUGENE, OREGON

Volume 104, Issue 169

## Do campus diversity initiatives work?

Some faculty say the University is acting too slowly to improve diversity; an OUS study praises the University's path to progress

**Roman Gokhman**  
Campus/City Culture Reporter

It's a sunny day in June. Students are walking to class all along East 13th Avenue. Most of them are white — which isn't unusual in Oregon.

According to the new Oregon University System diversity report, OUS is working to increase diversity on all seven of its campuses by

### Part 2 of 2

**Thursday:** OUS reports on University diversity

**Today:** University diversity-building efforts

providing more opportunities for students, faculty and staff of color to enroll in college or take an active role in its programs. The study says that the University has a well-rounded approach for increasing diversity by raising campus community awareness, creating educational programs that focus on diversity and developing recruitment tactics and campus re-

sources for staff and students.

But despite the study's results, some University faculty and students say the school is acting too slowly to reach its stated objectives. This has resulted in the formation of a "Faculty and Staff of Color Coalition" and the administration's involvement in the creation of a new vice provost position.

"The University administration can always do better (to raise diversity)," said coalition co-chairman and history Professor Martin Summers, adding that the committee was created independently by faculty members and staff.

"Our goals are to work with the administration to achieve its stated objectives of creating a more di-

verse campus," Summers said. "At this point, this includes the recruitment of and retention of more faculty, staff and students of color and a reform of the multicultural requirement in the curriculum."

The professor said he while does not believe the University campus is currently diverse, he feels diversity is possible.

"The campus will be diverse enough when students and faculty of color no longer feel isolated," he explained.

The University administration has started many different programs to try to increase diversity. It created the Center on Diversity and Community. Turn to **Diversity**, page 6A

## EPD, DPS prepare for final weekend

It's the end of the year. Finals are within spitting distance and tensions are running high. The desire for many students to cut loose and let their hair down is running strong, and this weekend is one of the last party opportunities of the academic year.

In response, the University Department of Public Safety will be coordinating with the Eugene Police Department throughout the weekend to ensure that student activities do not turn from a desire to have fun into a desire to be destructive.

"We will have a greater number of officers on duty, and we will be working to make sure there is more of a police presence surrounding the University through the weekend," DPS Associate Director Tom Hicks said.

A spokeswoman for EPD said there will not be an additional party patrol during the weekend, but on-duty police will be monitoring the campus area and will be responding to events accordingly.

Last year — during the weekend before finals — a riot erupted after several parties became unruly and the police were called to the neighborhood surrounding East 17th Avenue and Patterson Street.

The riot resulted in the arrest of 11 student-age people, six of whom were listed as students in the University directory. Alcohol is thought to have played a major role in the riot.

DPS has worked throughout this year to make sure future riots are avoided. Hicks said DPS works with the University to make sure students know how to host a responsible party and know how to interact with the police, should a problem arise.

"We would hope people drink responsibly, be safe and have a good time," Hicks said.

— Aimee Rudin

Don't miss the last issue of the Oregon Daily Emerald on newsstands Monday, June 9, 2003.

## Legendary rodents



Adam Amato Emerald

Sophomore Daniel Levey feeds the squirrels near the Pioneer Mother statue earlier this year. "They love cashews," Levey said.

## Four star squirrels

These furry creatures have found homes and friends on campus, but people should avoid feeding the rodents

**Jessica Richelderfer**  
Managing Editor

They drop nuts on passers-by from high in a tree. They appear whenever people sit down in the grass to eat. They peek in windows of offices and classrooms all over campus, and sometimes let themselves right in.

From crazy squirrel tales to a stellar campus squirrel rating, these furry friends have become legendary at the University. But the two species of squirrels on campus — the less-personable, native gray squirrel and the more fear-

less, non-native fox squirrel — have caused their share of problems.

Jonathan Gottshall, creator of a Web site devoted entirely to the rodents, offers a ranking system for squirrel-friendly campuses. Although Gottshall was unavailable for comment on his rating system, the latest entry for the University mentions that the squirrel-friendliness factor has been upped from its previous two-star rating to a whopping four-star rating, with five stars being the highest.

"The squirrels are some of the most friendly creatures at the UO, rather more friendly than the fanatical stoned hippies," Gottshall's squirrel investigator reported. "The squirrels also have a sweet tooth, and I have

Turn to **Squirrels**, page 5A



Jessica Waters Emerald

This tree, although dead, has been left standing here on campus near Susan Campbell Hall to provide a habitat for wildlife.