



Lauren Wimer Photographer

Junior Claire Herbert (right) and other dancers perform a hip-hop routine Friday in the EMU Amphitheater during the opening day of the second-annual Venus Festival. The festival included workshops, entertainment, artwork and music.

Festival celebrates women

Venus Festival attendees went to workshops, heard speakers and took in art

By **Jonah Schrogin**
Freelance Reporter

The second-annual Venus Festival kicked off in the EMU Amphitheater on Friday and continued through the weekend, culminating in a banquet in the EMU Ballroom held Sunday evening.

The Venus Festival included entertainment, workshops, music and artwork. Festival Director Briana Faris said her goal was "creating a safe space for women of all different ethnicities and backgrounds to come together and celebrate their differences ... many strengths can come out of those differences."

There were informational tables and performances in the amphitheater on Friday. Many different groups — including Planned Parenthood, the University Health Center,

Students for Choice, the ASUO Women's Center, the University Student Fibers Guild and the Sexual Wellness Awareness Team — provided information about their organizations.

"Students for Choice is here to show support for the Venus Festival, to celebrate women's issues and to provide information that's helpful and pertinent to their lives," Students for Choice representative Amanda Mabry said.

Some of the performers included Instructor Nadia Telsey doing a demonstration of self-defense, a group of University students who put together a dance and hip-hop crew Genus Productions.

On Saturday and Sunday, there were four hour-long sessions each day with multiple workshops. Saturday's workshops touched on issues about oppression, men's role in sexual violence prevention, transgender issues and sexual pleasure. It also included improv theater.

The sexual pleasure workshop was one of the most popular workshops of the weekend.

"Most people have sex because it feels good," said workshop presenter Shelagh Johnson. However, she said men and women rarely have orgasms at the same time. Usually men reach orgasm much faster than women, so women should be stimulated before intercourse. She discussed the locations in men and women where orgasms occur, and she also talked about different ways of having sex.

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NEWS BRIEF

OUS Chancellor's Office to take \$1 million cut

State Board of Higher Education President Neil Goldschmidt announced last week that the Oregon University System Chancellor's Office will take an immediate budget reduction of \$1 million, according to an OUS release.

The permanent reduction will reduce the impact of Measure 30's failure on OUS campuses from \$7.5 million to \$6.5 million.

The cut will come primarily through eliminating the functions of the office's Academic Affairs division, which is in part responsible for monitoring new campus programs, OUS spokeswoman Di Saunders said. The functions will either be completely eliminated or moved to campuses, she added.

"It's taking the Chancellor's Office out of that intermediary position," she said.

The division cut also means the elimination of the senior vice chancellor for academic affairs position, although Saunders said there has been no timeline established for

other layoffs.

Saunders said the Chancellor's Office may face more cuts, but the \$3.75 million cut the board proposed last term was just a "what-if scenario" provided to campuses.

"I think we just need to look at the \$1 million at this point," she said.

With last week's resignation of Chancellor Richard Jarvis, the board approved former Oregon Department of Administrative Services Director Jon Yunker as interim chief operating officer and executive vice chancellor, according to the release.

Goldschmidt said recruitment for a new OUS chancellor will not begin until the restructuring of the Chancellor's Office has been finalized, which is expected to take place during the next six months.

The board also heard tuition increase proposals from OUS schools at its meeting last week, including the University's 12 percent increase, Oregon State University's 5 percent increase and Southern Oregon University's 12 percent increase. Portland State University proposed no tuition increases for next year. The board is set to give final approval for any increases at its June meeting.

—Chelsea Duncan

CAMPUS BUZZ

Monday

Art exhibit featuring work by Bachelor of Fine Arts multimedia students Brian Floyd, Risa Masamura, McKenzie Wood and Jung In Yun and painting by Mikey Straub, LaVerne Krause Gallery, Lawrence Hall, today-Thursday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Opening reception 6-8 p.m.

"Drawing Dinosaurs I" (youth after-school class), Museum of Natural History, 4-5:30 p.m., runs today-May 10. Registration for this after-school class is open for 4th- through 6th-graders.

Dance concert entitled "Africa Night," Dougherty Dance Theater, Gerlinger Annex, 8 p.m.

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5:00-5:50	Stretch & Flex Marisa	Body Sculpt Megan	Stretch & Flex Marisa	Body Sculpt Megan	
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