

Oregon Daily Emerald

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Wednesday, May 12, 2004

SINCE 1900 UNIVERSITY OF OREGON EUGENE, OREGON

Volume 105, Issue 153

BON VOYAGE!

Ginny Stark, the director of International Student and Scholar Services, will be retiring after 21 years

By Ayisha Yahya
News Editor

International Student and Scholar Services Director Ginny Stark has helped connect the University to the rest of the world for 21 years. Working in various capacities in the Office of International Programs, Stark has witnessed hundreds of international students come and go, American students set off on study abroad adventures and the Eugene community encounter diverse cultures without even leaving town.

Stark, who is retiring at the end of this school year, said the links built through international education are integral to how people interact, not only at the University but also on a global scale.

"I think we need to know each other regardless of where we're from," she said. "It helps us to develop a foreign policy where we can all live with one another."

Apart from many administrative responsibilities as director, Stark also has been in charge of the International Cultural Service Program. Through the program, international students visit local schools and groups to share their culture. She said the program has been particularly rewarding because of the interactions with students and the contributions the program has made to the community.

Stark said multicultural exchange helps to establish meaningful dialogues and lessen hostilities among people.

She said University President Dave Frohn-mayer has made international issues a top priority at the campus.

"This administration at the University goes beyond being supportive," Stark said, adding that Frohn-mayer has traveled overseas to build connections and has participated in recruitment efforts. "We've seen this tremendous support for the concept of international education."

Stark said since she began working at the University, the department's staff has

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Housing standards struggle continues

Members of Eugene Citizens for Housing Standards aimed to influence the Eugene City Council at Monday's meeting

By Steven Neuman
News Reporter

Eugene took a small step toward giving renters a housing code and an accessible path for recourse against negligent landlords.

Community members and University students rallied for housing standards at the Eugene City Council meeting Monday night in a final push to make their case before the council conducts a housing work session May 24.

Eugene Citizens for Housing Standards members addressed the City Council with facts, suggestions and personal testimony about their experiences while renting units. The organization is pushing for a system similar to the code installed in Corvallis, which is funded by a yearly \$8 fee for renters and provides them with a forum to lodge complaints against and seek repairs from landlords.

Eugene is the largest city in Oregon without a housing code, and although the state possesses a housing code, the city of Eugene has no way of enforcing these rules. Tenants who feel landlords have failed to maintain the property or make adequate repairs have few options, Lane County Law and Advocacy Center attorney John Van Landingham said.

Renters can take landlords to court or withhold rent, but they often risk eviction.

Eugene resident Michelle Loew, who

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Nancy Nathanson supported by big names in mayoral race

If elected, Nathanson aims to prioritize public safety, business development and building trust among officials

By Parker Howell
News Reporter

With the May 18 primary election nearing, leading mayoral candidates Nancy Nathanson and Kitty Piercy continue to push for votes, hoping to win the city's highest post.

Ward 8 City Councilor Nathanson, who has garnered endorsements from supporters such as incumbent Mayor

Jim Torrey and the Eugene Chamber Political Action Committee, said her local experience makes her the best candidate for mayor.

Nathanson, a University alumna, served on the Eugene Planning Commission from 1987 to 1993 and has been a city councilor since 1992.

Nathanson expressed concerns about the level of public safety in the city, saying it is a top priority.

"We have a criminal justice system that is not functioning as smoothly as it should as a system," she said.

Nathanson said she has opposed across-the-board cuts that would affect public safety in Eugene. She also

said both prevention and enforcement of public safety issues must be enhanced.

Nathanson said one of her chief priorities is to create trust between top government and community officials.

"What we need is to establish relationships that will weather all problems and issues," she said.

Nathanson said public safety and property issues in the West University Neighborhood, which is largely made up of renters, are topics that top-level cooperation could help resolve.

"It's an unstable neighborhood," she said. "If the city and University could collaborate on a vision for an

attractive neighborhood where longer-term residents would be encouraged ... we will help to improve the neighborhood."

Nathanson also emphasized her plans to focus on how the city can foster business development. Businesses are often hindered by local and state regulations and permits, which prevent growth, she said.

"Getting through the bureaucracy is a major hurdle and we're not helping," she said.

She said the attention to detail that many permits require may make it hard for small businesses to open.

"For small businesses to be able to

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Tuesday: Torrey evaluates his two-term tenure as city mayor

Today: Nathanson's council experience is a campaign emphasis

Thursday: Piercy touts state legislative past in her mayoral bid

understand (the entire permit process) is almost impossible," she said.

Nathanson also said she supports use of the city's urban renewal districts.

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