



# Faith & Its Role in Higher Education

## 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Faculty Forum

There will be a panel discussion led by faculty, followed by questions/comments and a wine and cheese reception.

### UO PROFESSORS

Daniel Falk, Religious Studies  
 Steve Shoemaker, Religious Studies  
 Deborah Green, Religious Studies  
 Timothy Gianotti, Religious Studies  
 Jack Maddex, History

### LCC PROFESSOR

Eileen Thompson, English

### NCC PROFESSOR

Loren Crow, History and Biblical Studies

### HSU PROFESSOR EMERITA

Dodi Poelzer, Sociology

**Friday, May 14th, 5:00 p.m.**

Event will be held at the Newman Center  
 1850 Emerald Street (across from Hayward Field)  
 For more information, call 346-4468

## HOUSING

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was recently evicted from her Eugene apartment, told the City Council that her landlord had refused to fix her "non-functioning" toilet promptly, leaving it unusable for days at a time. When Loew complained to her property manager, she said she received an eviction notice in the mail two days later.

"I had to call during work hours and I wasn't reassured that my toilet was going to be fixed," Loew said. "I think having a toilet is a human rights issue and I think the reason it's taken seven years for the adoption of some sort of local enforcement for housing standards is that it's a class issue and the poor people and the working poor in this community are not adequately represented."

ASUO President-elect Adam Petkun, who addressed the City Council, said he was looking forward to continuing the work toward a housing code and discussed the importance of the council taking progressive action.

"I think it went well," Petkun said. "We had a lot of support here, it's something that's been building for a really long time."

ASUO President Maddy Melton said at the meeting that the push for housing standards was really a push for a mechanism for enforcing the standards already in place at the state level. After the meeting, however, she said she felt the council had misunderstood her.

"My point on the enforcement mechanism was kind of missed," she said. "I don't think that we can enforce these standards for all citizens unless we adopt (a code) on the local level, and I don't know that the councilors are getting that."

The history of housing standards in Eugene stretches back to the initial code created in 1966. The Eugene Housing Code remained in place until 1983 when the City Council voted to eliminate the code because of high vacancy rates, redundancy with state laws, inconsistent enforcement and the need to cut costs.

Melton said the issue of a new code has been on the back burner for many years.

"Back in 1997 was the last time that the full council had a proposal," Melton said. "The council has been hearing about this issue in some way, shape or form for some time."

She said the West University Task Force gave the council its recommendation last summer and housing standards were the No. 1 recommendation in the proposal.

Ward 3 City Councilor David Kelly said the issue has been studied over and over again and no more investigation is required.

"There is a proposal out there from Eugene citizens that is a proven proposal, it's working in Corvallis ... so I hope we can move forward."

After the meeting, Loew said she was hopeful.

"As far as how the councilors took it, I feel that the same people who in the past have exhibited a resistance

## HOUSING CODE TIMELINE

- **July 1966** — Eugene Housing Code created.
- **June 1983** — City Council votes to eliminate the Eugene Housing Code citing cost savings, the passage of the State Landlords Tenant Act, inconsistent enforcement, and high vacancy rates.
- **December 1994** — City Council requests a report of possible strategies to address the critical need for affordable housing, including housing code options.
- **March 1995** — The Planning and Development Department presents the finished scoping report and staff recommends the council not pursue the development of a housing code.
- **June 1995** — Council directs staff to develop housing standards or a code for rental properties for later consideration in the fall of 1996.
- **June 1996** — First meeting of the Department Advisory Committee (DAC) for the Housing Code Project.
- **July 1996** — The West University Scoping Report is released and recommends the development of housing code as a long-term effort to improve the neighborhood.
- **November 1997** — City Council hears DAC's recommendation at a work session and refers issue to "appropriate council committee." No further action taken by the council.
- **June 2003** — West University Task Force presents its final report to Mayor Jim Torrey and University President Dave Frohnmayer, recommending the implementation of housing standards.
- **February 2003** — City Council agrees to schedule a work session on housing standards, set for May 24.

SOURCE: Eugene Citizens for Housing Standards

to the housing standards were vague in their responses to the testimony and the facts presented to them and I'm wondering how they're going to go," Loew said. "This is not an issue that's going to go away because it's very overdue, so I guess I'm hopeful."

Melton said the council's reaction represented a step forward.

"There are still some people, for whatever reason, who are dragging their feet on the issue," Melton said. "Nancy Nathanson has been on this council the longest and she was quoted saying that this city is 'process happy' — well, we've been in this process for 20 years and we're ready for it to be done."

Contact the business/science/technology reporter at [stevenneuman@dailyemerald.com](mailto:stevenneuman@dailyemerald.com).

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