

ASUO EXECUTIVE 2004-05 STAFF

- Campus and Safety Outreach Coordinator: Corey Harmon
- Community and Housing Outreach Coordinator: Scott Lu
- Co-Multicultural Advocate I: To be reopened*
- Co-Multicultural Advocate II: To be reopened*
- Elections Coordinator: Kelly Cheeseman
- Federal Affairs Coordinator: Ashley Rees
- Finance Coordinator: Mike Martell
- Health and Women's Advocate: Alisha Perry
- International Student Advocate: Laila Taraghi
- Marketing Director: Kelly O'Brien
- Outreach Director: Taylour Johnson
- Programs Administrator: To be reopened*
- Public Relations Coordinator: Nathan Strauss
- State Affairs Coordinator: Amy DuFour
- University Affairs: Katie J. Wallace

* The ASUO Executive is seeking a new batch of applicants for these positions. Interested students need to turn in the applications to the ASUO office in Suite 4 of the EMU by 5 p.m. Monday, June 7.

SOURCE: ASUO Executive

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associate" position existed for these tasks.

Another change Petkun introduced is the creation of the Outreach Director position, which will be filled by former ASUO Greek Community Liaison Taylour Johnson.

"The biggest change to the outreach team that I'm really excited about is the institution of Taylour Johnson as the student Outreach Director," Petkun said. "She is going to be tasked with doing actual outreach to students, which isn't something we've ever really focused on specifically before. It's something that we say. It's been in job titles for years, but Taylour's job is to develop new and creative ways to reach out to all the different constituencies.

"She is one of the most experienced staff members and someone who has a broad view of how the ASUO can fit into other students' lives. So we thought she'd be a perfect fit as Outreach Director."

Scott Lu will be the Community and

Housing Outreach coordinator and will continue the ASUO's support for implementing housing standards for Eugene, which was another plank in the Executive's platform.

Corey Harmon, who will fill the role of Campus and Safety Outreach coordinator, will be a member of the Public Safety Advisory Group and report to the Eugene City Council on issues relating to student safety.

Petkun has reopened the Co-Multicultural Advocate I, Co-Multicultural Advocate II and Programs Administrator positions to get a stronger pool of applicants. Applications for those positions will be accepted until 5 p.m. on Monday, June 7.

"We decided to make sure there was a strong pool of applicants for those positions because it's really important to us to do a good job of reaching out into the community and making sure there was a strong voice in this office for those communities," Petkun said.

Contact the campus/federal politics reporter at jaredpaben@dailymerald.com.

ELI

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Since high school, Ettinger has competed in wheelchair races, and he also lettered in track all four years at Sunset High School. Last year, during a high school state meet at a packed Hayward Field, he came in third place for the 400-meter race. He uses a three-wheel, aerodynamic chair when he races.

"It was the first time they had a wheelchair exhibition race there," he said.

In April, he competed in the wheelchair state meet and came in second place in the 100, 200 and 400-meter races. He will head to Arizona this summer to compete in the national competition.

"It's pretty competitive," he said. "I was hoping maybe one day to start a team here at the U of O to be on the track team."

Ettinger lifts weights and trains on the track about three times a week, and this summer he said he plans to swim six days a week.

"Gotta get ready for the big race," he said.

Kevin Hansen, who was a track coach in the 1996 Paralympics in Atlanta, first introduced Ettinger to wheelchair racing years ago. Hansen, who is the athletic director for World Wheelchair Sports in Eugene, said it's important for people with disabilities to have opportunities to participate in athletics.

"Achieving athletic goals helps people realize their potential and possibilities," he said.

Ettinger said when he raced the 400-meter at the XO invite at Hayward Field in May, he was 1.29 seconds off from qualifying for the Paralympics this year in Greece.

Ettinger's mother Daria Ettinger, who came to see her son race at the invite, said he didn't let his disappointment show when he missed the qualifying time. Instead, he kept a smile on his face as his excited mother snapped photos of him. It was only later that he mentioned what had been at stake.

"There goes Greece," he quietly told his mother.

But Hansen said Ettinger has a good chance of making it to the 2008 Paralympics.

"He's really a very, very gifted sprinter," he said.

The sports scene is one of the reasons Ettinger chose to attend the University of Oregon instead of Oregon State University.

"(Oregon) had more of what I wanted," he said.

Even though OSU offered him a diversity scholarship and Oregon didn't, Ettinger said he wanted a liberal arts education because he hates math. He struggles with the subject because of his learning disabilities, which are a result of his condition. He said he is more of a visual learner and sometimes has difficulties taking lecture notes in class, which is why he said he appreciates University Disability Service's support. Through the department, he can have notes taken for him and have test-taking times extended.

"The disabilities office is very helpful and open to things that I need," he said.

Ettinger's mother said her son's first year of college has been difficult for his family, especially his younger sister Olivia, who has always looked up to her big brother.

"When he went off to college, she was devastated," Daria Ettinger said. "This whole year has been kind of tender."

She said the family has always worried about her son — who had undergone 14 surgeries by the time he was 14 years old — and his future. But now she is happy to see him on his own, her only stipulation being that he stay in Oregon.

"He's making his choices and deciding on his path," she said.

Ettinger said he is grateful for the support he has received throughout his life.

"I was just always surrounded by people who were always behind me and supported me," he said.


Ettinger chose to study sociology his first year in school, but now is considering a switch to the family and human services program in the College of Education. Someday, he said he hopes to work with other people with disabilities.

"I could teach and also learn from people's experiences," he said.

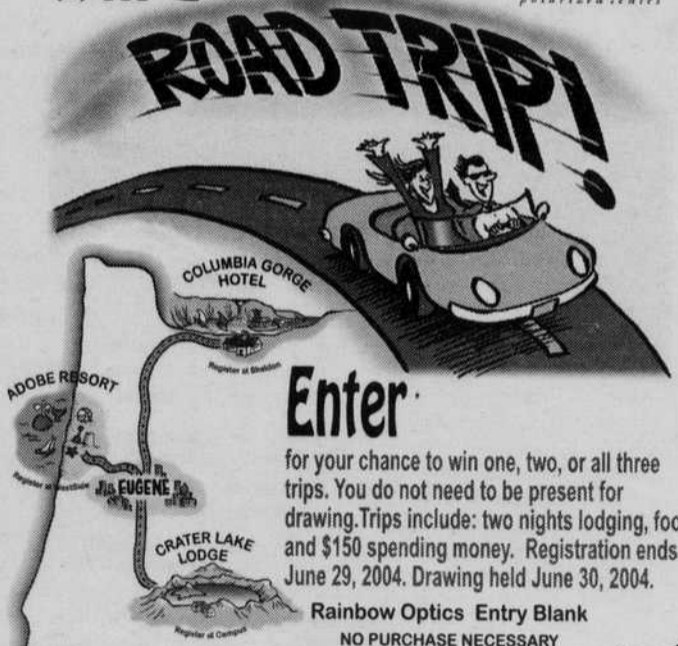
He said many people, whether or not they are disabled, tend to think people with disabilities "can only do so much." He said the ability to participate in sports can change misconceptions people have about those with disabilities.

"They just think they're not active and they can't do anything because they're paralyzed, and that's not true," he said. "I've always been pretty active. I always knew that the possibilities were endless."

Contact the higher education/student life/student affairs reporter at chelseaduncan@dailymerald.com.

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