

Law dean welcomes new students

The temperature is still over 90 degrees and the campus is quiet. Except, of course, for the law school. We start classes about 40 days earlier than everyone else (which, I like to believe, shows the kind of eagerness and energy our law students have).

For many of you, this is your first time at law school — and, in many cases, your first time in Eugene and in Oregon. You've received letters, forms, booklets, catalogs, syllabi — and now you're reading what may be your first edition of the Oregon Daily Emerald, our independent campus paper. Oregonians tend to be independent, you'll find. That's true of the law school as well. We think of ourselves as one-of-a-kind. For example, we are the University's only graduate-level professional school and the only public law school in the state.

We started in 1884 as the law department of the University. But we were independent-minded even then. We taught in rented rooms in Portland, 100 miles away from the rest of the University. (It was the same building, in fact, that now houses the University's Portland Center.) We were so independent that one dean decided not to follow the law department to Eugene in 1915, but turned the Portland classes into a freestanding school that — much later — became part of Lewis and Clark College.

We were accredited by the American Bar Association in 1923 — the first year it was possible to do so, and our Law Review was started in 1921, making it the first student law journal in the Pacific Northwest and the second oldest in the West. We were one of the first western schools to join the Association of American Law Schools in 1919. (We may be independent, but we're not isolationist.)

In fact, our students now come from virtually every state of the Union, with undergraduate degrees from over 170 institutions and academic credentials that rank them in the upper echelon of American law students. Our faculty members write books that are cited in courtrooms throughout the United States and that are used to teach law at numerous other law schools across the nation.

Our students organize — and still continue to run — the first public interest environmental law conference in the world. It's now 22 years old and attracts thousands each year. Our environmental law clinic was the first in the country. And we still try to be first, and try to be independent. We're proud of developing a strong legal writing program very early in the game (you'll be happy we did). We're proud of our awareness of the growing importance of mediation and arbitration in the practice of law (our dispute resolution student group won the ABA's inaugural chapter of the year award two years ago). We're proud that close to half of all Oregon judges are alumni of the school, as is Oregon's attorney general and one of our U.S. senators.

Our students are so independent that they demanded a pro bono program several years ago and helped set it up. For the past three years, they have donated more volunteer hours of legal service than law students at any other school in the state (for the record — over 11,000 hours in 2003 alone). So you're in good company. This year we had almost 1900 applicants for 180 places in our first-year class.

We are delighted to welcome the next class of future attorneys to the University of Oregon School of Law.

*Laird Kirkpatrick is
the Philip H. Knight Dean of the law school.*

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Mount Hood Wilderness Expansion should be opposed

Although I have not read the full text of Sen. Ron Wyden's, D-Ore., Mount Hood Wilderness Expansion proposal, on the surface I am staunchly opposed to it. This sounds like another pandering attempt to

communize public lands for the self-serving, urban eco-elite that have infested our state for the last 15 years. This plan doesn't represent true Oregonians' values, enhance our lives, or benefit our economy. This plan would lock most Oregonians out of another chunk of public land. Where will we hunt, fish, tour, work, or enjoy our birthright as Oregonians?

How can we share our woodsman heritage with our kids? It is not reasonable to expect that pedestrian-only access by permit is a viable alternative to straight National Forest classification. Please tell Wyden that you are opposed to the Wilderness Expansion on Mount Hood.

*Tim Pollard
Springfield*

OREGON DAILY EMERALD

A campus tradition--over 100 years of publication.

O 2004 Football Student OREGON Ticket Release Dates

Students enrolled for Fall 2004 classes AND paying student incidental fees can pick up one ticket for each game at the ticket offices located in the EMU or at the Len Casanova Center.* Student tickets are funded by the ADFC through student incidental fees. Only 2,500 tickets will be available for the Indiana game - so students should act quickly. 6,100 tickets will be available for the remaining games. Any remaining student tickets will become available to students for purchase for their friends and family (maximum of four tickets) beginning Wednesday during the week of the home football game.

*On first day of distribution for each game, tickets will be distributed from the South Ticket building at Autzen Stadium instead of the Casanova Center.

Game Date

September 11, 2004
September 25, 2004
October 2, 2004
October 16, 2004
October 30, 2004
November 13, 2004

Opponent

Indiana
Idaho
Arizona State
Arizona
Washington
UCLA

Release Dates

Monday, August 30
Tuesday, September 7
Monday, September 20
Monday, October 4
Monday, October 18
Monday, November 1

For more information, students should contact the Oregon Athletic Ticket Office at (541) 346-4461 or the ASUO at (541) 346-3724.

