

Medical: OHSU, University representatives appointed to iron out details

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would use current University science facilities.

"We could use existing facilities and avoid an otherwise enormous cost you'd have to incur if you're doubling the number of students," he said. "But we're not going to displace any of our students."

Robertson added that medical

students would be taught by a combination of OHSU and University faculty.

As for undergraduate benefits, Robertson said having medical students on campus would cultivate interest in medical careers among other undergraduates. Frohnmayer added he foresaw internship opportunities.

Frohnmayer said the program would be funded with a "pay-as-you-go program" and that all three institutions would participate in funding it.

"We'll expand only as rapidly as we can absorb it," he said.

Administrative details have yet to be worked out, but representatives from both universities were appointed Friday to address the issues. Robertson stressed that the program would be part of a joint effort and that both institutions

would manage it equally.

"I expect it to be balanced," Robertson said. "This is a full partnership."

Robertson said this is the first time that OHSU has pursued such a program.

"This is the first time we're looking at providing basic science to our medical students in locations other than the OHSU Portland campus," he said.

Robertson said the University provided an ideal location for such

a program.

"(The University) has strong biomedical science programs," he said. "(It) has a health system in close proximity that was a very eager partner."

Robertson said all partners are excited about the new venture.

"It's an opportunity to meet a very compelling need in an efficient and expeditious manner," he said.

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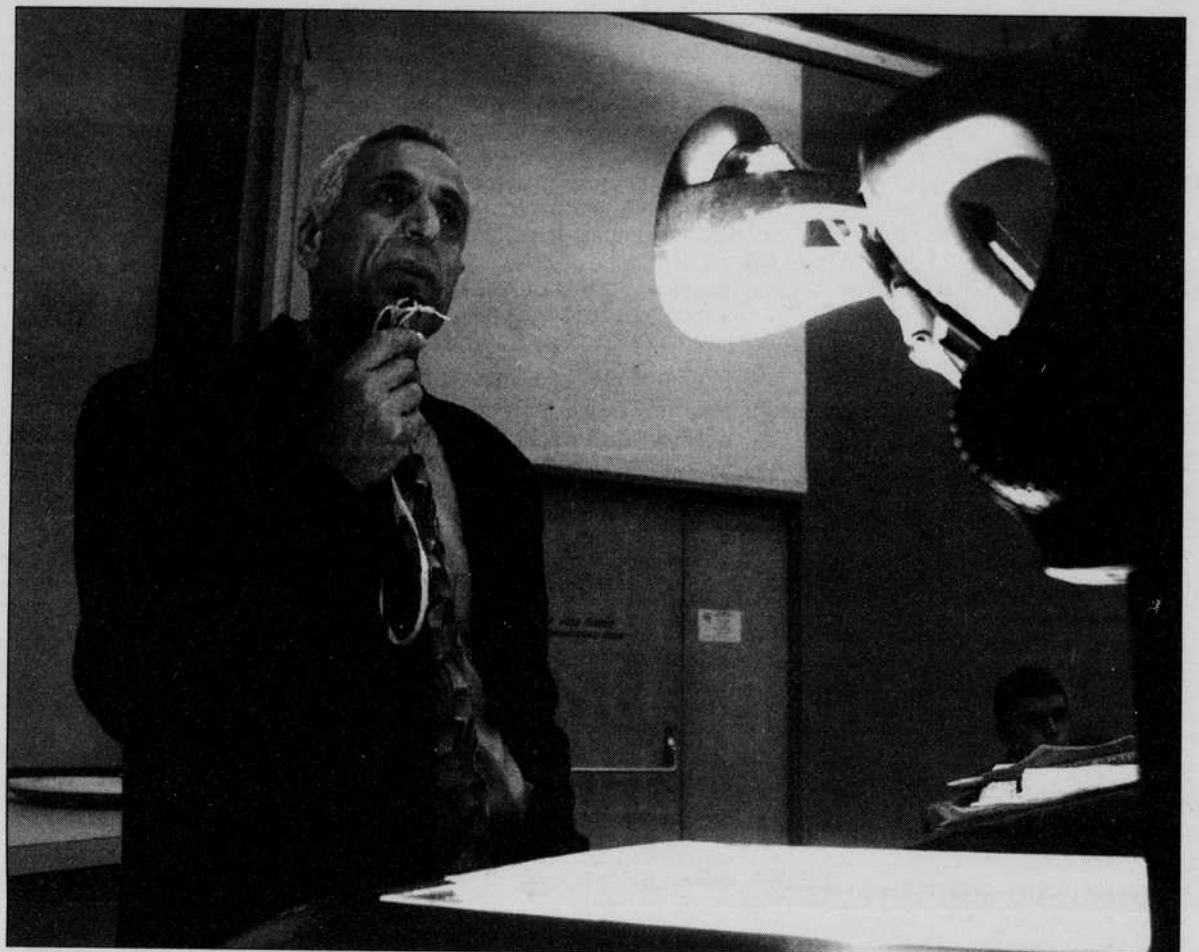
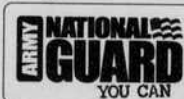
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Local businessman Ibrahim Hamide introduced Shimri Zamaret and Noam Bahat to a crowd of 50 people in Columbia 150. Hamide began by giving the group his favorite definition of freedom: "The ability to defer and still be safe."

Israel: Zamaret says peaceful exits end violence

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his other two were wounded after "intense gunfire" from Israeli soldiers hit his vehicle, Bahat said.

"Unfortunately, this testimony is not unique," Bahat said.

Zamaret said Israeli soldiers are also affected. He told the story of a soldier who saw another Israeli soldier threatening to hit a Palestinian man with his rifle while recording the man's pleas on his cell phone. Zamaret said soldiers in the territories also sometimes loot and use excessive violence on civilians.

"I couldn't believe you could see so many awful, terrible things in just three months," Zamaret said.

Zamaret said such actions cause some soldiers to lose faith in the military.

"Occupation is a big word and this story illustrates the price both our societies ... are paying for this occupation," Zamaret said. "I'm talking about all those other guys who are coming back scarred, not on their bodies, but on their ... souls," he said.

Bahat said nearly 1,000 Israelis and almost 3,000 Palestinians have been killed in the past four years.

"This is the price both sides are paying for this conflict," he said.

People from both sides of the conflict must work to peacefully resist the violence, he said. Bahat added that he and Zamaret are part of a "growing movement" of people who refuse to serve because of objections to the occupations, but they are still in the minority.

Zamaret agreed, saying the "most powerful tool" Israeli citizens have is to refuse military service.

He said his experiences in prison

were validated by a letter he received from a Palestinian man who said he had formerly been working to organize bombings with the militant group Hamas, but decided to peacefully resist the occupation after hearing about Zamaret's actions.

"For me, the whole two years was ... worth it just for this one letter," he said.

Bahat said former military occupations show that occupying countries will eventually withdraw. He said the current situation can be resolved if Israel withdraws to its 1967 borders.

"The solution to this conflict is obvious and clear," he said. "If it has been clear for so long, we must ask ourselves why we are not implementing it."

Zamaret cited the Israeli pullout from the Lebanon border four years ago as an example of how leaving disputed areas ends violence. He said that there hasn't been as much violence in the region since the pullout.

"I think that's a good example of what we're trying to accomplish by refusing," he said.

Zamaret said he is not opposed to all wars, citing World War II as a war worth fighting.

"Like all people in this room, I object to wars, but I'm not a pacifist," he said. "I do object to this war because I think it's immoral and unnecessary."

Zamaret said he and Bahat will not face further prison time, adding that they received a certificate saying they were unfit for service in the military.

"For us, that was kind of a compliment," he said.

Ibrahim Hamide, a member of the Eugene peace movement and a Palestinian immigrant from Bethlehem who was slated to introduce the pair at a later presentation held in Columbia 150,

said the men's testimonies show that not all Israelis support the occupation.

"It's an eye-opener for a lot of people," he said. "They've heard one line and one line only for forever."

He said the men did not show weakness through their actions.

"They're not traitors," he said. "They're strong Jews, strong Israelis who would defend (Israel) to the last drop if it was attacked."

Graduate student Ron Smith, who has relatives living in Israel, said he completely agreed with Bahat and Zamaret's message. Smith said he has been active in demonstrations in California and Washington state against the occupation.

"The biggest impact was to meet someone who had made the great sacrifice in prison," he said.

He said it is vital for people to "understand that occupation doesn't help Jews."

However, not everyone agreed with the speakers.

Beryl Bessemer, a student at South Eugene High School who lived in Israel for five years and who has family members living in the disputed territories, agreed that Israelis shouldn't live in the occupied territories.

Yet Bessemer said withdrawing from disputed territories wouldn't end the strife because Palestinians want to control all of Israel. She said more attacks occurred after the Israeli army pulled out of the Gaza Strip, adding that Israel wouldn't exist without the army.

"I understand what they're saying, but it won't work," she said. "It's so much deeper than that."

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