

# UO to adopt new vaccine to combat risk of meningitis

BY EMILY SMITH  
NEWS REPORTER

The University Health Center will replace its current meningitis vaccine with the new, more expensive vaccine, Menactra, which the Food and Drug Administration approved Jan. 14. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that college freshmen who live in residence halls get the new vaccination.

Health center officials are discussing whether the new vaccine will be required.

Menactra will cost students at least \$10 more per shot than Menomune, the \$80-per-shot vaccine the University currently uses, and student health insurance does not cover vaccines.

Health center Director Tom Ryan said the University is working with the drug manufacturer, Sanofi Pasteur, to trade the \$2,000 worth of Menomune in stock for the new vaccine in an effort to avoid wasting student money.

Both Menactra and Menomune protect against four of the five serogroups of meningococcus; however, neither provide immunity against serogroup B, which Ryan said "causes almost 50 percent of meningococcal infections in Oregon."

That percentage is lower nationwide. While Menomune lasts about three to five years, Menactra can be used as a booster, and, Ryan said, "research suggests a longer duration of activity ... three to five times longer."

While infants under age 1 are most at risk, the FDA reports that the number of meningitis cases peak again during adolescence and young adulthood. College freshmen living in dorms are six times more likely to be infected with the debilitating illness than others of the same age, according to the CDC.

A required dose of Menactra could have prevented the death of Jill Dieringer, a University freshman living in the residence halls who died of meningitis in 2001. Living in close proximity to others in her sorority, her

infection could have easily spread to other students on campus.

In 2003, the death of one Eugene high school student and the illness of another were caused by bacterial meningitis linked to a show at WOW Hall that both girls attended. While the disease isn't airborne like a cold or flu, activity involving the exchange of respiratory or throat secretions, such as sharing kitchen utensils, cigarettes or kissing, can pass it from one person to another. In addition to the high risk for students living in close quarters, students who smoke and frequent bars also show higher rates of infection.

If the virus form causes the illness, it's less severe and may resolve itself. The bacterial form, however, must be treated immediately with antibiotics. The health center offers free antibiotics to students who have been exposed to meningitis. Treatment may reduce the risk of death to less than 15 percent. According to Sanofi Pasteur, the most common adverse reactions to Menactra include "pain, redness, and induration," or hardening of the skin at the site of injection, as well as "headache, fatigue and malaise." The vaccine is not recommended to anyone "with known hypersensitivity to any component of the vaccine or to latex, which is used in the vile stopper."

The FDA reports yearly case counts in the United States during the past four decades varying from 1,323 to 3,525. Meningitis, while rare, is a serious illness that kills approximately 1 percent of infected individuals. Of the survivors, about one in five suffer permanent disabilities, such as brain damage, hearing loss and limb amputation.

The early symptoms of meningitis can develop over several hours or days and may include high fever, headache, stiff neck, nausea, vomiting, discomfort looking into bright lights, confusion and sleepiness. Later, the infected patient may start to have seizures.

emilysmith@dailyemerald.com

## IN BRIEF

### OSU grants suspended due to decline in ethics

PHILOMATH - The Philomath-based Clemens Foundation, which has paid for thousands of rural Benton County high school graduates to attend college, plans to suspend grants for students who go to nearby Oregon State University.

This year, it says it provided more than \$1.6 million in tuition for 600 students. About 150 of those are at OSU.

In a news release, the Clemens Foundation said its board had "serious

issues with the quality of education at OSU, ranging from a shift in academic purpose to a declining moral ethic, which has prompted the decision to suspend the grants."

In 2003, the Clemens Foundation made national news when it issued an ultimatum to Philomath School District officials to make administrative changes, claiming the local schools had become too "politically correct."

However, tax forms show the foundation's contribution level rising. From 1999 to 2003 the value of scholarships climbed from less than \$1.1 million to \$1.5 million.

— The Associated Press

## Senate: Still more to discuss, Isenberg says

Continued from page 3

student athletes, reducing athletic scholarships in the face of inadequate academic eligibility and banning competitions during non-traditional seasons.

Isenberg said the IAC discussed the issue of collecting data on student athletes based on their course selections, which would allow the University to see if any particular

courses were serving as safe havens for student athletes swimming in mediocrity. The IAC needs more time to discuss the other issues, Isenberg said.

"We found we didn't have time for the two, let alone the other 50," Isenberg said. The IAC's final vote on the resolution was four in favor and six opposed, Isenberg said.

Isenberg said the overall intent of

the document was good but there is much concern surrounding what it would mean to approve the document. It is not clear whether the document mandates certain points that may need to be discussed further, Isenberg said.

The senate approved the resolution in a vocal vote.

meghanncuriff@dailyemerald.com

## Baldwin: Friends recall his contributions

Continued from page 1

Baldwin said. "Many of his students became his friends and he continued to mentor them even after they left the University."

Baldwin did much international work in the field of sustainability during his life.

He was a member of a group of University professors that traveled to the former Soviet Union after the 1986 nuclear accident at Chernobyl to help with re-inhabiting the area. Baldwin's job was to educate locals about the lingering dangers of radiation and help them resettle safely.

"It became very clear that people are not changing very dangerous behavior patterns in reference to radiation, and they really need to," Baldwin told the Emerald in 1992.

University landscape architecture professor David Hulse, who helped launch the project in the former Soviet Union and who traveled to the region with Baldwin between six and eight times, said Baldwin was the best person he's ever seen when it came to communicating with people in the region with energy and enthusiasm. When Hulse was "dragging," Baldwin would still be full of energy and ready with the right compliment for the right host, he said.

"He was full of life. He was vivacious. He was optimistic," Hulse said. "He was really future oriented, even in the face of really naughty problems, like Chernobyl ... That was one of the reasons I really enjoyed working with him. I'll miss him."

Hulse also said Baldwin created a network of associates, friends and former students around the world, and he was the enthusiastic hub of that network. Many of his students returned to their countries and took the land-use planning knowledge he

taught them, adapting it to their own country's situation.

"One of John's most lasting professional legacies is probably that network," Hulse said.



JOHN BALDWIN  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF  
UNIVERSITY PLANNING,  
PUBLIC POLICY, AND  
MANAGEMENT

One close-to-home project Baldwin became involved in was working in rural Benton County studying long-term growth in the Willamette Valley. Current Senior Assistant Counsel for Metro Richard Benner, who first met Baldwin at the University in 1992, said he worked with Baldwin while Baldwin was working on the valley growth project.

Benner said leaders from around the state discussed Baldwin's work at a gathering regarding future growth in the valley.

*"He loved nature and the outdoors. He loved sitting in his chair with a blanket and his kitty."*

ERIN BALDWIN | Daughter

"That was one of his wonderful contributions," Benner said.

Benner, who was scheduled to teach a class for Baldwin during spring term, said Baldwin was interested in holistic planning on a regional basis, linking regional environmental quality with planning. "His students were very inspired by his forward-thinking approach," Benner said. "He was passionate about environmental planning and it was infectious. It was easy to become infected with his enthusiasm ... That's an awfully valuable attribute for a teacher."

Baldwin also had a large impact on the University campus as a member of the University faculty since 1980.

Karen Johnson, assistant dean for external relations at the School of Architecture and Allied Arts,

knew Baldwin since she came to the University in 1983. She said Baldwin was "one of our leading faculty members in the area of sustainability."

Baldwin had a class in which he and students would get on a bus and travel around Oregon and study sustainability projects, she said.

"I never got to take his class," Johnson said. "I regret it now."

Eben Fodor said he met Baldwin when he came to the University for graduate school in 1990.

"We spent a lot of time together at the University and worked together on many projects," Fodor said. "John's just been one of the heroes and environmental icons for me ... I think every student he had is going to have favorable memories of John."

University journalism and psychology student Erin Baldwin, John Baldwin's daughter, said she first remembers her father's laugh.

"He did have a really quick wit and he was kind of an old soul. He just had a depth to him where he really appreciated what was important" she said. "He loved nature and the outdoors. He loved sitting in his chair with a blanket and his kitty."

"We already really feel his loss," she said.

Baldwin is survived by an immediate family that includes his wife, Karen, and three children, Erin, Ian, and Will.

A memorial service for Baldwin, who will have a scholarship created in his name, will be held on campus on March 18, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Gerlinger Lounge. Baldwin's family will be in attendance and the public is invited to attend. Those who wish to speak at the service are encouraged to contact the PPPM department at 346-3808 or by e-mail at pppm@uoregon.edu.

jaredpaben@dailyemerald.com

**Planned Parenthood**

**FREE Birth Control Supplies & Health Services For Men & Women.**

\*Call to see if you qualify

Three locations:

1670 High St, Eugene 334-9411  
793 N. Danebo, Eugene 463-9731  
225 Q St, Springfield 744-7121

www.pphsso.org

What do I know about me?



I'm informed.

I'm healthy.

I take care of myself.

www.wecandobetter.org

Since 1948  
**Brails RESTAURANT**

**BEST BREAKFAST IN EUGENE BY THE EUGENE WEEKLY 2004-2005**  
OPEN SEVEN DAYS A WEEK  
7:00-3:00

1689 WILLAMETTE 343-1542

Your place for **NEWS** reader polls and more  
classifieds **ARCHIVES** www.dailyemerald.com

**STOREWIDE SALE!**  
**20-70% OFF**

Ski Equipment  
Downhill • Cross Country  
Snowboards • Clothing

On Now!

FREE 50th Birthday Refreshments!

**Berg's Ski Shop**

13th & Lawrence • 683-1300 • www.bergskishop.com