

OREGON DAILY EMERALD

An independent newspaper

www.dailyemerald.com

SINCE 1900 | Volume 106, Issue 161 | Monday, May 23, 2005

University team gives findings on word 'race'

A group researching student perceptions of race presented at a "Community Conversation"

BY ADAM CHERRY
NEWS REPORTER

The Campus Climate Research Interest Team presented the findings of a two-year study on the University's cultural climate in a "Community Conversation" on Friday. The University's Center on Diversity and Community sponsored the study and the conversation.

The 150 students who participated in the study were organized into focus groups and asked to discuss the campus' climate for diversity as well as their ideas about the meaning of race and ethnicity, according to the study's executive summary.

CoDaC Interim Associate Director John Shuford said he hopes the information from the study can be used to add substance to the University's controversial Five-Year Diversity Plan.

"We're just funneling another piece of information into there," Shuford said. "It's a nice window into what our students are learning and how they're learning."

"The plan, as it stands, is a first draft. There's meat that still has to be put on the bones."

Psychology associate professor Holly Arrow, sociology associate professor Jocelyn Hollander, sociology associate professor Ellen Scott, and psychology graduate student Chuck Tate conducted the study and guided the audience through their findings.

The team isolated three primary ways individuals define "race," according to the study: Phenotype theories define race by physical appearance alone, genotype theories define race according to genes and culture theories define race according to cultural differences.

Forty-six percent of the students who participated in the focus groups held culture theories prior to the study; only 28 percent held them following the study.

Over the course of the study, some of the students came to consider cultural differences to be better defined by the word "ethnicity" than by "race," the report stated.

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Health center slated for expansion

The center, which provides a variety of medical services, intends to begin its \$10 million renovation and enlargement project in fall

BY EMILY SMITH
NEWS REPORTER

Student Health Center and Counseling Center staff are looking forward to breaking ground this fall on renovations and a 48,000-square foot expansion that the center has needed for nearly 20 years, health center Director Tom Ryan said.

The Student Building Fee Committee awarded the health center \$10 million for the add-on more than three years ago, but Ryan said that amount is a far cry from the \$25 million the health center estimated it needed to meet the needs of both the counseling and clinical

departments, Ryan said. He said basic expansion needs alone carry a \$15 million price tag.

After some severe cost-cutting, University planners and Portland's BOORA Architects have drafted a plan that meets the most important of the health center's needs.

Ryan said the No. 1 priority is to improve student services, and he believes the new plans incorporate that goal.

"I'm really excited about how much easier it will be for students to find their way through," Ryan said.

Ryan said the new pharmacy will be twice its

current size, complete with an over-the-counter area where medication prices will be lower than at local grocery stores. This is because the center is "not trying to make a profit," he said.

The health center plans to put computers in the lobby programmed with a variety of health and wellness programs and quizzes available for students. One program will calculate "actual age" by taking into account exercise and eating habits, family history and lifestyle choices, Ryan said.

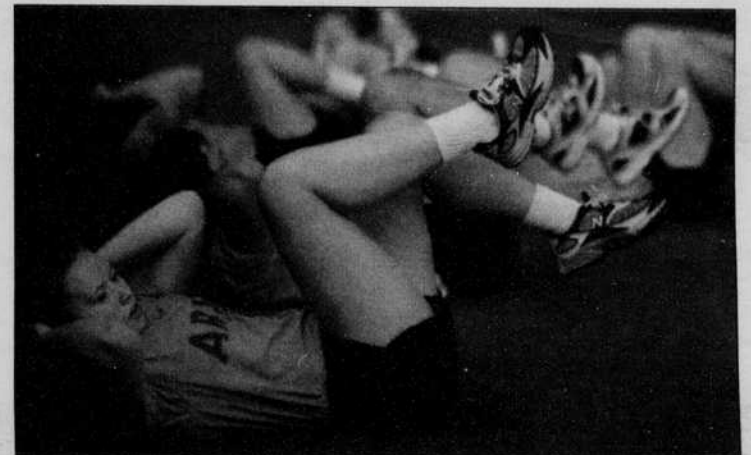
Ryan said the three primary care clinics will be connected by a back hallway instead of being three separate "islands of care," which will allow for better communication between health care workers.

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ROTC cadet Paul Ruddell will graduate in June and enter the U.S. Army for at least four years.

NICOLE BARKER | PHOTOGRAPHER



LAUREN WIMER | SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

ROTC member Kira Weyrauch performs the Supine bicycle exercise during an early-morning training session Wednesday.

A course SET IN SERVICE

Cadet Paul Ruddell's achievements in the ROTC have yielded opportunity and national distinction

BY ADAM CHERRY
NEWS REPORTER

It was a spring break surfing trip in California that Evan Hessel felt best described Paul Ruddell.

"We'd all be tired after an hour or two of surfing," said Hessel, Ruddell's roommate, friend and fellow Reserve Army Training Corps cadet. "Paul just keeps on going. He never gets tired."

"Paul's the kind of guy who,

when he's really into something and really enjoys it, he'll just totally go all out on it."

Maybe that's why Ruddell, a senior political science major, does five physical training sessions each week, two of which he teaches himself. He also attends ROTC seniors' staff meetings, helps teach military science labs, goes to counseling sessions for

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IN BRIEF

University honors teachers with crystal apples

Few knew what to think when University President Dave Frohnmayer interrupted Joshua Roering's class with an entourage of news media, University administrators and Roering's colleagues in tow Thursday afternoon.

"What is this, Publishers Clearing House?" asked one of Roering's confused students.

"I thought I was in trouble," said Roering, an assistant professor of geological sciences. "Normally when the principal comes to your class it's not a good thing."

Fortunately for Roering, just the opposite was true. Frohnmayer dropped in unannounced to personally deliver

the 2005 Ersted Award for Distinguished Teaching, an honor for junior faculty who have demonstrated exceptional teaching ability.

Three faculty were honored with distinguished teaching awards this year: Roering, finance instructor Deborah Bauer and English professor Linda Kintz. Recipients received a crystal apple and a \$2,000 pay raise.

"This is our highest teaching honor. It signals the importance of the teaching-learning environment," Frohnmayer said. "What happens in the classroom is really at the core of the University."

Roering was chosen for his ability to engage students through his "eclectic teaching style," according to

a press release.

"It's been my pleasure. I really appreciate this award," Roering said. "(My students) have made this a really fun job."

Bauer appeared overwhelmed with emotion as Frohnmayer presented her the award in front of her students.

"You've been singled out for your enthusiasm, your rigorous knowledge of the subject and your unfailing dedication to students," Frohnmayer said as he presented her the award.

"Thank you all so much," Bauer said. "I absolutely love my job. ... I love my students and it's such an honor."

On Friday, Frohnmayer delivered a

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LAUREN WIMER | SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Geology assistant professor Joshua Roering receives a crystal apple on Thursday.