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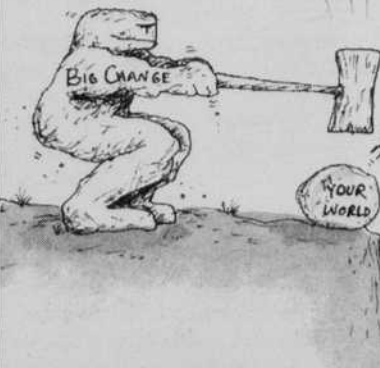
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IN BRIEF

UO forensics to debate military-funded research

The University Forensics Program will host a debate with audience participation today regarding whether the University should conduct research funded by the military. The event, at 7 p.m. in 182 Lillis, is free and open to the public, although people are advised to arrive early because of limited seating.

University students Jason Lear, Kara Borden, Laurel Moeslein and Jennifer McBride will debate.

The event is part of a series of debates co-sponsored by the University Forensics Program and Concerned Faculty for Peace and Justice.

— Eva Sylwester

Love Your Body Day takes place today

Students For Choice will be hosting Love Your Body Day today in the EMU Amphitheater from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The free event is open to the public and will include guest speaker Eve Ensler, free massages, a body message board and music to promote a positive body self-image among men and women.

Ensler is the Obie Award-winning author of "The Vagina Monologues." She will be reading an excerpt from her new play, "The Good Body," which addresses why women of all cultures and backgrounds, whether undergoing BOTOX injections or living beneath burkhas, feel compelled to change the way they look to be accepted.

In addition to activities throughout the day in the amphitheater, Love Your Body Day will conclude in Friendly Hall at 6:30 p.m. with a speaker panel on sexuality and contraception from religious, medical and political perspectives.

— Brittini McClenahan

Plan: Members discuss ONAMI proposal

Continued from page 1

helping the University meet its future expansion needs.

"It actually went better than we had planned," University Planning Director and Architect Chris Ramey said. "Everyone supported it and went along with it."

The process began last summer, and Ramey said the high level of interest University community members showed in the beginning ensured that the committee could address any concerns early on.

Ramey said the planning department directed the committee to preserve all open space, or "green space," on campus when updating the plan. Any department that wishes to build a structure on the space will have to amend the development plan and change the open-space designations.

Ramey said he suspects the science department will be looking to build on designated green space sometime in the future.

"I'm sure at some point they're going to come back and want to put a building where the word 'green' is," Ramey said. "I'm just sure of it."

Some of the discussion centered on the new building that Oregon Nanoscience and Microtechnologies Institute is looking to construct near Huestis and Streisinger halls, a site that must be approved by the planning committee before construction

can begin.

Committee member and Director of Student Activities Gregg Lobisser said he was surprised to learn of the science department's hopes to construct its new building underground and questioned why such a proposal came just weeks after the committee had altered the plan to further encourage underground structures.

"It felt funny to me," Lobisser said.

University Planning Associate Christine Thompson said the proposal has been around for quite some time and should be seen as a good one because it's in line with the committee's hope to encourage underground structures.

"I think of it as fortunate rather than funny," Thompson said.

Lobisser said after the meeting that he felt funny about it because "nothing related to this science building has come to the committee at all."

University chemistry professor Jim Hutchison, a member of ONAMI's Leadership Team, said the proposal is only a proposal, but the site is ideal because of the large amount of bedrock in the area that can help insulate the building from outside movement, something necessary for the type of research that will be done there.

"The bedrock on our campus is isolated from vibrations, so if you build on the bedrock, then the building is going to be quite vibration-free,"

Hutchison said in a phone interview.

At the meeting, committee chair Carole Daly commented on the site approval process for the ONAMI building, saying "it seems like there's a lot of pre-publicity going on without any discussion on it."

Thompson said that should change as soon as more concrete plans are decided.

Ramey said he expects the proposal to possibly reach the committee sometime this summer.

The group decided to approve the draft on the condition that any visual elements that would be added later would be subject to review and approval from interested committee members.

Daly said it was important for committee members to be able to review the visual elements before recommending the draft, but the group decided it's important to put the document to use as soon as possible and, as Thompson put it, "not have the pictures hold us up."

Thompson said adding in the visual elements is a time-consuming process but one that should be easier to complete now that the rest of the draft plan is complete.

Ramey agreed.

"Something always has to be last," Ramey said.

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Wearable: Intel provides part of lab's funding

Continued from page 1

of items and destinations.

"Getting people out the door with the right items was half the battle," Fickas said.

The Wearable Computing Laboratory may have found solutions to some of these problems. The solution involves a standard camera bag outfitted with computer chips that use radio frequency identification technology, or RFID, to determine whether all the necessary items for an outing have been gathered. Items such as bus passes, pill containers and key chains are labeled with RFID tags that are flat and can be as small as half an inch square. The bag wirelessly receives instructions programmed by the user or user's caregiver on a desktop computer regarding which things are needed for a particular trip. The bag also is able to connect to televisions and interrupt programming with reminders for appointments.

Once out the door, users will be able to use a type of personal digital assistant, a specially programmed Hewlett-Packard iPAQ, to navigate. Fickas said the lab is running trials in which potential users walk various routes in

Springfield and receive directions from the iPAQ in audio, visual or textual formats to determine which kind of prompts are most effective.

Fickas said Lane Transit District has shown interest in using motes to help people with disabilities. If there were motes on LTD buses and vans for people with special needs, the bus motes could communicate with the apartment motes and signal to the user via the user's bag that the appropriate stop was approaching.

"I think what we're trying to do is a very positive thing," said Craig Pataky, a senior journalism major who works in the lab. "It's a tool that will augment memory."

It currently is uncertain when the lab's products will be mass-marketed. Fickas said that over the summer, the lab will work with various local living centers for people with brain injuries to find a pilot user for the technology and wire his or her apartment with the MoteLabs.

The lab currently constructs its devices from commercially available components to keep costs down. As the technology matures, it likely will become smaller. Adjunct faculty

member Terrence Waggoner, who does hardware design in the lab, said in the future, fuel cells may help by providing the power of a battery in a smaller package.

Fickas said the lab receives grant funding from Intel and the National Science Foundation.

"Intel's gotten really interested in the aging baby-boomer population," Fickas said, explaining that a computerized house could help elderly people continue to live in their own homes. He added that sensors in beds and showers could detect problems with sleeping and personal hygiene.

The dark side to this, Fickas said, is that this sort of data collection can be intrusive. He said there has been recent controversy regarding Wal-Mart's use of RFID to track merchandise from warehouse to store, especially because RFID signals can be intercepted by anyone with the right technology.

"I'm guessing there's nothing nefarious that (Wal-Mart is) doing, but it's what other people could do with it," Fickas said. "We're on the light side, not the dark side."

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