

Harassment: UO examines support system

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spoke with Lobetos' parents on the phone hours after receiving the e-mail, but they did not know more than what was included in the e-mail, Martinez said.

Phone calls to Lobetos' parents in Hawaii were not returned.

Trips to Hawaii by top administrators are common because of the extensive ties the University has with the Hawaiian community, and the University saw those ties an opportunity to speak with anyone who may have heard of Lobetos' situation and has questions about the support services available at the University, Martinez said.

"This wouldn't be a reason or an extra reason to go, but it clearly is an opportunity to answer questions," Martinez said.

Kirk Koenig of the University admissions department e-mailed career and college guidance counselors in Hawaii a couple weeks ago regarding the incident, said Linda Liu, associate director of the Office of Multicultural Academic Support.

The e-mail said the University administration was looking into the situation and that "they want to make sure that this type of thing doesn't happen anymore," said Nelson Chee, a career and college counselor at Castle High School in Hawaii who received the message.

The University is examining the support system in place on campus to see how a student was able to feel so unsafe that he felt it necessary to leave without first contacting any University officials or accessing any support services,

Martinez said.

"We want to make sure we're making it easy for students to get connected to support services when they need it most," Martinez said.

Members of the Hawaii Club received Lobetos' parents' e-mail during the first week of school after they sent messages to Lobetos and other Hawaiian freshmen inviting them to the club's first meeting of the year.

Liu attended the club's Oct. 15 meeting to serve as a liaison between the Hawaii Club and the administration, she said.

"My biggest role, really, is to let students know that we're here as a support system for them," Liu said. "Unfortunately, it's gotten out to other communities that the University may not be the safest place."

Interim Vice President for Student Affairs and Director of University Housing Mike Eyster sent an e-mail Thursday to all students living in the residence halls informing them of the variety of support services available to them and condemning the racist acts reported to the administration.

"As members of the University of Oregon community we must have the conviction and the courage to truly treat one another the way we would like to be treated," Eyster wrote.

The Hawaii Club has a petition for students to sign in support of Lobetos.

"I wish there could be someone held responsible for what happened, whether it be a student or housing," Hawaii Club Co-director and University junior Lily Bender said.

Club co-Director and University

senior Nestor Ugale said it's obvious the University wants to do something, but officials don't know what can be done.

Eyster said he would like to see whoever was responsible for making the threats punished accordingly, but "we were unable to speak with anyone in the building who was aware of the problems the student had encountered."

University Housing also held a meeting Thursday in Carson Hall with about 30 or 40 residence assistants and other students to discuss the incident.

"The meeting ended with, I think, a sense of commitment by everybody in the room to work together and try to prevent these kinds of things from happening," Eyster said.

Publicizing the extensive support systems on campus, such as the Bias Response Team and the Office of Multicultural Academic Support, to parents instead of just students is one step Eyster would like to take to ensure anyone who needs the services are able to take advantage of them.

Students experience discrimination on campus every day and do not get the help they need, Ugale said.

"The only reason that the case is getting so much attention is because he went home," Ugale said.

Ugale said there are serious holes in multicultural and academic support which must be filled.

"There are so many resources on campus that he could have touched, but it wasn't readily available to him," Ugale said.

Contact the news editor at mcuniff@dailyemerald.com



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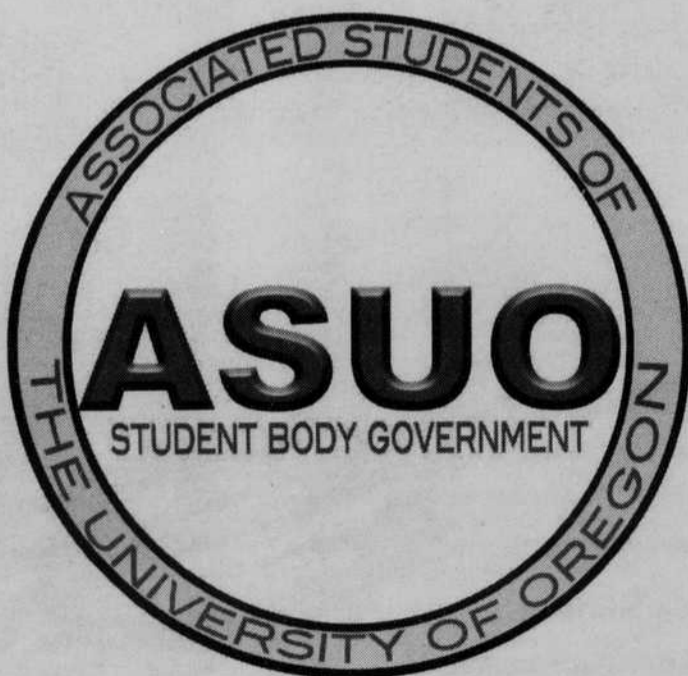
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RRC: Committee will review 36 programs

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ahead of time." Goward said he will hand out the template at the next Programs Council meeting, which is Nov. 3, the last day of official hearings.

Assault Prevention Shuttle was one of the two groups approved without corrections or amendments.

During the APS hearing, group co-Director Diana Erskine said Goward personally brought in a copy of the template after the bylaws were submitted.

Goward, a former APS employee and current volunteer, said he is contacting groups whose

bylaws are incomplete.

RRC member and Asian Pacific American Student Union Chairman Scott Lu said he wasn't given the ASUO bylaws template.

During the hearing, RRC members spent much of their time looking over programs' documents. Goward said he did not give RRC members the groups' mission, goals and bylaws statements until the day before the meeting. Two of the four RRC representatives said they had time only to "look over" the programs' documents.

Several RRC members questioned the purpose of the hearings. Lu said he didn't know that program bylaws were

included in the hearing.

Representative Mike Filippelli said he was unclear whether "continued recognition" should be granted if groups were asked to update or amend by laws.

Also at the hearing, Goward announced RRC member Stephanie Carriere resigned because she couldn't meet the time commitment.

The RRC hearings will continue on Thursday and Friday evening at 7 p.m. in the EMU Boardroom.

Contact the campus and federal politics reporter at nwilbur@dailyemerald.com

Measure 37: Ruling could influence 2006 elections

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problems for the nearly 2,500 current Measure 37 claims and those that may be filed soon.

Law professor Tom Lininger examined the political aspects of the ruling.

Experts say appeals of the circuit court ruling are likely. Facing a last chance to file claims before the Oregon Supreme Court eventually rules on the issue, many potential claimants may rush claims, Lininger said.

"The legacy of MacPherson may be a spike in claims," Lininger said.

He said he recently spoke with the Lane County democratic chairwoman, and she said the ruling may also have an impact on the 2006 elections.

Law professor Keith Aoki said the two sides of the land-use debate seem like separate worlds, one supporting absolute property rights and the other supporting land-use planning.

Organizer and Sustainable Land Use

Planning Fellow Jonathan Evans said he was pleased with the turnout, and he hopes that discussions like this promote community involvement in the issue. More than 50 people attended the discussion.

"There are more people here than there are normally for my classes," Aoki said.

Contact the city, state politics reporter at chagan@dailyemerald.com

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