

IN BRIEF

EMU conference addresses gender, race, militarization

An all-day conference about gender, race and militarization will take place in the EMU today.

A panel discussion, "Contesting Militarization: Global Perspectives," begins at 10 a.m. in the Fir Room and features Lakshmi Chaudhry, Lamia Karim and Gwyn Kirk. Chaudhry is a magazine contributor and co-editor of "Start Making Sense: Turning the Lesson of Election 2004 into Winning Progressive Politics." Karim is an assistant professor of anthropology at the University. Kirk is co-author of "Greenham Women Everywhere: Dreams, Ideas and Actions from the Women's Peace Movement."

A series of roundtable discussions begins at 12:30 p.m. "Military Recruitment and Counter-Recruitment" takes place in the Oak Room, "Militarization in the Classroom" is in the Walnut Room, "Echoes from Latin America" is in the Maple Room and "Moral Vacuums: The Soldier-Citizen and the State" takes place in the Fir Room.

At 2 p.m. a panel discussion titled "Homefronts and Homefires" takes place in the Fir Room and features Brown University professor Catherine Lutz, author Karen Houppert and University assistant professor of philosophy Bonnie Mann.

Rep. Barbara Lee, D-Calif., was scheduled to deliver the keynote address but canceled Thursday because of congressional obligations.

The conference is sponsored by the University's Center for the Study of Women in Society.

—Meghann M. Cuniff

The Science Factory holds Halloween Extravaganza

Science lovers can indulge in Halloween festivities tonight at The Science Factory's Halloween Extravaganza.

The Science Factory, which is located south of Autzen Stadium, will hold its third-annual Halloween Extravaganza from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m..

The event will feature a costume contest, planetarium show, spooky storytelling, haunted corridor and a pumpkin catapult.

A "Mad Scientist's Lab" will invite participants to experiment with lasers, light and chemical concoctions, according to a press release.

"Kids will be able to get their hands on science," said Tracey Edmundson, director of education for The Science Factory.

Bouncing balls and glow-in-the-dark stickers will be given to those who arrive in costume, Edmundson said.

Admission to the event is \$10 for a family of four Science Factory members and \$12 for a family of non-members. The cost is \$4 per person.

No candy will be at event, Edmundson said.

"Being a science museum, we wanted to be tooth-friendly," she said.

— Katy Gagnon

Student Senate seeks to decrease textbook prices

The Student Senate unanimously voted Wednesday to support the national Affordable Textbooks Campaign that starts Thursday on campus.

Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group intern Jenny Manning asked the Senate to pass a resolution in support of the campaign.

Senators questioned the validity of the statistics cited in the resolution, but

were swayed in favor after Brett Rowlett, a campus organizer for the Oregon Student Association and the ASUO, and several other students praised the campaign.

According to a Government Accounting Office report, textbook prices are increasing 6 percent per year and have tripled from December 1986 to December 2004, more than twice the rate of inflation.

The Affordable Textbooks Campaign resolution will be sent to

publishers, media and possibly even University President Dave Frohnmayer asking to improve the industry by dropping textbooks prices, thus making college more affordable, Manning said.

Student Senate also distributed more than \$1,500 to pay for MEChA's Dia de los Muertos event, two new computers for the Student Insurgent, a new stipend position in the Athletic Department Finance Committee and an International Student Association

Halloween carnival scheduled for Saturday in the Earl Complex.

Senate also approved the ASUO Executive's appointee to the elections coordinator position, Ryan Coussens. The Executive announced its intent to fill the seat of former Senator Rob Craig, who resigned Sept. 28.

Student Senate is still looking for applicants to fill three empty seats. Interested students can pick up applications in the ASUO office, EMU Suite 4.

— Nicholas Wilbur

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