

## Protest: Residents say sale of complex would harm international students

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amphitheater to Susan Campbell Hall, where the offices for the Oregon University System are located, to the steps of Johnson Hall.

Protesters carried signs that read "No Home = No Education" and "Westmoreland is Diversity." Others were sitting in a cardboard box that read, "Eyster Housing," referring to Director of University Housing and Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs Mike Eyster.

"We are not fighting for ourselves. We are fighting for our community," said Bing Li, rally organizer and chairwoman of the Westmoreland Tenants Council. "They have no plan to take care of us, nowhere for us to go. We just want to protect our homes, our community and our kids."

University officials decided to try to sell the Westmoreland property to avoid high maintenance costs and the high cost of repairs for major structural damage to the 45-year-old property. University officials aim to use the money to improve student housing closer to campus, although they've said that some of it could be used for other purposes.

The 21-acre Westmoreland property is worth an estimated \$15 million to \$18 million. Graduate student Teresa Coronado is in her third year living in Westmoreland.

"This is a huge blow to the multi-cultural and working-class community," Coronado said. "They raised our rent, which was difficult, and now they're selling our homes. By selling Westmoreland, the University is

taking away the most affordable housing available to grad students, international students, non-traditional students and student families. ... Most of us are living off a GTF salary and/or student loans."

Darlene Hampton, a graduate teaching fellow in the English department, said the University's representation of Westmoreland residents is misleading.

Hampton said Westmoreland residents come from countries such as China, India, Malaysia, Poland and Togo; she called Westmoreland a global community that works.

"Westmoreland is diversity," Hampton said. "Spencer View and East Campus isn't enough. There's already a waiting list and even if there was enough room, where are we going to get the money for extra rent? What are

we going to eat?"

Graduate student Hasnah Toran said in an interview that the rally's turnout wasn't as big as it should have been because the international students living in Westmoreland aren't used to a culture where rallying is accepted.

"A lot of countries don't do this sort of thing," Toran said. "International students are afraid of jeopardizing their visas. Language barriers are also an issue."

Toran said international students living in Spencer View Apartments come mostly from richer countries like Japan and South Korea, and most students living in Westmoreland can't cope with the extra rent it will take to move from Westmoreland to another University Housing option.

"We have students at Westmoreland

that come from Third World countries. ... We're barely making it," Toran said. "We come here thinking we can change our lives but by taking away the only housing that the majority of Westmoreland's residents can afford, the University is only making it more difficult for all of us."

Hampton said in an interview that the University's decision comes at a very difficult time for Westmoreland's residents.

"It's the middle of the term," Hampton said. "We're grading papers, dealing with our own midterms and papers and save our apartments in the middle of all this. It's not helpful."

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## Ghost: Midnight search for phantasm treks through nearby cemetery

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successful supernatural investigation.

The Web site encourages investigators to have an open mind because skepticism will generate negative energy. It also advises against smoking, drinking, doing drugs or performing séances during an investigation. In addition, spirits must be asked

permission before having their photograph taken.

The reporter followed these suggestions, but was unsuccessful in her search. Two Emerald photographers, who were also dispatched, visited the cemetery around 12:30 a.m. on Sunday.

They weren't alone.

Groups of students were reading ghost stories there, surrounded by the haunting blackness with only a flashlight to read by. But no ghost. The possible identities for the reported ghost seem endless. Could he be the spirit of a murdered student revisiting his old room or a peeping tom with a fetish for college students?

Wahrmund's experience doesn't quite fit previous descriptions of the spirit, but maybe what Wahrmund said he saw was the transparent entity of a spirit peering down on him. Or maybe, he was still groggy from his nap.

Wahrmund said he doesn't mind living in a potentially haunted room.

"It's all right with me as long as it doesn't bother me or cause me harm," he said.

But he did say University Housing should give him a discounted rate.

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## Cussler: National Underwater and Marine Agency chases old shipwrecks

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Paul Jones used to attack Great Britain during the Revolutionary War. Jones won the battle, but the ship was so badly damaged that it sank. After six expeditions to the North Sea near Great Britain, Cussler and company are still looking for the ship. A seventh trip is planned for next year.

These expeditions are more a labor

of love than a search for riches, Cussler said.

"Everybody thinks I'm crazy and belong in a rubber room because I'm not looking for treasure," Cussler said.

One of the agency's success stories was finding the CSS Hunley, the first submarine to sink a ship in battle. The submarine lost three crews in three incidents.

After the third incident, the

submarine went missing. Cussler's group found it in 1995.

The silt filling the submarine preserved its contents, which included many valuable Civil War artifacts. The bodies of the submarine's final crew were also preserved, so Cussler and his crew extracted them and buried them near the graves of the second crew. They also found the bones of the first crew underneath a

football stadium and put them near the other two crews.

Cussler said 15,000 Confederate reenactors showed up in uniform for the burial.

Eugene resident Mike Cherba, who attended the lecture, said he's read at least a dozen Cussler novels since a high school girlfriend introduced him to them about 10 years ago.

"They're fun and they're

different," Cherba said.

Karen Lefkowitz, a nurse in Eugene, said she likes Cussler's books for their coverage of historical events.

"It's always believable but always a little more exciting than real life," she said.

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