

NEWS

UO ROLLING OUT ONLINE HARASSMENT PREVENTION PROGRAM

The UO plans to introduce mandatory, online workplace harassment prevention training for its faculty, staff and GTFs in the next week. The two-part training includes a section by United Educators, the UO's insurance company for issues of harassment and discrimination cases, and training developed by UO itself. It includes comprehension exercises interspersed in both parts.

At the UO's Sept. 16 department heads' retreat, Vice President for Finance and Administration Jamie Moffitt reported that the training is necessary to meet federal requirements, and United Educators wants UO to use its training.

Director of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Penny Daugherty says the university will continue to offer in-person harassment prevention training, but the on-

line version will make it possible to reach all UO employees. She says that legal and financial issues regarding workplace harassment aren't the most important reasons to train all the staff.

'The problem is that they haven't made any movement on educating undergraduates. They need to educate the people who are likely to be subjected to it. And they should have done it 20 years ago.'

— CHEYNEY RYAN, UO PROFESSOR

"While, yes, we have legal obligations around that, I would submit to you that even if we didn't have the particular legal obligations that we do, we would have an imperative in terms of being an effective and forward-looking and cutting-edge institution for learning and for advancing the boundaries of knowledge."

Employees will be required to complete the training by March 1, 2014. Daugherty says that her office will inform supervisors of anyone who hasn't complied, and while there is no set penalty for refusing to participate, taking the training is a performance issue. She says she expects that everyone taking the training will be given the option to complete the training on work time, so adjuncts and GTFs will be paid to take it.

Cheyney Ryan, a law professor who has been advocating for better sexual harassment prevention training for decades, says that the breadth of UO's training will still fall short. "The problem is that they haven't made any movement on educating undergraduates," he says. "They need to educate the people who are likely to be subjected to it. And they should have done it 20 years ago." — *Shannon Finnell*

INDIAN EDUCATION SPECIALIST SEEKS TO CLOSE ACHIEVEMENT GAP

Data from area K-12 schools show an achievement gap between Native American students and other populations, but for the first time in nearly 20 years, Oregon has a full-time Indian education specialist working at the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to improve Native American education around the state.

April Campbell, former education manager for and a member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, says the position has only been funded on a part-time basis since the early '90s, but now that the job is full time, Campbell can devote herself to some of the most important issues she sees in Native American education, including the achievement gap, graduation rates and improving Native American history taught in public schools.

"Because this position hasn't been fully funded, there are some pending projects that need attention," Campbell says. "I think there's this opportunity to build on what's already existing."

One of Campbell's primary concerns is the achievement gap found in American Indian and Alaskan Native students, a current trend in which students have lower grades and graduate rates compared to other subgroups.

Among Eugene 4J School District students of American Indian or Alaskan Native descent, 48.6 percent did not meet performance standards for math in the 2011-2012 school year, compared to 26.9 percent of white 4J students not meeting the standards, leaving a 21.7 percentage point achievement gap.

This disparity in 4J is much larger than the math achievement gaps in Bethel and Springfield, which are at 2.8 percent and 6.7 percent, respectively. Of the three districts, Bethel and Springfield have the largest native student population at 2 percent of each of their total populations, with Eugene at 1.6 percent.

In a similar trend, four-year graduation rates for American Indian and Alaskan Native students in Oregon were 27.8 percentage points lower than Asian and Pacific Islander students and 20.4 percentage points lower than white students.

>>> CONTINUED ON P. 8



EMERALD CITY MEDICAL
DELIVERY SERVICE OWNER
DAVID GUY EVANS WITH
GUIDE DOG JACKSON

NEW MEDICAL MARIJUANA FACILITY IN EUGENE

Regulations from recent legislation, HB 3460, are still being written, but a new medical marijuana facility is already open in Eugene. The law directs the Oregon Health Authority to establish a registration system for medical marijuana facilities. Emerald City Medicinal Delivery Service is accepting excess cannabis from Oregon Medical Marijuana Program (OMMP) licensed growers on consignment and dispensing it at its facility or delivering it to OMMP patients. It also conducts educational outreach for senior care homes.

Owner David Guy Evans, a former attorney and current OMMP patient, says his work and health struggles make him feel uniquely qualified to navigate the legal waters while helping other patients. "I had the experience of being a cannabis patient, and at the same time I thought that I could comply with the terms of 3460 to create a safe, reliable place that people could come and find the medicine that they need and experiment to find the best treatment modalities for them," he says.

When patients contact Emerald City, a consultant can visit them in their homes or at the business for a free explanation of what the program offers. If they sign up for membership, Emerald City then works with patients to help match their symptoms with the cannabis strains and treatment types that work best for them. Emerald City offers regular marijuana, medibles (edible pot), concentrates and topical treatments.

Evans says that as soon as he can find a local lab that can work with him, Emerald City will begin testing its cannabis for pesticides and mold. He says this is very important for patients who have been getting their marijuana on the black market. "Our patients have chemical sensitivities and depressed immune systems, so they can't have anything like that in their medicine," he says.

To avoid legal trouble, Evans says he's contacted the police and the mayor's office to explain Emerald City's goals and Evans' intention to comply with regulations as they're developed. HB 3460 declared a health emergency because patients who were sick and not connected to people who know how to grow were having trouble accessing medicine, so the law went into effect immediately upon being signed by the governor.

A spokesperson for the Eugene Police Department says that since HB 3460 is a new law and details are forthcoming, EPD doesn't have an official position or policy. A spokesperson for the city says that medical marijuana facilities aren't on any city agendas, and the city will probably also wait until the Oregon Health Authority finishes its regulations if it decides to make any OMMP-related policies.

Emerald City Medicinal Delivery Service is located at 1474 W. 6th Ave., phone 505-9065, delivery 870-3970. — *Shannon Finnell*