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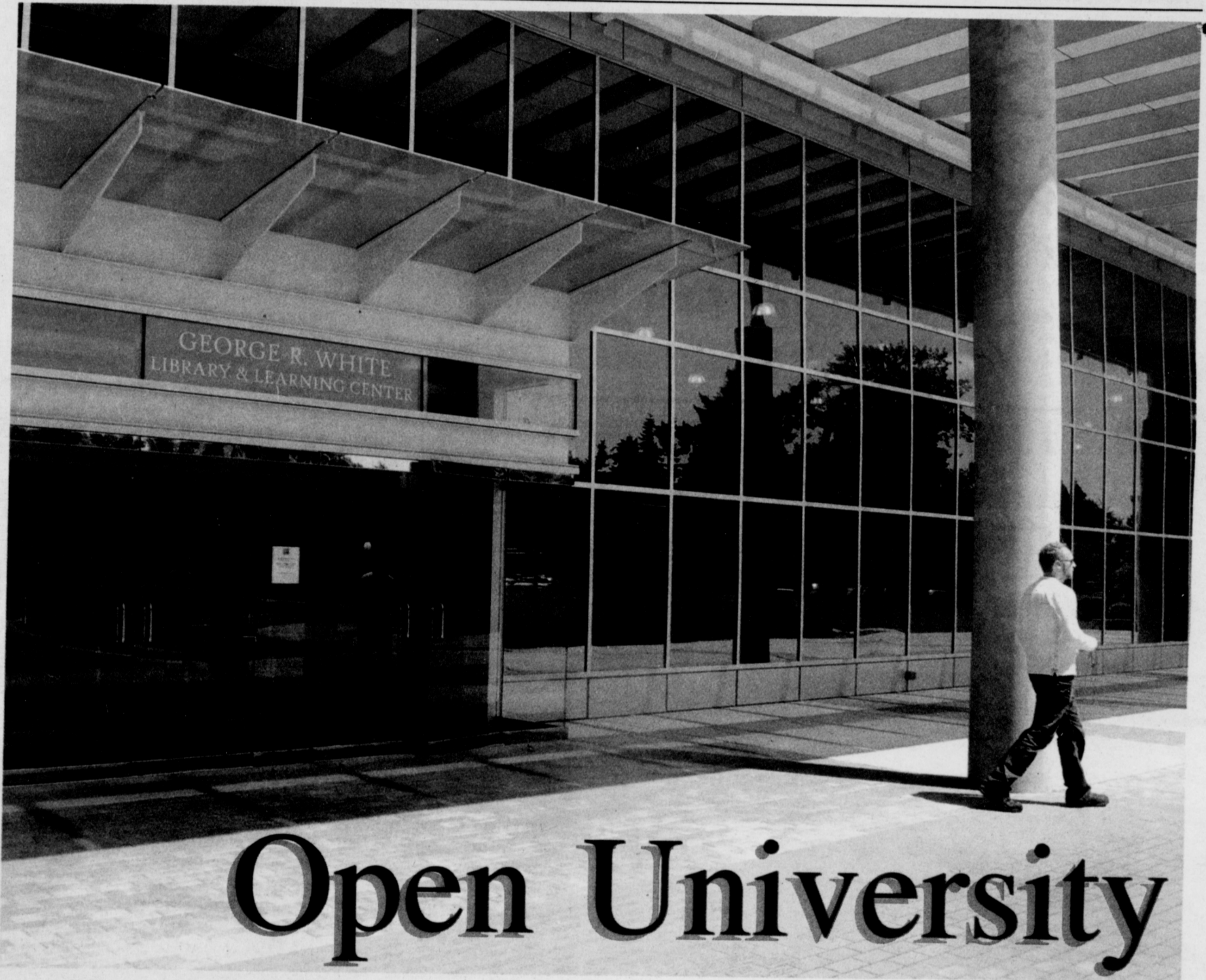


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Established in 1970
Committed to Cultural Diversity *43 years of
community service*



Open University

Concordia University's George R. White Library and Learning Center is a hub for both the northeast Portland campus and the adjacent Concordia Neighborhood. PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Concordia builds community bonds

BY DONOVAN M. SMITH
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

"If it's good for the community, it's good for Concordia," those words are the unofficial motto of Concordia University President Charles Schlimpert, a

mantra that has been increasingly evident as the university builds long-lasting relationships with not only with an increasingly diverse student body but also the people who call the surrounding area home.

The private Christian school in northeast Portland has increasingly reached out to the public as it makes strides in becoming a major educational institution serving an extended community, with perhaps the biggest connection being the new George R. White Library and Learning Center.

A hub for a wide range of individuals and organizations, the library hosts over 100 different community groups every year, completely free of charge. With an impressive 74,000 square feet of space and a Gold Leed Certification by the Green Building Council, the library was designed to appeal to both students and the neighborhood.

"The goal was to design something that people

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