

# How to Find the Right Group For You

LAST UPDATED

DECEMBER 23, 2002

Are you looking for a group of people who have similar interests or hobbies? There are over 300 organizations here at Oregon State and you have come to the perfect place to start looking for the group that is right for you.

You might not be aware of all of the different kinds of groups here on campus...Here is just a small peek:

ACADEMIC	CO-OPERATIVE	ETHNIC/CULTURAL
GOVERNANCE	GRADUATE STUDENT	GREEK
MEDIA/PUBLICATIONS	POLITICAL/SOCIAL AWARENESS	SERVICE
HONORARY	SPIRITUAL/PHILOSOPHICAL	SPORTS/RECREATION
	PROFESSIONAL	

Does it feel a little overwhelming? In order to narrow down what groups you might want to join, ask yourself some questions:

- What am I looking for in an organization?
- Do I primarily want to make new friends?
- Do I want to work on something in which I believe?
- Do I want to explore something new?
- Should I be in a group that relates to my major or career choice?
- Do I want a real break from my academics?
- Did I enjoy a group in high school, community college or my career that is similar to a group on campus?
- How much time do I have to spend on a group?

## WHAT DO YOU DO NOW?

Now that you have decided what kinds of groups would interest you most, come in to the Student Involvement office and grab a copy of the Guide to Student Life which lists all the organizations. You can also talk to anyone on the Student Organization Development staff to find out more information and help you find a group to join.

## OTHER HELPFUL PEOPLE AND PLACES TO FIND INFORMATION

Residence Hall Directors	Professors
Resident Advisors	Classmates
Peer Advisors and Mentors	Bulletin Boards
Members of Organizations	

## OKAY, YOU'RE AT THE LAST STEP NOW!

It's time to get in touch with the group. This might take a little persistence on your part, but don't give up now. First, try the Student Involvement office and see if the group has updated their officers with us. If they have, then you can get the phone number of the person in charge of new members and call them directly to find out about their club and when they get together. If you are interested in a group that is part of your major, you can also check with your school or college Dean's office. And finally, if you are interested in a sports club call 737-6831.

Also, watch the Barometer for meeting notices and events - they are open for new members. (Of course, some organizations, such as honoraries, fraternities and sororities have selected memberships, so be sure to find out the particulars in those cases.)

Once you have joined an organization, don't just sit back and wait for something to happen. Introduce yourself to people, ask questions, express ideas and be sure to volunteer your time and energy. And most important, have a good time.