Students can interview employers at a new kind of career event

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Men's soccer is on the verge of big changes Page 7



Opinion: 8 a.m. classes hard on commuters Page 2

# THE TOWER

Ohio Dominican University's student newspaper • Fall 2009 • Issue 3

Fall Play: Pygmalion



By Erin Snelling/The Tower

Students rehearse for the Panther Players' production of *Pygmalion*, showing Nov. 13-15 and Nov. 20-21. See Page 3 for story.

## Group tries to increase low recycling rate

By **JENNAH CHERIPKO** *Tower Staff Writer* 

Black, gold and *green?* In a broad effort to reduce campus waste, ODU has turned its focus to \_ yep, you got it: recycling.

Students likely have noticed the addition of what appear to be fancy-looking trash cans around campus. The cans actually aren't for trash at all. They're for recycling. Ever notice the big paper container outside of Aquinas? No, it's not a multi-colored trash bin. It's for recycling. And the \$25 limit on printer paper? That's to help prevent paper waste, and the university wants students to recycle the sheets they do use.

"I've definitely noticed the addition of the recycling bins," said junior Chris Feller. "I try to use them whenever I can, but sometimes I throw pop cans and water bottles in the trash without even thinking about it.

"I think if there was a bigger push to recycle, I would be a lot more conscious about where I throw my trash," he said.

Recycling efforts around campus have picked up in the past year, but ODU still falls short. Let's put it in perspective.

In the 2008-2009 academic year, ODU recycled 320 cubic

yards of trash.

The average full-size pickup truck bed holds about 2.5 cubic yards. So, ODU had recyclables to fill about 128 pickup trucks.

Sounds like a lot, right? No. Here's why: ODU produced about 6,200 cubic yards of trash that wasn't recycled. That's enough to fill nearly 2,500 pickup truck beds.

Continued on back page

# **Viewpoints**

### 8 a.m. nightmare: Early classes stress commuter

By **GENE AIKINS** *Tower Staff Writer* 

The bane of commuters at Ohio Dominican has got to be the dreaded 8 a.m. class.

It's hard enough for any student to make it to these morning nightmares, as I have experienced it as a resident myself during my first two years at the university.

However, at least as a resident, there were paid-for meals that were only a few minutes away from my bed and the class itself.

Now as a commuter who must work for his meals, if I don't wake up over an hour before class, then I have no chance of even a quick bite to eat.

Any senior will tell another classman coming up that they should avoid this hellish experience, but it's not possible if it's the only available course required for graduation. Even this is often times a paradoxical situation. It's a paradox because I am forced to schedule a class to graduate, that I may indeed



Aikins

fail anyway from having trouble even making it on time.

It's not just the fact that as a commuter, you have to wake up around 6:30 a.m. at the latest in order to eat and be out of the door by 7 a.m., there is also the Columbus morning rush hour.

Living only a half hour away, I still have to leave an hour before class in order to get there in time. Otherwise, accidents and heavy traffic in various roadways make the commute impossible in a timely fashion.

It might be said that more discipline is needed to get up by 6:30 a.m. and that I'm simply

lazy

But laziness is just simply not the problem for a lot of commuters that struggle with the 8 a.m. nightmare.

There are a lot of nights where I need to work a closing shift, since classes are during the day, and closing shifts don't end until 10 or 10:30 p.m.

By the time I get home, eat and take a shower, it's getting very close to midnight. As a commuter though, that means a lot of my day has been spent driving between school, home and work; so a lot of time that other students might have to do assignments, the commuter spends commuting.

Generally, if any studying or class work is going to be done, it has to be done early in the day between classes or after work.

A paper of good quality cannot be written in those few hours between classes and in the time left after driving between home and work. This generally means that papers are being finished well after midnight, and that only leaves maybe four to five hours of sleep before it's time to wake and start all over again for these 8 a.m. classes.

Perhaps when scheduling, the issues with 8 a.m. courses could be addressed by giving commuters priority to choose later classes.

Residents have to compete only with the traffic (mostly in the form of pedestrians) from their dorm room to the classroom, so they don't face traffic jams and car accidents that may make commuters late.

Another approach would be to give class scheduling priority to students who are employed, to allow them to pick classes at convenient times.

In any case, something should be done so that simply being a commuter as a student doesn't put them at a handicap.

Aikins, a senior majoring in Public Relations and Communications, finished writing this enlightening piece well after midnight just a few hours before it was due, and the revision was done between commutes well after it was due.

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#### Contribute to The Tower

The Tower welcomes letters and guest columns from ODU students, alumni, faculty, staff and administrators.

E-mail them to tower@ ohiodominican.edu.

The paper is seeking students to write articles, edit copy, take photos, design pages and coordinate PR campaigns.

For more information, contact adviser Rose Shilling at The Tower's e-mail address listed above.

The next staff meeting is 11:45 a.m. Nov. 11 in The Tower office in the student center.

# Panther Players presents *Pygmalion*

By AMY DRAKE

For The Tower

Panther Players rehearsals are underway for the production of *Pygmalion*. The play will run November 13-15 and Nov. 20-21 at the Matesich Theater.

Meet the cast:

Stephanie Elliott (Eliza Doolittle) Stephanie, a senior majoring in a middle childhood education, previously worked with the Panther Players doing sound, lights and in the orchestra pit. In high school she

appeared in *The Music Man* and *The Sound of Music*. She also had a role in the church play *Poor Little Lambs*. Stephanie feels "very blessed" to have her "big break" in *Pygmalion*.

**Danny Morales (Professor Higgins)** This is Danny's 12<sup>th</sup> production, having acted in high school plays and community theater, including *The Wizard of Oz* at the Star Theater in his hometown of Upper Sandusky.

Continued on Page 3

### English honors society has busy schedule this year

By MARIA RANDAZZIO
Tower Staff Writer

Sigma Tau Delta, ODU's coed International English Honors Society, is bustling with a full schedule of events, of which the entire ODU community is welcome to join.

Virginia Barrett, the group's president, and other members are busy planning activities.

Among these are the annual Film and Lit Series, in which members of Sigma Tau Delta read a book that has been made into a movie, view the movie and compare afterward.

All are welcome to attend the movie showings.

Also upcoming is the Bulwer-Lytton Fiction Contest for writers to "conjure up and submit their worst, grammatically correct sentences (60 words or less) to Sigma Tau Delta to determine who can write the worst," Barrett said. Judging will be Nov. 11 in the Griff.

The group will have its second annual bake sale, which will occur right before Thanksgiving break. The sale raises money for members to attend the international Sigma Tau Delta convention in St. Louis.

Barrett is determined to share the treats with ODU students. "Our goal is to have three to four people attend (the conference) this year, and don't forget to stop by because we will be selling Cheryl's cookies!"

Sigma Tau Delta had its first major event celebrating the launch of the 7<sup>th</sup> annual *Gesture* literary journal on Sept. 16. The launch went off without a hitch, attracting both teachers and students from Ohio Dominican and The Charles School.

The event included free copies of the sleek black-and-white journal, free Subway subs and plenty of students and teachers excited to read their published works aloud.

Any member of the Ohio Dominican community is welcome and encouraged to submit as many works as they please each year. Authors of the works include students, alumni and ODU teachers.

Submissions for next year's journal are due Feb. 1. Submit



Sigma photo by Dr. Juliette Schaefer

Sigma officers at the *Gesture* launch (L to R): Secretary Suzanne Smith, Co-Vice President Juliana Pritchard, President Virginia Barrett and Treasurer Brian Litt.

entries by going to the MyODU Web site, clicking on "quick links" and then on "Gesture."

Submissions must be in Microsoft Word format with the author's name, phone number and e-mail address on the first page of each work.

The journal is over 300 pages long and includes a variety of genres from fiction to drama and poetry to foreign language.

There are also sections dedicated to play scripts and visual art. Students may pick up a copy in the bookstore for \$5.

Sigma Tau Delta welcomes new members.

For more information, contact Barrett at barrettv@ ohiodominican.edu.

Randazzio is a junior who is a member of Sigma Tau Delta.

## Panther Players continued from Page 2

The freshman majors in sociology with a theater minor.

John Elrich (Colonel Pickering) A sophomore majoring in a criminal justice. Has acted in plays since the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. He enjoys theater because, "It's fun getting involved and I get to meet new people."

Adrienna Priest (Mrs. Higgins) Began acting in high school and wants to continue through college.

**Lyndsey Pruitt** (**Mrs. Pearce**) Was assistant director of the Panther Players' production of *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Began acting and doing improv in 8th grade.

Amy Drake (Mrs.

**Eynesford-Hill**) Master of liberal studies student who has appeared in Opera Columbus productions of *Carmen* and *Madame Butterfly*. She has also acted in independent films and other stage productions.

Thomas Everett Lewis (Alfred Doolittle) Played the lead in the ODU's *The Importance of Being Earnest* and worked on props for *Clue*.

Who's Behind the Scenes?
Kate Clarke (Director) Has been in theater since participating in a kindergarten Christmas play. She chose to present *Pygmalion* to introduce students to the foundation of *My Fair Lady* and the practical aspects of this version appealed to her.

Brian Litt (Assistant

**Director**) A newcomer to theater who worked backstage on *The Importance of Being Earnest* and assisted with technical direction of *Clue*. Brian plans to continue working in theater, focusing on artistic direction.

Kevin Weaver (Production Manager) Has been involved in theater since middle school working behind the scenes in set design and sound.

John McKay (Sergeant at Arms, Executive Theater Council and Pygmalion House Manager) Appeared in ODU's Kiss Me Kate, served as production manager of The Importance of Being Earnest and stage manager of Clue. Also acted in high school productions of Seussical the Musical, Into

the Woods and Grease.

The story of George Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion* is borrowed from Roman mythology in which the sculptor, Pygmalion, vowed never to marry, only to fall in love with the statue he created. The film *My Fair Lady* is loosely based on Shaw's play.

Shaw's *Pygmalion* tells the story of phonetics expert, Professor Henry Higgins, and his colleague, Colonel Pickering who take in impoverished flower girl Eliza Doolittle. She comes to Higgins to teach her to speak like a lady. Higgins makes a bet with Pickering that within six months he can fool the king into thinking Eliza is a duchess.

Can he win the bet? Come to see the play and find out.

# Job info fair with a twist coming to Griff

Students will have the chance to ask employers questions at Career Connection

By **MIRIAM M. OYSTER** *Tower Staff Writer* 

Many have pondered the question, what will I do? Hopefully, they can answer their own question at a career event coming up at ODU.

Career Connection '09: Employer Information Fair on

Nov. 11 won't be the typical career fair where students have to dress up and print a million copies of their résumés to show employers.

"It won't necessarily be a recruiting fair to look for a job," said Gary Swisher,

director of career development. "Instead, it will be a place where students can learn about possible career paths."

Students are encouraged to prepare for it, but the kicker is that the roles will be reversed—students interview the employers, and the employers answer the questions.

"Our students hardly have the opportunity to just walk up to an employer and ask questions," said Swisher.

With this format, students can ask the questions they want. For instance: 1) What is appropriate attire for an interview? 2) What type of experience are employers looking for in a résumé? 3) What should one be prepared to bring to an interview?

The fair, from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Griffin Student Center, will be a great opportunity for students to get exposure to employers who are looking for quality employees.

"This event would be a great experience for all ODU students," said Swisher. "Students at all levels—freshman through seniors—could benefit from attending the fair."

Students do not have to attend the entire time; they

"Our students

hardly have the

opportunity to

just walk up to

an employer

and ask

questions."

Gary Swisher,

development

director of career

can come for as long as they want.

Students don't have to be looking for a job to learn something from Career Connection '09.

They could use what they learn to prepare for looking for an internship;

they could just collect resources; and of course, they can ask all their questions.

Ohio Dominican students can look forward to speaking with employers from Experience Columbus, the Limited Brands Inc., COSI, the American Lung Association of the Midland States, the McGraw-Hill Companies, Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and many others.

If any ODU student would like to prepare a résumé or a cover letter for the event, students can stop in the Career Development Center during walk-in hours from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Mondays for 15-minute appointments to get their resumes reviewed.

#### **RESUME POINTERS**

- ◆ Show your education. Include your school, major(s), minor(s), what type of degree you are earning and when you expect to graduate. Only include your GPA if it is above 3.0. You can also list relevant course work.
- ◆ Create a résumé that is specific to the job. **Research the company** when applying, and fashion your résumé to fit what they are looking for.
- ◆ Volunteer and internship experience count. You may want to title the section "Experience." Consider using a "summary statement" instead of bulleting your attributes.
- ◆ When describing past work experience, use chronological order starting with the most recent.
- ◆ Most often, a résumé should only be one page.
  Short and to-the-point is effective because employers might only have a short time to review it
- ◆ Be consistent with subheads, italics, bolds and bullets. **Keep it clean**. Use a font that is clear and a size that is readable.
- ◆ Always check your spelling, grammar verb tenses and accuracy of information.
- ◆ Try to **use more descriptive Words**, instead of plain words. A few examples could be: demonstrated, implemented, collaborated, recommended, or administered.

#### **COVER LETTER TIPS**

- ◆ It allows you to show how you can fill the specific needs of an employer. Show your personality. Don't just reiterate what is in your résumé. Offer them something new to read.
- ◆ Keep the format similar to your résumé. Your name and contact information should appear the same way at the top. Use the same font style.
- ◆ Also, a cover letter shouldn't be more than a page.

Source: Career Development Center

For questions about the Career Connection '09: Employer Information Fair, contact the Career Development Center at (614) 251-4733 or at careercenter@ohiodominican.edu. For resources and services, check out http://www.ohiodominican.edu/Career/.

#### Students' top mistakes when thinking about their careers:

- ◆ "Students focus on what will make them the most money, and not on something that they enjoy." –Abby Hummel, sophomore
- "Going against your personality. Over time your interests, abilities, and values change, so you should monitor
- your career choices and the motive behind them." –Melissa Skinner, senior
- ◆ "Don't take a job just because the boss is your friend." -Vartan Haladjian, sophomore
- "Picking a major and staying with it, even though
- they hate it." -Christie Hite, junior
- "Giving up too easily. Like dropping out of college because they think it's too hard."
- -Allison Reeve, sophomore

-Compiled by Miriam M. Oyster



Many students disappear after graduation into a mysterious realm called "the real world." You've heard parents talk about it. You've known students who've gone on before you. Now is your chance to look into unknown careers from beyond, as employers and ODU alumni visit the new Griff for...

### Career Connection '09 !

**Employer Information Fair** 

Alvis House American Lung Association Battelle Corporation Columbus Division of Police COSI Experience Columbus

Experience Columbus Goodwill Columbus Heartland Bank

Honda

Internal Revenue Service

Kern, Inc.
LifeCare Alliance
Limited Brands Inc.
Maxwell Financial Management
McCloy Financial Services
Robert Weiler Company
The Dispatch Printing Company
The McGraw-Hill Companies
Total Quality Logistics (TQL)

Wednesday, Nov. 11th 1:30pm - 4:30pm Griffin Student Center Review: SawVI

#### 6th installment of horror franchise delivers more of what its fans love

By **STEFAN ARMINTROUT** *Tower Movie Critic* 

It's Halloween and that means it's time for another *Saw* film. Although I'm not a big horror film fan, I have enjoyed each installment of this horror franchise, even though the later films have not been up to standard. *Saw VI* stops that trend of dropping in quality, with an interesting and entertaining film that every fan of the *Saw* films will enjoy.

Saw VI continues from the events of the previous film with Jigsaw's apprentice Hoffman, played by Costas Mandylor setting up a new game to test an insurance salesman from Jigsaw's past. Through flashbacks and the tests that William the insurance salesman, played by Peter Outerbridge has to face, Jigsaw's true plans are revealed.

What I enjoyed most in the film is Tobin Bell's performance as John Kramer AKA Jigsaw. After six films, he still brings heart and passion to the role. Unlike most horror villains, Jigsaw is a real human being that feels what he is doing is right.

I also enjoyed the traps. They were inventive and hauntingly disturbing. I also liked the flashbacks which helped develop some characters.

There were still some bad aspects. My main problem with it was the inclusion of the character of Agent Perez, played by Athena Karkanis. Thought to be dead in *Saw IV*, she really didn't bring much to the film. Also, the twist ending that the *Saw* films are known for was not surprising.

3.5 out of 5 stars

# **Sports**

### Club Lacrosse Panthers: an introduction

By ALEXANDRA CARDENAS

Tower Staff Writer

Ohio Dominican's Lacrosse Club has a big season ahead this spring, and the mix of experienced players and strong newcomers will be an asset for the team, its student leader says.

"We have a lot to look forward to this season with a lot of returning players and first time players who are making huge strides this year who will have a big impact on a successful season," said Club President Matt Weaver, a senior.

Lacrosse started at Ohio Dominican in 2001 when a few students started the Club Lacrosse Panthers. The team, which includes men and women, has grown considerably since its beginning.

More than 90 percent of the club's members had never played lacrosse before coming to their first practice with nothing more than a pair of cleats, Weaver said.

Now, veteran members throw their spare gear together in an effort to help new players until they can get settled with their own equipment.

The team unity among the Club Lacrosse Panthers is

something that Weaver is proud of and hopes will appeal to students who may be interested in playing.

The Club Lacrosse Panthers are part of the National Club Lacrosse League, Midwest Division, which also includes club teams such as Ohio State, Toledo and Youngstown State universities.

"We're the only ODU program that can say that we play OSU," Weaver said.

However, OSU is a tough team to beat because they have close to 100 people signed up to play, while ODU has always had around 20 players on its team, Weaver said.

Despite this, Weaver said that ODU's club team is one of the better programs of its size.

Competing against a team like OSU with a 40-man roster poses a challenge for the small team, but they welcome the competition.

Athletic director Bill Blazer said that, "Many of ODU's current lacrosse team members have worked hard over the past four years to improve ODU's status as a good lacrosse team."

According to Weaver, when going up against opponents of ODU's size and even bigger schools, such as Youngstown State, the Panthers tend to hold their own.

As club sport, lacrosse is considered a student activity and is funded as such. While the club functions like any other club at ODU, the Club Lacrosse Panthers compete against other teams just like ODU's varsity teams

While ODU is working its way through the application process to leave the NAIA for the NCAA II, the Lacrosse Club has scheduled games with many NCAA I teams, which, as Blazer said, "our club can compete with."

Weaver said the American Mideast Conference, the league that ODU is a part of, does not offer lacrosse as a varsity sport. He said the club has been waiting for the league to sanction the sport in order to potentially play as a varsity team.

However, there isn't much movement to try to get lacrosse sanctioned as a varsity sport. Blazer said ODU is still considered an NAIA institution, and moving to varsity status would not give the lacrosse club a conference to play in because the team is currently playing in the American Mideast Conference, which does not offer lacrosse as a varsity sport.

Additionally, "If ODU decided to ask our lacrosse

team to move to varsity status... ODU's student-athletes could not receive any academic and/or athletic recognition from the AMC," he said.

The club practices on Sundays, Mondays and Thursdays, usually after all varsity teams have finished using Panther Field, typically around 7:30 p.m.

Games usually are played on Saturdays or Sundays, depending on teams' availability. The Club Lacrosse Panthers are coached by Patrick Donlon, who played lacrosse at Ohio Wesleyan University before graduating in 2000.

Donlon, who works at American Electric Power, also has coached girl's high school lacrosse.

Weaver encourages anyone interested in playing to come to practice. The club picks up varsity athletes for its official season in the spring, he said.

"It's a physically demanding sport, but as long as players are willing to show up to practice and train, we'd love to have new players," he said.

With the anticipation of the upcoming season, Weaver said, "This season should be very successful and with all that is happening with the program. It's a good time to be a part of this team."

### University plans to celebrate 100 years

Ohio Dominican University is marking its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a 20-month celebration.

Displays of historical information and events for faculty, students and alumni are being planned. The university began in 1911 as St. Mary of

the Springs.

The calendar of events starts Oct. 5, 2010, which is Founder's Day, and continues through June 2012, when the St. Mary of the Springs Academy reunion will be held.

The university also plans

a centennial Web site and a donation campaign, according to an announcement sent by e-mail recently.

The Centennial Celebration Steering Committee invites interested people to participate in the planning.

### Work for The Tower Needed:

- Writers
- Photographers
- PR specialists
- Page Designers

tower@ohiodominican.edu

# Men's soccer entering new phase

**By STEVEN NYESTE** *Tower Staff Writer* 

The men's soccer team plays on the same field as last year, has similar goals for the season and returned many of the players from a year ago, yet things couldn't be much different this season.

In an odd transition year of sorts, the team is on the verge of having some big changes occur within the program.

With a lot of the talk surrounding the football team's transition into the National College Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II from the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), it's often easy to forget that the soccer team will be making the same transition.

It's not something the Panther soccer players forget about, however.

This will be the last season that the soccer team will be eligible to qualify for the NAIA post season tournament. The playoffs provided the Panthers with one of the program's biggest achievements, making it to the national tournament quarterfinals in 2007.

"The 2007 season and the run all the way to the quarterfinals was definitely one of my top memories during my time at Ohio Dominican," said senior Captain Corey Kirk.

Head Coach Willy Merrick knows that the soccer program is entering a new phase. This season will be followed by a transition year where ODU will be ineligible to play in postseason tournaments.

The Panthers would be ineligible to play in the NAIA postseason because the team would no longer be competing officially as a part of NAIA, and they would be ineligible for the

playoffs during the provisional year as NCAA members.

While having to go into next year knowing that the season will end exactly after the last regular season game is tough to accept, the team can look forward long term to the future of the program.

"The transition into Division II is an exciting step for the program to take," said Kirk. "I believe it will help bring in great recruits who may not have heard of NAIA. Everyone growing up hears about NCAA and just having that label will help".

Merrick echoes those statements. "Moving up to Division II will help to keep improving the quality of recruits we bring in each year," he said.

The transition to NCAA Division II will mean a tougher schedule, as the Panthers will compete against schools that have been a part of Division II athletics for many years.

The Panthers have attempted to prepare for that competition by participating in a pre-season tournament this year against NCAA Division II programs.

The men's team has also attempted to do more marketing of the games this year.

"We have put flyers up around the student center and campus, we have looked into doing things around Halloween, possibly a contest," said Merrick. "The attendance and support really means a lot to the team."

According to Kirk, playing in front of a home crowd really motivates his team.

"We have had some games with electric atmospheres at home. I remember the standing room only crowd my sophomore year during the first ever game under the lights against Ohio Wesleyan University. It was an amazing night," said Kirk. "Protecting



Ohio Dominican photo

our home, defending our turf, pride for the school and for Columbus ... you can really throw out any phrase you want, it all comes down to excitement to play at home."

One big positive that Ohio Dominican has for increasing attendance at games is the great location of the university. Columbus has recently become a hotbed of soccer.

The Columbus Crew, the city's professional soccer team, plays just a few miles down the road in Crew Stadium. The Crew is one of the original franchises of MLS and last year won the MLS CUP, crowning them champions of the top professional league in the U.S.

This season the Crew has earned the most points in the MLS and has already clinched its playoff spot.

"I'm starting to see Crew scarves and jerseys while walking around Columbus," said Kirk. "Hopefully that enthusiasm for soccer spills over into our own program."

The U.S. Men's National Team has also brought some soccer exposure to Columbus.

The United States defeated Mexico 2-0 in front of a packed Columbus Crew stadium in February. Columbus has been host to numerous U.S. National Team games, including in 2005 when the Mexican National Team practiced at Ohio Dominican for the match.

Coach Merrick said that the experience for some of his players who got to see a national team practice was great.

While many things are changing in the coming seasons for ODU, there is one tradition that Kirk hopes will continue. "We always want to leave the program in a better shape then when we arrived."

The men's team started the year off with exhibition wins of 5-0 against the University of Findlay and 5-2 against Spring Arbor University.

The Panthers' regular season campaign began with wins against Lake Erie College and West Virginia Wesleyan before receiving their first loss of the year against the University of Indianapolis.

The Panthers are currently 6-6-3 on the season.

# Campus goal: 40% recycling, not 5%

Continued from Page 1

ODU's recycling rate last year was about 5 percent. Highly successful recycling programs have rates of over 60 percent.

The Sustainability Council wants ODU's recycling rate closer to 40 percent, said Melissa Ochal, council co-chairwoman.

"The paper Dumpster outside of Aquinas only gets picked up when it is full, which is about every 2 weeks. That is so little that we may get our contract dropped," said Ochal, director of ODU's International Office.

Raising awareness on campus will be key to increasing recycling, she said.

"We need people to be proactive and we are working on making recycling more of a predominant topic as we hope to gain more institutional support," Ochal said.

The university is calling on everyone to help push recycling efforts to the next level. Enter, the Sustainability Council.

So what is the council? Formed in 2007, the group of individuals from various areas of ODU promote sustainability across campus and examine the call for sustainability in the mission of Catholic education.

The council helped bring to campus the tall brown recycling bins in 36 high-traffic areas. The three-hole bins are located just in the Griff as part of its green building design.

Although campus has a lot of recycling bins, they are often mistaken for trash cans. Under the university's recycling contract with Republic Services Inc., ODU is only able to recycle the type of plastics labeled 1 or 2. That means plastic bottles, but not the caps.

Senior Lauren Kilian said, "I think ... a large community such as ODU can make a big difference in the environment by recycling. I know I'll definitely remember to use the bins in the Griff and not to throw my bottles away with the cap still on."

Students may not pay attention to where they put trash or maybe they aren't aware that they could do more to help the environment, said Jennifer Conti, student activities director.

"They are not seeing the bigger picture," said Conti, secretary and treasurer of the Sustainability Council. "By doing the little things now, we could see a lot of savings in the long run."

What happens when trash gets in recycling bins or bottles have the caps on? The sorting begins.

Seven work study students remove the trash and separate the paper, plastic and glass.

Most recycling companies have an automatic sorting system. ODU hopes to move to single-stream recycling, which would allow more items to be recycled and reduce the need for sorting, Ochal said.

# ODU recycling info

- Recycling experts suggest that recycling rates of 40 percent can be achieved within weeks of implementing a university-wide focus on recycling efforts.
- Reducing waste is even more effective than diverting it to recycling.
- In the 2008-2009 academic year, ODU produced 6,492 cubic yards of trash. 320 cubic yards of that was diverted to recycling.
- From July 2008 to April 2009, the Papercut print monitoring program, which is the program that gives students the \$25 limit on printer paper, saved the university \$9,000 in paper and toner costs.
- Since the \$25 limit on paper has started, the university has purchased over 930,000 fewer sheets of paper.
  - ODU is looking to enter a competition, such as Recyclemania, which would include competitions between residence halls and other universities to improve recycling.
    - ODU's recycling rate is just under 5 percent. Highly successful recycling programs have diversion rates of over 60 percent.

Source: ODU Sustainability Council



Photo illustration by Jennah Cheripko/The Tower

Senior Lauren Kilian shows how people should remove caps from bottles before recycling.