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Former Gallaudet official explains deaf culture

By **BRIAN CHU**
Staff writer

Former Vice President of Gallaudet University Roslyn Rosen spoke regarding the international perspective on deaf culture at the second World Forum of the semester Monday.

"It is important to increase cultural awareness and understanding. The goal for this conference is to share this world view with everyone. One to two out of every one thousand persons is deaf," signed Rosen.

Rosen is among a group of people that rejects the term "hearing impaired." "A community should not define themselves by how they do not live up to another's expectation. Is a black person called white impaired? A woman, man impaired? No." She promotes a view that uses a more humanistic term to refer to the deaf experience.

"The first response others have of deaf people is

that of pity," signed Rosen. "What these people do not realize is that deaf people identify themselves as people first. We identify ourselves lastly by our inability to hear." Rosen claimed that this type of "audism" (a word play on auditory racism) only serves to split the human community.

Rosen advocates sign language as a resource for all people. It is not just the deaf that use it, but the parents and loved ones of deaf people, teachers, interpreters, social workers and other hearing persons who have chosen it is a language to learn.

"We want to switch from deafheid to deafhood. In Venezuela, sign language is one of the official languages by their constitution," signed Rosen.

Rosen represents the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD), an international rights group for deaf and disabled individuals. They are heavily affiliated with the United Nations and are the only organization in

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Photos by Jack Husting (top left) and Eric Dorman

Former Gallaudet University Vice President Roslyn Rosen explains the world of deaf culture at the World Forum Monday.

Board provides input in search for new president

By **BARRY KEARNS**
Staff writer

The search for Ohlone's next president began last Thursday at the restaurant Papillion, with a toast and well wishes for the holiday season. During the course of the evening, the College Board of Trustees discussed what they wanted in a new president and talked about what issues lie ahead. One of the biggest obstacles in finding a new president, the Trustees discovered that evening, might be themselves.

The evening discussion was led by Search Consultant Pamila Fisher, who explained the upcoming process with the Board. Fisher started by talking about the position profile for a new president and how the announcement should be on the website before the holidays. A watchword for the evening when it came to the committee was confidentiality; Fisher reiterated several times how important it was for the committee to not disclose information about the applicants. Fisher also said that it would not be prudent to

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announce a top choice for president until official negotiations have taken place. The reason for this, said Fisher, was so the pool of applicants not become tainted. Fisher also said that the Human Resources department would not be involved, except to use contacts and place

advertisements for the position.

Fisher said that she hopes to have the presidential interviews in March and warned beforehand that regardless of the amount of time the notice of the position is up, most applications will come in the last week. After the process of selecting a president, a retreat should be set up within the first 60 days with the president and the Board to discuss goals and priorities.

Current President Doug Treadway said the welcoming process for the new president should be

improved and that the new president should be given more time upon arrival and some resources to help with getting settled in the area.

As the evening progressed, discussion of the Board itself came up as Fisher said that the candidates for the position would be looking as closely at the school as the school is looking at the candidates. She went on to say that some candidates could be scared away by the taped Board meetings. The Board Vice President Garrett Yee conceded that

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Instructors weigh in on 'iTunes U' experiment

By **KATHY SUNG**
Staff writer

A year ago, iTunes University was invented to help students take classes from the comfort of their own homes. According to a press release, Ohlone College "has been selected by Apple Computer as one out of 200 institutions chosen to be part of Apple Computer's iTunes University (iTunes U)." A year later, there are some instructors who continue to engage in using iTunes U.

Adjunct History and Political Science Instructor Matt Freeman said, "iTunes U is a great tool for students who want to engage instructor content from home." With the iTunes

U application, students download audio or video content onto their iPods and listen to the material wherever they want, whenever they want. With this new technology, teachers never have to repeat themselves in a lecture and students who miss a class can catch up with the lectures. This new technology has been a useful tool helping Freeman teach his classes.

Math Instructor Jeff O'Connell also tried out the iTunes U application. O'Connell first submitted a few video lectures to be tested on the site about a year ago. O'Connell stopped using it after he realized there were two major issues. It "wasn't easy to get content on there" and "with iTunes [you] have to download the

file onto the machine you are using" before you can watch it. He decided instead to upload his videos to his own website so that students can view them in a streaming video. He noticed that the new tools had a positive effect: students stopped trying to write all the notes down and paid more attention to what the teacher was actually saying.

History and Political Science Professor Alan Kirshner also used iTunes as a tool to help teach his self-paced History 104A class. The problem he had with the actual lectures and iTunes was that iTunes only allows low resolution videos to be put onto the internet. If the videos were taken with a high resolution camera, other people had to

reduce the resolution before the videos could be uploaded. Students as part of the distance learning program helped Kirshner reduce the resolution on his videos, allowing him to publish the videos on iTunes. However, despite having the videos on iTunes, Kirshner recommends students take the class in person so that a teacher can stand over them "with a whip" to make sure they do their work.

iTunes University has been widely successful in areas like UC Berkeley, where the lectures of professors are automatically taped and posted. Most professors only have to turn on the microphone. The professors at Ohlone are hopeful that they will be able to use the application more in their future classes.