



# the Seahawk

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## Legality of marijuana sparks discussion

*Philosophy and Religion Society address the intent of laws and policies applied to marijuana*

TODD VOLKSTORF

STAFF WRITER

Marijuana laws and U.S. policies surrounding them generated a lengthy discussion Monday evening in the Warwick Center Ballroom.

Sam Murrell, an assistant professor of philosophy and religion, said he did not attend to simply say, "legalize marijuana." He said he came to "raise some questions in regards to the equality of the criminalization of drugs in the country."

Murrell spoke at length about racial profiling. He said 80 percent of those arrested on drug charges in the United States are either black or Hispanic, however, those two minority groups make up only 20 percent of the total drug users.

"There is a notion in this country that crime has a black face," Murrell said.

He also discussed the way the federal government addresses the drug problem by sending money to countries like Co-

lumbia when attention could be focused on our own soil.

"Until we address the issue of consumption, the battle we are fighting is a losing one," Murrell said.

The Philosophy and Religion Society, a club run by students, organized the forum. Luke Richey, the society's president, and Evian Patterson, vice president, also organized a debate during the fall semester entitled "Is There a God?" Both events were designed to stimulate student discussion of a wide variety of topics, for the forums they organize.

"It [the forum] was more geared towards inspiring students to argue philosophically . . . to try to motivate students to participate and think critically about things they already feel passionate about," Richey said.

Mark Galizio, a psychology professor, discussed the history of alcohol prohibi-



Illustration by Gabe Hemmar

tion – including why and how it failed. He spent a lot of time talking about the effects prohibition and the nation's culture during the 1930s had on shaping past and current marijuana laws. He said some of the misinformation about the effects of

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## Internships yield high job placement for graduates

HEATHER GRADY

ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Many students will undertake internships this summer in hopes of gaining experience for their future.

Internships can aid students in making decisions about what career is right for them.

The most significant part of an internship is that it gives students a chance to glimpse their prospective field through the eyes of the workers of the profession, said Karen Thompson, assistant director of Career Services.

The university is working with students to set up internships throughout summer, fall and spring semesters. It is usually recommended for most majors to complete an internship before graduation.

Students that seek an internship with a business outside of those offered by the university should contact the business, and discuss the terms of the internship—in the same matter as applying for a job with the com-

pany.

"[Internships] provide the opportunity for students to gain an understanding of whether they want to apply to that career. It gives students some affirmation as to whether or not it is the right career for them," Thompson said.

Thompson said that employers look more favorably on students with experience in the field because it shows that the student has hands-on knowledge to supplement learning they receive in the classroom.

According to the National Association of Colleges and Employers, students who have completed internships have a 70 percent improved chance of getting a job after graduation. They also merit a starting salary of 12 percent more than a student who has not completed an internship.

"Employers of accounting graduates usually view internship experience as a valuable

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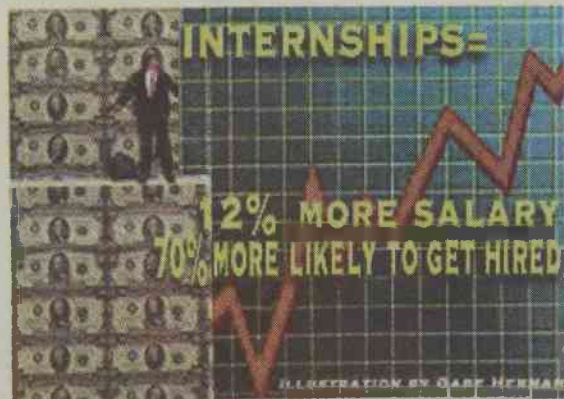


Illustration by Gabe Hemmar