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Title: HOUSING SELECTION AND SATISFACTION ASSOCIATED WITH HOUSING  
EXPENDITURES FOR OFF-CAMPUS LIVING AS STATED BY ASIAN  
GRADUATE STUDENTS AT OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY  
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The purpose of this study was to examine the choice of housing of Asian graduate students living in off-campus housing and to identify the relationship between present housing satisfaction and housing expenditures.

The data were collected from Asian graduate students living in off-campus housing at Oregon State University. Questionnaires designed for the study were mailed to the total population of 226 students. A total of 167 questionnaires were returned and analyzed.

Of the 167 students, 138 were males and 29 were females. Ninety-six students were single and the remaining 71 students were married, however, only 61 students had their families living in Corvallis.

The students came from 13 different countries. From each of the following countries the graduate student group totaled more than 15 students: China, Hong Kong, India, Iran, Korea and Thailand. There were less than 15 students from each of the following countries: Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Pakistan, Philippines, Turkey and Vietnam.

Of the 167 students, 24 percent lived in apartments and 21 percent lived in married student housing. Proportions for the other types of housing were: rooms in private houses with cooking facilities, 18 percent; single family houses converted into apartments, 15 percent; single family houses, 10 percent; private off-campus dormitory, four percent; boarding houses, three percent; others were five percent.

In answering an open-end question, the students indicated the important reason for selecting their present housing. Fifty-seven of the 167 students gave economy along with another reason for selecting their present housing. However, 38 students indicated cost alone was the important factor. Of the 22 factors considered in selecting their present housing, cost was given the most frequently as a very important factor.

About three-fourths of the students were satisfied or somewhat satisfied with their present housing; however, about one-eighth of the students stated that they were dissatisfied or somewhat dissatisfied with their housing. Twenty-two students or 13 percent were neutral about housing satisfaction.

The satisfaction categories were weighted on a scale of +5, +4, +3, +2 and +1 with the number, +5, expressing the highest degree of satisfaction. When calculated on this scale, the satisfaction mean was 3.86, and the standard deviation was 1.17. Overall housing expenditure was positively correlated with housing satisfaction; however, there were no linear relationship between the housing satisfaction and housing expenditures.

All the students were renting their housing. The range for housing expenditures was from \$20 to \$170 per month. And the median housing cost was \$60 per month. Married students with no children paid an average of \$96 per month, while single students paid an average of \$58 per month. About 80 percent of the students paid less than \$100 and the remaining 20 percent of the students paid more than \$100 per month for their housing.

Housing Selection and Satisfaction  
Associated With Housing Expenditures for  
Off-Campus Living as Stated By Asian  
Graduate Students at Oregon State University

by

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HOUSING SELECTION AND SATISFACTION ASSOCIATED WITH  
HOUSING EXPENDITURES FOR OFF-CAMPUS LIVING AS STATED  
BY ASIAN GRADUATE STUDENTS AT OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

What factors do foreign students from Asia consider important in selecting housing? What type of housing do Asian graduate students who live off-campus select? Are they satisfied with their present housing? What factors influence their satisfaction with housing? How much do they spend for housing? Is there a relationship between their housing satisfaction and their housing expenditures? How do these students solve their housing problems and how do they find housing immediately after arriving in Corvallis? This research study was proposed to examine the above questions.

During the school year 1969-70, 135,000 college and university students (10:7) from 175 countries (10:22-28) studied in the United States. They were enrolled in 1734 institutions (10:8) and constituted two percent of the total enrollment in American universities and colleges.

Writing about foreign students, one author said:

For many students in the world, traveling abroad to complete part of their education is now a necessary part of their lives and of the futures of their countries. This will be so for many years to come. Because the United States is possessed of considerable educational wealth, increasing numbers of these students will come here, just as we have often gone abroad ourselves to become enriched by the educational resources of others. (6:Preface)

The foreign student faces many new situations to which he has to adjust. One author said:

Getting the foreign student started in an American college and helping him to make a satisfactory adjustment entails a diversity of problems in both academic and non-academic areas, all extremely important. The problems vary from student to student and depend largely upon his cultural background (4:114).

Especially for the graduate student, whose goal is chiefly academic, housing environment demands reasonably comfortable living quarters since his academic work can be affected by his physical environment. His success as a scholar in a society may be dependent on the degree of his adjustment to his physical environment and to prevailing cultural patterns.

The student from abroad can hardly be expected to find satisfactory living quarters without aid. For his welfare he must have appropriate housing. Fortunately, most colleges and universities have dormitory facilities which are available to foreign students (4:114).

Among the problems facing foreign students who want to study in the United States, the selection of housing is one of the most important practical living problems. The student is faced with getting information about housing before he comes to the United States. Sometimes getting facts before he reaches the new country is difficult. After arrival in the United States he often finds it hard to get information he can use in evaluating housing alternatives available to him. Some students may want to live with other students from their home countries; but other students may want to live with American students.

To help new students adjust to the living conditions in the United States, many universities have established foreign student offices. These offices often sponsor orientation programs to help students learn about the new country. Field Survey Programs of the National Association for the Foreign Student Affairs (NAFSA) in the United States focused attention on eight major considerations for the foreign student programs. One of these areas was housing. The housing programs have been developed to try to provide maximum intercultural experience and to prevent isolation for foreign students (3:47).

In selecting housing, the primary concern is generally to have comfortable and functional living. In the case of students, the study area and study environment are important. When a student comes to study in a foreign country he must find housing where he can live, study, relax and share experiences with other people. Since the conditions under which students live may significantly influence the quality of academic performance, the student must give consideration to finding a satisfactory place to live.

#### Objectives of the Study

The specific objectives were:

1. To examine the choice of off-campus housing by Asian graduate students in relation to their housing satisfaction.
2. To investigate possible relationship between housing satisfaction and housing expenditures.
3. To identify housing problems as perceived by Asian graduate students living in off-campus housing.

### Definition of Terms

1. Asian students: Graduate students from Asian countries enrolled at Oregon State University, Winter, 1971. Asian countries were divided as follows (5:xi-xvi):

The East Asia: China, Hong Kong, Japan and Korea.

The South Asia: India and Pakistan.

The Southeast Asia: Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam.

The Southwest Asia: Iran, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey.

2. Housing Expenditures: The housing expenses include rent charge or mortgage payment, gas, water, electricity, heat, television cable or antenna, telephone, furniture payments, and garbage collection.
3. Off-Campus Housing: Types of housing included were: private off-campus dormitories; boarding houses; apartment buildings; single family houses converted into apartments; rooms in private houses with cooking facilities; duplex and mobile homes.

## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

In a study conducted by the Institute of International Education, foreign students reported their major difficulties were: practical living problems, finding a basis for appreciating the American education system, coping with the English language itself, finding satisfactory housing and having limited opportunities for social contacts. Practical living problems topped the list (9:277).

Field Survey Programs of the National Association for the Foreign Student Affairs (NAFSA) in the United States focused attention on eight major areas considered key to the institutions' foreign student programs.

These eight major areas of concern are: (1) selection and admission, (2) English language proficiency, (3) initial orientation, (4) academic and personal advising, (5) housing, (6) finances and employment, (7) American-foreign student relationship, and (8) interpretation of the United States to foreign students (3:43).

In writing about housing, the author stated that:

Housing, of course, is as great a concern to the foreign student as to the college or university which admits him. Various interesting housing experiments are being tried. One university recently opened a small international residence where all foreign students new to the campus must live for the first year with an equal number of carefully selected American roommates. The self-segregation of the foreign student is the bane of many colleges and universities which would like to provide opportunities for greater integration of foreign and American students...Clearly, each institution needs to think imaginatively about how it can best house its foreign students, undergraduates and graduates alike, to prevent their isolation and to maximize their intercultural experience (3:47).

A recent newspaper article discussed housing for male foreign students at Portland State University. According to the article, the Portland State University Housing Director was seeking family homes for the male foreign students to see normal families and their family relationships (13:14).

In a study conducted in New York City by Tanenhaus and Roth, 140 of the 384 foreign student respondents indicated they experienced difficulty in finding housing. Of the respondents reporting problems with housing, 72.9 percent indicated rental costs were the principal problem (16:174).

Another problem foreign students had was getting accurate, factual information about costs in the country where they will study before they leave home. In the Tanenhaus and Roth study, "47.4 percent indicated that a major reason for their discomfiture was that expenses were higher than they had anticipated (16:174)."

Finding housing for foreign students is not an unique problem for the United States. Other countries also have similar problems. In a research study done in Great Britain on student housing 91 percent of the questionnaires sent to 260 colleges and universities were returned. The report of this survey of universities, colleges of education, and colleges of technology in Britain stated that "Particular difficulty in obtaining lodgings for students, especially overseas students, is the experience of most universities (12:931)."

In 1967 Salcedo studied management problems and practices of 41 Asian Graduate Students at Oregon State University. In her study, she found that the most common housing problems of the students interviewed



were that their space was too small or the heating system was poor. Seven students of the 41 indicated that finding housing was a problem, but four students indicated housing expenses were a problem.

In 1966 Regnier studied the factors related to housing preferences and attitudes at Oklahoma State University. In her sample 250 single American and foreign graduate students, she found that location was the most frequently mentioned reason for choosing their present housing. The second most frequently given reason was finances, and the third most frequently given reason was amenities. In her study, the monthly rental rate paid by the students ranged from less than \$20 to over \$100. Less than nine percent of the single graduate students were dissatisfied with their present housing.

In a study conducted in Detroit by Cieslak in 1955, 340 students were asked to indicate whether there were any special problems created by their residence in the dormitories or private homes. Forty-one of these students indicated they had problems with their housing. Problems reported by these students were differences between cultures, prejudice or discrimination, too many foreign students in dormitory so it is impossible to learn English, study difficulty because there was too much noise, lack of privacy, loneliness, large age differential between United States and foreign students, too much work for the room, segregation of foreign and American students, male visitors not allowed in dormitory, childish environment, adjustment to American food, and thievery.

Cieslak stated that "problems arise with foreign students in dormitories and private homes largely where there is the greatest

dissimilarity of color or culture (4:116)." In his study he reported a Norwegian student point-of-view. This student said:

It all depends largely on the foreign student and his willingness to adjust himself. Dormitory life is a great change to most of us. Also, differences of age cause difficulties sometimes. Problems of freedom occur, according to school rules or according to one's own responsibility (4:116).

Some foreign students who are doing advanced study in the United States are married. Reeves writing in an architectural journal discussed married student housing. He stated that:

Among the dilemmas facing university administrators and the architects who design for them is the problem of housing the married student. Virtually unheard of until his emergence from the aftermath of World War II, the married student and his family were first considered a temporary anomaly in the academic status quo. As such, it was appropriate to house him in temporary shelter. Now, some twenty years later, it is obvious that the married student is a permanent campus feature. It is time that the university re-evaluate its expedient but piecemeal solutions to his unique housing problems. ...A specific building type is necessary to meet the rugged requirements of both academic and family life. Housing for the married student must be as much a part of his academic environment as is the library and classroom and, at the same time, be conceived so as to enrich the sometimes-trying years of early married life (14:84).

Housing for the foreign student is not only a problem in the United States but may be one also in the home country. A survey of foreign students and faculty done at Pennsylvania State University on adaptations to housing showed that "housing is even harder to find in their native countries and therefore they were accustomed to accepting whatever housing they could find..." (11:288). Findings from the above study on housing space indicated that:

60 percent had more space here, while 28 percent had less space...Families from African, European, and Asian countries had more housing space here, while those from Central and South American and Oceania had less space (11:288).

Nevertheless finding housing when a student in a new country presents challenges.

## CHAPTER III

### METHODOLOGY

The exploratory study examined the factors in housing selection and the satisfaction with housing of Asian Graduate Students at Oregon State University. This chapter includes the development of the questionnaire, description of the sample, data collection, and treatment of the data.

#### Development of the Questionnaire

After examining methods of collecting data for this research study, a questionnaire was selected for it. After it was developed, the questionnaire was presented to the faculty of the Home Management Department of the School of Home Economics at Oregon State University for evaluation. Their suggestions were used to revise it. The researcher also personally contacted a psychologist and the foreign student adviser in the Office of International Education to get their evaluations of the questionnaire. Their recommendations too were used to revise and develop the final draft of the questionnaire.

The questionnaire included questions about demographic characteristics, description of present housing, factors considered in selection of present housing, satisfaction with specific housing factors, housing expenditures and general information related to housing.

(Appendix B)

### Description of the Sample

Since the objective of the study was to study the housing of Asian graduate students enrolled at Oregon State University, the names of Asian students and their addresses were obtained from the Office of International Education, Oregon State University, during the Winter term, 1971. Only those students living off-campus and who indicated they were Asian graduate students were included in the sample. The students who lived in a dormitory on campus were excluded from the sample. If both husband and wife were graduate students, they were calculated as only one respondent, the wife.

### Data Collection

The questionnaire, the cover letter, and a stamped, self-addressed envelope were mailed on February 26, 1971 to the 226 students in the population described. Careful consideration was given to mailing the questionnaire so it would be completed and returned before the final examination week. The length of the instrument was given consideration so that the respondents would not be discouraged in completing and returning it. The students were asked to return the completed questionnaire by March 13, 1971. Approximately 66.4 percent or 150 questionnaires were returned. During the first week of the Spring term, 1971, 76 reminder post cards were sent to students who had not returned the questionnaire to get additional responses. Seventeen questionnaires were added to 150. Eight students had left Corvallis and they could not be located since their addresses were unknown. A total of 167 or

74 percent of the mailed questionnaires were returned by April 10, 1971, and were analyzed.

#### Treatment of the Data

Data from the questionnaire were categorized and coded for analysis. Descriptive statistics and correlations were used in analyzing the data.

Some students did not answer all questions. Therefore, the total number of responses on all tests and tables did not always equal 167.

## CHAPTER IV

### FINDINGS

This chapter presents the demographic characteristics of the students, description of their housing, the factors associated with housing selection, satisfactions with housing, satisfaction in relation to demographic factors, housing expenditures and factors associated with housing problems.

#### Demographic Characteristics

Of the 167 students who returned the questionnaire, 138 or 83 percent were males and 29 or 17 percent were females. Forty-four percent or 73 of the students were married. Of the 73 married students, 61 had their families in Corvallis, Twenty-seven of the 61 married students had children with them. Fifteen couples had one child, ten couples had two children, and two couples had three children. The remaining 94 were single.

If the students were not living with their families in Corvallis, they were asked to indicate the number of people with whom they lived. Of the 106 students, thirty-six students lived alone. Eleven students indicated they lived with only one other person; 21 indicated two; 15, three; and eight, four. Only two students indicated they lived with five persons, however, seven students indicated they lived with more than six persons. Another six students indicated they lived in groups of more than ten persons. The question was not clear since students had difficulty answering it. Some students indicated their

roommates. Still other students indicated the total number of persons in their buildings.

Table 1 gives the age groups of the students. The range of students' ages was 20-48 years, the median was 28, the mean, 29, and the mode 27. Sixty-one percent were under 30.

TABLE 1. Age of the 167 Asian Graduate Students by sex

Age	Men Number	Women Number	Total Number	Total Percent
20-24	21	8	29	17
25-29	57	16	73	44
30-34	44	3	47	28
35-39	12	1	13	8
40 and over	4	1	5	3
Total	138	29	167	100

The countries from which the students came are shown in Table 2. The largest proportion, 30 percent, came from China. The second largest proportion, 15 percent came from India. Fourteen percent came from Thailand, 13 percent from Korea, eight percent came from Iran, and six percent from Hong Kong. From the above six countries, there were more than 15 graduate students from each country during the period of collecting data. Less than four percent came from each of these seven remaining countries: Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Pakistan, Philippines, Turkey, and Vietnam and the size of graduate student groups was less than 15 from each of these seven countries. (Table 2)



TABLE 2. Number and Distribution by Countries and Regions of Asian Graduate Students by Sex

Countries	Total Number of Students from the Countries	Returned Questionnaire			
		Male Number	Female Number	Total Number	Percent
<u>The East</u>					
China (Republic of)	64	41	10	51	30
Korea	33	14	7	21	13
Hong Kong	18	8	2	10	6
Japan	6	5	0	5	3
Subtotal	121	68	19	87	52
<u>The South</u>					
India	32	24	2	26	15
Pakistan	3	3	0	3	2
Subtotal	35	27	2	29	17
<u>The Southeast</u>					
Thailand	33	17	6	23	14
Philippines	3	1	1	2	1
Vietnam	2	1	0	1	1
Subtotal	38	19	7	26	16
<u>The Southwest</u>					
Iran	19	13	1	14	8
Turkey	6	6	0	6	4
Lebanon	4	3	0	3	2
Jordan	3	2	0	2	1
Subtotal	32	24	1	24	15
Total	226	138	29	167	100

The mean number of years the Asian graduate students have been in Oregon State University was two years and two months. Thirty-eight students have been here less than one year, 52 students indicated between one and two years, 36 students indicated between two and three years, 25 students indicated between three and four years, the remaining 16 students have been at Oregon State University more than four years.

When considering the fields of study the students pursued, the largest number of students, 34 percent of the total, were in physical and life science. The next largest, 27 percent, were in engineering. Proportions for the other fields were: agriculture, 21 percent; business and technology, eight percent; education, two percent. Included under other fields were home economics and forestry, each with three percent. This distribution differs from that reported by the Institute of International Education. There was a larger proportion of students in physical and life science, engineering, agriculture and business and technology in Oregon State University than shown in the Institute of International Education report. This difference was probably due to the types of graduate programs offered at Oregon State University, because there are very limited opportunities for graduate work in the humanities and social sciences.

TABLE 3. Numbers and Percentages of the Fields of Study of the 167 Asian Graduate Students Studied Compared with the Institute of International Education (IIE) Percentages for the Fields of Study of Foreign Students in Colleges and Universities in the United States in 1970.

Fields of Study	167 Asian Graduate Students		Percent in 1970 IIE Report <sup>1</sup>
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Physical and Life Science	56	34	15.9
Engineering	46	27	22.0
Agriculture	35	21	2.7
Business Administration	14	8	11.5
Education	3	2	5.8
Social Sciences	1	1	12.8
Humanities	0	0	19.6
Medical Sciences	0	0	4.4
Other	12	7	0.4
No response	0	0	4.7
Total	167	100	

<sup>1</sup>Source: Open Doors, 1970, P. 11.

From the Institute of International Education report, it was found that students from different areas of the world have developed patterns for preferred fields of study. Those from the East, also designated as the Far East, preferred engineering and the physical and life sciences; 28 percent of the students from this area were enrolled in the former and 23 percent in the latter fields of study. Engineering was the overwhelming choice of students from the Near and Middle East with 37 percent in the field. (10:11)

The students were asked about sources of their financial support. The largest proportion of students, 50 out of 167 students, had teaching or research assistantships. The second largest category was summer employment and other. The third largest was family support and other. Eighty-eight students had only one source of support but 47 students had two sources of support. However 27 students reported more than three sources of support. Five students indicated other sources of support such as wife's employment. (Table 4)

TABLE 4. Sources of Support of the 167 Asian Graduate Students

Sources of Support	Number	Percent
Teaching or research assistantship	50	30
Family support only	13	8
Foundation or association scholarship in the USA	8	5
Government sponsorship (Foreign or USA government)	7	4
Part time work only	7	4
Summer employment only	3	2
Summer employment and other	23	14
Family support and other	15	9
Teaching or research assistantship and other	5	3
Foreign student scholarship and other	4	2
Family support and summer employment and other	27	16
Other	5	3
Total	167	100

In answering the question did you have trouble locating a dwelling within your financial means, 98 students said no, 60 students said yes. The remaining nine students did not reply.

Table 5 shows total yearly expenditures of 135 Asian Graduate Students who lived in Corvallis during 12 months in 1970. Eight students who had lived here the last 12 months did not report their total yearly expenditures.

TABLE 5. Total Yearly Expenditures of 135 Asian Graduate Students Who Lived in Corvallis During 12 Months in 1970.

Total Yearly Expenditures	Number	Percent
Under \$1500	9	7
\$1500-1999	26	19
\$2000-2499	30	22
\$2500-2999	22	16
\$3000-3499	16	12
\$3500-3999	11	8
\$4000-4499	7	5
Over \$4500	14	11
Total	135	100

Just over one-fourth, or 26 percent, of the students spent less than \$2000, and about three-eighths, or 38 percent, spent between \$2000-\$2999. One-fourth of the students spent between \$3000 and \$4499, and 11 percent spent over \$4500 during the last 12 months. (Table 5)

Table 6 shows the estimated yearly expenditures for 24 students who had lived in Corvallis for less than 12 months. Of these 24 students, nine students estimated their expenditures would be between \$2000 and \$2499. This category had the largest number of estimates. Four students each estimated their expenditures would be between \$1500-1999 and \$2500-2999 respectively. Six estimated they would spend

over \$3000. However one student estimated his expenditures to be less than \$1500.

TABLE 6. Estimated Yearly Expenditures Who Had Lived in Less than 12 Months in Corvallis.

Estimated Yearly Expenditures	Number	Percent
Under \$1500	1	4
\$1500-1999	4	17
\$2000-2499	9	38
\$2500-2999	4	17
\$3000-3499	1	4
\$3500-3999	2	8
\$4000-4499	2	8
Over \$4500	1	4
Total	24	100

The students indicated the number of places they had lived since arrival in Corvallis. The average number of places lived was 2.69. Forty-five students had lived in only one place. One hundred and twenty-six or 75 percent of the students had lived in fewer than four places since they came to Corvallis. Thirteen students had lived in more than six places since they arrived in Corvallis. (Table 7)

TABLE 7. Number of Places 167 Asian Graduate Students Indicated They Had Lived Since Arriving in Corvallis.

Number of Places	Number	Percent
1	45	27
2	45	27
3	36	22
4	14	8
5	12	7
6 or more	13	8
No response	2	1
Total	167	100

The students indicated how long they had lived in their present housing. The average length of time they had lived in their present housing was 13 months. Ninety-six students had lived in their present housing less than one year, and 50 had lived in their present housing less than two years, however, two male students had lived in their present housing four years. (Table 8)

Twenty-four percent of the 167 students planned to move in the next few months. Reasons for moving are shown in Table 9. Leaving Corvallis was the most frequent reason given for moving.

TABLE 8. Length of Time 167 Asian Graduate Students Had Lived in Present Housing

Length of Time	Number	Percent
Less than 1 year	96	58
1 to 2 years	50	30
2 to 3 years	9	5
3 to 4 years	7	4
No response	5	3
Total	167	100

TABLE 9. Reasons for Planning to Move from the Present Housing Given by 40 Asian Graduate Students

Reasons	Number	Percent
Leaving Corvallis	11	27
To save money	5	12
To be married	3	8
To change environment	3	8
To get closer to campus	3	8
Moving at landlord's request	2	5
Tired of cooking	2	5
Present housing facilities poor	2	5
Other	9	22
Total	40	100

Thirty-seven of 167 students have lived in Oregon State University dormitories. Table 10 gives the reasons why students moved out of the dormitories. Eight indicated they disliked the food and noise, and



another eight moved because of the expense. Six students found living in the dormitories inconvenient during term breaks because they either had to change rooms or move to another dormitory.

TABLE 10. Reasons Given by the 37 Asian Graduate Students for Moving Out of Dormitories

Reasons	Number	Percent
Disliked food and noise	8	22
Expensive	8	22
Inconvenient during term breaks	6	16
To be married or family arrived	4	11
Needed privacy	3	8
Wanted native food	2	5
Inappropriate meal time	1	3
Other	3	8
No response	2	5
Total	37	100

In answering the question about the place to study, the most frequently mentioned place was the student's office in his department. The next most frequently chosen space was his home in Corvallis. Thirty-two students indicated the library and eight students indicated the department graduate room. Thirty-five students, or about one-fifth of the total indicated they like to study in two or more places. However eleven students indicated other which included three, four or more places to study. One did not answer.

TABLE 11. Places where 167 Asian Graduate Students Like to Study

	Number	Percent
Office	47	28
Home	44	26
Library	32	19
Graduate room	8	5
Home and library	13	8
Home and office	6	4
Library and office	5	3
Other	11	6
No response	1	1
Total	167	100

#### Description of the Housing

Of the 167 students, slightly less than one-fourth lived in apartments, and slightly more than one-fifth lived in married student housing. Thirty students or 18 percent lived in rooms in private houses with cooking facilities, 25 or 15 percent lived in single family houses converted into apartments, 16 or 10 percent lived in single family housing, seven lived in the College Inn, a private off-campus dormitory, five lived in boarding houses and eight lived in other types of houses. Of these eight, three lived in duplexes, another three in cooperative houses, and two in rooms in private houses without cooking facilities. All the students lived in the city of Corvallis. (Table 12)

TABLE 12. Types of Housing Occupied by 167 Asian Graduate Students.

Types of Housing	Number	Percent
Apartment buildings	40	24
Married student housing	35	21
Rooms in private houses with cooking facilities	30	18
Single family houses converted into apartments	25	15
Single family houses	16	10
Private off-campus dormitory	7	4
Boarding houses	5	3
Other	8	5
Total	167	100

The students were asked what distance they lived from campus. Of the 138 students answering the question, 100 reported they lived less than one mile from the campus. Twenty-two reported they lived between one and three miles from the campus. Two reported between three and five miles. Fourteen responses were classified under other because they gave such answers as very close which could not be translated in distance. However 29 did not answer the question.

In answering the question with whom do you live, 61 students indicated that they lived with their spouse and children in Corvallis, 35 lived alone, 34 lived with students from their home countries, and 22 lived with American students. The remaining 15 indicated other living arrangements such as living with students from several different countries including American students and with non-students. Of those who

lived alone, 28 percent resided in private houses with cooking facilities. (Table 13)

TABLE 13. Types of Housing of the 167 Asian Graduate Students by with Whom Lived

Types of Housing	Home country students		Spouse and children		Other	Total Number	Total Percent
	Alone	No.	No.	No.			
Apartment buildings	11	15	6	7	1	40	24
Married student housing	0	0	0	35	0	35	21
Rooms in private houses with cooking facilities	10	5	4	4	7	30	18
Single family houses converted into apartments	4	9	2	9	1	25	15
Single family houses	3	4	1	6	2	16	9
Private off-campus dormitory	3	0	4	0	0	7	4
Boarding houses	0	0	3	0	3	6	4
Other	4	1	2	0	1	8	5
Total	35	34	22	61	15	167	100

Of the 61 students who lived with their spouse and children, 57 percent or 35 out of 61 lived in married student housing, nine lived in single family houses converted into apartments. The remaining married students lived in apartment buildings or single family houses or rooms in private houses with cooking facilities.

About one of every four students lived in apartment buildings. Among the 40 students who lived in apartments the most frequent pattern was living with home country students. Twenty-seven percent of the students living in apartments lived alone.

About one-third of the students who lived in rooms in private houses with cooking facilities lived alone. Of the 25 students living in single family houses converted into apartments, nine students each lived with home country students and with their families.

### Housing Selection

In answering an open-end question, the students indicated the important reason for selecting their present housing. Fifty-seven of 167 students gave economy along with another reason for selecting their present housing. However, 38 indicated cost alone was the important factor. Twenty said the distance to campus, eight indicated housing availability, seven liked the quiet and privacy, and five mentioned convenience and comfort. Three each indicated that opportunity to learn English, to live with home country friends, and to be independent influenced their choice. Eleven indicated other reasons such as wanting a single bed, a kitchen, or a bath with shared facilities; a friend's reservation of space in his house for the student, and liking the landlord. (Table 14)

The students were asked to indicate the importance of 22 factors in selecting their present housing. Cost was given most frequently as a very important factor. In addition to cost, kitchen equipment such as refrigerator and range, a desk, and the distance from campus were also

TABLE 14. The Important Reason Given for Selecting Present Housing by 167 Asian Graduate Students in Study

Selecting Reason	Number	Percent
Economy and another reason	57	34
Cost alone	38	23
Distance to campus	20	12
Housing availability at that time	8	5
Quiet and privacy	7	4
Convenience and comfort	5	3
Opportunity to learn English	3	2
Living with home country friends	3	2
Being independent	3	2
Single bed, kitchen and bath with shared facilities	2	1
Friend's reservation of space in his house for student	2	1
Liking the landlord	2	1
Other	5	3
No response	12	7
TOTAL	167	100

chosen by over 50 percent of the students as very important factors. About two of every five students indicated the shower in the bathroom was an important factor. However, the bath tub was indicated by only one-fifth of the students as very important. The least important factor among 22 categories was distance from home country friends. (Table 15)

TABLE 15. Importance of Factors in Selecting the Present Housing

	Very Import- tant		Somewhat Import- tant		Not Import- tant		Did not consider		No response	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Cost	104	62	58	35	3	2	2	1	0	0
Refrigerator	103	62	25	15	8	5	17	10	14	8
Desk	89	53	38	23	14	8	20	12	6	4
Distance from campus	88	53	66	39	8	5	4	2	1	1
Range	87	52	38	23	17	10	20	12	5	3
Shower in bathroom	66	40	50	30	15	9	24	14	12	7
Separate bedroom	60	36	48	29	21	12	31	19	7	4
Study lamp	50	30	33	20	30	18	41	24	13	8
Mirror in the bathroom	39	23	45	27	24	15	40	24	19	12
Bath tub	33	20	35	21	37	22	38	23	24	14
Vacuum cleaner	28	17	34	20	37	22	49	29	19	12
Washer and drier	27	16	42	25	36	22	50	30	12	7
Private phone	26	16	50	40	36	22	46	27	9	5
Carpeting	21	13	37	22	45	27	49	29	15	9
Draperies and curtains	20	12	44	26	46	28	39	23	18	11
Garage and carport	17	10	24	15	37	22	79	47	10	6
Television	16	9	21	13	38	23	75	45	17	10
Dishwasher	15	9	14	8	37	22	80	48	21	13
Garbage disposal	13	8	12	7	43	26	77	46	22	13
Full-length mirror	11	7	16	10	50	30	76	45	14	8
Distance from shopping center	9	5	53	32	58	35	41	25	6	3
Distance from home country students	3	2	8	5	46	27	105	63	5	3

In answering the question "How did you get to the university?" 89 students indicated they walked, 35 students bicycled, and 14 drove cars. The remaining 29 students used two or more ways to get to the university.

The students were asked if they considered the following in selecting their present housing: living with a person from their home country so they could cook and eat native foods in their native style, sharing housing with someone from the United States or sharing housing with someone from another foreign country. In answering this question, 106 students or 64 percent, indicated they did not consider any of the above in selecting housing. Thirty-eight students or slightly less than one-fourth of the students indicated that they selected housing so they could live with a person from their home country and cook native foods in their native style cooking and eating. Fourteen or about eight percent of the students selected their housing so that they could live with American students. Seven did not answer the question. Only two, one percent, selected housing so that they shared housing with someone from another foreign country.

#### Housing Satisfaction

The students were asked about their feelings concerning their satisfaction with their present housing. About three-fourths of the students were satisfied or somewhat satisfied with their housing; however, about one-eighth of the students, or 22 students, stated that they were dissatisfied or somewhat dissatisfied. Another 22 students were neutral. (Table 16)



TABLE 16. Overall Housing Satisfaction Rating Reported by 167 Asian Graduate Students with Their Present Housing

Degrees of Satisfaction	Number	Percent
Satisfied	57	34
Somewhat satisfied	64	39
Neutral	22	13
Somewhat dissatisfied	17	10
Dissatisfied	5	3
No response	2	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	167	100

The satisfaction categories were weighted on a scale of +5, +4, +3, +2 and +1 with the number, +5, expressing the highest degree of satisfaction. When calculated on this scale, the satisfaction mean was 3.86, and the standard deviation was 1.17.

Of the 10 housing factors studied, sixty-three percent or 105 out of 167 students indicated privacy was satisfactory. However, the factor which most students gave as unsatisfactory was space for entertaining guests. Heat control was the second most unsatisfactory factor and furnishings was the third most unsatisfactory. (Table 17)

TABLE 17. Degree of Satisfaction with Ten Housing Factors of 167 Asian Graduate Students.

Factors	Satisfactory		Somewhat satisfactory		No concern		Unsatisfactory		No response	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Privacy	105	63	41	24	6	40	11	7	4	2
Noise	76	46	50	30	13	8	24	14	4	2
Artificial light	71	42	63	38	16	10	10	6	7	4
Natural light	68	41	59	35	14	8	22	13	4	3
Storage space	68	41	56	33	14	9	24	14	5	3
Study space	58	34	66	40	18	11	21	13	4	2
Ventilation	57	34	61	36	13	8	25	15	11	7
Heat control	57	34	61	36	3	2	41	25	5	3
Space for entertaining guests	50	30	46	28	24	14	45	27	2	1
Furnishings	41	24	70	42	15	9	38	23	3	2

#### Satisfaction in Relation to Demographic Factors

Among the four age groups, the oldest age group, 35 and over, was more satisfied with their housing than the other three age groups. The 30-34 age group, was the most dissatisfied. Of the students between age 20-24, only 10 percent indicated they were dissatisfied or somewhat dissatisfied with their housing, but in the 30-34 age group 19 percent indicated they were dissatisfied or somewhat dissatisfied with their housing. (Table 18)

TABLE 18. Degree of Satisfaction by Age

Age Group	Satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Neutral	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	No response	Total
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
20-24	10	11	5	3	0	0	29
25-29	31	27	8	5	2	0	73
30-34	8	20	9	7	2	1	47
35 and over	8	6	0	2	1	1	18
Total	57	64	22	17	5	2	167

Table 19 gives the degree of satisfaction by sex. The female students tended to be more satisfied with their housing than the male students. (Table 19)

TABLE 19. Degree of Satisfaction by Sex.

Sex	Satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Neutral	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	No response	Total
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Male	41	56	19	15	5	2	138
Female	16	8	3	2	0	0	29
Total	57	64	22	17	5	2	167

Table 20 gives degree of satisfaction by marital status. The married students without spouse in Corvallis tended to be more dissatisfied with their present housing than single students. In other words, single students tended to be slightly more satisfied than those married but without spouse in Corvallis. Among the married students, those who do not have children tended to be more satisfied than the students with children.

TABLE 20. Degree of Satisfaction by Marital Status

	Satis- fied	Somewhat Satis- fied	Neutral	Somewhat Dissatis- fied	Dis- satis- fied	No response	Total
Single	36	35	12	8	3	0	94
Married with- out spouse in Corvallis	3	5	1	1	1	1	12
Married with spouse	12	13	4	3	1	1	34
Married with spouse and children	6	11	5	5	0	0	27
Total	57	64	22	17	5	2	167

Of the six countries that had 15 or more graduate students during the winter term, 1971, the students from Hong Kong were the more frequently satisfied with their housing. However, between 28 percent to 40 percent of the students who came from these countries were satisfied with their present housing. The students in small size student groups from Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Pakistan, Philippines, Turkey and Vietnam tended to be satisfied with their housing. And the outstanding fact of the countries with less than 15 students was that four out of five Japanese students were satisfied. (Table 21).

Table 22 shows that students in agriculture were more satisfied with their housing than students in other majors. And science students indicated more dissatisfaction with housing than students in other majors. However, engineering students were almost as satisfied as science students.

TABLE 21. Degree of Satisfaction by Nationality.

Countries	Satis- fied	Somewhat Satis- fied	Neutral	Somewhat Dissatis- fied	Dis- satis- fied	No response	Total
China (Republic of)	16	22	6	6	0	1	51
India	8	9	2	7	0	0	26
Thailand	8	7	6	0	2	0	23
Korea	6	6	5	3	0	1	21
Iran	5	6	0	1	2	0	14
Hong Kong	4	4	2	0	0	0	10
Turkey	2	4	0	0	0	0	6
Japan	4	0	0	0	1	0	5
Lebanon	1	1	1	0	0	0	3
Pakistan	1	2	0	0	0	0	3
Jordan	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Philippines	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Vietnam	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total	57	64	22	17	5	2	167

TABLE 22. Degree of Satisfaction by Fields of Study.

	Satis- fied	Somewhat Satis- fied	Neutral	Somewhat Dissatis- fied	Dis- satis- fied	No response	Total
Science	21	17	7	9	1	1	56
Engineering	11	21	7	4	3	0	46
Agriculture	13	13	6	1	1	1	35
Business & Technology	7	4	1	2	0	0	14
Home Economics	2	2	1	0	0	0	5
Forestry	1	4	0	0	0	0	5
Education	1	2	0	0	0	0	3
Other	1	1	0	1	0	0	3
Total	57	64	22	17	5	2	167

Table 23 shows the choice of off-campus housing of Asian graduate students in relation to their satisfaction with their housing. Five out of seven students who lived in the private off-campus dormitory were satisfied and two were somewhat satisfied with their housing. About one-half, 48 percent of the students who lived in single family houses converted into apartments were satisfied with their housing. Of the five students who were dissatisfied with their housing, three lived in rooms in private houses with cooking facilities and two lived in apartment buildings.

TABLE 23. Degree of Satisfaction by Housing Type

Housing Type	Satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Neutral	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	No response	Total
Apartment buildings	13	15	6	3	2	1	40
Married student housing	9	16	4	6	0	0	35
Rooms in private houses with cooking facilities	9	12	3	2	3	1	30
Single family houses converted into apartments	12	7	3	3	0	0	25
Single family houses	4	8	4	0	0	0	16
Private off-campus dormitory	5	2	0	0	0	0	7
Boarding houses	1	1	1	2	0	0	5
Other	3	3	1	1	0	0	8
No response	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	57	64	22	17	5	2	167

When housing satisfaction and monthly expenditures were considered, the most frequently satisfied students were those who paid between \$101-150 for housing expenditures. The most dissatisfied or somewhat dissatisfied were the students who paid less than \$50 for housing expenditures. Of the students who expressed dissatisfaction with their housing, three paid under \$50 and two paid between \$50-100 per month for their housing. (Table 24)

TABLE 24. Degree of Satisfaction by Monthly Housing Expenditures

Housing Expenditures	Satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Neutral	Somewhat dissatisfied	Dis-satisfied	No response	Total number
Under \$50	17	23	3	5	3	0	51
\$50-100	24	26	15	10	2	1	79
\$101-150	14	11	4	1	0	1	30
Over \$150	0	3	0	0	0	0	3
No response	2	1	0	1	0	0	4
Total	57	64	22	17	5	2	167

The housing satisfaction expressed was significantly correlated only with sex. There were no linear relationship between housing satisfaction and housing expenditures. (Table 25)

Overall age group was negatively correlated with housing satisfaction while four individual age groups were positively correlated. In the housing expenditure group, both the overall group and three individual groups had a positive relationship, however only the \$101-170 expenditure group had a negative correlation. (Tables 26 & 27)

TABLE 25. Housing Satisfaction Correlated with Demographic Factors

Demographic Factors	Correlation to Housing Satisfaction	Number responses Correlated	Sig.
Age	-.097	165	n.s.
Sex	.187	165	*
Marital status	-.096	165	n.s.
Nationality	.109	165	n.s.
Major	.091	165	n.s.
Types of housing	.055	164	n.s.
Housing expenditures	.067	161	n.s.

n.s. = not significant

\* = significant at the 5% level

TABLE 26. Housing Satisfaction Correlated with Four Age Groups

Demographic Factors	Correlation to Housing Satisfaction	Number responses Correlated	Sig.
Within Age Group 20-24	.05	29	n.s.
25-29	.09	73	n.s.
30-34	.18	46	n.s.
35 and over	.62	<u>17</u>	**
		165	

\*\* Significant at the 1% level      n.s. = not significant

TABLE 27. Housing Satisfaction Correlated with Four Housing Expenditure Groups

Demographic Factors	Correlation to Housing satisfaction	Number responses Correlated	Sig.
Within Housing Expenditures			
Under \$50	.01	51	n.s.
\$50-75	.03	46	n.s.
\$76-100	.35	31	*
\$101-170	-.15	33	n.s.
		<u>161</u>	

\* Significant at the 5% level      n.s. = not significant

#### Housing Expenditures

Students were asked if they rent or own their housing. All students were renting their housing. Students were asked to indicate their monthly housing expenditures and to include all the housing costs.

The range for housing expenditures was from \$20 to \$170 per month, and the median housing cost was \$60 per month. Married students with no children paid an average of \$96 per month while 27 married with



children paid an average of \$92 per month. Single students paid an average of \$58 per month. About 80 percent of the students paid less than \$100 and the remaining 20 percent of the students paid more than \$100 per month for their housing expenditures. (Table 28)

TABLE 28. Monthly Housing Expenditures Reported by 167 Asian Graduate Students

Monthly Housing Expenditures	Number	Percent
Under \$50	51	31
\$50-75	47	28
\$76-100	32	19
\$101-150	30	18
Over \$150	3	2
No response	4	2
Total	167	100

Housing Expenditures in Relation to  
Demographic Factors

Of the 94 single students, 40 students or 43 percent paid less than \$50 per month for their housing. Forty-three students or 46 percent of the 94 single students paid between \$50 to \$100 per month for their housing, only nine or ten percent paid between \$101-150 per month for housing. Two students did not indicate their housing expenditures. (Table 29)

Of the 61 married students with their families in Corvallis, one-half, or 32 students paid between \$50-100 per month for their housing expenses, but about one-third, or 20 students paid between \$101-150.

TABLE 29. Monthly Housing Expenditures by Marital Status.

Marital Status	Under \$50	\$50-75	\$76-100	\$101-150	Over \$150	No response	Total
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Single	40	27	16	9	0	2	94
Married without spouse in Corvallis	6	3	1	1	0	1	12
Married with spouse in Corvallis	3	12	5	11	2	1	34
Spouse and children in Corvallis	2	5	10	9	1	0	27
Total	51	47	32	30	3	4	167

Three out of 61 married students with their families in Corvallis paid more than \$150 per month for their housing.

Among the 12 students who were married but had no family living in Corvallis, six students paid less than \$50, four paid between \$50-100 per month, and only one paid between \$101-150. One student in this category did not answer the question.

Among the 138 male students, the largest proportion of them, 41 or 30 percent, paid between \$50-75 per month for housing. And second largest proportion of male students, 39 or 28 percent, paid under \$50 per month. In case of the female students, 41 percent or 12 out of 29 students paid less than \$50 per month.

TABLE 30. Monthly Housing Expenditures by Sex.

	Under \$50	\$50-75	\$76-100	\$101-150	Over \$150	No response	Total
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Male	39	41	29	26	1	2	138
Female	12	6	3	4	2	2	29
Total	51	47	32	30	3	4	167

Of the students who lived in apartments, 55 percent or 22 out of 40 students paid between \$50-100 per month for their housing expenditures. Of the 35 married students who lived in married student housing, 71 percent of them paid between \$50-100, and the remaining 29 percent paid between \$101-150 per month for their housing payments.

Among the 30 students who lived in rooms in private houses with cooking facilities, 73 percent paid less than \$50 per month. Of the 25 students who lived in single family houses converted into apartments, slightly over one-half, 52 percent, of them paid between \$50-100 per month for their housing. Six out of 16 students who lived in single family houses paid between \$101-150 per month. Of the students who lived in the private off-campus dormitory, four paid between \$101-150 per month. However, some of the students might have included room with board fee. Of the remaining 13 students who lived in boarding houses or in other types of housing, five paid less than \$50 per month and another five paid between \$50-100 for housing expenditures. One student did not answer the question. (Table 31)

One hundred thirty-five Asian graduate students stated that they had lived in Corvallis over 12 months. About 90 percent of the 41 students who spent under \$50 per month for housing expenditures had less than \$3000 total annual expenditures. Of the 87 students who spent under \$3000 per year, 43 percent of them paid under \$50 per month for their housing. Among the 48 students who spent more than \$3000 per year, 42 percent of them paid more than \$100 per month for their housing. Of the students spending less than \$3000 a year for their total expenditures, 67 out of 87, or 77 percent, paid less than \$76

TABLE 31. Monthly Housing Expenditures by Housing Type.

Housing Type	Under \$50 No.	\$50- 100 No.	\$101- 150 No.	Over \$150 No.	No response No.	Total No.
Apartment buildings	9	22	7	2	0	40
Married student housing	0	25	10	0	0	35
Rooms in private houses with cooking facilities	22	7	0	0	1	30
Single family houses converted into apartments	9	13	2	0	1	25
Single family houses	5	4	6	1	0	16
Private off-campus dormitory	1	2	4	0	0	7
Boarding houses	2	2	0	0	1	5
Other	3	3	1	0	1	8
No response	0	1	0	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>167</b>

per month for housing. (Table 32) There were eight no responses for this question.

TABLE 32. Monthly Housing Expenditures reported by 135 Asian Graduate Students who had lived in Corvallis for 12 months by Total Yearly Expenditures

Total Yearly Expenditures	Under \$50 No.	\$50- 75 No.	\$76- 100 No.	\$101- 150 No.	Over \$150 No.	Total	
						No.	%
Under \$1500	5	2	1	1	0	9	7
\$1500-1999	16	9	1	0	0	26	19
\$2000-2499	8	14	6	2	0	30	22
\$2500-2999	8	5	7	2	0	22	16
Over \$3000	4	10	14	17	3	48	36
<b>Total</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>100</b>

Only 24 students had lived in Corvallis less than 12 months. Among them, 13 students estimated their expenses to be between \$2000-\$3000 per year. Five of the 24 students estimated their expenses would be under \$2000, however, six students estimated their expenses would be over \$3000. (Table 33)

TABLE 33. Monthly Housing Expenditures Reported by 24 Asian Graduate Students Who had Lived in Corvallis less than 12 months by Estimated Yearly Expenditures

Estimated Yearly Expenditures	Under \$50 No.	\$50- 75 No.	\$76- 100 No.	\$101- 150 No.	Total No.	%
Under \$1500	1	0	0	0	1	4
\$1500-1999	2	1	1	0	4	17
\$2000-2499	4	2	1	2	9	38
\$2500-2999	2	1	0	1	4	17
Over \$3000	0	1	0	5	6	24
Total	9	5	2	8	24	100

In answering the question "Do you keep records of your housing expenditures?", 75 students out of 167 stated that they did not keep records while 63 students indicated they kept records of all housing expenditures. Twenty-six kept partial records of their housing expenditures. (Table 34)

TABLE 34. Number of Students Who Kept Records of Housing Expenditures

Response	Number	Percent
No records	75	45
Records of all housing expenditures	63	38
Partial records of housing expenditures	26	15
No response	3	2
Total	167	100

Factors Associated with  
Housing Problems

The students were asked how they found housing immediately after arriving in Corvallis. More than one-third of the students were helped by friends. About one-fifth of the students found their housing through other students from their own country. About one-tenth found housing through the Office of International Education. Under the category other, twelve students found housing by their own efforts and 13 students went to the Oregon State University Department of Housing to search for housing. (Table 35)

TABLE 35. Ways Housing Found by 167 Students Upon Arrival in Corvallis

Response	Number	Percent
Friends	58	35
Students from own country	37	22
The Office of International Education	19	11
Family or relatives	5	3
Other	45	27
No response	3	2
Total	167	100

The students were asked to indicate if they had any housing problems in Corvallis. Of the 167 students in the study, 57 or slightly over one-third reported housing problems and 100 left the question blank. The problems reported by these 57 students varied widely, but the most frequently reported problem was low housing supply with high demand. (Table 36)

TABLE 36. Housing Problems Reported by 57 Asian Graduate Students.

Housing Problems	Number	Percent
Housing demand is high, while supply is low	25	44
Housing hard to find for fall term	4	7
Dissatisfaction with the landlord who keeps raising the rent every year	3	5
Discrimination and prejudice	3	5
No cooking privileges and facilities	3	5
Long term contract at some places	3	5
Need for more refrigerator food space	3	5
House manager too sensitive to activities and plumbing noises in the house	3	5
Lost dormitory deposit	2	4
Out of date information from Oregon State University Department of Housing	2	4
Difficulty in finding room with kitchen facilities near campus	2	4
Other	4	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>100</b>

The students were asked for recommendations for improving student housing in Corvallis. Most frequently given recommendation was that the University and federal government should provide apartments near the campus for the international students. The next most frequently given recommendation was that the University should provide low cost or non-profit rental housing. And also the University should build more married student housing.

For a complete list of recommendations given by students for improving housing in Corvallis, see Appendix C.

## CHAPTER V

## SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

The purpose of this study was to examine the choice of housing of Asian graduate students living in off-campus housing and to identify the relationship between present housing satisfaction and housing expenditures.

The questionnaire developed for collecting data for this study included questions about demographic characteristics, description of present housing, factors considered in selection of present housing, satisfaction with housing factors, and housing costs.

To collect data for the study, questionnaires were mailed to the total population of 226 Asian graduate students who lived off-campus, in February, 1971. A total of 167 or 74 percent of the mailed questionnaires were returned.

Of the 167 students, 138 were males and 29 were females. The ages ranged from 20 to 48 with an average age of 29. Ninety-four students or 56 percent were single and 73 or 44 percent of the students were married.

Of the graduate students from Asian countries enrolled at Oregon State University during the 1971 winter term who lived in off-campus housing, the largest proportion came from China. In addition to China, there were more than 15 students from Hong Kong, India, Iran, Korea, and Thailand. There were less than 15 students from Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Pakistan, the Philippines, Turkey and Vietnam.

When considering the fields of study the students pursued, the largest number of students was in physical and life science, the second largest was in engineering, the third largest was in agriculture.

In answering the question about sources of financial support, the largest proportion of students, 30 percent had either teaching or research



assistantships. Summer employment combined with family support was also a main source of support. About 58 percent or 78 of the 135 students who lived in Corvallis for 12 months spent between \$1500-2999 per year for all expenditures. Twenty-five percent or 34 spent between \$3000-4499 per year. About one-tenth or 14 of the students spent more than \$4500 for all expenditures during the last 12 months. However, seven percent or nine students spent less than \$1500 per year for all expenditures.

Of the 167 students, 24 percent lived in apartments, 21 percent lived in married student housing and 18 percent lived in rooms in private houses with cooking facilities. Proportions for the following types of housing were: single family houses converted into apartments, 15 percent; single family houses, 10 percent; private off-campus dormitory, four percent; boarding houses, three percent; other was five percent.

About 60 percent of the students reported they lived less than one mile from the campus. Two of every three students indicated that transportation influenced their housing selection. About 53 percent of the 167 students walked to the university, and 21 percent bicycled.

In selecting present housing, the most important factor was rental cost. Kitchen equipment and distance from campus were also important items in selecting housing. In an open-end question, economy combined with another reason and cost alone were the most frequently mentioned reasons for selecting present housing.

About three-fourths of the students were either satisfied or somewhat satisfied with their present housing. One hundred and five students were satisfied with the privacy while only 41 students were

satisfied with the furnishings. The two factors which one-fourth or more of the students found unsatisfactory were space for entertaining guests and heat control.

Of the 57 students who were satisfied with their housing, 31 students were between 25-29 age. However, proportionately the oldest age group, 35 and over, was more satisfied with their housing than the other age groups.

The female students tended to be more satisfied with their housing than the male students. Students in agriculture were more satisfied with their housing than students in other majors. Students who lived in a private off-campus dormitory reported the highest percentage of satisfaction with their housing, but students who lived in single family houses converted into apartments also reported a high percentage of satisfaction with their housing.

All the students were renting their housing. The range for housing expenditures was from \$20 to \$170 per month. And the median housing cost was \$60 per month. Married students with no children paid an average of \$96 per month, but married students with children paid an average of \$92 per month for housing. Single students paid an average of \$58 per month. About 80 percent of the students paid less than \$100 and the remaining 20 percent students paid more than \$100 per month for their housing expenditures.

Of the students who lived in apartments and married student housing, and single family houses converted into apartments, the largest number of students in these groups paid between \$50-100 per month for housing. However, of the students who lived in rooms in private houses with

cooking facilities, the largest number paid less than \$50 per month for their housing. Among the students who lived in single family houses and the private dormitory, there were more who paid between \$101-150 for their housing than in the other housing expenditure groups.

Of the 87 students who spent under \$3000 per year for all expenditures, 43 percent of them paid under \$50 per month for their housing. Among the 48 students who spent more than \$3000 per year, 42 percent of them paid more than \$100 per month for their housing. About 90 percent of the 41 students who spent under \$50 for housing expenditures spent less than \$3000 during the last 12 months for all expenses.

Among the demographic characteristics, only sex was correlated with housing satisfaction. Within the four age groups, only the 35 and over age group was correlated with housing satisfaction at the 99 percent confidence level. In the housing expenditure group, both the overall group and three individual groups had a positive relationship, however, only the \$101-170 expenditure group had a negative correlation.

### Conclusions

It is a fact that many of the new foreign students were helped by the Office of International Education immediately after arriving in Corvallis. In this study, more than one-half of the students were helped by friends or students from their own country. It is suggested that the Office of International Education continue to introduce new graduate students to already established students from the same country.

The data showed that about three-fourths of the students were satisfied with their present housing, however, more than one-tenth of the students were somewhat dissatisfied or dissatisfied. Housing must be considered as one of the foreign student's problems. Satisfactory living of the foreign student is an important factor in a satisfactory college experience. And also the degree of housing satisfaction might largely depend upon the individual's personality and sometimes also the individual's mood at the time of filling out the questionnaire. Therefore, another study might show very different picture about the degree of satisfaction.

Many students in this study indicated that rental cost was a very important factor in selecting a house. However, kitchen equipment, a desk and the distance from campus were also chosen by over 50 percent of the students as a very important factor.

The findings in this study are not conclusive nor can they be applied to the total population of foreign students in the United States. However, this study gives a description of housing problems of foreign students at one University.

#### Implications for Further Research

Further studies with different groups could show different pictures about how foreign students select and solve their housing problems.

One of the future studies might test the hypothesis that there exists a relationship between housing satisfaction and academic work. One of the most important goals of foreign graduate students is good academic achievement. Another interesting study that might be done to

examine the foreign students understanding of the American way of life and their contribution to intercultural understanding by residing with an American family, living with students in a dormitory, and in other types of housing near campus.

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## APPENDICES



## APPENDIX A

February 26, 1971

TO: The Graduate Student from Asia

I hope your graduate study and your thesis research are going so well that you can take 15 minutes to fill out the enclosed questionnaire. If they aren't going as well as you would like it, then would you take time any how to complete it and return to me. The questionnaire looks long. But I am sure it takes 15 minutes to answer it. I believe you will enjoy thinking about my questionnaire, and you will help a graduate fellow.

I am a graduate student working on my master's degree on housing in Home Management Department at Oregon State University. I am interested in studying housing selection and satisfaction for the Asian students. Hopefully this thesis information will be useful to other foreign students who come to O.S.U. to seek housing. And also it may be used to solve the problem of foreign student housing in Corvallis.

Would you please fill out the attached questionnaire and return it to me in the enclosed envelope, immediately (but not later than March 13).

You can well imagine how grateful I will be to have a completed questionnaire from you. In advance I say thank you for helping me and wish you good luck on your graduate study.

Sincerely,

Hye Jung Choi

P.S. Please don't forget not later than March 13!!!

## APPENDIX B

Part 1

No. \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Data Sheet

1. Sex? 1) \_\_\_\_\_ Male  
                                \_\_\_\_\_ Female
2. Your Age? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What is your country? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What is your major field? \_\_\_\_\_
5. How many months have you been in Oregon State University?  
                                \_\_\_\_\_ Months
6. What is your marital status?
  - 1) \_\_\_\_\_ single
  - 2) \_\_\_\_\_ married without spouse in Corvallis
  - 3) \_\_\_\_\_ married with spouse in Corvallis
  - 4) \_\_\_\_\_ married with spouse and children in Corvallis
  - 5) \_\_\_\_\_ other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
7. With whom do you live?

If you are a single, or married without spouse in Corvallis

  - 1) \_\_\_\_\_ alone
  - 2) \_\_\_\_\_ with home country students
  - 3) \_\_\_\_\_ with American students
  - 4) \_\_\_\_\_ with non-student tenants

How many are there in group? \_\_\_\_\_

If you are married, and spouse is in Corvallis

  - 1) \_\_\_\_\_ with spouse
  - 2) \_\_\_\_\_ with spouse and children

How many children at present? \_\_\_\_\_

## Part II

## 1. Please check your present housing.

- 1) ☐ private off-campus dormitory
- 2) ☐ single family house converted into apartments
- 3) ☐ apartment building
- 4) ☐ room in private house with cooking facilities
- 5) ☐ single family house
- 6) ☐ married student housing
- 7) ☐ boarding house
- 8) ☐ duplex
- 9) ☐ mobile home
- 10) ☐ other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. When you arrived in Corvallis, how did you find housing through

- 1) ☐ the Office of International Education
- 2) ☐ family or relatives
- 3) ☐ friends
- 4) ☐ students from my country
- 5) ☐ faculty adviser
- 6) ☐ other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. What was the most important reason for selecting your present housing? \_\_\_\_\_

4. How far do you live from the Oregon State University campus?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (blocks or miles)

## 5. Did transportation influence your housing selection?

- 1) ☐ yes
- 2) ☐ no

## 6. How do you get to school?

- 1) ☐ walk
- 2) ☐ bicycle
- 3) ☐ drive your own car
- 4) ☐ share ride with another person
- 5) ☐ other

## 7. Did you select housing

- 1) ☐ so you could live with a person from your home country and cook native foods in your native style cooking and eating?
- 2) ☐ to share a housing with someone from the United States?
- 3) ☐ to share housing with someone from another foreign country?
- 4) ☐ none of the above considered in selecting housing.

8. How important were the following factors in selecting your present housing? (Please check answers)

Factors	<u>1</u> very important	<u>2</u> somewhat important	<u>3</u> not important	<u>4</u> did not consider
1) <u>cost</u>				
2) <u>distance from</u> <u>campus</u>				
3) <u>distance from</u> <u>shopping center</u>				
4) <u>distance from home</u> <u>country friends</u>				
5) <u>separate bedroom</u>				
6) <u>bathroom facilities</u>				
: shower				
: bath tub				
: mirror				
7) <u>kitchen</u>				
: range				
: refrigerator				
: dishwasher				
: garbage disposal				
8) <u>furniture &amp; furnish-</u> <u>ings provided</u>				
: desk				
: study lamp				
: full-length mirror				
: draperies or curtains				
: carpeting				
: television				
9) <u>private phone</u>				
10) <u>equipment</u>				
: washer & drier				
: vacuum cleaner				
11) <u>garage or</u> <u>carport</u>				

9. How long have you lived in present housing? \_\_\_\_\_

10. How many places have you lived since you came to Corvallis? \_\_\_\_\_

11. Have you ever lived in any Oregon State University dormitory?

1) \_\_\_\_\_ yes

2) \_\_\_\_\_ no

If yes, why did you move out? \_\_\_\_\_

12. Do you anticipate changing housing within the next few months?

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ yes  
2) \_\_\_\_\_ no     If yes, why? \_\_\_\_\_

13. Which of the statements below most accurately describes your feelings concerning your present housing?

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ I am satisfied with my present housing.  
2) \_\_\_\_\_ I am somewhat satisfied.  
3) \_\_\_\_\_ I am neutral  
4) \_\_\_\_\_ I am somewhat dissatisfied.  
5) \_\_\_\_\_ I am dissatisfied.

14. Please check the following about your housing.

Factors	<u>1</u> satis- factory	<u>2</u> somewhat satisfactory	<u>3</u> no concern	<u>4</u> unsatis- factory
1) privacy	_____	_____	_____	_____
2) noise	_____	_____	_____	_____
3) ventilation	_____	_____	_____	_____
4) heat control	_____	_____	_____	_____
5) natural light	_____	_____	_____	_____
6) artificial lighting	_____	_____	_____	_____
7) study space	_____	_____	_____	_____
8) storage space	_____	_____	_____	_____
9) space for entertaining guests	_____	_____	_____	_____
10) furnishings	_____	_____	_____	_____

15. Where do you like to study?

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ in your home  
2) \_\_\_\_\_ in Oregon State University library  
3) \_\_\_\_\_ in your office in your department  
4) \_\_\_\_\_ in graduate room in your department  
5) \_\_\_\_\_ other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

16. What problems have you had with regard to housing here?

\_\_\_\_\_

17. Did you have trouble locating a dwelling within your financial means?

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ yes  
2) \_\_\_\_\_ no

18. How are you supported now? (please check as many as are applicable)

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ my own family  
2) \_\_\_\_\_ summer employment  
3) \_\_\_\_\_ part time work during the school year  
4) \_\_\_\_\_ teaching or research assistantship  
5) \_\_\_\_\_ Oregon State University foreign student scholarship  
6) \_\_\_\_\_ my own government support  
7) \_\_\_\_\_ U. S. government sponsorship  
8) \_\_\_\_\_ foundation or association scholarship in USA  
9) \_\_\_\_\_ other

19. If you were an Oregon State University student during the last year (from January through December 31, 1970), what were your total yearly expenses?

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ less than \$1500
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ \$1500 - \$1999
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ \$2000 - \$2499
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_ \$2500 - \$2999
- 5) \_\_\_\_\_ \$3000 - \$3499
- 6) \_\_\_\_\_ \$3500 - \$3999
- 7) \_\_\_\_\_ \$4000 - \$4499
- 8) \_\_\_\_\_ \$4500 - \$4999
- 9) \_\_\_\_\_ \$5000 - \$5499
- 10) \_\_\_\_\_ \$5500 - \$5999
- 11) \_\_\_\_\_ \$6000 - \$6499
- 12) \_\_\_\_\_ \$6500 and over

If you have not been at OSU 12 months, how much do you expect to spend in the year (1971)? \$ \_\_\_\_\_

20. Do you keep records of your housing expenditures?

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ all housing expenditures
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ some housing expenditures
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ no records

21. For your present housing do you:

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ rent
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ own (including buying)

IF YOU RENT, PLEASE ANSWER QUESTIONS 22 & 23.

22. How much rent do you pay per month? \$ \_\_\_\_\_

23. Please check those expenses not included in the rent charge and indicate the amount per month that you pay for them. If you share these expenses with someone else, indicate only the amount you pay.

Estimated actual cost per month:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ gas  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ electricity  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ oil  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ water  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ TV cable or antenna  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ telephone  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ garbage collection  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ furniture payments  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ other

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (per month)

IF YOU OWN, PLEASE ANSWER QUESTION 24.

24. What are your average monthly housing expenditures (including taxes, payments, heating, electricity, telephone, water, garbage, maintenance and repairs, and other housing expenses)?

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (per month)

25. What recommendation do you have for improving student housing in Corvallis?

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THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!!!

## APPENDIX C

## List of Housing Recommendations made by students.

- The government should help private investors and financiers to build multi-story apartment buildings near campus.
- Low cost non-profit university housing and low cost cooperative type of university housing should be provided by the university.
- There should be more low cost married students housing owned by the University.
- The city authority should impose some sort of control on the landlords. Non-profit housing should be offered by the Oregon State University so that students will not be exploited by Corvallis residents.
- Basement rooms must be checked by some authority. Many foreign students live in such rooms since the rent is low. However, these rooms are much below a reasonable standard of living.
- If possible, some arrangements should be made through the school to provide housing facilities to unmarried international students or build international student dormitory.
- Some humanitarian concerns are needed. School should intervene in case of discrimination by the apartment owners.
- Better furniture is needed and repairs should be made when needed.
- The university own and maintain non-deluxe apartments where international students can cook and live.
- More rooming and boarding houses near the university are needed.



- Students should be informed as to their legal responsibilities involved in signing, rental contracts and leases. Cleaning deposits should be returned when apartment is left clean and undamaged. Anything retained by the owner out of that deposit should be itemized.
- Oregon State University dormitory charges are too expensive for most of the foreign students.
- Housing department should return the deposit to a student if he breaks the contract for unforeseen reason. It is ridiculous to confiscate such deposit. A student should be free to leave the dormitory any time without losing deposit.
- Many landlords do not allow cooking. This is very unreasonable especially for those foreign students who cannot eat American foods particularly for the Hindu from India who do not eat meat.
- Housing Department or International Education Office should take care of the new students to find a place to live. It is too hard for the new students to find housing.
- Older houses around campus should be converted into apartments so that the price of the rent might be lower than newer ones.
- Foreign students living in the dormitory should be allowed to stay in the same room at the minimum cost during a short vacation or Christmas vacation. It is the most inconvenient for the foreign students to live at one place and leave the belongings at other places during the vacation.

- University should provide a good Housing Information Center which voluntarily contact possible landlords.
- University should have more facilities to provide different housing types for all students.
- The housing office should be more involved in renting procedures between a student and a private party who rents housing to students. Sometimes a contract is written totally for the owner's favor. The student has to take more responsibility than is necessary.