What is an Ombudsman?

Ombudsman
(om-buh dz-muh n)

• The institution of the ombudsman, first created in Sweden more than 200 years ago, is designed to provide protection for the individual where there is a substantial imbalance of power.
What does the office do?

The University Ombuds Office (UOO) promotes a civil and inclusive campus community by providing informal, impartial, and confidential* conflict management services to all members of the university community.
What services are provided?

Informal, impartial, confidential*

- Informal
  - the UOO is not an office of notice
- Impartial
  - staff listen to all concerns
- Confidential
  - office provides a safe and confidential place to share issues

*Confidentiality cannot be promised in matters relating to threats to public safety, child abuse, if there is imminent risk of serious harm, or if compelled by a court of law.
What will the Ombuds do?

• Value diverse perspectives
• Facilitate communication or mediate between individuals or groups
• Assist in researching resources and options to aid in conflict management
• Assist in navigating the university systems
• Provide presentations and trainings
What will the Ombuds *not* do?

- Advocate for an individual’s personal position
- Breach confidentiality
- Take action without consent
- Act as a witness in a formal grievance
- Keep identifying records
- Violate university policy as part of a solution to your problem
Who are the staff?

Sue Theiss  
University Ombuds

Breanne Taylor  
Associate Ombuds

Robynn Pease  
Faculty Ombuds

Shalece Rains  
Program Administrator
Contact us!

Location
Waldo Hall 116

Office hours
Monday – Friday 9:00-4:00

To schedule an appointment
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For more information
http://ombuds.oregonstate.edu/