

# Co-op board cites three action avenues

By MIKE PETRYNI  
Of the Emerald

The Co-op Board of Directors has planned three definite avenues in which to attack the Co-op's problems.

These avenues were given the general headings of textbooks, merchandising and communications at their meeting Wednesday.

Board director Steve Cassani recently conducted interviews with students. During the course of these interviews it became apparent what were many of the primary concerns of students regarding the Co-op.

"The first concern of the students, of course, is the price of textbooks," Cassani said. "In each instance the students indicated that the store should initiate severe pressure with other book stores to affect the prices set by the book publishers."

Board directors Steve Baker, Phil Barnhart, and Colleen Swanton have been

appointed to attack the textbook problem.

They said they will study the feasibility of initiating pressure on publishers for lower prices. Other plans are to discourage changing of texts by teachers from term to term so that more used books will be available. They said they will try to resolve the problem of constantly shipping in texts and shipping out used texts; plus the problem of overshipment of texts. Precise ordering of texts by the profs would decrease much of the cost of this shipping between the store and the publishers.

They said they hoped to set up more improved communication with the library so that the library will stock books which are in especially high demand at the Co-op.

In the interviews conducted by Cassani, he said, merchandising of the items available on the first floor of the Co-op was a subject of student concern.

"It was a problem of 'you-show-me-any-item-there-and-I'll-show-you-someplace-in-town-where-I-can-get-it-

cheaper,'" Cassani said. "We also have a concern for display and atmosphere too. The people expressed concern that 'one doesn't feel as one should in the student's own store.'"

The board said it has planned how to attack this problem. Director Fred Hugi said he will form a liaison with the business school so that the board will have available intensive research on the Co-op operation. He hopes that business school teachers will allow students to pick areas in the Co-op as projects for analysis. With this research available the board hopes to streamline the areas in the store that may not be filling student needs and open avenues for increased consideration of those needs.

All of the investigatory research will be coordinated through the Board of Directors, G.L. Hensen, manager of the store, and the teacher of the student involved.

Phil Barnhart, president of the Board, said, "We are always looking for the answers to two questions. What are student

needs? Can we supply it for less? If we don't answer both, one negates the other."

In connection with that, Hugi said he will study the possibility of buying merchandise in greater bulk and a renewed consideration of the sources of supply, with the view of cutting costs.

Cassani reported that his interviewing showed that there is a breakdown in communication between the Board and the student body they represent. "There was repeated insistence of failure of the way the store is dealing with the public," he said. "There was no feeling for the operation of the Board."

The Board said it plans to take special pains to reopen this communication. Directors Cassani and Jeff Weller plan to write a series of articles on the operations of the Co-op. The articles will be to improve understanding of the problems the store faces in its operations from the rebate policy to cost-profit margins. They will set up a table, also, on the EMU terrace so that students may air their complaints about the Co-op.

## Gift Fair to be held

YMCA-YWCA's International Gift Fair will provide a chance for students and members of the

community to do their Christmas shopping early.

Scheduled for Nov. 29 through Dec. 5, the fair will offer imported goods from Taiwan, the Phillipines, Africa, Yugoslavia, Mexico, Ecuador, and Finland. It will be held in room 101, Erb Memorial Union weekdays from

9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 29 from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday Dec. 5 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Items such as wood carvings, jewelry, candles, ceramics, glassware, candy and clothing will be offered at moderate prices.

## SDG probes reinstatement

Policies concerning probation, disqualification, and reinstatement were discussed by the Scholastic Deficiency Committee (SDC) at two meetings this past week.

On the question of reinstatement, the committee decided that for now present guidelines would be followed and the SDC would attempt to evolve a set of guidelines during the year based on the individual cases brought before the committee.

Until then, the committee will evaluate how time away from the University was spent; military service, employment, prolonged illness, or academic work done at other institutions.

SDC also decided that going on and off probation would be automatic, according to the standards printed in the time schedule and that latitude be given the Registrar to cancel probation actions based on receipt of late grades which change apparent status.

## Grads approve EMU addition

The Graduate Student Council voted Wednesday to support the proposed addition to the EMU.

The action followed a presentation of the proposed plans by Architect George Sheldon.

ASUO and University Folk Music Club present

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