

Toward ending discrimination

Leo Laurence begins 'money' strategy

Leo Laurence's strategy has changed. He still wants homosexuals included in the University's Oct. 15 anti-discrimination program. But he now wants to form a new coalition of minority groups in Eugene, "each group maintaining its own interest, but collectively moving toward the same thing: revision of that program." So Laurence is no longer trying to work with university administrators. He is communicating directly with the agency responsible for enforcement of federal anti-discrimination orders: the U.S. Department of Health Education and Welfare.

Laurence has written the regional Office of Civil Rights, HEW, in Seattle, several times during the past three weeks, asking HEW to reject the University's anti-discrimination program.

And if HEW rejects the program, about \$17 million in annual federal money given to the University is put in jeopardy.

"We have to realize that money is powerful," he says. "So the tactic now is to stop \$17 million from coming here to the University, thus forcing the University to deal with minorities."

Laurence, 38, has run a private consulting agency in Eugene since mid-August. Before coming to Eugene, he says he was (for varied lengths of time) a journalist, a Methodist minister, a deputy sheriff, a legislative lobbyist and a public relations director.

His most recent letter to HEW says his agency has received documentation which seems to indicate a "denial" of the anti-discrimination program.

Laurence's letter, dated Nov. 20, concludes that federal funds should be denied the University because it is not trying to "aggressively add"

minorities to its staff. Enclosed with his letter is a mailing from the University seeking nominations for the position of architecture department head which makes "no mention" of minorities, he says.

Laurence says that confronting HEW is his present course of action because the University administration has become unresponsive. Clark wrote him a letter a month ago saying that he has "nothing further to say," to Laurence other than agreeing with Vice President Harry Alpert's position on not including gay persons in the program.

"The University made a very strategic blunder when they refused to even discuss this issue," Laurence says about Clark's letter.

"And we will take this to our advantage. The affirmative action program has got to be a bummer, especially in enforcement. There is no real part in enforcement from the minority communities. The whole thing has got to be rewritten."

"Everything I've done is to stop that federal money from coming to the University. And we need to find more blatant areas of discrimination. The most effective way doing this is to form a coalition."

"When Clark sent me that letter," Laurence says, "I didn't realize that we had a gold mine. The public didn't believe it. The public is ready for this issue. It is a clean issue—equal employment opportunity."

"When the University said (through Clark's letter) that it didn't include gay persons in the program, it hung up the flag that said 'We are against you.'"

What if HEW approves of the University's anti-discrimination program?

"It appears," he says, "that there is no question it will have to go into court."



Leo Laurence

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Course changes made by Liberal Arts faculty

The political science department will decrease its total hours by 10 hours next school year with the reduction of many five hour courses to three hour courses.

The action was approved at Monday's meeting of the College of Liberal Arts faculty. Also approved were additions and changes in all other departments of the College.

According to Political Science department head James Klonoski, the return to the 3 hour system came about because of no College-wide shift to five hours. In a memo to the College Course Committee (in charge of developing curricular changes), Klonoski said that although the experiment proved "more successful than unsuccessful," he was recommending reversion to the three hour system because there had been no indication of a College-wide move in that direction.

The political science courses with hour reductions range from PS 100 American Governments: Concepts and Institutions to PS 509 Teaching Practicum.

The department is also dropping eight courses and adding seven. One of the additions, PS 210 Practical Law for Non-lawyers, taught by James Levine, inspired some discussion at the meeting.

A faculty member questioned whether the course was a duplication of one (L 430 Law, Its Processes and Functions) already taught in the Law School.

Levine argued that his course was not a duplication, but intended to provide rudimentary knowledge of law to undergraduates. "To my knowledge no where else in the University do undergraduates have the opportunity to get broad-based knowledge about the law," he said. "There is a need to fill the gap."

He added that his course will deal with the substance of law while the Law School's deals more with process. "I want to get it to people at the lower level," Levine said. "Frankly I think this course should be taught in high school."

Other discussion at the meeting concerned two motions presented by David Moursund, head of the Computer science department. Both were referred back to the College Curriculum Committee for further study.

However Glen Starlin, professor of speech, said the Curriculum Committee was working to do away with cross-listing.

Moursund replied that his motion was really part of a larger question. He said if each department started teaching their own computer science courses, the result would be that the "understaffed" university computing department would become more of a service department rather than grow professionally.

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COOP STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE

The Co-op Board of Directors has been seeking ways to increase the benefits of the Co-op to its members. We have learned that there has been a large problem in theft of textbooks. According to estimates of the manager and rough estimation of the Board based on articles retrieved on apprehension of thieves, about 56 per cent of our losses come in this area, to a monetary loss of between \$8,000.00 and \$10,000.00 yearly.

A possible solution to this problem is to turn to partial over-the-counter sales. The evidence suggests that most theft is not during peak, beginning-of-semester rushes; it comes during the rest of the year when potential thieves evidently feel that the books are not being watched as closely as earlier. We feel that over-the-counter sales of texts after the third week of each term should considerably reduce this problem.

If this policy does go into effect, it will entail certain changes in the procedure of text buying that some persons may find inconvenient. The pleasure of wandering through open stacks of texts will be gone after the third week. In its place, the post-third week buyer will come to a counter and will obtain his book from the attendant on hand. This will involve a small amount of time wasted for the purchaser but there certainly will not be a long wait involved, as most students will have bought their books by the third week. Lists of courses and books will be provided at the counter for those students who are not certain of the text they require. As theft should be virtually eliminated, this decline in freedom of the purchaser should put the above-stated \$8,000.00 to \$10,000.00 back into the rebate fund at the end of the year.

The Board desires to investigate student feelings on a change of such importance. If you have an opinion to voice on this, please fill in the form below and bring it to the lobby of the Co-op during the next week. There will be a box for your forms.

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NO	YES
I feel that the increase in benefits does not warrant taking away open-stack privileges after the third week. <input type="checkbox"/>	I feel that the increase in benefits does compensate for the loss of service to the students and faculty. <input type="checkbox"/>

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