

ASUO budget is sound

The ASUO Fiscal Committee has taken a new tack in its thinking about the ASUO budget this year and it is a sound one. The committee's major philosophy in looking at proposed budgets has been one of looking for the greatest benefit for the greatest number of students. This philosophy is not a new one but it is new to the fiscal committee.

Many people are not happy with their individual budgets and some adjustments will be made. But cuts had to be made to reduce incidental fees and most of the cuts are sound.

One of the more controversial and least understood cuts was in Supportive Services; Project Continuation, Project Life, Project 75 and SESAMEX. None of these programs has been budgeted by the fiscal committee this year, they have been given nothing for next year. This does not mean, however, that these programs will be without money for emergencies and sudden contingencies. A voluntary check-off system will be instituted so students may indicate whether they wish the remainder of their breakage deposit to be assigned to these programs. ASUO President Iain More has already given these programs priority for the distribution of this money.

Another complete cut was in Forensics. This cut is easily justified under the fiscal committee's criteria of the "most good for the most students." The majority of the forensics budget was used for travel expenses for eight or ten people to attend debate tournaments. Only a small portion of the budget was allocated for speakers to travel around the state and speak at civic organizations; the most justifiable part of the budget but dubious in itself.

Other complete cuts made were Illahe School, a project that has been under fire for some time; the Interfraternity Council, which should be supported interfraternally rather than by the majority of students who do not live in fraternities; Native American Tutorial Program, a duplication of services and the Student Bar Association, which was eventually put under the Graduate Student Council budget. This shows the members of the fiscal committee took an unusually hard and cold look at budgets this year and this is proper in times when a university survey showed the majority of students who failed to return to the University did so because they could not afford to.

It was interesting to note that women and their interests were considered in a favorable light by the committee. University Feminists were recommended to receive \$2365.85 for its programs. This money, if approved by the senate, should not be considered as a payment out of guilt but rather as money for a group with a very large constituency.

Two increases also need to be explained. The ASUO executive's budget was increased from the requested \$25,830 to \$56,830. This is because of subscription negotiations with the Emerald and not some mad grab for high salaries. Also the senate gained nearly \$10,000. This includes travel budgets and other funds so that requests may be held accountable. The fiscal committee and the senate will handle this money.

All in all this is probably the best thought out budget in years. It is not perfect and the senate will make some adjustments, but it is a good first step in re-thinking how student incidental fees will be spent. It is now up to the senate. Hopefully they will be as creative and careful in their changes as the fiscal committee was.

Letters

A few corrections

There were a few inaccuracies in the article in Tuesday's Emerald entitled, "Experimental college proposals discussed." The article reported segments of a meeting held last Friday by the Educational Experimentation, Innovation, and Improvement committee to develop a proposal for a new University-wide college. The inaccuracies:

1. We are not talking about "a school with no classes and no teachers." Rather, we are talking about a college which would be the gathering point for interdisciplinary, independent, and experimental studies at the University. Classes are very much a part of our proposal; teachers, or at least facilitators, are essential.

2. The new college would not be a "redesignation of the Honors College." Rather, the new college would be a University-wide program (the Honors College is in the College of Liberal Arts). We do hope to be able to incorporate the Independent Studies program (now in the Honors College) and make it University-

wide. But other than that, our proposal is quite separate from the Honors College.

3. We are not talking about simply an "experimental college." Rather, we are talking about a college which incorporates interdisciplinary, independent, and experimental studies. At this time, given the University's financial crisis, we are not talking about any new programs—only a reorganization of existing programs presently scattered across the University.

4. We are not, at this time, talking about a college "almost entirely composed of independent studies." Again, we are dealing within the present financial constraints of the University. Initially, Independent Studies would only be a minor part of the new college. We would hope, however, that as money became available that the University would consider enlarging the Independent Studies program a top priority.

I hope this helps clear up whatever ambiguity may exist between what people read in the Emerald and what they may have heard us say.

David Sonnenfeld
Sociology

Co-op

If the Co-op is so concerned about "inefficient and economically unsound" business practices as to defeat the

proposal to hire only students (the only "co-operative" move that has been attempted around that giant misnomer sitting on the corner of 13th and Kincaid), then why does it maintain the highly

inefficient gift "shoppe" and jewelry display areas and their attendant personnel, which serve only a small percentage of the students and just add to the overhead? If the Co-op was staffed by its

student members—more in true "Co-op form—perhaps it would be more aware of and responsive to today's students' interests, at least as far as merchandise and appeal is concerned, and some of its present overhead could be returned to its members in the form of increased rebates.

Harriet Reynolds
Senior

Project Puritan

My friends on the faculties of the University of Oregon and Oregon State University have codenamed a plan to restore the Catholic-Protestant traditions of all-out sacrifice for our churches and education which constitute part of our sacred heritage brought to the Willamette Valley by the pioneers since the days of the Hudson's Bay Company and the arrival in our valley of Catholic and Protestant missionaries.

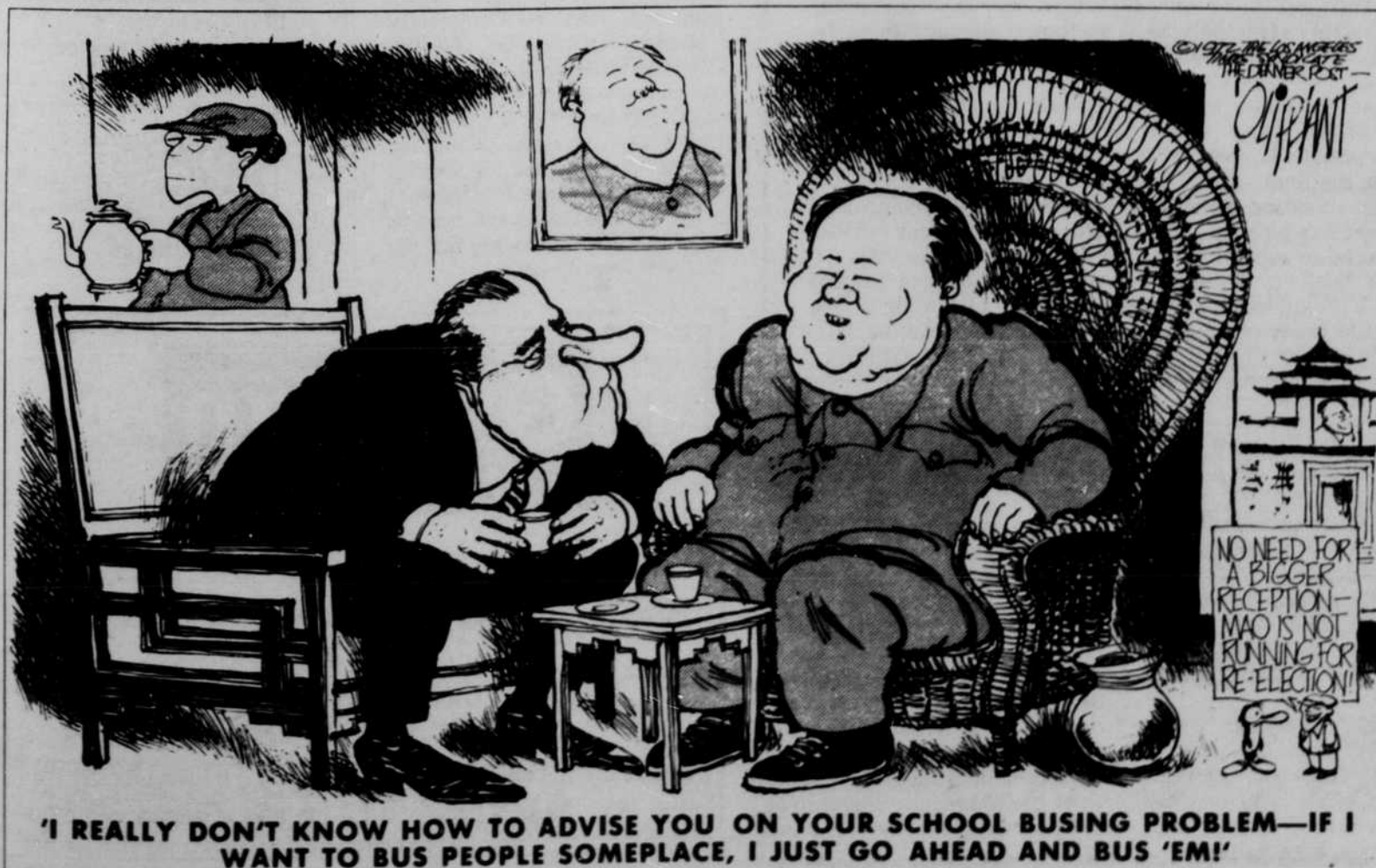
The codename of this plan has been designated by Dr. John MacGregor, professor of sociology at Oregon State University who has given us the designation, Project Puritan.

The point of departure of Project Puritan is what the late and very great Harvard historian and all-time authority on American Puritanism, Professor Perry Miller, held in his views of the Willamette Valley. He stated that in the last century the moral, spiritual, intellectual and ecclesiastical center of gravity of this republic moved out from Boston and New England after the Civil War to the Willamette Valley. Professor Miller showed that in terms of new ideas and programs our valley had tended to become the great national bastion of revolutionary Catholic-Protestant Puritanism in the noblest and finest sense of the term. Hence, Professor Miller held, the Willamette Valley became the moral, spiritual, intellectual and religious think-tank of this country as Boston formerly was. Perry Miller's views have been generally accepted by other historians.

Project Puritan would, using foundation money, assemble and trace the 140-year history of the underground, the Puritan underground, and its incredible record of close Catholic-Protestant fierce dedication and collaboration in moral, spiritual, intellectual and ecclesiastical challenges. My friends feel our underground tradition of willingness to put life and property on the line for church and education is in deadly peril.

The hope is that real valley history as above described, once written, will help to re-educate our people and educate newcomers and help reverse the withering climates of Judaism and Christianity and their historic handmaiden, education. Our churches, synagogues, schools, colleges and universities are facing desperate times.

Robert Prescott, Jr.
Eugene



'I REALLY DON'T KNOW HOW TO ADVISE YOU ON YOUR SCHOOL BUSING PROBLEM—IF I WANT TO BUS PEOPLE SOMEPLACE, I JUST GO AHEAD AND BUS 'EM!'