

# Reapportionment vote slated

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Of the Emerald

Students will be asked to choose between six alternative methods of structuring the ASUO Senate in a referendum on the general election ballot this Wednesday and Thursday.

ASUO ad hoc reapportionment committee head Mike Marsh outlined the plans students will choose from as follows:

—Geographical representation (45 senators). This is the present system. Representatives are elected from the dormitories, fraternities and sororities, off campus and at-large areas. The plan leaves the largest division, off-campus with over half of the senate representatives and an extremely vague constituency.

—Class Divisions (45 senators). In this plan the senate would be apportioned proportionately to the number of students in each class. Reapportioning would be done every ter using the previous terms' enrollment figures.

—Departmental Representation (33 senators). Each academic department would have proportional representation—approximately one senator per 500 students who are majors. The senators would be accountable to their constituent areas, especially when specific items concerning academic areas come up.

—At-large (30 senators). This plan would leave each senator with no defined constituency excepting the entire campus. Ten senators would be elected each term.

—Residency class, academic and ethnic representation (45 senators). This plan, former senator Fred Loveys' work, defines senatorial constituencies. It identifies particular University groups with specific representation. Also the plan shows an involvement in the work of academic departments.

—Academic Council (15 senators), Community Senate (30 senators). The academic council will exist to establish cooperation and work with the academic departments to initiate programs, policies and activities. Representatives will be elected by department. The community senate will be charged with the budgetary matters of the ASUO and ASUO programs.

The restructuring of the senate in order to make it more responsive to students wishes and make senators' constituencies more defined has been debated by the senate for over a year. The senate is presently apportioned by geographic living areas.

The senate's ad hoc reapportionment committee formed two weeks ago to draw up a group of plans after it became evident to the senate that

former Senator Fred Loveys would get the 1500 student signatures needed to place his reapportionment plan on the general election ballot. Loveys' plan which would apportion the senate with academic, ethnic, residence and class representation would have appeared on the ballot as a binding constitutional amendment. The senate referendum containing all six plans is an advisory, non-binding recommendation to the senate.

Loveys told the Emerald Friday that in light of the senate decision to make the reapportionment vote non-binding, he has decided to gather enough signatures to place his plan on the ballot by initiative petition. If his plan were passed, it would be binding on the senate.

Loveys has 1200 signatures, and must collect about 300 more before Tuesday evening for his plan to be considered separately.

Senator Marsh explained that the reason for the referendum is to provide students with alternatives to Loveys' plan and the present system. "With a choice just between Loveys' plan and the present system there is really no choice at all," Marsh said.

"The reason I made the motion (to put alternatives on the ballot) in the first place was because there are senators and students who want reapportionment but not Loveys' plan," Marsh explained.

"Some of the senators wanted to water down Loveys' plan so that it would become ineffective, but this was not the purpose of our committee. The charge of the committee was to come up with a viable alternative to Loveys' plan and the present system," Marsh said.

"I chose to put so many plans on the ballot because that's how many viable plans I saw. The committee eliminated plans we felt were unworkable, and narrowed it down to the basic areas of apportionment," Marsh said.

Marsh said the committee limited the number of alternatives because they didn't feel students could keep up with information if more than six plans were presented. "They wouldn't be able to make an intelligent vote."

Marsh explained that there will be a discription of each plan at the polling places, but that the ballots will contain only the titles and the number of senators involved in each plan.

Marsh said that after the election, the senate will probably debate the top two plans, and work out one of them so it can be put into effect. "If the students pass Loveys' plan, we would extract the parts we liked best," Marsh said. "We would debate Loveys' plan, and act on it after revising it slightly or maybe not at all."

There will be an open hearing on the six plans at 7 p.m. tonight in 112 EMU.



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