

ASUO assistant Travis says he 'greases cogs' in new post

"Communication is my most important product," Tim Travis says.

As chief ASUO Administrative Assistant, his job is to "grease

the cogs" and work with the ASUO program directors.

Actually, the job is very unstructured and "I do whatever I want to do," he says.

Travis is one of the ASUO Executive's three administrative assistants. The other two are Paige Jackson and someone who will be named in the fall. Travis and Jackson's appointments were confirmed by the ASUO Senate at its meeting June 28.

Travis was interviewed by the Emerald last week (Jackson is out of town for the summer.)

The ASUO is more powerful and more respected by the "grown-up administration" than most student governments, Travis says. He credits this to the "good people" who have worked in ASUO government over the past few years, especially the 1971-72 ASUO President Iain More and Vice President Larry Salmony.

A few years ago, Travis says, the ASUO was only concerned about things like Homecoming and Parents' Weekend, but now it is concerned with programs that directly involve and benefit the student.

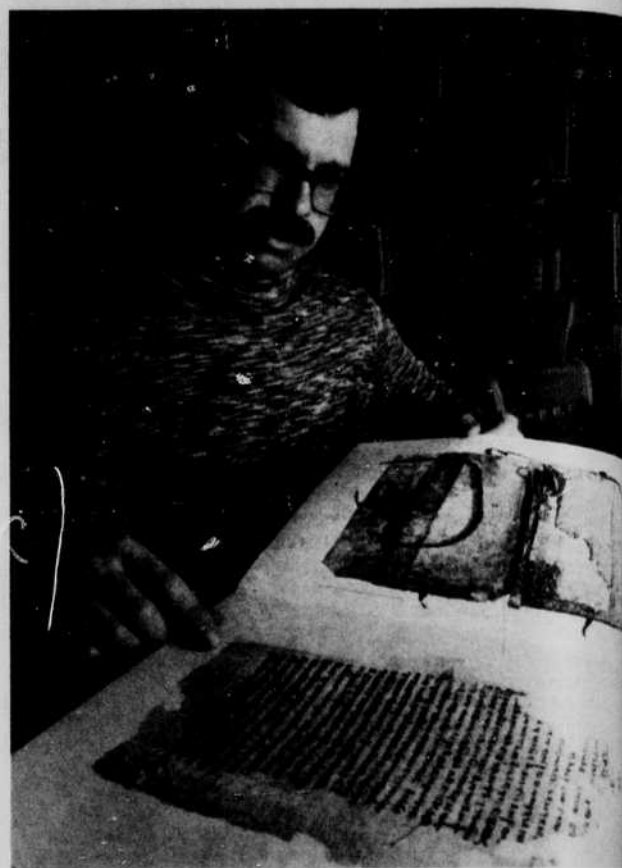
Travis says of his background, "I come right out of the radical left." Three years ago he was a member of a strike committee and "was the only member that didn't get busted." He worked as Administrative Assistant to 1970-71 ASUO president Ron Eachus and worked last year on committee appointments.

He has always been interested in student government and is currently writing a treatise on student government in the post-industrial society. He has also been active in national politics. Last winter he worked on Paul McCloskey's presidential campaign.

While he was in the Marine Corps in Hawaii in 1968, he worked on Robert Kennedy's campaign. "I got a lot of flak from the Marines about that," he says, "working for an anti-war candidate."

Travis is also a writer. Two years ago he wrote a regular column for the Emerald called "Apocalypse."

Next year he plans to submit another column dealing with the ASUO. He is a history major and is writing two books, one about Oregon history and one about Hitler. He also plans to get a degree in biology.



Jack Sanders, professor of religious studies, looks over Codex VI.

Facsimile of ancient codice

Alpert receives book

Because of his position as a member of the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), Vice-President for Academic Affairs Harry Alpert has received an unusual reproduction of ancient literature, which he recently presented to the library.

Known as the Nag Hammadi Codex VI, the book is the first in a projected series of 10 volumes of photofacsimiles of documents which date back to the fourth century A.D.

The originals were first discovered 27 years ago by peasants digging in a graveyard near Nag Hammadi in central Egypt. The workers unearthed a jar containing 13 leather-encased papyrus books, known as codices, which contained previously untold stories of Jesus and the

Apostles and revealed the beliefs of an off-beat Egyptian religious sect of that time.

They were written in Coptic, a language derived from ancient Egyptian, but using Greek letters, and are believed to have been buried in the sand about 1600 years ago. The dry Egyptian climate has kept them almost perfectly preserved, though fragmented.

According to Jack Sanders of the department of religious studies, the codices contain little of traditional Christian lore, although some familiar names and places are mentioned.

The codices, which are of uncertain origin, concern themselves with Gnosticism, a religious philosophy of salvation by revealed knowledge popular during the pre-Christian and early Christian eras. Gnosticism could be either pagan or Christian and the Nag Hammadi writings express a blend of Christian and other ideas.

The Nag Hammadi codices themselves are now preserved in the Coptic Museum in Cairo and were made available for reproduction under an agreement between UNESCO and the Arab Republic of Egypt. They are regarded by religious scholars as ranking in importance with the Dead Sea Scrolls which were discovered in 1947, and their publication has been long awaited by scholars throughout the world.

Preparation of the volumes is being done by an international team headed by James M. Robinson, director of the Claremont Graduate School's Institute for Antiquity and Christianity in Claremont, California.

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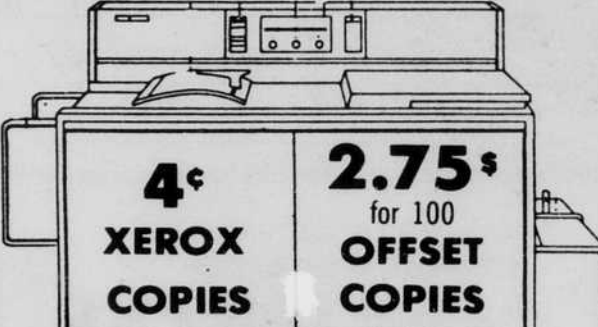
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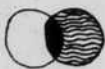
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