

Speaker urges 'definite ideas' in building women's studies

By GLORIA WROTEN
Of the Emerald

It started slowly. Only six women were waiting when the women's studies meeting was scheduled to start at 4 p.m. at the Newman Center. But by the time the meeting got under way 15 minutes later, the crowd had swelled to 50. Before the meeting concluded, about 70 women had discussed their ideas about designing a women's studies program at the University.

Once the meeting began, Jamie Burcart told of the difficulties she found in starting the women's studies program at the University of New Mexico. She stated that only a few women were interested in finding out about themselves through the different modes of education.

Burcart stated she and another instructor had planned to act as a team in teaching the course, both of them thinking it would be a one-shot type of thing. Yet when a few hundred women had signed up for the course, the formation of women's studies program was just around the corner. That was three years ago.

Burcart spoke of the women's studies program moving towards granting degrees in that field. "Don't be vague" Burcart warned the group. She said organizers must walk into the administration office with a clear idea as to what the women's studies program will be like, the cost, books intended for use in the course, possible instructors, whether it will be interdisciplinary or within the regular university, things of that nature. She advised to have it all in writing and be prepared to present the plan with confidence.

Another speaker at the three hour meeting was Jeanette Silveira, one of the instructors of the University's Introduction to Women's Studies course. Silveira remarked that it seems a bit odd that the University's need of women's studies program is so great and in demand, and so nice to have, yet the University won't even pay her the minimum wage for teaching the course. Silveira said she is being paid \$342 for teaching 140 students about themselves and women.

She said in the past there have been a few related courses about women and their lifestyle, but these have been one-shot ventures as a result of graduate

students fulfilling last minute projects for their majors or visiting instructors teaching one or two term courses.

She said it is very necessary for the present women's studies course to be taught at least twice a year. Silveira said her personal demand of the University would be that money be provided for the formation of a women's center, of which the cost would be divided for rent, books, office materials, workstudy employees, and hiring fulltime personnel to run the center.

She stated a portion of the money should be used to hire faculty and that those faculty personnel would be a part of the regular faculty.

The hiring of women was another point Silveira brought up. The consensus of the group was only women should teach courses offered by the women's studies program. Women counselors should also be provided in helping the women select courses relevant to her. Silveira further clarified her thought by stating these courses should be divided into two areas: introductory courses and graduate seminars.

It was Silveira's hope that different departments would formulate their own women's studies courses to act as in between courses — or courses taken after the introductory courses.

Her idea was to push all other departments in designing women's studies courses within their field of study — thus covering just about all the areas in education.

Silveira also stated "we can't put all the pressure on (President Robert) Clark" but also apply pressure to those that are applying pressure on Clark.

After Silveira's talk the meeting broke up into seven groups of about six to 12 women.

After the small groups met for about 30 minutes, each group selected one or two women to act as representatives for their group. When the women joined together, each representative told of the plans and ideas that were being discussed in her group.

The women decided what they wanted most were courses about auto repair, women in history, law and women, sex roles, rap session courses, evolution of sexism, the role of third world women, the role of the gay person and a special course for men: men's introduction to feminism.

in Eugene visit

Board, students discuss issues

By CLAY EALS
Of the Emerald

Elizabeth Johnson on student government:

"It is in an awfully tough spot. Students think of it as a government, but it really isn't a government."

George Layman on the 1973 State Legislature:

"In the past, we've had a lot of attack . . . because of the unrest situation. But this time, we will have a friendlier atmosphere. It will be better."

John Snider on tuition:

"Nobody really wants to raise tuition . . . but there really isn't anyone to blame."

Lorna Stewart on foreign student scholarships:

"On the average, foreign students need a break in tuition. . . I think it's a consensus on the board."

Johnson, Layman, Snider and Stewart are all members of the Board of Higher Education, and University students had a chance for about an hour Monday to talk with them in the EMU Dad's Room.

The four board members talked with students as part of an all-day visitation of the University. Besides talking with about 30 to 40 interested students during the morning, the four met with University administrators,

faculty, and members of the Eugene City Council.

There wasn't any formal presentation for the board members talk with students. Rather, the format was very loose, the board members sitting with groups of students, discussing whatever the students brought up.

Stewart, in answer to questions about a possible increase for the next school year, said the possibility for such an increase is "very small."

"Frankly, I don't think tuition is going to be increased," he said. "There will be some budgetary adjustments . . . we'll try to reach something that is fair and something which will run the schools well."

Snider said "there isn't any immediate answer" to the fact that tuition has steadily risen during the past few years. "Maybe some legal guidelines are needed," he said. "Right now it's an escape hatch" for the State System of Higher Education budget when it isn't funded enough by the state, he said.

Board members answered questions on several other topics. Women's studies: "It's a new thought to me," said Layman. He compared women's studies to ethnic studies, saying, "First, you integrate, and then you pull them apart." He said no state system institution has proposed a women's studies program to the board yet.

Commenting on the issue of tenure for college and University professors, Layman said the board's academic affairs committee is studying tenure, and that the issue is "in abeyance" currently.

He said the 1973 State Legislature may consider setting guidelines for tenure, but, "I'm against this. It (tenure) is really an administrative function of the board, rather than a legislative function."

Snider said of the Newbury Amendment, "There are serious problems with it", but if students put together a "concise, well put together presentation . . . and kept hammering away at it," the amendment may be repealed.

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