

Amendment deserves consideration

A number of students active in ASUO government have proposed an amendment to the ASUO constitution which would abolish the ASUO senate.

The plan represents a radical departure from standard reapportionment and re-organization plans which are periodically offered as cure-alls for student government's impotence.

Backers of the plan need 1,500 student signatures on a petition to place the measure on the ASUO general election ballot.

Because the plan deserves consideration by the student body, the Emerald endorses efforts to gain the required signatures.

(A copy of the petition is printed elsewhere on this page. Students may sign

the petition and deposit it at designated tables on the EMU terrace and at the Co-op.)

The amendment would eliminate the legislative branch of ASUO government for one year, while retaining virtually intact, the executive branch.

Allocation of incidental fees, the primary function of the current senate, would be handled by a five-man elected incidental fee committee. In addition, the ASUO president would create a constitutional committee to interpret and implement the new constitution during its year of operation.

The president would also appoint an investigating committee charged with the task of developing a new form of student-faculty government for the University.

This is the most important provision of the amendment in terms of long-range potential.

Student government can be viable only if it shares responsibility with the University faculty. Responsibility is not shared under the present system.

The proposed amendment cannot force faculty members to open governance processes to students. But it is designed to eliminate the charade that students do share responsibility, a charade perpetuated by the senate.

At least, backers of the amendment feel that by eliminating the senate it will be possible to force the University to include students in school governance.

The idea is appealing, and certainly deserves consideration by the students.

Letters

Ordinary person

The easiest way to write someone off is to make them tragic in a narrow sense and different from you. But I refuse to be part of your transvestite ghetto. I am going to Los Angeles to be part of a film, and I intend to be both a professor, an occasional whore and an ordinary human being.

I am just an ordinary person who doesn't believe in sex roles especially in their gender identification sense. The fact that I am not basically gay is a point you refused to make clear because it is actually more of a threat to most males' and some females' carefully prepared images and is intended to be in open non-ghetto social situations (in that sense another part of the hip tribal revolution).

I am not yet great enough to be a true clown and totally erase personality in attending to my search, but then how many are?

Sabina
(A. Michael Weber)

Morally bankrupt

The ASUO Senate has one chance to salvage its reputation on campus: by getting behind the check-off plan and making it work. The students voted the plan in last spring; the Senate has taken nearly a year to determine that it is constitutional. The plan is feasible: I have a friend who can solve the technical problems and who has offered his services gratis.

If the Senate delays further, or decides that the referendum can be ignored, it will show itself to be morally bankrupt. The ASUO programs and the administration will walk all over the Senate in the budgetary hearings, since it will be apparent that the Senate represents no one and adheres to no principles.

In addition, I and others of like mind will be tempted to consider non-violent resistance to the Senate, e.g. sit-ins, withholding of incidental fees, lawsuits, etc.

John Winkelman
grad, psych

Library hours

Lately I've been pondering over the question of: what is the main goal of the University? When one is ousted from the Library at 10:00 P.M., one begins to wonder if the obvious answer to the above question is incorrect.

Closing the Library at 10:00 presents a real problem for education. The Library provides the research materials and the study facilities, which are the backbone of learning. I trust most all of us will still

agree that education is the main goal of a University, so why this roadblock in the educational setup?

The University administration, continually claims that there just aren't enough funds to keep the Library open past 10:00 (past 5:00 on Saturday). I find it interesting that they seem to find enough money to prune rose bushes outside of Villard Hall and also to purchase machinery to clean up leaves from the lawns around the campus!

It seems to me that research and studying should be given a higher priority than rose bushes and leaf-free lawns. All I ask, is that the University administration direct more of their funds toward areas that are conducive to a student's education, which is the main goal of the University. Please gentlemen, let's see the Library stay open till at least 12:00, seven nights a week.

Jeff Lang
History
ASUO Governing Committee

Better governance

Petitions are currently circulating to place a constitutional amendment on the coming ASUO election ballots; an amendment abolishing the ASUO Senate as an arm of student "government." (By signing the petition you won't necessarily be endorsing the plan itself, but just the notion that this is a timely issue, and that

the student body at large deserves the right to a public vote on the future of the ASUO Senate.)

The Senate is an impotent body; we've all been witness to that fact the last few weeks, and it's doubtful whether anything can be done to alter the situation, at least within the context of the present basic structure. It's a mistake to blame the Senate's incompetency on any one individual or group, when the real roots of the problem lie in its structurally determined position in the power relationships of university governance.

As long as the ASUO Senate remains separated from the faculty decision-making process (and thereby subject to its absolute veto power), it's also going to remain structurally subordinate, hamstrung, essentially impotent and illegitimate.

What the student community needs in order to be fairly represented in university decision-making is a system of equal co-governance; i.e., a joint legislative body involving both students and faculty on equal terms. This won't be easy. As a necessary prerequisite to success in negotiating a new system, we've got to make it absolutely explicit once and for all that the present form of student pseudo-government is simply not acceptable or adequate to serve student interests. Hence, the abolition of the Senate.

This isn't just a nihilistic plan to destroy the ASUO Senate; it was carefully and thoughtfully executed with the interests of the student community in mind. The in-

cidental fee programs will still be funded and administered by an elected interim committee, and will not suffer loss of funds by the passage of this plan. What we'll be doing is merely dispelling the illusion (delusion?) that the ASUO Senate has any real "legislative" powers or functions, and paving the way for a viable and legitimate system of university governance.

The plan's going to require over 1,600 signatures in order to be placed on the ballot. Please come on over to the EMU anytime this week to talk it over and sign the petition if you believe we deserve a better form of governance than the ASUO Senate's been able to provide.

Bob Reno
343-8729

Not clear

Your review: "Contrasts: Real and Man-Made Art," by Stephen Bangs, Emerald Thurs. Feb. 8.

Your review was quite adequate and should be praised. I take issue on one point—the over kill craftsmanship you find in my plastic box sculptures was not an intended nuance, but rather a pretentious statement about artifacts, art objects etc. and their institutional over display.

I am sorry this was not clear as I had intended.

Mike Walsh
Artist

Amendment petition

Editor's Note: Following is the petition for the proposed amendment to the ASUO Constitution. The amendment requires 1,600 signatures if it is to be placed on the general election ballot.

Students may sign this petition and deposit it with petitioners on the EMU terrace and at the Co-Op today and Thursday.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES MADE:

1. The ASUO Senate is abolished.
2. An Incidental Fees committee is established (temporarily) to allocate, with the Executive, the Incidental Fee for the 1973-74 Fiscal Year.
3. A special committee is appointed by the ASUO President to begin immediate negotiations with the faculty and administration of the University, and with the State Board of Higher Education, with the purpose of designing, and implementing, a system of University governance involving both students and faculty in a single legislative body.
4. The new Constitution self-destructs on June 15, 1974. (Please be sure to read the full text of the revised

Constitution, available in the ASUO Vice-President's office.)

PETITION TO PLACE A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ON THE GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, having seen and understood the proposed amendments to the present ASUO Constitution, do petition that the following be placed on the general election ballot:

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

That Articles III through XII, inclusive, of the present ASUO Constitution, be deleted and replaced by Revised Articles III through XIII, the intent of which is summarized below:

1. The ASUO Senate is abolished.
2. An Incidental Fees committee is established (temporarily) to allocate, with the Executive, the Incidental Fee for the 1973-74 Fiscal Year.

3. A special committee is appointed by the ASUO President to begin immediate negotiations with the faculty and administration of the University, and with the State Board of Higher Education, with the purpose of designing, and implementing, a system of University governance involving both students and faculty in a single legislative body.
4. The new Constitution self-destructs on June 15, 1974.

The full text of the Revised Articles is available in the Office of the Vice-President and has been published in the Oregon Daily Emerald.

PLEASE SIGN

Name

Telephone Number

Social Security Number

Are you a student winter term 1973?