

# AD funding cut in new budget proposals

By JIM WORLEIN  
Of the Emerald

The ASUO Executive Budget hearings for the 1975-76 fiscal year are under way and this branch of student government has already set about to follow its designed criteria to keep the entire ASUO budget within last year's boundaries.

Earlier this week the executive met with the Athletic Department, the second largest recipient of ASUO funds, and discussed next year's allotment.

The over-riding factor in this and other budget meetings is the ASUO executives budget criteria but the AD is faced with a new philosophy to student's partial funding of the department.

ASUO Administrative Assistant John Eliassen said a different approach is being taken towards the AD funding. "The way it's different is in the way we're looking at it," he explained, "We've never delineated whether the AD is a program or entertainment." Basically, the new philosophy means the ASUO will be paying for a specific amount of entertainment instead of subsidising the AD with a lump sum.

The ASUO Executive used a formula based on price per number of seats available to students at athletic events. Thus the ASUO is being more specific in what it's getting for its money. It will pay a certain amount of dollars for a certain amount of seats at specific number of events.

Through this formula the ASUO came up with what it

thought was a reasonable figure, approximately \$138,000. For the past three years the AD has received about \$150,000 per year.

This amount was arrived at by counting the number of seats available to students at football, basketball, baseball, track and field, wrestling, and gymnastic contests only. The ASUO feels there is no need to buy student seats for other intercollegiate sports since students have never previously had to pay to attend them and there are no definable seats at those events so there is no reason to buy tickets.

"We're not funding a program in general but buying specific entertainment," pointed out Mike McClellan, ASUO administrative assistant for programs, "We (the ASUO executive) are in pretty much agreement that there is no educational value to sports so this is the position we take."

Essentially this means the ASUO executive budget recommendation is not funding, or buying entertainment from, a number of minor sports and is leaving it up to the AD on what to do with them. Although this tentative recommendation figure of \$138,000 is lower than previous sums it isn't an outright withdrawal of support from the minor sports programs. According to ASUO Comptroller Jim Ginger the \$13,000 cut-back is due to the fact that athletic passes aren't valid at the first football game (6,000 seats at \$1.50 each) and students aren't allowed to one intra-squad basketball game (4,000 seats at \$1.25 each). The ASUO executive reasons since students can't use those seats why pay for them?

While the AD came to the meeting asking for \$165,000 they had no immediate comment on the proposed lower figure.

Norval Ritchey, athletic director, said it would be "pure conjecture" and "premature" to comment on the difference in the two proposals. While Ritchey said he appreciated the ASUO's intent to keep its budget down, he confided, "I'm not sure we can maintain ours because of inflation." He is hoping for combined help from the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), the student sector, and the University to combat the problem.

Both he and ASUO executives emphasized that neither proposal is final and other meetings are planned. But sentiment within the ASUO seemed to indicate the ASUO would be hard pressed to change its proposal by much.

Other factors also enter into the picture.

One is women's athletics. The women are expected to make a request for about \$198,000 whereas the ASUO Executive ceiling on athletic funding is some \$10,000 below that figure alone.

The final figures will also depend on ticket prices, although there appears to be little chance for a price increase, and the number of seats paid for. In addition, the Executive probably won't be willing to buy seats for the pep band and 200 student athletes.

## Community college issue goes to Ways and Means

By GREG WASSON  
Of the Emerald

SALEM—Thursday afternoon, the heat in room 18B of the capitol building had more sources than the radiator and the sunshine that filtered through the window now and then.

For the past week, the room has housed Ways and Means Subcommittee number five's discussion of the budget for community colleges in the state. Differences between the members of the subcommittee have led, at times, to heated verbal exchanges and flaring tempers.

Some members of the committee have expressed dismay over the fact that while the state is in some cases providing more than 50 per cent of the operating budgets of community colleges, it has very little control over the programs and in fact oftentimes does not even know what programs exist.

Rep. Vera Katz, D-Portland, called it a "sad state of affairs" that the Board of Education does not know the costs of providing different services to individuals, and that the board is sometimes not aware of all the services that are being provided by the colleges.

Katz is asking for approval of the committee of standardization of budget reporting by the institutions, and some budget-line control over the programs being offered by the schools.

The committee approved the first step of Katz's program by agreeing to the drafting of legislation to require community colleges to standardize the forms and systems used to report to the legislature and other state-wide bodies.

Other members of the committee feel that the concept of the local colleges is that they should meet the whims and needs of the areas they serve. These mem-

bers question the right of the state to interfere in the planning and operation of programs.

However, the money must first be allocated before arguments over who should spend it have much validity. All week, the committee has been wrestling with the different enrollment figures presented to it, trying to figure out which figures to base the '75-'77 allocation on.

The governor's budget, based on fall '74 enrollment figures, predicts a total Full Time Equivalency (FTE) enrollment state-wide of 91,763 during the biennium. At proposed levels of state compensation to colleges, this results in a dollar request of \$68,927,790.

The Education Coordinating Council (ECC) on the other hand has predicted, using winter '75 enrollment figures, an FTE of 92,948, which has prompted them to request \$69,753,585 for the next two years.

The roughly \$800,000 difference between those figures was one cause for the friction Thursday.

The committee finally accepted the governor's recommendation of roughly \$69 million. The figure represents a 47 per cent increase over the appropriation made last biennium.

The issue is not closed however because Akeson and Ripper, the co-chairmen of the full Ways and Means Committee, were the two members of the sub-committee who voted against the governor's request.

Ripper was not pleased with the final outcome of the committee action and promised a fight, saying that if necessary he would "Go back to the full committee and carry our battle there."

Any action taken on the community college budget is of importance to higher education because money is tight all over, and many legislators lump all of education together. It is pretty sure that additional dollars spent on community colleges are going to mean less money spent in other segments of education.

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