

Discrimination, pollution concern lobby

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Of the Emerald

Concern over discrimination and nuclear pollution spearheaded action at an Associated Oregon Student Lobby (AOSL) board of directors meeting in Corvallis Saturday.

The board heard a request from ASUO Consultant Don Chalmers urging the AOSL to endorse an Oregon Women's Political Caucus (OWPC) and ASUO-sponsored proposal to ask the State Board of Higher Education to adopt affirmative guidelines relating to House Bill 2131.

The bill, passed during the last legislative session, directs that institutions of higher education do not discriminate according to race, age, sex, handicaps, religion or marital status.

"The OWPC and the ASUO don't believe procedural rules are adequate to meet the statutory requirements of the bill," Chalmers said. "This proposal would ask the State Board to adopt guidelines so that all persons involved in University governance would know their responsibility toward equal treatment of all campus groups."

Chalmers told the directors that of the approximately 100 buildings on the University campus, only 34 are accessible entirely or in part to persons in wheelchairs, seriously hampering their access to educational opportunities on campus. He further stated that students are the ultimate beneficiaries of the proposal.

AOSL Chairer Kirby Garrett spoke briefly to the issue, telling the directors, "If we don't endorse

this proposal, we're not fulfilling our duty of representing our constituencies." The proposal received unanimous approval.

The board also gave its endorsement to a proposal from the Oregonians for Nuclear Safeguards (ONS) requesting that three requirements be met before more nuclear power plants are constructed in Oregon. The proposal was introduced by Betsy MacInnes, ONS press and media coordinator.

MacInnes said the conditions include that emergency systems within the plant be successfully tested (such as the emergency cooling system), that there be developed a safe and long-term proven method of storing waste and that the plants should agree to be fully liable for any property damage incurred by the plant.

MacInnes stressed that the proposal is not a moratorium, as the guidelines should be easy to follow. She further stated that nuclear power is not necessary right now in Oregon, even though the Trojan plant has already been built.

She said the proposal has the support of the League of Women Voters, Congressman Jim Weaver, the Sierra Club, the Oregon Environmental Council and several state legislators.

The board later adopted a legislative platform and criteria for issue selection. As set forth in the platform, the AOSL will concern itself exclusively with the interests of the student in higher education. The student interest includes, but is not limited to, the cost of education, quality of instruction, institutional governance, health ser-

vices, financial aids, housing services and other general student services."

"The various student bodies need to start seeing themselves as consumers with respect to knowledge and other aspects of higher education," said Garrett, explaining the decision to concentrate solely on bills pertaining to student interests.

Garrett said the platform must be separate from AOSL endorsements of issues and organizations. "Endorsements are fine as long as they are explicitly separated from planks in our platform. The platform represents our position vis-a-vis educational and student consumer issues which our lobbyists will actively be involved with."

An ASUO request for AOSL backing of its new proposal concerning student input into the promotion and tenure process received unanimous support from the lobby.

Members of the body agreed to spearhead the project as one of the major projects of their interim year after hearing defense from ASUO Pres. Jim Bernau and Administrative Assistant Mark Cogan.

The proposal, scheduled to go before the State Board of Higher Education's Committee on Instruction in February, will ask for revisions of 42.160 of the board's administrative rules. The changes would require the board to place instruction at the head of the list of criteria for determining matters of faculty appointment, tenure, and promotion.

They also ask that appropriate

student input (in Sec. 3 of 42.160) be defined as including "at a minimum" letters from students and former students, validated faculty and course evaluations, appointment of students to serve on personnel committees, and a measurement of the actual education of students due to instruction.

Bernau told the lobby that endorsement by the AOSL might be the deciding factor in passage of the proposal. He said the lack of statewide student support for the

ASUO's request for the right to publicize information from faculty records was probably the major cause for that measure's failure last fall.

Cogan agreed. "The very contention when our last proposal came down to the vote was the question of whether or not it really had the support of the students around the state. Since we had no proof that it did, the board decided to let the issue be decided on an institution-by-institution basis."

Court: Campaign law violates 1st Amendment

WASHINGTON (AP)—With Justice John Paul Stevens taking part for the first time, the Supreme Court Monday struck down a New York State law designed to penalize unfair campaign practices.

The court affirmed without comment and without dissent a decision by a three-judge federal

court that the law violates the constitutional guarantee of freedom of speech.

"Undoubtedly, deliberate calculated falsehoods when used by political candidates can lead to public cynicism and apathy toward the electoral process," the lower court said.

Drug seizures jump

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Customs Service reported Sunday that a 128 per cent jump in heroin seizures last year indicates increased heroin use in the United States.

Customs said seizures last year amounted to 187 pounds with an estimated street value of more than \$66 million.

"These figures, although preliminary, bear out a trend that narcotics officers have been reporting in recent years, that heroin use is on the rise," said Vernon Acree, U.S. Commissioner of Customs.

Customs also reported that hashish seizures were up 69 per cent, cocaine seizures climbed 17 per cent and dangerous drug seizures rose 135 per cent during the year.

ACU-I Student

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★ TABLE TENNIS

TOURNAMENT

Campus tournaments will be held to select representatives for competition in the regional games, Feb. 12-14 in Tacoma, Wa.

Open to all full time students (fall '75 and winter '76).
For all the details check at the recreation desk in the EMU.

all events have national competitions

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