

# Boyd says no to evaluation disclosure

By LOIS LINDSAY  
Of the Emerald

A student request for public disclosure of faculty course evaluations received a flat "no" from University Pres. William Boyd Tuesday.

In a letter to ASUO Pres. Jim Bernau, Boyd said he would not approve blanket public access to information tabulated from student's classroom survey evaluations.

He claimed faculty oppositions to the proposal prompted his decision.

Boyd's letter came in response to a re-

cent memo from Bernau asking that the University president begin action to "make a finding" on the issue. The student executive said such action was necessary in order to comply with a State Board of Higher Education ruling of Nov. 25 requiring college presidents to determine privacy rights to those materials.

At that meeting, the board adopted an ASUO proposal to allow student access to the evaluation records with the condition that such access be allowed only "upon a finding by the institutional executive that privacy rights in an adequate educational

environment would not suffer by disclosure of such personal records."

In his Tuesday letter, Boyd told Bernau that the faculty had made it clear to him that they did not wish to have classroom surveys made available for publication. He said the faculty had rejected the idea at a December meeting and that he would respect that opinion.

"I believe the faculty has expressed clearly its desire not to have such materials published, and I will abide by that desire," Boyd explained. "I asked the Faculty Advisory Council for counsel in this matter,

and they concur with this position."

Bernau disagrees with Boyd's decision on all counts. He feels the president arrived at his decision in an improper and "possibly illegal" manner.

"I feel the president has been remiss in his duties," insists Bernau. "He has failed to face the issue. At a minimum he should provide due process in considering the matter."

Such due process would include a hearing, adequate notice to all parties and a

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## Dorm plaintiff charges board 'irresponsible'

One plaintiff in the possible lawsuit against the State Board of Higher Education (SBHE) emerged Tuesday to charge the board with irresponsibility.

Karl Koerfer, president of Collier dormitory, said the board's staff had responded "unusually quick" to the plaintiffs' charges of illegal use of dormitory funds. He claimed such a rapid decision implies irresponsibility.

Koerfer, a previously-identified plaintiff, referred to a Monday letter from Edward Branchfield, legal counsel for the board which dismissed the plaintiffs' case as an "erroneous interpretation of the facts."

Last week the ASUO and representatives of various campus dormitories accused the board of illegally using \$430,000 in excess dormitory revenue to construct tennis and handball courts at the University.

In a letter to Branchfield, at that time Robert Ackerman, attorney for the plaintiffs, requested the board replenish the fund and pro-rate the costs of maintaining the facility. He gave the board 30 days to comply before commencing court action.

Koerfer directed his charges of irresponsibility against Roy Lieuallen, chancellor for the State System of Higher Education, who instructed Branchfield to draft the letter to Ackerman. He said Lieuallen appeared to "disregard the merits of our case."

But he said the chancellor's statements "in no way affect my stand as a plaintiff other than to make me more determined to see this matter settled in court."

Representatives of the ASUO are similarly disgruntled by the board's response. Jim Bernau, ASUO president, says the SBHE staff has failed to respond in an intelligent manner to the problem.

"I really didn't expect that type of a response from the State Board. This is a serious matter and I would think they would treat it as such. None of the students are going to accept such an obvious brush-off. We just won't be put off."

Mark Cogan, ASUO administrative assistant, agrees. He says that if a settlement can not be reached within the 30 days, the plaintiffs are fully prepared to go to court. He says the necessary papers are being prepared now.

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Photo by Bob Welch

## Carefree afternoon

The pond at Alton Baker Park provides an afternoon of recreation for a small boy as he plays leapfrog with cement blocks. His course is surrounded by an acute water hazard.

## Students input on tenure opposed

By JAMES DIETZ  
Of the Emerald

University Pres. William Boyd will oppose the Associated Oregon Student Lobby's (AOSL) attempts to include students on promotion and tenure committee.

In a Monday interview Pres. Boyd responded to the lobby's policy statement, issued by ASUO Pres. Jim Bernau, which

calls for full student participation in the promotion process.

"I see no evidence to support the idea that the quality of the committee's decisions would be improved by students sitting on the committees," says Boyd. "The system would survive this added participation, but I don't think it will be improved by it."

Boyd feels that student involvement at this level is not a necessary part of their education at the university.

"The university should be directed toward establishing an environment in which learning is best advanced," he comments. "This does not involve making the governance of a university a learning experience for people. When you get down to it, there's a lot of the old 'The sandbox is a good learning environment' sort of thing here."

Boyd adds, "The university is far too important to play with or make mistakes with."

Boyd is in favor of including student evaluations in the promotion and tenure process. "Student evaluations are valid and very useful," he said. "I think the more evidence which can be assembled on the effectiveness of a teacher, the better. On the other hand, the subsequent success of

a student (in advanced courses) may be a better indicator of the success of a teacher than the student's impression at the end of the quarter."

Boyd agrees with the AOSL proposal that a professor's teaching and research proficiency should be given equal weight during the promotion process. "A balance is reasonable," says Boyd. "And although this is the first year weights have been assigned, research and instruction are weighted equally here."

But he also sees a danger in giving too little attention to a professor's research activities.

"The best educational experience for an academically motivated student is a research intensive university," he notes. "We could build a university with faculty less interested in research. Then students might appear to get more attention, but at a frightful cost to the general intellectual atmosphere of the place."

He concludes: "A university where the principle preoccupation is the decimation of knowledge rather than the advancement of knowledge will not have as fine an atmosphere for learning."

today

### Discrimination

The State Board of Higher Education's rules on discrimination drew criticism at a legislative hearing on campus Tuesday.

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### ROTC racism?

A study by the Center for National Security Studies claims there is a lack of black officers in the army partly because of college officer training programs.

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### Changing attitudes

The third in a series of articles dealing with changes in campus attitudes during the last eight years discusses alumni attitudes.

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### Comeback kid

Randy Besaw is out for his 18 season wrestling win after beginning with a 4-7 record. His turnaround has the coaches talking.

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