

Minorities slate meeting to air opinions

The effectiveness of the controversial Academic Opportunities Program (AOP) will be analyzed by AOP students themselves at a public hearing Tuesday evening from 7 to 10 in the EMU.

The Educational Opportunities Committee (EOC) has invited all AOP students to air their views on how the new minority program is

working, what changes can and should be made and how well the program has served AOP students. The EOC will use student testimony to help it critique the program and come up with recommendations for next year.

EOC member Barbara Koser said that the committee is seeking testimony mainly from minority

students, but that the hearing is open and anyone can testify. The committee is encouraging written testimony detailing the students' reactions to all aspects of the program and will limit oral presentations to about five minutes.

Koser said that any AOP students who would like to have their say about the program kept confidential can submit a written report

to EOC chairer Katherine Eaton in 130 Hendricks Hall. Koser guaranteed that the confidential testimonies would not be seen outside the EOC.

The EOC is also looking into University Pres. William Boyd's reorganization of the minorities program last July, when he abolished the cultural centers and transferred the coordinating responsibilities for the program out of Student Services and into the College of Liberal Arts.

In the middle of heated controversy over Boyd's revamping of the program, the University Senate called on the EOC to make a detailed investigation into the newly formed AOP and into Boyd's methods of reorganization. The committee hopes to have its final report ready by mid-March. The EOC is comprised of both faculty and students and includes some minorities.

Utilizing part-time citizens

Republicans mull proposal

Change in Lane County government was the topic of discussion Friday at a Republican-sponsored luncheon.

The proposed change, presented and drawn up by the Republican Central Committee, relies on "part-time citizen legislators, instead of full-time public officials," according to committee member Don Dushane.

Ann Ramp, committee chairer, says the plan is "a response to what the public is telling us."

The proposal calls for the election of seven legislators to replace the present three commissioners. Six of the legislators would reside in and be elected from legislative districts similar to Oregon's state legislative districts.

One of the seven elected legislators would be elected

from the county at large. According to the proposal, this person would be president of the governing body of Lane County and have the power to make administrative appointments with the consent of the governing body.

Dushane says if the government is to represent people, "you at least ought to have the majority."

He says the present county commissioners were nominated by a plurality, which means more people voted for their opponents than for the actual winners of the election. The Republican proposal states "elections shall be by a majority vote even if this requires a run-off election."

The part-time legislators would work a 30-hour week at a \$6,000 salary, but committee member Ken Kohnen admits

"there is room for flexibility." The legislators would serve a four-year term on a rotating basis.

One of the principal duties of the governing board would be to establish policies by ordinance, according to committee member Joe Scaggs, who is also a candidate for County Commissioner Position No. 1. These policies would be carried out by the elected administrator. In turn, the governing board would oversee the administrator.

"The administrator who carries out policy does not create it," says Dushane.

The luncheon was sponsored by Rubicon 12, a Republican group which holds weekly luncheons featuring guest speakers. These meetings are open to the public.

ERDA says humans given plutonium shots

WASHINGTON (AP) — Eighteen persons were injected with radioactive plutonium in 1945-47 in a government experiment aimed at determining what effect the substance would have on atomic bomb workers, according to the Energy Research and Development Administration.

The agency said the purpose was to gather information for setting safety criteria for workers coming in contact with plutonium during the course of manufacturing the atomic bomb.

An ERDA spokesman said Saturday that all of the persons tested were believed to be suffering from terminal illnesses.

DAV van coming

Service unit aids vets

Disabled vets will have a chance to obtain information and assistance concerning any aspect of benefit availability when the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) filed service unit rolls into Springfield.

The van carries two qualified and experienced DAV national service officers and is scheduled to be at the Springfield Mall at the intersections of Mohawk Blvd. and Hwy. 105 all day Tuesday, beginning at 10 a.m.

The van's appearance is a result of the cooperative outreach efforts between the DAV and the Veterans Administration (VA). More than 97,000 veterans and their dependents have contacted the DAV units in the first two years of the program.

The officers will offer free assistance in the filing of claims for benefits from the Veterans Administration.

According to John Keller, national service director, the assistance will not only be for compensation and pension from the VA but will include educational, home loan, outpatient medical treatment, and insurance benefits.

Keller suggests disabled vets bring a copy of their service discharge or the VA claim number. Anyone needing assistance but unable to contact the field service

unit may contact the VA Regional Office, Federal Building, 1220 S.W. 3rd Ave., Portland, 97204.

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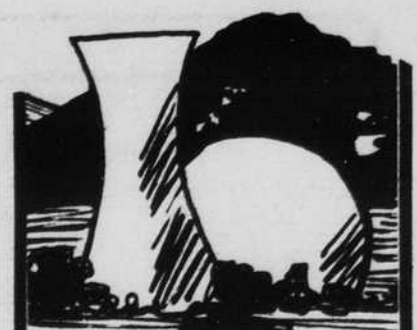
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