

Senate recommends GPA evaluation

By WALLY BENSON
Of the Emerald

The D grade proposal underwent another change at Wednesday's University Senate meeting, when the group narrowly agreed to rescind an earlier amendment.

The amendment to education prof. William Lamon's original motion was approved by the General Faculty near the end of their March 10 meeting. Sponsored by George Struble, computer science associate professor, the amendment took issue with paragraph five of Lamon's motion, which stipulated "the 85 percentile rule for graduation be abolished and replaced by a GPA system in which the minimum standard be a 2.00 on a scale of A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, and F=0 for all pass-differentiated course work completed."

The 85-percentile rule requires that 85 per cent of all work graded A, B, C, D, P, F and N completed

at the University must be passed satisfactorily.

Struble's amendment substituted the following language for paragraph five: "That credit for which the D grade is earned be excluded from the computation required by the 85 percentile rule." The faculty approved the amendment by a vote of 64-45.

The motion to rescind Struble's amendment was sponsored by senate chairer Jim Tattersall and senate secretary Shirley Wilson. Speaking Wednesday, Wilson said there were reasons for her motion.

"After the March faculty meeting, Jim Tattersall and I met with several faculty members, and it was apparent they hadn't understood what they were voting on. We want to get it back to the faculty so they can understand the issues they are voting on.

"Also, if we leave the amendment, it removes the opportunity for the general faculty to make a

clear choice between the GPA and the 85 percentile rule."

Wilson further said the 85-percentile rule is difficult to explain to students, and is excessively punitive and non-redemptive. Struble contradicted these statements with a few of his own.

"There have been objections that the 85-percentile rule is too punitive," he said. "Is it too punitive to allow a student 31 hours of N-graded work, or about 10 classes, of his 186 hours needed for graduation?" He also said he failed to see the complexity of the 85-percentile rule, which he said is a fairly simple calculation.

"We can't expect the insertion of the D grade or the return of the 2.0 GPA to change the grading practices of faculty members," Struble continued. "D's themselves will have a pretty minimal effect on how we assign grades. I haven't heard any faculty member say 'I will give lower grades if the D is available.' Therefore, we must

expect standards will not change."

Journalism Prof. Charles Duncan disagreed, saying the current ABCP system has not been a success. Duncan supports a return to the GPA system.

"I would like Mr. Struble to know that here is one faculty member who would award grades differently if we had the D," said Duncan. "Right now, I'm giving more A's and B's and fewer C's than when we had the D grade."

The matter will receive even further discussion at the General Faculty meeting next Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. in 150 Science.

UO official to run for mayor

Neil Murray, University director of orientation, announced his intention to run for mayor of Eugene Wednesday.

Murray, who presently serves on the Eugene City Council, made his announcement at a press conference at the Eugene Hotel. He holds the council position for Ward Seven, which roughly includes the area between Washington and McKinley Streets and between 24th Avenue and the Willamette River. He has held the position since 1972 and has also served as president of the council.

Outlining the major issues of his campaign, Murray said, "We face many difficult problems and I regard that as a challenge.

"We must be steadfast in our opposition to costly and destructive urban sprawl. We must consider the prospect of growth to assure maintenance of both our environmental and economic well-being." Murray served as chairer of the Joint Parks Committee and

drafted an initiative for a "Study of Growth and Its Costs" for the council. Murray also favors the preservation and restoration of older neighborhoods.

Budgetary problems also concern Murray. "We must recognize real budgetary restraints and reassess our traditional willingness to pick up the tab for Lane County and Springfield under the guise of 'regional cooperation.'" He said Eugene would have to exercise "more reservation in taking care of others."

Murray feels that state money should be used to ease the budget strains of some Oregon cities. According to Murray, the state operates at about a \$90 million surplus while the cities often operate at a deficit.

Recognizing the need for alternative methods of transportation, Murray supports mass transit and bicycle facilities. "We must reduce our excessive reliance on the private automobile," he said.

Murray has long been an advo-

cate of neighborhood organizations aimed at fostering more citizen participation in city affairs. "They are the fresh breeze of local government that effectively involves the public in its own business," he said.

"In the urgency of these concerns," Murray continued, "we must be realistic. We can't will away the future. This requires leadership that is willing to deal with complex issues.

"In my service on the city council I've gained experience equal to that assignment," Murray said. "I believe I can offer the leadership that Eugene's future requires."

Murray said that if he is elected, the position would not interfere with his University position, nor would the University position interfere with his duties as mayor. "I do my homework and I put in my time," he said. "This is not a different position in terms of energy, only in terms of direction."

Grad student to get grant for study

A University graduate student has been selected to receive a 1976-77 Fulbright-Hays grant for foreign study.

Charles Smythe Jr., graduate student in anthropology from Haverford, Pa., will use the grant to study aboriginal anthropology during the 1976-77 academic year at the University of Australia in Sydney.



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