

editorial

Campaign muddy

Sometimes it is truly amazing how one set of facts can support two divergent viewpoints; especially when one of these viewpoints bears little resemblance to the original facts. The current rash of anti-Jim Davis letters is a case in point.

The first misinterpretation was offered by the director of SEARCH, two SEARCH officials and the director of the Survival Center. In a letter to the editor, they charged that Davis' campaign literature claimed the firm support of their organizations. As the smoke of rhetoric cleared, it became apparent that these letter writers were referring to a statement of Davis' support of these programs, not a claim that he was supported by them.

Since this incident, word has reached the *Emerald* that these writers were stating their personal opinions rather than SEARCH's political position.

Some SEARCH members are unhappy that the writers implied that they represented the program's staff when they used their official titles.

Another theme that crops up among Davis detractors is his four and a half years of involvement with student government. They seem to find it unusual that candidates stress background and experience. They treat Davis' "experience" in ASUO activities as a liability. Has inexperience become a virtue?

As the smear campaign continued, another letter writer, Steve Beard, lost his perception of the situation when he tried to blame Davis for the EMU's financial losses and the "poor quality" of its food. Beard himself appointed Davis to the subcommittee overseeing the EMU. Davis served with the group for only a few weeks before he voluntarily stepped down due to the press of other duties.

The student that Davis recommended to fill the position is the same student that Beard praised as "someone interested in seeing that students received the most for their money..."

The latest piece of mud slinging appears as a letter on today's editorial page. In this letter, the writer charges that Davis, along with Bernau, has alienated the University administration "by making all-out demands." The writer continues, "Personally, I cannot blame Pres. Boyd for not listening to, working with or implementing any suggestions from such an ego-seeking eccentric, Jim Davis."

In this case the writer's misinterpretation approaches factual error. Of course Pres. Boyd has not listened to, worked with or implemented any suggestions by Davis for the simple reason that Davis has not presented any to Pres. Boyd. As this year's ASUO vice-president for programs, it was Davis' job to work with ASUO-IFC funded programs and not the University administration.

This year's ASUO presidential election has degenerated into name-calling ("ego-seeking eccentric") and personal attacks. The issues, programs and philosophies of the candidates are being obscured by the mud slinging tactics. A few people are grinding their own personal axes at the expense of the intelligent voters who want to consider the merits of the candidates' platforms and goals.

The *Emerald* endorsed the candidacy of Jim Davis. We continue to support him. However, we would be just as quick to come to the defense of any other candidate suffering a similar attack. Such attacks are unwarranted in any campaign. We urge the voters to reject these tactics of innuendo and misrepresentation and to cast their ballots on the basis of the facts — not half-truths.

Letters

Inspiration

I was on the campus of the University of Oregon from the years 1938 to 1942 as a pre-med. Beyond a doubt the outstanding professor that I had there was Dr. Ralph Heustis. I would easily class him as one of the most brilliant men I've ever been around and would be in the same class with Einstein etc... Dr. Heustis was a plain man who dressed plainly often wearing a sweatshirt and rubbers to class. He always made his lectures fascinating to me and I'm sure the other students felt the same. He had a terrific sense of humor and would

often interject humorous anecdotes into the lecture material.

He was famous for his study of genetics for which he used the mice as experimental animal. It was a rare privilege to be invited to the place where he kept his mice. He was also famous for his star chamber quizzes in which he would invite the students into some secluded place and mercilessly quiz them on the various aspects of the class, which was usually vertebrate zoology. Vertebrate zoology was the class all pre-medical students took and it was the primary class for determining who would make medical school based on how they did in



"YOU THINK I ENJOY BEING AN IMPOTENT FAT CAT?"



vertebrate zoology with Dr. Heustis.

The story that as Dr. Heustis was quizzing one allegedly brilliant student he was unable to find anything that the student could not answer so Dr. Heustis looked across the street and saw an automobile parked along the road and asked the student what year and model that car was. It is said that Dr. Heustis was interested in not knowing what the students knew but what they did not know. I can safely say that Dr. Heustis was an inspiration to me to be diligent and to gain a sense of balance and values.

Edwin W. Reiner, M.D.
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San Diego, Calif.

Anti-Davis

Wake up University! It is about time that we read between the lines of the ASUO candidate, Jim Davis. Jim Davis, with Bernau, has shown his ability to "turn off" the administration against the student body's needs by making all out demands. What kind of response can we expect from President Boyd from "if this then this" threatening statements. Personally, I cannot blame President Boyd for not listening to, working with or implementing any suggestions from such an ego-seeking eccentric, Jim Davis.

Let's face it, Jim Davis is part of the elite of our University. He has a lot of "friends" and we can see this by the endorsements printed in the *Emerald* for Jim's quest of ASUO president. We can only assume that these are "I'll scratch your back if you scratch mine" tactics. An example of this back-scratching or brown-nosing is the promises made to certain influential supporters that an IFC position will be open with the selection of Jamie Burns as ASUO vice-president. What does this mean? We can only find out later that if Davis is elected, we have made a damaging mistake to ourselves and the University.

Dan Antoni
gen. sci., sr.

Info essential

From time to time the *Emerald* runs stories or carries announcements about research and/or teaching programs sponsored by University personnel. Indeed, the *Emerald* has done so for numerous programs in psychology, especially the area of clinical

psychology, and we are most appreciative of your cooperation. It is against this background that I wish to call one issue to your attention.

In the Wednesday, April 21 edition, a program for overcoming fear of deep water was briefly described in the "Et Al" section. No information was given concerning the affiliation or qualifications of the instructor. Nor was there any indication that this was a University sponsored program or who the responsible persons were. I would hope that the *Emerald* would continue to carry such announcements and/or stories, but should establish a principle that affiliation and qualifications of the person or persons involved should be noted, and there should also be information about the sponsoring University unit. Such information would seem to be essential for your readers to make informed choices about whether or not they wish to participate. Thank you for your consideration.

Edward Lichtenstein, Ph.D.
professor of psychology
director of clinical training

Council buffer

Tuesday's *Emerald* contained an article on the Married Student Housing Governance Council, and indicated that with only three days left to file, not a single person has yet done so. As a resident of Amazon, I think I know the reason for this. In the setting up of the council, students struggled to make the council a meaningful body — we wanted the board to have some semblance of power. Instead, the housing office got its way. The council is a meaningless forum for residents to vent their frustration at the housing office's policies, which the housing office formulates and then presents to the council. As an advisory board, they in turn can do nothing but "recommend" to the housing office, which can do whatever it wants. In creating this council, the housing office has set up an effective buffer between the residents and itself.

Rent was raised by \$10 last year, and they are demanding another \$10 raise effective July 1. I would suggest to all residents of Amazon and Westmoreland that a return of pre-council policy is called for, and the only effective way to fight arbitrary rent increases is to organize. The University is choking its resident students (\$20 a month raise over the

last two years totals an extra \$240 a year). Something must be done.

Sol Fulero
psych., grad.

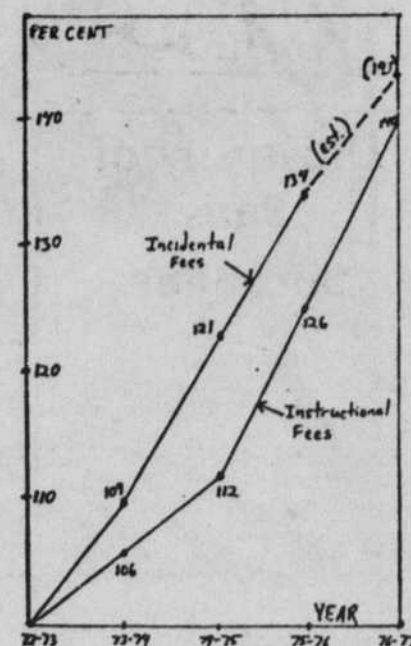
Slow increase

The accompanying graph, which is based on figures from the budget office, shows that in the last four years the legislature has raised undergraduate instructional fees at a slower rate than the ASUO has raised incidental fees. Instructional fees are now 140 per cent of what they were in 1972. Incidental fees haven't been set yet, but if they increase the 7 per cent allowed by the constitution, they will be 143 per cent of what they were in 1972. And the way things are going, the ASUO may have to hold a special election to exceed the limitation.

Two other components, not on the graph, also make up tuition. The health fee has increased at almost the same rate as incidental fees. This year it is 132 per cent of the 1972 level, and if it follows its present trend, next year it will reach 144 per cent, making it the biggest grower of all. The building fee was constant until this year when it rose 25 per cent. It will not rise next year.

Instructional fees make up 75 per cent of tuition, and incidental fees make up 11 per cent. Nevertheless, the ASUO should set a better example if it hopes to persuade the legislature to hold down other fees. I propose that the ASUO limit incidental fees to \$79.50 next school year. That would match the instructional fee's 140 per cent and put it into a better moral position to lobby for a slow down of tuition increases. The ASUO should also lobby against health fee increases.

The *Emerald* recently stated that incidental fees are \$72 this school year. According to the budget office, they are \$76.50.



Mike Sylwester
Russian, grad.

Thursday, April 29, 1976