

Letters

Trust unequivocal

Jan Oliver is an exceedingly intelligent and competent woman with a history of energetic and committed work here on campus. We firmly believe that she would bring an honest and exciting presence to the ASUO Executive. Furthermore, she possesses a wealth of working relationships with constituencies of unparalleled breadth. We expect her administration to be deeply committed to advocacy, and at the same time extremely broad-based. We have unequivocal trust in both her ability and her accountability, and urge a most serious consideration of her candidacy.

Gary Kim
Alan Oshiki
Carole Iwamoto

Asian American Student Union

Contact achieved

As a former chairperson of the Chinese Student Association, I have worked with Jim Davis for a year. I was impressed by his efforts in achieving a close contact with the ASUO programs. His initiation of the budget-counter-budget process reduced friction between ASUO programs, ASUO executive and IFC.

As a student, I care how much the ASUO will do for fighting tuition hikes, expanding financial aid eligibility and preventing University administration from misusing funds. I agree with his statement that only through the organized action of the seven state system student associations can legislative goals can be met.

Davis was an instructor of a student program management class and has worked as a coordinator and volunteer for ESCAPE programs for the past four years and is now vice-president of ASUO. I personally believe in his competence and think he will be the right one for us.

Cheng, Ling-Shen
physics, grad.

Firmly committed

John Stewart, a 1976 graduate of the University of Oregon, is currently seeking the Democratic Nomination for State Representative (Dist. No. 41). John was the 1974 Democratic nominee and was also a McGovern delegate to the 1972 Democratic convention. John was Secretary of Oregonians for Nuclear Safeguards in 1975 and is a member of the Oregon Environmental Council and the ACLU.

After two years of friendship with John, he has convinced me that he is the only candidate who can ably represent students as well as all the residents of Dist. 41. John's main emphasis has always been on the environment. He is firmly committed to conservation of energy and other natural resources. He was a committed proponent of the University's recycling program.

John is also a strong proponent of human rights. John's election to Salem would be a strong boost for the equal opportunity of women and minorities. John is also deeply concerned and troubled by the soaring cost of tuition.

I urge all of you to vote on May 25 for John Stewart, an independent Oregon Democrat, for State Representative in Dist. 41.

Jack Condliffe
econ. soph.

Save for shower

I find the reasoning used by Linda Thorpe in her decision to endorse Jim Davis rather than Jan Oliver for ASUO president offensive (letter, May 14, 1976). Yes, Jan is the single parent of three small children. This, alone, certainly does not mean she would be unable to "put in the time and effort necessary to do a good job." It is more likely, in fact, that Jan, with more than the average demands on her time and energy, is more than average in her ability to plan her time and to execute her tasks with efficiency. Her accomplishments to date, considering her "handicap," would certainly point to this interpretation.

As a single parent of three small children myself, and as a human being interested in better student government and in women "making their mark" in this man's world, I cast my vote with Jan. And please, Linda, sing the "lady-bird" song in the privacy of your own shower from now on.

Daisy Reed
special ed., grad.

Issue addressed

We have recently been confronted with campaign activities and examples of letterwriting which deserved far less attention than they unfortunately received. However, these campaign activities are not my concern. Rather, I would here like to address what has become the major issue of this presidential election. That is, which candidate is most qualified to provide the leadership necessary for accomplishing the goals and objectives which serve and benefit the entire UO student body and each individual student on campus. Jim Davis is the candidate who can best provide this kind of leadership.

It is easy to criticize a situation, but criticism is valid only when new processes can evolve to meet the inadequacies present. Jim Davis has shown himself to be capable of meeting such needs. As ASUO vice-president, Jim developed a new budget process which was a definite improvement over past years. His efforts and dedication resulted in improved program communication and performance. His legislative and administrative experience together with four years of program involvement have caused many student leaders (not normally in consensus with one another) to openly advocate his candidacy for student body president. Jim has continually demonstrated his awareness of student problems, his willingness to work and his insights towards viable solutions. He is sincerely dedicated to helping students create educational alternatives and this commitment has resulted in increasing the opportunities available on campus for student program experiences that meet the real needs of our student body population.

I urge you to vote for a man that I respect and know to be honest, hardworking and highly effective in creating new solutions to emerging problems on this campus. Vote Jim Davis for ASUO president!

Karen Gegner
chairer, ASUO
Program Executive Board

Well done!

The 4th Annual Black Arts Festival unfolded last week to rave reviews and unprecedented stu-

In pursuit of academic quality

Do you ever feel like you want your tuition back at the end of the term? Are you tired of having to enroll in large classes taught by unresponsive, inaccessible professors? Do you ever get the feeling that this University is not as accountable to students as it ought to be?

The primary mission of any responsible student association is the achievement of a quality education for its members. We pay out our scarce dollars to attend this institution and therefore have a right to expect a quality education in return. I would like to outline what the ASUO ought to do in the area of ensuring a quality education for its members and indicate how these goals can be achieved.

An important facet of a quality education is having an excellent faculty available for the instruction of students. To ensure that the faculty is as good as possible, we need to improve and enhance the avenues students have to provide input into faculty personal decisions covering selection, tenure, promotions and post-tenured review. The ASUO, in conjunction with students from around the state and through the Oregon Student Lobby, is presently pursuing a proposal before the State Board of Higher Education which will mandate use of student evaluation surveys and appointment of students to serve on faculty personnel committees. We must make every effort to gain approval of this proposal and achieve complete implementation on this campus.

The mix between faculty research and instruction must be studied by students to insure that the quality of instruction is highest priority for the University. When top award-winning instructors are denied tenure in favor of researchers who devote their time to writing books rather than teaching students, something must be done. Research is important and in many ways it enhances instruction, but the priority must definitely be on instruction. The ASUO should be active on this campus, at the State Board of Higher Education and at the legislature in pursuit of this prioritization in favor of

students.

In order to ensure students of an education best suited to their needs, we need to make sure that University resources are allocated according to where the student need is the greatest. In a time of limited funds available for education, instruction must take precedence over the State System of Higher Education's expensive building program.

This past year the ASUO published a Consumers' Guide to Classes, a course information booklet which was made available to students to aid in their selection of courses at registration. Next year the ASUO ought to continue this service to its members, but with the following improvements: make more copies available at an earlier date; add information on how students can get on the student-faculty committees which establish University policy; include information on how to deal with the University bureaucracy and how to use the existing grievance procedures which are available for use by students; and most importantly include tabulations of student evaluations of faculty members.

We students need to have a way to find out about the rights we have in return for paying tuition. The ASUO should work to provide students with a bill of rights covering procedures which are and will be available for students to gain redress of their grievances. This can be done most effectively by continuing negotiations with the University president over a student contract which will define for students the terms and conditions of education.

Meeting the educational needs of students should continue to be the top concern of our student association. Effective action on behalf of students requires an aggressive and competent ASUO Executive which has the program and knowledge to get the job done.

Jim Davis
ASUO vice-president
candidate, ASUO pres.

dent and community attendance and participation.

Each year festival organizers have had to contend with staging the event with a limited budget and a tenuous labor force. In the past genuine effort and application of resources have been hampered by a number of intangible circumstances and consequences that are inherent to organizing with inadequate funding and a volunteer work force.

This year the Black Student Union and the Black Arts Festival Committee unveiled a progression of entertaining and educational events that every student on campus can be proud of. From the initial choral presentation to the closing fashion show and jazz concert, the festival exuded Blackness, personified.

I will let it suffice to extend a hearty congratulations to all involved, individually and collectively, for a job well done!

Cecil C. Ashley
finance, sr.

Plan detailed

One day K. picks up her-campus newspaper and finds that tuition has been increased by 50 per cent for the next quarter. Student government leaders tell her-him that there's nothing they can do; in fact, they weren't even consulted on the decision.

The next day K. goes to one of her-his classes and finds that it has been consolidated with another section, overloading the classroom. A teaching assistant has taken over the course and states that the professor, who was K.'s instructor, now only meets students by appointment. The professor has also shortened his office hours to three per week. Again the student government tells K. it is powerless and knows

no more than K.

On the third day K. finds that all student-faculty committees have been temporarily suspended, while the new regulations regarding academic freedom are framed. She-he goes to class later in the afternoon and finds no instructor there at all. K. hears someone say that the entire faculty may not be back for the rest of the term. K., however, only has enough money to finish this quarter and needs the courses she-he's now taking to graduate. Someone tells K. that the student government hasn't yet heard about what's going on and that perhaps K. should tell them.

Next fall the faculty may vote to unionize. Even if they don't, this scenario includes the frustration students feel about the declining quality of education and the lack of responsiveness by a university unconcerned about the cost and quality of instruction.

Jim Davis has a detailed plan for a strong student association. He has the experience to skillfully and successfully implement a student contract which will guarantee academic quality, streamline University bureaucracy and reduced costs.

Jim Davis is the only candidate who recognizes students as consumers and is prepared to defend and advance their interests. The choice is clear. Vote Davis.

Jim Bernau
ASUO president

Effort reflected

After two exceedingly hectic but productive evenings, I would like to thank everyone involved with the 1976 Mock Democratic Convention; the 800 delegates that found the time and energy to attend and participate, all the delegate chairers who were charged with harnessing that energy and to

the coordinators who took an idea and transformed it into a successful event.

All of us directly involved with the convention owe a great deal to those who came to our aid; the *Daily Emerald* which has been printing stories for over a year and had to be our best recruiter, the ASUO Executive for their support and concern, the Incidental Fee Committee for their money, the Revolutionary Student Brigade for that touch of the macabre and bizarre that only they can provide and to campus security for staying cool while the delegates were mobilizing to attack the RSB.

Our final product, the platform and Democratic presidential ticket, was the result of fifteen months of time and effort, and I think it reflected that time and effort. What we finished with was an accurate prediction of what might take place in New York City this summer. That's all we tried to do and I believe that's what we achieved.

Michael A. Schaefer
president,
pol. sci. student union

Letters Policy

The Emerald will accept and try to print all letters containing fair comment on ideas and topics of concern or interest to the University community. Because of space limitations, letters must be no more than 250 words, typed, triple-spaced, dated and signed with the person's major. No unsigned letters will be published. Longer opinion columns will be published whenever possible after being submitted to the editorial page editor. The limit on opinion columns is 800 words, using the same format as letters.