

Students are requested to pick up a computer copy of their class schedule in the Registrar's office, second floor, Oregon Hall from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Students should pick up the print-outs to avoid any kind of misunderstanding concerning class registration and grade options. A signed release must be presented when picking up a class schedule for another student.

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Location controversy menaces approval

State Board aims to land labor center today

By MARTHA BLISS
Of the Emerald

After drifting in limbo for the past month, location of a proposed state labor education and research center may secure a foundation today at the State Board of Higher Education's meeting in 167 EMU.

See related story
on Page 3.

The board's Committee on Instruction, Research and Public Service Programs recommends that the board authorize its establishment at the University, but not everyone agrees with this suggestion. Many higher education and labor leaders advocate Portland State University (PSU) for the center's location.

This question of location spur-

red considerable debate at the committee's June 22 meeting and promises to do the same at the board's meeting today. Pros and cons have also been voiced during the interim between these two meetings.

One of the loudest voices heard was that of Keith Johnson, president of the International Woodworkers of America (IWA). In an address to the Convention of the Oregon State Industrial Union Council July 10, he termed the University location recommendation "completely unrealistic."

Johnson strongly urged that the center's location be PSU, pointing out that three-fifths of the members of Oregon unions live in the tri-county area. He also said the labor facilities in Portland are superior to those in Eugene and that most practicing labor lawyers in the state are located in Portland.

In reference to rumors that the board will kill the center proposal

entirely if labor does not agree to the Eugene location, Johnson said, "I'm sure the board will not choose to get involved in a self-destructive confrontation with the labor movement of Oregon over the location of a labor program."

On the other side of the issue, the Eugene *Register-Guard* declared in a July 13 editorial that it advocates the University for center location because "We want the ties between the university and labor to be strengthened." It explained that many Oregonians tend to think of the University as "the possession of a remote intellectual and/or social elite. Faculty and student political activism in the 1960s alienated a lot of working people." Establishing the center in Eugene, the *Register-Guard* says, would enable the University to repair relations between itself and labor.

Other widespread views in support of the Eugene location include mention of the University's

host of resources and facilities such as its library, law school and graduate programs in the social sciences.

Even if the board approves establishment of the center at the

University, actuality of it would still be tentative pending approval by the 1977 Legislature of the \$247,278 required to establish and operate it during the next biennium.

New plans address vocational ed needs

By MIKE McLAIN
Of the Emerald

ASHLAND — The community college concept which produced 13 such institutions around the state isn't being bought, literally, by taxpayers in some regions, and several legislators are considering revamping the state college system to facilitate regional vocational education needs.

Jackson County, home of Ashland's Southern Oregon State College (SOSC), is one of those areas, and Friday played host to the State Joint Interim Subcommittee on Post Secondary Education at the SOSC campus. The subcommittee met to hear from local educators, business and community leaders on the lack of a public vocational training center in the county.

The problem was dramatized in March by Jackson county residents' rejection of a proposal to extend the Rogue River Community College boundary into parts of Jackson County. Prospective Rogue River students residing in adjoining Jackson County are discouraged from attending by double out-of-district tuition rates, while voters in the county are unwilling to further tax themselves in support of the Josephine County institution.

Many of those present at the meeting felt the voters' rejection was based on a reluctance to increase taxes in support of another college when they already had one: SOSC.

The solution to the problem in Jackson County and areas facing a similar dilemma (including La Grande, home of Eastern Oregon State College, and Klamath Falls, site of Oregon Institute of Technology) is to change the role of these colleges in the opinion of subcommittee chair Rep. Rick Gustafson, D-Portland.

He proposed these three colleges "be removed from the jurisdiction of the State Board of Higher Education and be placed under the jurisdiction of Boards partly locally elected (4) and partly appointed by the Governor (3)." These colleges would then, he said, "be charged with the responsibility for both liberal arts and vocational services" for an assigned region.

These new "hybrid" institutions, as they were termed by Rep. Bob

Marx, D-Oregon City, would combine the functions of community colleges and state colleges, but would exclude what local taxpayers object to: property tax support.

"I'm less concerned with the funding method," Gustafson said "than I am with satisfying the community's vocational needs." He proposed the state pick up the entire tab.

Marx objected to that saying it would create problems of equity. "Why should citizens in presently served areas (with existing community colleges) be forced to pay for those services in areas where the citizens are unwilling to make sacrifices?"

"There will never be a community college system in these areas," but the needs must still be met, Gustafson replied, even if that means total state funding.

Rep. Earl Blumenauer, D-Portland, felt that if total state funding would put the colleges in a "blackmail" situation, forcing them to place more emphasis on state desires than local needs under threat of fund cutbacks. "I might not like it; it wouldn't be fair. But I don't see that happening." The new boards, the majority locally elected, would insure local autonomy, he said, "and that is my concern."

One member of the audience asked why the state colleges couldn't create a vocational department supported by local property tax, utilizing existing facilities. Gustafson said he was drafting another bill that would allow that as a possibility, if the local taxpayers approved it.

Another audience member cautioned that state college restrictions on hiring would force the bypass of a welding instructor lacking a degree in favor of a more expensive, degreed instructor, driving up the cost of such an institution. (Community colleges don't require degreed instructors.) Gustafson assured him the Legislature could amend the hiring restrictions to facilitate economic hiring practices.

After several more of what Gustafson called "potshots" at his proposal, the group ended its meeting. The subcommittee plans to conduct further hearings in other areas to receive local input in hope of having a bill drafted when the Legislature meets in January.



Photo by Kim Smith

Packwood pedals path

Sen. Bob Packwood, R-Ore., center, discusses Eugene-Springfield bikepaths with Eugene Mayor Les Anderson, right, and Springfield Mayor Vance Freeman. Packwood was in Eugene to view the site of the proposed Valley River Center-southbank bridge over the Willamette River. Packwood stated that he would support using special funds allocated from the Highway Transportation Bill for bicycle projects to help construct the bridge. The federal government would provide \$280,000 and the city of Eugene, \$80,000. See related story on Page 15.