

Plight of AOP students prompts new committee

By ROBIN GEER
Of the Emerald

A committee to plan minority and disadvantaged student programs was formed by legislative action of the faculty June 1976.

The committee is composed of four students, four faculty members and one member of the community. The group represents various minority backgrounds and is chaired by Dr. Frances Scott, director of the Oregon Center for Gerontology.

The committee works primarily under the Academic Opportunity Program (AOP). Students who are in the program come from two or more of the following: low income, low entering achievement level and minority (female, Black, Native American, etc.).

A student who qualifies for the program becomes a member at his own option. Additional information on becoming an AOP member can be obtained at the central office, Room 407, Oregon Hall.

"This summer," says Scott, "we have been collecting background

information on previous things like budgets. Also, we are scheduling people who are in the program to come and talk to the committee."

The committee will have to design a program that will be functional within the University administrative context; acceptable to the intended recipients of the program; compatible with the new Oregon Education regulations so that the University will be able to attract additional federal monies for the program."

The program is a product of the liberal arts college. The committee is not funded; most members are coming in on their own time. The clerical work is done by the college.

At this point, the committee is preparing for the fall. Committee members say they would appreciate hearing from any students who have been in the program and need any comments or suggestions these people could offer that would aid them in designing the program.

Any person who can provide useful information is urged to call Scott at 686-4207.

Student proposals set

Tuition rise still a concern

By KATHY CRAFT
Of the Emerald

Student groups will sponsor a variety of legislative proposals during the upcoming Oregon legislative session — most aimed at improving the position of students as consumers of educational services, former ASUO Pres. Jim Bernau said Friday.

Speaking before a meeting of the Rubicon Society, Bernau said students are interested in obtaining "the best possible education for their money" and plan to orient their legislative efforts in that direction.

According to Bernau, the "number one" issue with students is concern over rising tuition. "Tuition at Oregon's colleges and universities has increased at twice the rate of the cost of living index during the past six years," Bernau said.

"Access to education is being restricted to the very poor" who are eligible for government financial aid, and the "very wealthy," he explained. In his opinion, the situation is

growing "intolerable" for middle income students. Student groups, he said, will lobby the legislature to stretch the "cut-off points" for financial aid grants to include more students.

Bernau also said students believe the higher education budget needs paring down, with less funds devoted to "unnecessary bureaucracy and duplications of services." He said students plan to examine the budget closely and added many are asking, "Why not submit an alternative budget and let the legislature choose between the two?"

Bernau also discussed the new "voucher plan," a program through which the state would provide students with specific financial aid awards they could use at the state institution of their choice.

Bernau believes the plan, which he described as a "portable grant" system, may "help control the spiraling costs of postsecondary education" by forcing colleges and universities "to compete for students

— who will choose institutions with the best services at the lowest costs." He said the voucher plan is "a little new for this legislative session," but added student groups plan to "bring it back for the following one."

Release of student evaluations of faculty members is sure to be an issue before the upcoming legislative session, Bernau said. Students need this information, he explained, in order to "shop around" before registering for classes. He said lack of information on the nature of classes and their instructors is a primary reason for the decrease in the average student course load (currently down to 13.7 hours).

By the time students realize they want to drop a class, it is frequently too late to add a replacement, Bernau explained. As a result, an average of 23,000 courses are dropped each quarter, but only 7,000 are added, he said. If adequate course descriptions were available, students would probably drop fewer classes, carry

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Board members named

Three new members of the State Board of Higher Education began their term of office on Wednesday.

Departing members participated in their final board session last week at a Eugene meeting.

George Layman, Newberg; Phil Joss, Portland; and Marc Maden, a graduate student at Portland State University, vacated the three positions.

Layman served for thirteen and one-half years and was board

president until the election of new officers. Joss was a board member for 12 years while Maden served a two-year term on the board.

Succeeding the three are Loren Wyss, 42, an investment adviser and partner in Columbia Management Co., Portland; Jonathan Ater, 35, a Portland attorney; and Ruth Daniels, 21, a senior at Oregon College of Education, Monmouth.

Ater, a graduate of Yale University has lived in Oregon 11 years. He served as a member of the Oregon State Bar Examiners and as secretary of the Portland City Club. He and his wife Deanne have seven children.

Wyss is a director of the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry in Portland and is a commentator on economic subjects for radio station KXL in Portland. Wyss attended Harvard College and Harvard Business School. He and his wife, Judith, have four children.

Living in Molalla while attending OCE, Daniels claims La Grande as her home town. Her husband is a graduate of Oregon State University and works for the State Department of Forestry.

Correction

The Emerald regrets an error in the July 20 issue. Rep. Fadeley's visit overseas is to Peking in the People's Republic of China.

Plan feeds kids

Morning Sun Child Care (Morning Sun Educational, Inc.) announces sponsorship of the Child Care Food Program. Free and reduced price meals will be made available to children meeting the approved eligibility criteria and will be provided without regard to race, color, or national origin. Meals will be provided at Morning Sun Child Care, 1735 Henderson Avenue, Eugene, Oregon, 97403.

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