

Oregon daily emerald

An Independent Newspaper

Vol. 78, No. 61

Eugene, Oregon 97403

Monday, December 13, 1976

Bogen drafts replacement for Buckley policy

By KEVIN RASMUSEN
Of the Emerald

Gerald Bogen, University vice-president for student affairs, has drafted an initial proposal to replace the Buckley Amendment, fulfilling the promise he made when testifying before the Privacy Protection Study Commission in Washington, D.C. in November.

The Buckley Amendment, passed in August 1974, recently has come under fire from several University administrators. They claim the act is ambiguous and costly to implement. Portions of the Buckley Amendment are designed to ensure students' privacy and their rights to control release of their records.

When Bogen was testifying

before the Privacy Protection Study Commission in November, he was speaking in behalf of the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges. The Buckley Amendment was only one of several items of legislation the commission was reviewing. At that time, Bogen agreed to draft some guidelines within a couple months to possibly replace the Buckley Amendment. The guidelines may be forwarded to the Privacy Commission through the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges, or Bogen might submit the guidelines himself.

Bogen envisions a highly simplified set of guidelines which does not pretend to encompass all the specific situations that vary from institution to institution. So far, his recommendations for an act to replace the Buckley Amendment are only one page long.

"It (Bogen's proposal) would be a big improvement," said Ed Branchfield, assistant attorney general. But he noted the chances of actually repealing the Buckley

Amendment are pretty slim.

Bogen's suggestions first stress the need for all educational institutions to adopt a policy endorsing and enforcing student privacy rights. These policies shall reflect the codes of existing local state laws.

Furthermore, the proposal recommends that public hearings be held in order to incorporate into the policy the consensus of the various constituencies that will be affected by it. The Buckley Amendment overlooked this provision.

This new proposal would guarantee students' access to their own records except as prohibited by other state laws. No one, for example, is allowed to see some records, such as medical and psychiatric files. Students would also have the right to keep all their records confidential except in an emergency, and each institution would be free to determine exactly what justifies an emergency.

Bogen's guidelines preserve for students the right to challenge any information in a file. In addition, students would be able to obtain a

description of all the records the institution has concerning them. In short, Bogen said, "this broad outline maximizes privacy while maintaining the students' rights of access to their files."

Finally, his recommendations would authorize the secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) to establish offices to handle complaints. "The best thing about these recommendations is that HEW can't make any regulations," said Branchfield. "It reduces HEW to a regulatory authority only. The Buckley Amendment (on the other hand) imposes the federal government in our daily lives."

Branchfield said since Oregon adopted its student privacy laws in 1971, there have been no complaints about major offenses. Thus, the Buckley Amendment resulted in nothing but "expense and confusion," he said. He added, "the Buckley Amendment is simply taking money away that could be used for education." Branchfield also indicated Bogen's proposal closely parallels the state of Oregon's privacy laws.

ASUO disputes Bogen's remarks

By BRENDA TABOR
Of the Emerald

The ASUO is concerned about the attacks key University officials made recently on the Buckley Amendment, federal law that protects students' rights of privacy while enrolled in institutions of higher education.

The Office of Student Advocacy recently forwarded a document to the Privacy Protection Study Commission analyzing and refuting testimony made earlier by Gerald Bogen, University vice-president for student affairs. Bogen testified against the Buckley Amendment before the privacy commission in November.

"Students at the University of Oregon are keenly aware of the need for privacy," says the ASUO statement prepared by Don Chalmers, director of the Office of Student Advocacy.

"They have experienced the inadvertent release of class lists to the FBI, grades listed by students' names that were posted on a professor's door, and, in the not-too-distant past, the wholesale vending of complete student lists."

"In an unreported case," he continues, "an individual was able to gain not only the address of a student, but his class schedule so as to plan an uninterrupted burglary of the student's dwelling."

Refuting a statement that "the University finds itself stockpiling lawyers in much the same fashion as participants in the cold war accumulate nuclear warheads," Chalmers notes the University has hired one half-time attorney who is also a graduate student in higher education.

He says much of the cost of implementing the Buckley Amendment results from the University's incremental approach toward compliance. Several deficient drafts of the student records policies have been written by administrative staff.

Chalmers charges that the administration's efforts at explaining the bill to University officials has been "inadequate," and numerous drafts of the student records policy "counterproductive."

In his testimony, Bogen argued that state statutes provides essentially the same protections as the Buckley Amendment, with the exception to allowing students to restrict directory information. But Chalmers states that society is extremely mobile, necessitating the Buckley Amendment's nationwide records policy.

Chalmers says the University had decided it would allow emergency release of information if property alone was in danger. Through an ASUO critique, he says, they learned regulations permit release of certain information when lives, not property, are in danger.

Bogen raised the question of what he was to do if the computer center was in danger of being blown up, assuming that information could not be released. Chalmers points out that in such a situation, not only property, but the lives of those in or near the building would be endangered, allowing for emergency release of information.

The Buckley Amendment rules if certain information (such as class, major, address) is labeled as directory information, the University must give students the annual right to restrict such information.

Yet, the University has decided that four of those eight items labeled "directory information" may not be restricted by a student. The University justifies release of the information by claiming state law supersedes state law.

Finally, Chalmers suggests additional funding to aid institutions in understanding and meeting their responsibilities of protecting student's privacy.

Underground bus defies all rules

By JOCK HATFIELD
Of the Emerald

While many Friday night travelers wait in the Eugene train station for the 6:40 train, another crowd waits in the restaurant-bar across the street for the Grey Rabbit to emerge from the underground to spirit them to San Francisco.

The Grey Rabbit is real, and those who believe in it will arrive in San Francisco two hours earlier and \$25 richer than their counter-

Grey Rabbit is an unusual trip

parts in the train station. The Grey Rabbit now operates five buses, which travel from Portland to New York via Eugene and San Francisco. The fare is \$13 to San Francisco and \$69 to New York, a fraction of that paid by Greyhound and Amtrak travelers.

We are an alternate transportation to the capitalistic giants the

traveler usually faces," said the San Francisco coordinator known only as Joseph. "Amtrak now charges \$143.50 for a ticket to New York and \$37 for a San Francisco ticket. There are not many who can afford to pay that much."

The Grey Rabbit originated seven years ago when Portland resident Lester Wall decided to transport passengers in his VW bus. Until last year, this service grew under the title of a religion,

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Cruising to aging: New classes offered

Everything from blue-water sailing to elementary school dramatics to perspectives on aging will be offered by the University winter quarter. In addition, recently added classes in romance languages and other sequence courses will allow students to start three-term sequences in the middle of the year.

Here's a sampling of a few of the classes slated for next term.

- The theater division of the speech department will offer a course in Creative Dramatics (TH 407). Its purpose is to acquaint elementary and intermediate education majors with theater techniques such as mime, story telling and theater games to implement in the classroom situation. Socio and psycho-drama also will be explored.

- Two new classes sailing will be offered. Blue Water Cruising and Navigation is designed to provide knowledge that students need to venture safely upon the high seas. Coastal and astral navigation, sails rigging, equipment, stowing gear, mooring and anchoring, and boat buying and repairing will be explored. A non-mandatory cruise to the San Juan Islands during spring break is also on the agenda.

- Intermediate sailing will focus on refinement of basic sailing skills, such as sail trimming and helmsmanship. Both classes require a \$25 extra fee.

- The Department of Fine Arts will feature special workshops next quarter focusing on a myriad of

topics, such as papermaking, bookbinding, painting, weaving and gem materials. One workshop, Presentation of Art Work, will review problems art students will encounter in the working world. Another workshop, Introduction to Performance Pieces, which will be taught by Elke Soloman, will be based on techniques of experimental and art theater groups of the 60s and 70s that were influenced by such artists as John Cage. The workshop will emphasize the visual via improvisation, exercises and games. Persons interested in any of the workshops should inquire at the fine arts office in 164 Lawrence Hall immediately.

- The anthropology department will offer a new course in multicultural perspectives of aging, taught by James Bellis. This course will examine social, psychological and cultural facets of aging.

- A SEARCH course in Student Program Management also will be offered. It is designed to help ASUO program leaders with the administration of their programs.

- For the first time, beginning courses in French and Spanish are being offered for those who were unable to begin their language study in the fall. Each course is worth six credits. Interested persons are advised to pre-register at the romance languages office in Friendly Hall.

Biology students are advised that Biology 301, 302 and 303 may be taken out of sequence.