

House bill reaches compromise

By MARY BETH BOWEN
Of the Emerald

SALEM — With the adoption of a so-called "compromise" amendment, a bill that would require state system schools to release student evaluations of faculty members inched a step closer toward passage in the House last week.

The amendment to HB 2702 calls for a two-part evaluation form: one part for the faculty members' private files and one part for release to students. Suggested by Bill Nelson, a representative of the American Association of University professors, the amendment satisfies what Nelson says was his main objection to the release of evaluations — the publication of material in private faculty files.

Currently the student evaluations of faculty are one of the criteria used by state system schools to determine tenure and promotion decisions.

Two hearings on the bill last week produced a square-off between faculty and student representatives.

Oregon Student Lobby representative Jim Bernau said the release of evaluations would result in a wiser selection of courses by students because they'd be equipped with accurate information about professors and courses.

He predicted that wiser course selection would lead to an increase in the number of credit hours students carry, thus saving money for both students and schools.

"As the credit load of the full-time student increases, the cost per credit hour decreases," said Bernau. "For example, 21 hours at \$230 per term costs \$10.95 per credit hour, while 12 hours costs \$19.17," he said.

Bernau added that the increase in the number of credit hours carried would benefit the schools financially, because their funding depends on the number of credit hours carried, not on the number of students enrolled.

On the other side of the fence, faculty members from the University of Oregon and Oregon State University warned the release of evaluations might trigger libel suits against the institutions, and cause teachers to lower their teaching standards in order to win good ratings.

"You'd have teachers playing to the lower half of their classes," said OSU professor Curtis Johnson.

Ron Rousseve, a University education professor, said students often don't realize how good a particular teacher is until years later.

Committee member Rep. Roger Martin, R-Lake Oswego, a University alumnus, responded that retrospection can also have the opposite effect.

"When I think back to some of the bad teachers I had, twenty years reflection makes me realize how bad they really were," he said. "What's so horrible about this idea? Is mediocrity trying to hide behind secrecy? We (legislators) are evaluated everyday."

Rousseve countered that the release of student evaluations might indirectly affect the outcome of tenure and promotion decisions.

He said after the hearing public pressure generated by negative ratings could jeopardize faculty even if they had tenure.

"If an individual is tenured, but many students submit unencouraging ratings, in time that pedagogical popularity contest

could push that individual aside," he said.

Rousseve added that tenured faculty may be fired for "due cause," if they are shown to be derelict in their duty as instructors.

ASUO representative Mark Cogan said after the hearing if a faculty member's teaching quality is not up to par, "then he should be terminated. What's wrong with that?"

HB 2702 sponsored by Rep. Mary Burrows, R-Eugene, may be up for vote this week by the House Education Committee. Telephone numbers of committee members are as follows:

Reps. Jim Chrest, D-Portland, (378-8783); Mae Yih D-Albany, (378-8858); Roger Martin, R-Lake Oswego (378-8772); Bob Brogoitti, R-La Grande (378-8892); Drew Davis, D-Portland (378-8829); Jack Duff, R-Adams (378-8855); Gretchen Kafoury, D-Portland (378-8781); Peg Dereli, D-Salem (378-8826); Lloyd Kinsey, R-Portland, (378-8859).

Profs awarded Fulbrights

George Wickes, head of the University English department and director of the University Comparative Literature Program and Derry Malsch, assistant professor of English, have been awarded Fulbright Lectureships for 1978.

Wickes, who received his Ph.D. in English from the University of California in 1954, will lecture in American literature and civilization at The Sorbonne in Paris from January through June, 1978.

The Fulbright-Hays Award pays for travel to and from France and about \$8,000 in living expenses.

Malsch, who came to the University in 1971, received his Ph.D. in English/linguistics at the University of Wisconsin in 1971. He will teach general linguistics at the University of Iceland in Reykjavik from January through April, 1978. His award will cover travel to and from Iceland and approximately \$4,200 for living expenses.

The awards are made through the Board of Foreign Scholarships of the Council for International Exchange of Scholars and the U.S. Department of State.

Biology faculty agrees to release evaluations

A majority of the biology department faculty have decided to publicly release computer print-out course evaluations.

Eighteen instructors will open their evaluations for student inspection. Nine instructors declined, including two who said they would be glad to show their evaluations in conference with a student.

Winter term evaluations are still being collected. Currently, seven instructors will release winter term evaluations and two will not.

Released evaluations will be available for inspection at the

biology office, Room 77, Science II, as soon as possible according to department head Sanford Tepfer.

Tepfer, who feels the evaluations are of questionable value to students, expressed annoyance at ASUO efforts to make the evaluation release a political issue.

The evaluations could become dangerous in the hands of an ASUO politician with an ax to grind, Tepfer says.

A bill which authorizes public release of course evaluations will probably be introduced to the state Legislature this week.

Exclusively On
MCA RECORDS

New Riders

Who Are These Guys

\$4²⁵

Sun Shop

860 E. 13th

From April 1 through June 14, you can fly roundtrip from New York to Luxembourg for only \$410.

That's \$89 less than the youth fare you'd pay on any other scheduled airline. (From Chicago you pay \$458 and save \$103.) All you have to do is be under the age of 24.

There are no booking restrictions. And no skimping on meals or service. Because we give you the same service you'd get from other airlines, without the same high costs. So, if you're not flying Icelandic to Europe, you're spending more than you have to.

We'll give you the best deal.

Save \$89 on jet fares to Europe and book anytime you want.

Icelandic Airlines, Dept. #CN
630 Fifth Ave., N.Y., N.Y. 10020

See your travel agent. Or call toll free: (800) 555-1212.

Please send information on all Icelandic's low-cost fares to Europe.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Fares subject to change and gov't. approval.

Icelandic

Lowest Jet fares to Europe of any scheduled airline.

Nonmatriculants offered special late registration

A special registration for area residents taking advantage of the University's nonmatriculant program will be held the last week in March.

The nonmatriculation program is open to anyone interested in taking regular University classes without going through formal admission procedures.

Nonmatriculant students may take up to six credit hours of classes at reduced rates. The classes can be selected from any of the University's regular courses. "Nonmatrics" sign up for the classes on a space-available basis after regular students have enrolled. These non-degree students receive academic credit which can later be evaluated for transfer credit if they decide to seek a degree from the University.

Although nonmatriculant students may enroll in either day or night classes, an attempt has been made to make attendance easier for area residents who work by expanding the University's offering of late afternoon and evening classes.

Samples of the hundreds of classes open to "nonmatrics" were described in a Eugene Register-Guard supplement published Monday. Although space limits the number of classes listed in this supplement, virtually all University classes are open to nonmatriculant students. A more complete listing of classes and times will be available at the registration desk at the special nonmatriculant registration for spring term.

Oregon Daily Emerald

OPEN EXTRA HOURS TONIGHT 6:30-8:30 PM

UofO Bookstore

13th at Kincaid
Phone 686-4331
Regular Hours:
Mon.-Fri.: 8:15 am - 5 pm
Sat.: 9 am to 1 pm