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Photo by Steve Scher

Discussing the Alan Bakke reverse discrimination case Wednesday were Ron Griffith and Barbara Caulfield, assistant law professors, Julia Laranang, representative for the National Committee to Overturn the Bakke Decision, Angelo Gomez, law student and moderator

for the panel, and Paul Olum, vice-president for academic affairs and provost. The discussion was part of the two-day Bakke symposium sponsored by groups opposed to Bakke's contention he was denied admission by the University of California medical school at

Davis because he was white. His case is now before the Supreme Court. The symposium was sponsored by the Minority Law Students Association, the National Lawyers Guild, the Native American Student Union and the Asian American Student Union.

Bakke on trial: Reverse discrimination decisions threaten women, affirmative action

By JAMES MILLER
Of the Emerald

If the Supreme Court rules in favor of Alan Bakke, the decision will not only affect admission programs, but minority employment and women's rights as well, Barbara Caulfield said Wednesday during a panel discussion on the Bakke reverse discrimination case.

Caulfield, an assistant law professor at the University, said the civil rights of women are "intertwined" with those of minorities.

"Any attack on race as factor will also be an attack on sex as a factor," she said. She also stated that the affirmative ac-

tion programs in employment practices are in jeopardy due to the Bakke decision.

"Right now employers are waiting to see whether they have to continue with quota hiring or not," she said.

Speaking with Caulfield in the EMU Forum were Dr. Paul Olum, vice-president for academic affairs and provost, Ron Griffin, assistant professor of law, and Julia Laranang, representative of the National Committee to Overturn the Bakke Decision.

Griffin said the thirteenth amendment is adequate justification for state affirmative action programs.

"If discrimination is a relic of

slavery then states are called upon to eliminate that discrimination. Affirmative action programs have been shown to be an effective means to this end," he said.

Olum said various types of discrimination are practiced by all universities.

"We are talking about something that happens in every university," he said. "No university relies simply upon GPA and SAT scores. Preference is given to students because of athletic ability, leadership, or geographic location." Olum said that race should be included in these considerations because of the existing structure of society.

"Whether we like it or not, communities or minorities do exist and are separate from the rest of society. Leaders are needed in these areas. We need black doctors and lawyers in black communities. Trust and confidence play important roles here."

Olum said that while he supports special admission programs in general, he believes the University of California at Davis system was wrong.

"It was too rigid; the quotas should have been more flexible. That was a big mistake," he said.

The panel members in general were not optimistic about the chances for a reversal by a

conservative court.

"I would hope that the Court would say do it over but in a better way, Olum said. "But there are strong moral and constitutional arguments on both sides of the case."

"My major concern," Caulfield said, "is that the Supreme Court will simply base their decision on the University of California at Davis system specifically, and not on affirmative action in general. If that's the case, the decision will support the California court." She said the makeup of the Supreme Court was also a worry.

See related stories pages 3 and 5.

Mass transit plan previewed by council

By GARY NORRIS
Of the Emerald

The Eugene city council received a preview of the Eugene-Springfield Area Transportation 2000 plan (ESATS) at its Wednesday meeting.

The study—to be released by the Lane Council of Governments (L-COG) in about 2 weeks—must be adopted by July 1, 1978 by the governments of Eugene, Springfield and Lane County, in order for this area to remain eligible for federal funds for projects. The study also carries with it a mandatory five-year update cycle.

The plan contains four major elements:

- Policy: According to the summary the council received, this element of the plan "is intended to give public direction concerning transportation-related issues between now and the year 2000.

- Transit: This section recommends development of a bus rapid transit system. Such a system is defined as "an express-like transit routing supported by local bus routes." Any area rapid transit system plans will be mainly an

upgrading of existing lines, according to city planning engineer Dave Reinhard. "Articulated" buses, those which bend in the middle to negotiate corners, might be used in the future, Reinhard said, along with 80-passenger "super buses." Another facet of improved transit service, according to Reinhard, would be giving priority treatment to express buses at intersections.

- Streets and highways: The plan recommends no major construction projects before 1990, but intends to meet increasing traffic load until then by widening existing streets and intersections. Major projects proposed after 1990 include a controlled-access facility to replace Sixth and Seventh avenues, an extension of the Washington-Jefferson Street bridge and a replacement or modification of the Ferry Street bridge. According to Reinhard, ESATS researchers "went through a process of looking at corridors where there would be serious overloads by 2000."

- Financing: This section notes that "based on existing funding levels, insufficient funds will be available both in the short run (between now and 1983) and in the long run, to pay for recommended capital improvements." The plan

suggests some ways to address the problem.

ESATS tries to work with existing transportation systems, according to Reinhard, because "between now and 1990 we are facing fuel uncertainties and a lack of funding."

"We feel that we are building toward alternative systems by working with the ones we have now," Reinhard said, "but the funding constraints that we're facing could make other issues academic."

Councilman Brian Obie was concerned with the amount of public appraisal the study is to receive before being adopted.

"A lot of people have strong feelings about this," Obie said. "Shouldn't there be a way people can express their feelings at the front end of the process, so we don't get into the final phases and have people throwing up their hands and saying 'why wasn't this done before?'"

Eugene city planner Jim Farah replied that the report is to be distributed widely throughout the community. Public review will continue from its release until area governments take steps to adopt it — about April or May, 1978.