

GTFF elects board executives for 1978

Members of the Graduate Teaching Fellows Federation (GTFF) took time out from a busy schedule of contract negotiations to elect an executive board for 1978 Monday night.

Charles Aker, a third-year student in the biology Ph.D. program and a member of the GTFF contract negotiating team, was elected president, defeating incumbent Cal Harris of the political science department.

Caroline Howe was unanimously chosen as representative to the Lane County Labor Council. As vice president, Ratteree also serves as a representative to the labor council.

Bill Ratteree, incumbent vice president from the School of CSPA, retained his position. Peter Wallace, a first-year Ph.D student in history, was chosen as next year's secretary-treasurer and Cora Fisher from the sociology department was re-elected to the position of press representative.

The GTFF has been bargaining with the university for its first contract since October. Both sides, however, are restricted from commenting on the negotiations by ground rules agreed upon beforehand.

Aker, speaking for the union, did say "We are committed to getting a good contract for GTF's as well as working to improve the

quality of education at the University."

Aker also says the union would still put emphasis on recruiting new members as well as taking an active part in local and statewide labor organizations and having an active voice on campus issues.

According to Ratteree, the GTFF has augmented its ranks by 300 per cent since fall term began, bringing membership to a total of 228. He called the surge in new membership "dramatic" and way ahead of schedule.

The union lost over half its membership over the summer because of GTF's who received their degrees and left the University.

In other business, GTFF members nominated Jeff Pricco, Richard Colman and Jeff Edmundson (Colman and Edmundson as a team) for the position of recording secretary. That election will take place in January.

The GTFF was formed two years ago when GTF's became concerned with working conditions, low wages, lack of benefits and little responsibility in educational planning.

After an 18-month organizing drive, they were granted the right to hold a collective bargaining election.

GTF's chose to have the GTFF represent them instead of having no representation at all April 27-28, 1976.

Course changes discussed

The University Assembly will consider recommendations for course changes at today's meeting at 3:30 p.m. in 150 Science.

A curriculum committee report proposing a net increase of 122 credit hours was approved by the University Senate last week with only a few minor corrections and one deletion.

The assembly recommended by a 25-15 vote that PS 471, The Human Organism and Political Development, be deleted on the grounds that it defends theses that "no one knows to be true," as one Senate member remarked.

Most of the additions came from moving existing experimental (410 and 510) and seminar (407 and 507) courses into regular classifications.

The greatest number of new courses are being sought by the School of Architecture and Allied Arts and departments of geography, political science and religious studies as a result of internal reevaluation and design of curricula.

According to the committee report, 122 catalog hours is a "comparatively slight annual increase."

This is attributed to the fact that many schools and departments have already completed the task of converting a number of seminar or experimental courses to permanently numbered courses.

The committee emphasizes the situations of CSPA and the School of Librarianship, because while these divisions will eventually need to make dramatic changes in their offerings, they are still required to maintain present courses for the benefit of current degree candidates.

Because other committees — the University's and the College of Arts and Sciences' — are currently re-examining the entire area of group requirements and general education, the Committee on Curriculum has not taken a position on the possible relationship between a given course and its satisfying any part of the present group requirements.

In addition to consideration and approval of the committee report, two notices of motion will be presented to the assembly.

Comment period extended

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has extended the period for public review and response to its draft Environmental Impact Statement to Feb. 13, 1978 — an additional 60 days.

"We are extending the comment period," said Administrator Don Hodel, "because a number of governmental agencies and organizations have requested additional time in which to review the role statement and submit their comments."

Requests for extensions came from the states of Oregon, Washington and Montana. Hodel pointed out the original 90-day

period was twice that required by law.

"By extending the comment period, we are attempting to insure that this planning document receives the extensive and critical review that such an important subject demands," Hodel said.

The BPA Environmental Impact Statement is intended to explain its future role in the Pacific Northwest power supply system through several alternative roles the agency might assume.

Comments on the statement can be sent to: Environmental Manager, Bonneville Power Administration, P.O. Box 3621, Portland, Ore. 97208.

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