

Five strive for ASUO top spot



Photo by Tom Jackson

Dowhower

By RICHARD SEVEN
Of the Emerald

"Revenue Generation" — the establishment of student-operated and controlled cooperatives — can provide alternative ways to obtain course credit, rejuvenate student employment and help control rising tuition according to Jim Dowhower, candidate for ASUO student body president.

Dowhower, 25, a junior in Architecture and Allied Arts, says his proposal is part of a "fresh approach" he would bring to the position.

An example of Dowhower's co-op proposal would be the research design and reconstruction of the Amazon Married Student Housing project. This project would give law, architecture and business students opportunities to gain course credit and practical experience.

A Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) grant would be sought to fund the co-ops, but Dowhower sees federal grants, foundation money and possibly alumni money as alternative methods of funding.

Participating students would receive salaries proportional to their co-op's profit.

The South Eugene graduate said he also would try to change the ASUO lobbying perspective.

"I would use my role to try to head the legislative lobbying myself," Dowhower says. "Of the nine student-sponsored bills lobbied by the ASUO and the Oregon Student Lobby, only the two bills I helped lobby for were put into law."

In addition to being the campaign manager for the current ASUO president, Gary Feldman, Dowhower served as an administrative

assistant for Mark Coagan, under Jan Oliver.

However, Dowhower claims possibly his best qualification for the ASUO presidency is his detachment from the present system. He refused a position offered by Feldman and opted to work on his own this year. He said that allowed him to investigate certain issues independent of the stigma associated with the ASUO views.

"I see my opponents as being too big a part of the problem to be the solution," Dowhower says.

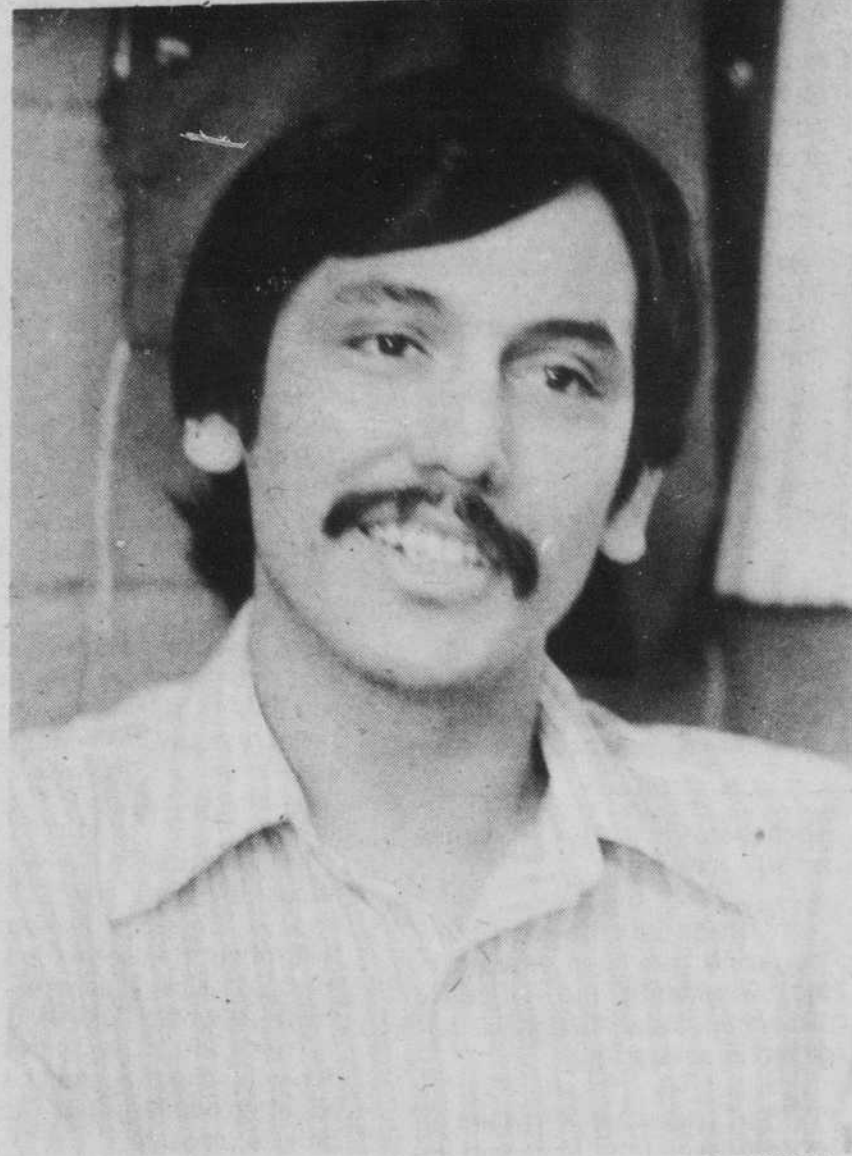
He also says he would be more "innovative" and less "reactive" than Feldman has been. He feels by moving ahead and starting programs such as revenue generation, students can find alternative solutions to the University's financial problems, other than cutting the budget every year.

Dowhower also says he would try to find a way to make the Incidental Fee Committee more accountable for its program allocations. "Right now, nothing they do is really spelled out — they are like quicksilver."

Dowhower says he would like to incorporate the Student University Affairs Board in the ASUO. "The SUAB is a valuable tie between student organizations, students and the deans of the schools. The SUAB could play a key role in setting up co-ops," he says.

The candidate is also in favor of the proposed EMU tavern, lowering the drinking age, complete decriminalization of marijuana and stopping the "Athletic Department stranglehold on the Mac Court concerts."

"The president's role is to bring focus to student issues," Dowhower says. "His job is to expose the issues and ideas of the student body. The power doesn't belong with the president, but with his constituencies," according to the candidate.



Emerald Photo

Herrera

By TOM WOLFE
Of the Emerald

ASUO candidate Ramon Herrera says his candidacy offers an alternative to the student government "in crowd."

"It used to be against you in America to be a minority — now it assists in relating to groups that need attention," says Herrera, a CSPA and Journalism junior.

Herrera is MEChA's (chicano student union) director. He attended Portland State University for two years and worked for one and a half years with the state employment division.

"I see myself as being a visible ASUO president. I would be active. I would be an instigator."

Herrera, a married student with one child, says it doesn't bother him that he's never worked in the ASUO executive, the Incidental Fee Committee or the Student University Affairs Board (SUAB).

"If anything I feel advantaged. I feel the most important qualification a person could have is to relate, to be responsive, and to work with as large a base as possible."

"My first goal would be to hold down tuition. It's the one issue everyone can agree on."

Herrera says he favors state tuition tax credits to help students and that he would rely more heavily on the ASUO's own lobbying power and less on the Oregon Student Lobby, a collective student lobbying organization supported by several Oregon colleges and universities.

Having worked with state government, Herrera says he would be anxious to become involved in student lobbying.

"I would put a lot of my own efforts into lobbying — maybe half my time or more. There's nothing I'd like better than to see 3,000 students on the steps of the

capitol saying tuition is too high." Other legislative priorities are child care and veterans benefits, he says.

His commitment to limiting incidental fees is less strict, though he cut his own budget by \$1,000 this year. "I see small increases with the IFC each year. I won't say there should be any certain limit in increases. Every program has to be looked at individually."

Herrera says the ASUO Executive itself is one area that could cut back: "If I'm elected we won't be using all that money." Approximately \$53,000 was allotted the ASUO executive this year.

Herrera says more money should go toward peer counseling, sponsored by the ASUO.

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Lockwood

By BECKY YOUNG
Of the Emerald

Mike Lockwood believes the ASUO should achieve its goals through "a lot of cooperation, and a little conflict."

"I'm for a stronger ASUO executive," he says, "one willing to have conflict and be a little political sometimes."

Lockwood is a junior majoring in economics. He has served on the Student University Affairs Board (SUAB) since last November.

One of his primary goals is making course evaluations available to students. He said as a member of SUAB he has seen faculty deny releasing University-distributed evaluations three times. He believes one alternative would be to have the ASUO create its own guide to instructors, polling students on instructors they are dissatisfied with.

Lockwood said he is considering the possibility of a "blacklist" of the worst ten percent of professors on campus. He said it would probably be illegal to openly distribute such a list, but that it could be presented to Pres. Boyd with the demand that those people be moved into administrative positions, and maybe be distributed underground.

"I'd be crazy saying I don't favor more recruitment of minorities — I'm a minority myself. But I don't believe students should have to carry the ball of recruitments. There are affirmative action guidelines that require the administration to participate."

Herrera finds an inequity in the allotment of student tickets for basketball games but sees no resolution in sight.

"I believe students should have priority in seating, but alumni have the bucks."

He suggests as a short-term solution, turning half of the intramural field on 18th Street into a parking lot, but only until the funds and means can be found to build a ramp behind PLC.

He doesn't know where the money is coming from, but says, "It's available. It's just a matter of the city and the University coming to some agreement."

The IFC has been forced to pursue a policy of financial conservatism, allocating funds to existing programs only, and allowing increases in funding only to match the costs of inflation, Lockwood says.

"There are ways to increase the scope of ASUO programs without raising already-high incidental fees."

He believes academic unions can and should be funded by departments and since ESCAPE and Search are tuition generating, they should receive more funding from the University.

Lockwood says the order of power in the ASUO this year has been first the IFC, then the ASUO executive and then SUAB. He hopes to be able to even out that distribution of power, maybe by giving SUAB some say over the final ASUO budget.

He believes the role of the ASUO president should be an active one, but says in his administration no one would make decisions completely autonomously. He says he would choose his staff looking at the other candidates, his campaign workers and the university at large.

Answering anticipated criticisms about his lack of experience Lockwood says he thinks he possesses at least the minimum amount of administrative skills required for the job.

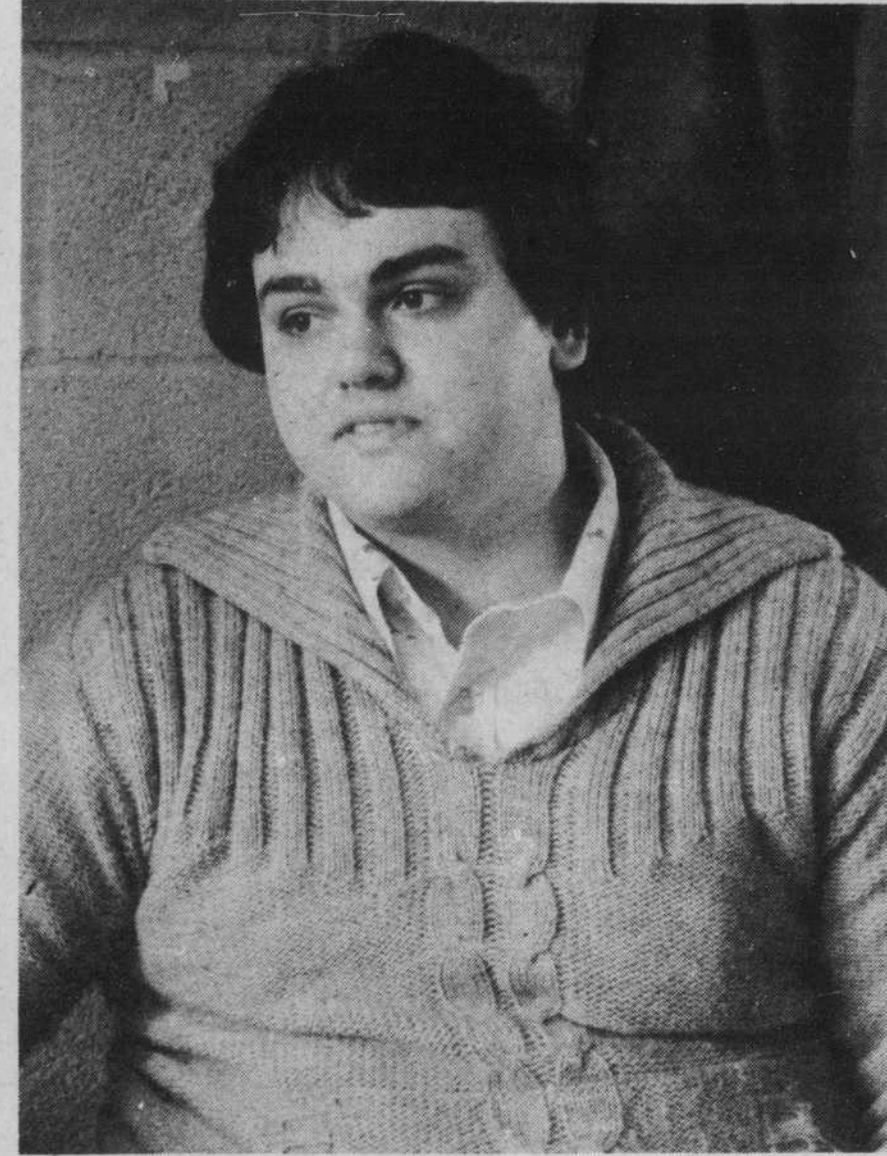


Photo by Dennis Hickok

Warren

By KEVIN HACKETT
Of the Emerald

Jeff Warren says he recognizes the power the ASUO president actually holds is limited and he intends on pursuing only areas where effective change is possible.

"You have to be realistic about what you plan to accomplish," says Warren. "I think the president's real power lies in dealing with the state legislature and acting as spokesman for the students."

Advocating for student issues in the 1979 session of the Oregon legislature will be one of Warren's major concerns. Warren lobbied for the ASUO and the Oregon Student Lobby (OSL) during the 1977 session and believes that that experience would enable him to be more effective.

Warren predicts that faculty evaluation and tuition will again be the major student-related issues that the legislature will deal with.

There has been strong opposition to the release of faculty evaluation in past sessions of the legislature. Warren believes the pattern will hold again in 1979. The OSL will be spearheading the faculty evaluation effort. Warren says he would direct the ASUO to aid the effort, but he has developed alternatives if passage of a bill is stopped.

"I would have the ASUO sponsor a plan where individual instructors could voluntarily release their own evaluations. Hopefully this would have a snowball effect and more teachers would join in."

Warren realizes that holding tuition down may be just short of impossible. He said he would work to keep any increases at a minimum and try to lower the amount charged to out-of-state students.

"Oregon is no longer compatible with other schools in the

amount it charges," says Warren. "We are in danger of losing homogeneity at the University if the out-of-staters are priced out."

Warren says that if he's elected president he would reorganize the structure and duties of two units of the ASUO governance system — the EMU Board and the Student University Affairs Board.

Warren is particularly annoyed by the EMU Board's track record.

"It's turned into a rubber stamp for Adelle McMillen (EMU director). I want it to make it into a body that is easier to work with from the ASUO's point of view, not Adelle's point of view."

Warren says although the EMU receives over half of the incidental fees charged to students, the ASUO has very little say as to how that money is spent. Warren suggests that one avenue for gaining more control of the EMU's budget would be for the ASUO to have the power to hire and fire the student union's employees.

Other changes Warren would work for as ASUO president include:

- Closing off the intersection of 13th Ave. and University. He said vehicles driving through this area make it extremely dangerous between classes. He would place barriers at the post office service driveway on 13th and at "Boyd's driveway" on University next to the Faculty Club.

- Working to reorder instructor's priorities to prevent further "publish or perish" controversies. "Students deserve the best teachers our money can buy. I don't think keeping teachers on the faculty who can publish but can't teach is right."

- Abolish the bicycle patrol program the University initiated this year. "I don't see how you can tell people to park in a bike rack when there aren't enough racks."

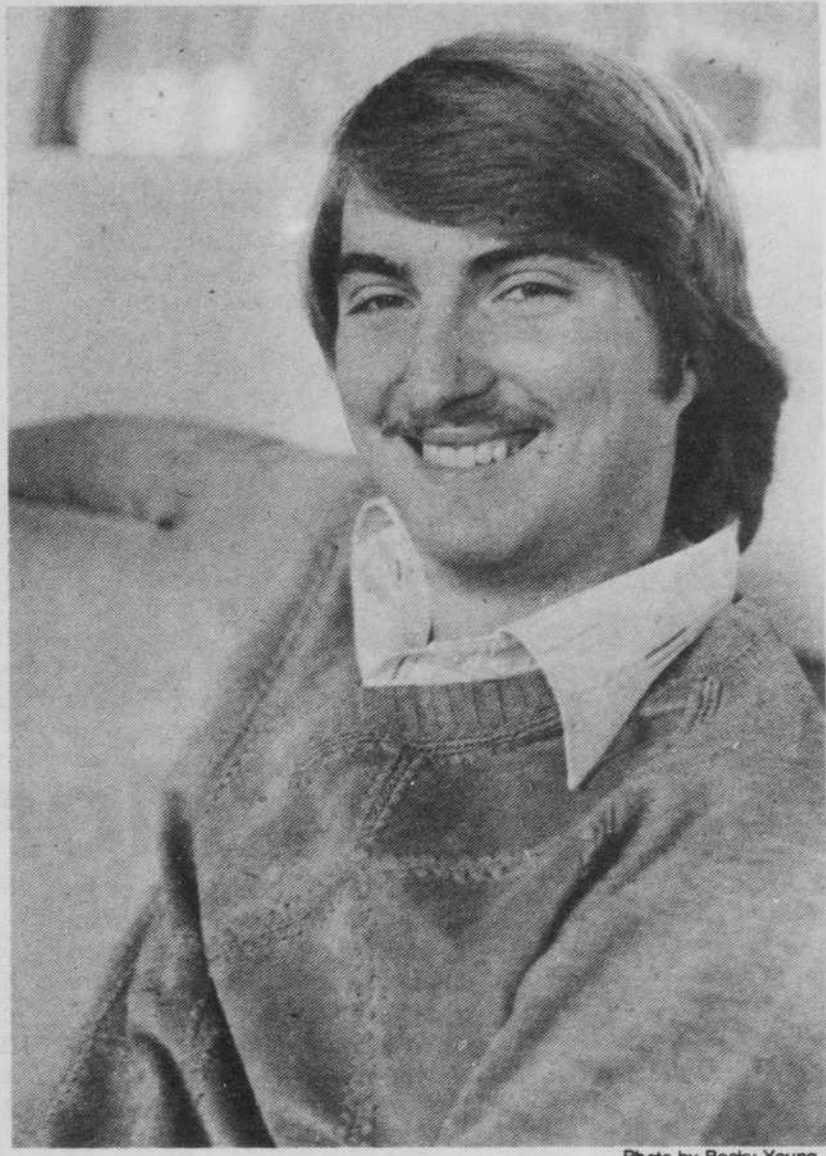


Photo by Becky Young

Benson

By CHRIS NORMAN
Of the Emerald

Identifying students with the ASUO is Doug Benson's primary goal if elected ASUO president, says the 22-year-old senior in computer science and CSPA.

"Too many students — especially freshmen and sophomores — are too scared to step into Suite 4," Benson says, referring to the ASUO executive office.

To facilitate greater student involvement with the ASUO, Benson hopes to implement an annual student convention. The students, especially representatives from various student programs and living organizations, would formulate a list of vital student interests, rather than have student leaders draft a list of priorities using their own perceptions of vital interests.

"Too many times I've had to make value judgments...on what I perceived as the student's values," he says. "Too many times I've found myself in the middle."

By linking the convention to incidental fees, Benson believes it will draw about 2,000 persons.

As for maintaining fiscal responsibility for ASUO programs, Benson is critical of Pres. Gary Feldman's inaction.

"Someone has to be the big boy with the stick to make sure the programs are running correctly," he says. "The past administration didn't have the stick to make it accountable to the students." Benson says he would carry that "stick."

The University's parking problem also rests high on Benson's priority list. He wants to work with the Eugene City Council, the Eugene Planning Commission and University administrators to resolve the parking problem.

Benson suggests a parking structure — perhaps underground — near campus that can be used for student parking during the day

and special event parking at night. Sacred Heart General Hospital is planning a six-story employee parking structure near 13th Avenue and Hilyard Street, but Benson doesn't believe that will significantly alleviate the problem.

He also plans to concentrate his energies in the legislative year by addressing such issues as financial aid, child care and release of faculty evaluations.

Although Benson believes an EMU tavern is important, it isn't one of his priorities. Pres. William Boyd has already told several ASUO members that he won't support a tavern.

"Boyd doesn't want it and I won't shove it down his throat," he says. "But I'll have my (EMU Board) representative work actively for the tavern proposal."

Benson concedes the ASUO president has a limited power base and many issues are only resolved "when Boyd says, 'I'll let you go ahead and do it.'" Benson's own political philosophy will direct him away from confrontive tactics with Boyd.

"You have to work with...and influence the president," he says. "You can't block off communication."

He sees his stiffest presidential competition from IFC vice-chairer Jeff Warren. Benson says they both have similar feelings on many issues but the difference between them is political motivation.

"If you really want to learn something, I'll tell you," he says. "but it's cut me down. Even my own house (Sigma Nu) doesn't support me. It's typical Greek mentality — up with IFC (Intrafraternity Council), and athletics, down with gays and minorities."

Benson says he is running for ASUO president because of his own personal goals.

"I set the standards as high as possible, and it's a goal I think I can realistically obtain," he says.