

OSL demands placement figures

By JIM ALLEN
Of the Emerald

Students may soon get a better look at the job placement performance of the University, thanks to pressure applied by the Oregon Student Lobby (OSL).

Presently, none of the schools within the Oregon State System of Higher Education reveal the job placement performances of their departments. But last July the legislative Emergency Board demanded that all institutions in the

OSSHE provide information regarding the percentage of students finding employment in their field and average starting salaries. The legislation was primarily the work of the OSL, which had worked for three years to require disclosure of the job placement information. The OSL represents all students in the OSSHE.

Actually, these records have been required to be open since February 20, 1975, but "federal enforcement is lax at best," ac-

cording to OSL Executive Coordinator Dan Garner. "The rules were published the same year as the OSL formed, and we've been trying to enforce them ever since."

Colleges and universities have been required to disclose the information to qualify for federal student aid dollars, but the issue was not pressed until last year, when the OSSHE requested about \$500,000 from the U.S. Office of Education for student aid program administration.

These funds were needed to offset the costs of compliance with consumer information requirements in the 1976 education amendments.

Costs include disclosure of costs of attendance, available student aid, descriptions of programs, refund policies, faculty and

facilities, and student retention and completion rates.

Oregon legislators were skeptical of the requests, however, and ordered a study of the Student Financial Aid Administration by the Educational Coordinating Commission and the State Scholarship Commission.

Their report revealed varying deficiencies among all public institutions, and also documented wide variations in financial requirements at different schools.

After a review of that report, the Emergency Board directed the OSSHE to convene a standing committee of student's financial aid administrators and related personnel to correct the deficiencies. That committee's progress will be reported to the 1979 Legislative Assembly.

Media must fight courts on own turf

PORTLAND (AP) — News media should take on the courts in the legislatures and the forum of public opinion, rather than letting jurists make the rules and the decisions, an expert in media law said Thursday.

"Until now, we have fought the battle on the courts' own turf. Now it is time to fight the battle on our turf," Jack Landau told newspaper editors. Landau, an attorney, is executive director of the Reporters' Council for Freedom of the Press.

Landau addressed the annual meeting of the Associated Press Managing Editors Association in place of Myron Farber, the New York Times reporter facing jail for refusing to give a New Jersey judge his notes on a murder case.

Farber appeared, but said it was not appropriate to discuss his case while the matter is pending before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Landau said he understood that many editors do not like the idea of lobbying in legislative bodies, but that is the essence of the three-branch system of government.

"When citizens lose in one branch, they can go to another branch," he said.

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