

"Students shouldn't want a warm and friendly personality, but a president who'll make their degree worth something."



Boyd puts funding first

By KELI OSBORN
Of the Emerald

To many students, University Pres. William Boyd is the fellow who bids them welcome at their first orientation meeting and, four or so years later, shakes hands with them as they file from commencement.

But it isn't indifference that leads Boyd to pay what may seem to be less attention to students than his predecessors did, he says. Instead it's that other problems, particularly ones concerning money, are tougher now than in the past.

"We've moved into a different era with a new personality in the president's office." Priorities have changed and, unfortunately, he says, students and student leaders may sometimes feel neglected.

"A lucky student will go through four years and never have occasion to think about the University president," Boyd says.

But students do think about him, he admits. "It's difficult to gauge what students in general think of me, but I've seen little evidence of students not liking me."

"This is as gracious, open and accepting a student body as any I've worked with."

In addition to plans for improvements in academic advising, registration procedures and University curriculum, Boyd says increased contact with students should reveal other areas that need attention.

He wants to revive a practice he and Provost Paul Olum had in the past of sharing lunch and ideas with randomly selected students and faculty.

"I can't do it right now — I'll be in Salem every day next month (representing the University before the Legislature) — but I hope to do it in the spring," he says.

Boyd also hopes to stage what he calls "University forums" where he and possibly the ASUO president would respond to questions on any number of issues.

But his direct attention to students won't become his highest priority, Boyd says. "Students shouldn't want a warm and friendly personality, but a president who'll make their degree worth something."

By the time students are seniors, they should feel that "things are falling into place," Boyd says. "Are they competent in their field? Do they know their chances in the job market? Have their professors been accessible?"

These kinds of questions are more important than the future of a campus tavern or other concerns students seem to give voice to, Boyd claims.

Improving the quality of undergraduate life is a pompous phrase Boyd has used repeatedly in recent speeches, but he says concrete changes are ahead. "It's happening now."

The first University money spent next year goes into a pre-

registration system, Boyd vows. Reforms to change current undergraduate "curricular anarchy" for a more coherent system are near.

If Boyd is unsure about his image among students-at-large, he gives his relationship with the ASUO leadership an "uneven" reading. In a self-evaluation delivered to the State Board of Higher Education, Boyd said the relationship is one of his greatest weaknesses as University president.

"We are in a kind of adversary role," admits ASUO Pres. Ramon Herrera. "We're with the students and he has to look at the whole picture."

Herrera stresses that his office is not after control or power. "We don't have the time to run the University. We just want to know what's going on. We want an equal partnership."

The ASUO's most important job is to give information and referral, Herrera says, and without more cooperation from the administration, it won't work.

In a meeting Friday that both Boyd and Herrera termed helpful, the two presidents agreed to establish a task force that will once again examine what's important to the EMU and where it's headed, long a source of friction between students and administrators.

New lines of authority may be created. "We're all living with inherited guidelines," Boyd notes.

"We have to refine on the basis of experience."

Dissident decries Soviet tyranny

By KATHY McMANUS
Of the Emerald

Every Soviet citizen is either a subliminal or active dissident, but fear, corruption and lack of information prevent a unified resistance, says Tomas Venclova, recent emigre from Lithuania.

Venclova, who left Russia two years ago to accept an invitation to teach at Berkeley, spoke Monday to a sparse audience about religious, cultural, professional and economic motivations citizens have for dissenting.

"If you are religious, you are a dissident by definition," he said.

The official stance forbidding trips abroad and severe restrictions on reading and writing are roots for cultural and professional dissent, he said.

"Almost all the people are unhappy in the Soviet Union in one way or another. Very often I am asked by Western audiences how many dissidents are in the Soviet Union. I reply, about 250 million, which means all of the Soviet population, including Brezhnev."

About 20,000 dissidents join in active protests, half of whom are in prison, Venclova said.

Venclova is co-founder of the Lithuania chapter of the Helsinki Monitor Group, which was organized in 1976 to try to openly and legally monitor the Helsinki accords. The groups prepare documents about complete violations of human rights, he said.

"We have tried to proceed gradually and non-violently simply by practicing our human rights to write, read and so on," Venclova says.

Venclova describes the movement to guarantee human rights in the Soviet Union as "an immense task and probably a hopeless task."

Despite such barriers as ignorant masses, fear of the secret police, "Stalin's atrocities" and corruption of the upper classes, the general trend is "slightly positive," he said.

The 1980 winter Olympic Games to be held in Moscow could help alleviate some of the ignorance through contact with Western thinking, he said.

Venclova also believes China's clash with Vietnam is important since the Soviets could also intervene there, causing a conflict between the two Communist superpowers.

"War between China and the Soviet Union would be very bloody," he warned.

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Crawford

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on-screen work. Shows such as "Eight is Enough," with eight contracts to fill, turn television writer into a traffic director.

"These kind of shows make unreasonable demands on the writer," he says.

Of the 200 scripts Crawford has written during the last 20 years, six stand out in his mind as personally satisfying, including a 1962 "Ben Casey" episode, a "Death Valley Days" show and one "Climax Theater." With others he did the best he could.

"I never write hack," says Crawford.

"If I built a garage, I would do the best I could. I wouldn't try to make it into a hotel. The same with writing. If I get a little script, I write the best I can."

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