

# GTFF lowers vote required for strike

The Graduate Teaching Fellows Federation has voted to reduce the number of votes required to authorize a strike.

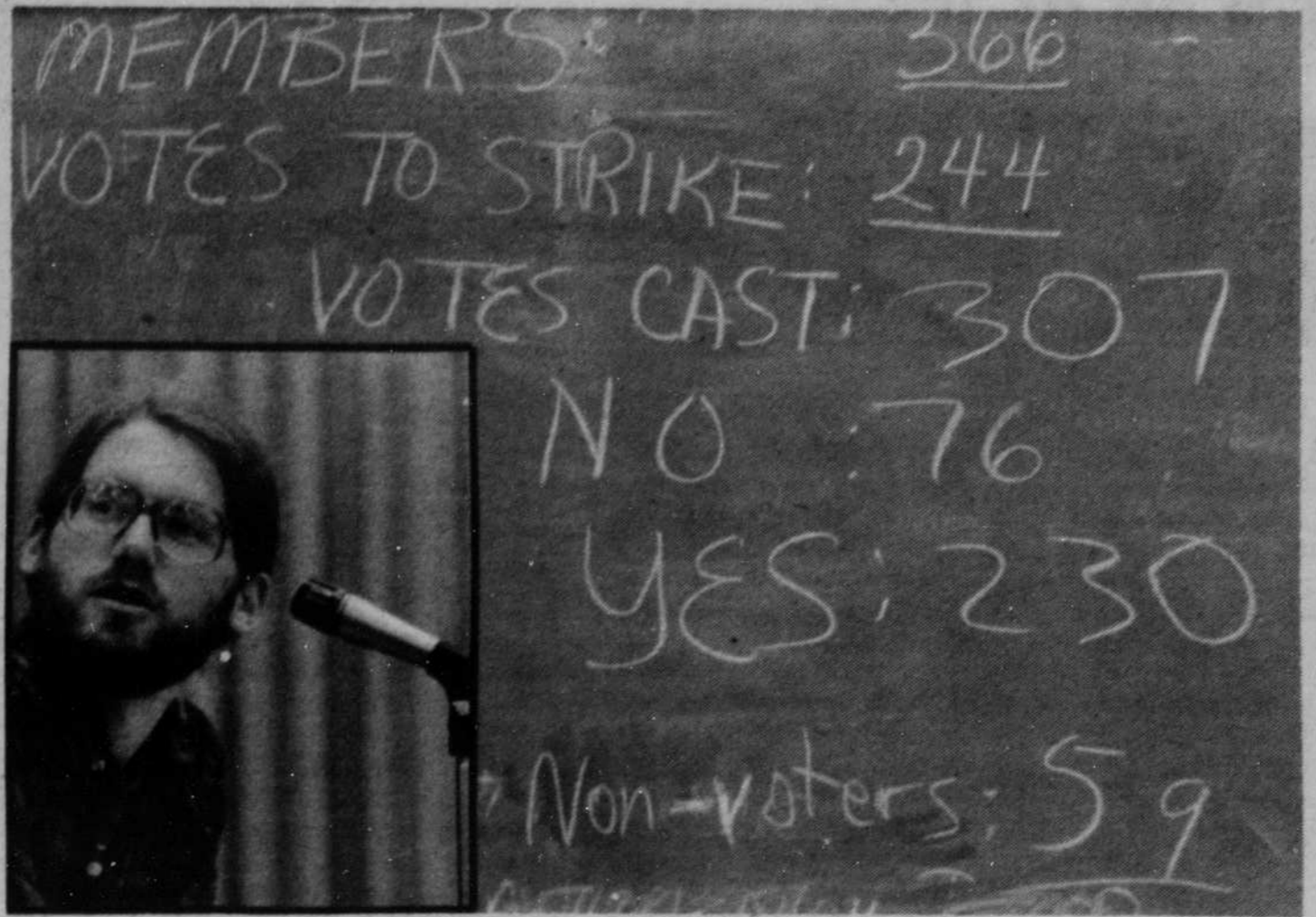
The union last week decided 90-23 to require a 60 percent affirmative vote to call a strike, rather than the 67 percent yes vote that was needed last fall when a strike vote failed by eight votes, or six percent.

GTFF Vice President Jeff Edmundson, chief negotiator for the union, says the group is keeping the required vote sufficiently high because, "The whole point of having a strike is having a good one. You've got to have a lot of people supporting it."

A vote on lowering the requirement failed last month for lack of a quorum, when it fell 20 votes short of the necessary 60. The votes were tallied Friday, a day after current contract negotiations reached impasse.

Impasse calls for a state mediator to be brought in to continue negotiations. If a decision is not reached through mediation, or if the union wants to reserve the option to strike, a fact-finder will be called in.

The fact-finder would deliver a non-binding contract recommendation to both sides. If the recommendation is rejected, the union may strike within 30 days or the negotiations will go back to the bargaining table.



Jeff Edmundson wanted this vote changed.

*Emerald Photo*

## Dorms

(Continued from Page 1)

ing 1979-80 if inflation drives costs beyond current expectations.

Chalmers said students plan their expenses a year in advance and an unexpected increase in dorm rates could force some to drop out of school.

Although board members voted 11-0 to delete the recommendation, board Pres. Louis Perry noted that administrative rules already allow the board to alter rates in an emergency.

Action was postponed on a proposed repeal and adoption of administrative rules regarding debt service policy, at the request of Chalmers on behalf of the ASUO and Cindy Wilhite, president of the Associated Students of Oregon State University.

One proposed change calls for student building fees to be applied primarily to debt payments on construction of facilities, such as recreational and health centers, regardless of which institution collected the fees.

Chalmers asked board members to "look at that change and clarify what is intended," adding that students would prefer to keep fees at their own campuses, unless special occasions warranted a "co-mingling" of such fees statewide.

Board members agreed in part with Chalmers and Wilhite on another proposal that would allow use of unencumbered funds from auxiliary enterprises such as student centers, food services and recreational facilities by other such auxiliary services.

"We are concerned that the use of these funds involves at least some measure of student involvement," Chalmers said, asking that board members develop a plan that would include student associations in discussions of how to spend unencumbered balances.

State system staff indicated that several proposals were intended to reflect current practices, to which Wilhite retorted that the board should first justify such practices before making them tradition.

Board members approved three other administrative rule changes, one of which expands the definition of "auxiliary services." Now student centers,

food services, and recreational and intercollegiate facilities will be considered auxiliary, joining student health centers and housing.

The board also approved faculty salary increases of about eight percent for the next two years, raising the average University faculty salary for 1979-80 to \$23,977. For 1980-81, the average will be \$25,595.

The increase is based partly on data from an average of 19 institutions nationwide with

which state system schools have been compared for almost 20 years.

The Board also voted to discontinue the University's Institute for Land Use Research, which was established in 1975 "to promote understanding of the interdisciplinary nature of land use research through the study of ecosystems."

Board member Betty Feves said the institute was "simply unable to attract outside funding" to keep it going.

In other business, board members agreed with Perry to begin holding all regular meetings in Eugene next fall to save transportation and lodging expenses now spent on the state system staff.

Members also approved a limited "tuition reciprocity" plan with the state of Washington. Under the plan, upper division undergraduate students from the Vancouver, Wash., area will be able to enroll at Portland State University while paying resident fees.

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