

Calls folk instructor's claims a 'surprise'

Vice provost says grievance unfounded

By SALLY HODGKINSON
Of the Emerald

Robert Albrecht, vice provost for academic affairs, says he is surprised by a grievance against the provost's office that attacks funding decisions he made in conjunction with four folk music classes. The grievance was filed late last month while Albrecht was on vacation.

Paul Halpern, the instructor of the folk music courses, says Albrecht put off making funding decisions about his classes in an effort to kill the courses without officially denying them funding.

Albrecht says he left for vacation thinking that any confusion about funding decisions for Halpern's classes had been cleared up. In a letter written before he left, Albrecht asked Halpern to write funding proposals for the folk music classes.

"I don't see that that's a terrible thing to do," Albrecht says. "It's not unusual to say to someone, 'put it down on paper.' That's all I did and I'd do it again. I think he's taking advantage of the fact I was on vacation."

But Halpern claims the letter may have been written in "bad faith" and adds that the only proposals Albrecht could have been referring to are impossible to carry out under current University policy.

Albrecht says he wasn't sure what type of funding Halpern was considering for each of his classes because they discussed "a number of possibilities."

"I didn't know what he was going to propose," Albrecht says, adding that he knew before he left on vacation that the only way Halpern's courses could be offered on campus would be through the Community Education Program. He thought Halpern was looking at ways to make his classes self-supporting off campus.

"Dr. Albrecht ought to keep a tape recorder in his office," Halpern says, adding that Albrecht knew what types of proposals he was considering, whether they would work and that he wanted to offer his classes on campus. Halpern adds he has sent four written proposals to Albrecht in the last eight months.

Halpern says that it was inconsiderate of Albrecht to leave him wondering if he had a job in the fall. Halpern plans to teach self-supporting folk music courses part-time at Portland State University, but he says he left some days open to teach at the University of Oregon.

Halpern has charged in his grievance that Albrecht may have denied funding for the classes as an act of "personal, political retaliation" because Halpern criticized his management of CEP earlier this year. Albrecht calls those charges "completely untrue," as he does charges that he may have been influenced by peers on the English faculty who do not want to fund the folk music classes.

"Paul invents people and the things they say," Albrecht says. "It's like his



Emerald photo

Vice provost Robert Albrecht

own movie."

Halpern says the only reason he considered self-support funding for his classes was because Albrecht told him and members of his guitar course that no courses would be funded through the CEP budget.

Albrecht says Halpern misunderstood what he said, adding that he told Halpern that he didn't think *many* courses would be funded.

"Again, his memory appears to have

escaped him," Halpern says, adding that he has students who remember Albrecht saying no classes would be funded.

Chris Munoz, current director of CEP, says there is no chance that any of Halpern's classes will be funded through CEP's budget this fall. Funding may be available for winter or spring terms, he adds.

Albrecht says he decided to fund the two rock classes because they have a higher potential enrollment than the folk music courses. Albrecht says he doesn't know where the funds for the second rock class will come from. Only one will be covered by CEP.

"The goal is to get the highest enrollment possible with the amount of money we have," Albrecht says, adding that he isn't out to "get" Halpern — tight budgets just don't allow for many extras.

The grievance currently rests with the Student-Faculty Committee on Grievances. Caroline Keutzer, chair of the committee, says the grievance will be sent to Albrecht to give him a chance to respond. The committee won't meet until fall term, when student members will be picked.

The grievance originally went to Paul Olum, provost and vice president for academic affairs, but Halpern requested that it be sent to the grievance committee because, he said, Olum may be biased toward Albrecht's side.

"We're all prejudiced in Halpern's view," Albrecht sighs.

Dorm conflict leaves both sides unhappy

By MIKE LEE
Of the Emerald

The conflict between the Housing Department and 40 students living in the Earl dormitory complex has apparently been resolved, but to no one's satisfaction.

The residents still must move to available rooms in the Hamilton and Bean complexes by next Monday to accommodate a conference of 2,400 Young Calvinist Federation members, and the housing department has reaffirmed its offer to provide transportation — probably for Sunday and Monday, according to Donald Lee, the associate director of housing.

Residents' phones, however, will not be transferred, Lee says. "We will work with the Calvinists to make sure there won't be any abuse (of the phones)," he adds. The phone company was demanding a \$25 fee to transfer each phone.

Other residents who wish to leave instead of move may receive a refund for the remaining three weeks, says Ray Hawk, University vice president for administration and finance.

The problem arose when the residents were informed — or reminded, depending on who tells the story — on July 23 that they would have to move to Hamilton if they planned on staying on campus past Aug. 13, in order to free rooms for the YCF's five-day conference, which begins Aug. 17.

Four days are needed to prepare the rooms for the Calvinists, Lee says.

The legality of the move was soon confirmed, but the residents disagreed with the reasoning.

Brian Pearson, a resident affected by the shuffle, circulated a petition demanding that the order be rescinded. The 27-signature petition was presented to Housing Director Philip Barnhart late last week.

Barnhart's written reply was to decline the request and to inform many signers that their accounts were not in order. Barnhart wrote that many of the signers, who had said that they were staying in the dorms for 11 weeks, had only registered for eight. Other signers, he wrote, weren't registered for classes at all.

"If a person is not registered, there is no obligation" to house that person, says Barnhart. He says that the University loses money when a student who is not registered for classes is housed.

One person who received a "not registered" letter is conducting research for a doctorate this term and will take

classes this fall, as he had in the spring. The student has since received Housing approval to remain in the dorms.

Barnhart says his information was obtained from the Registrar's Office, but Hawk says given the transiency of students and classes during summer session, it is difficult to confirm up-to-date information on a student.

"I haven't found that a data base is so secure that I would want to rely on it," Hawk says. Hawk adds that the letters, which he calls "very well-intended" and "designed to be helpful," were not harassment, as had originally been charged by Pearson. "If (the letter) says something you don't want to hear, you won't like it," he says.

"However, the possible misinterpretation of information placed the housing department in jeopardy of having people feel abused," adds Hawk.

Residents have also questioned whether the Housing Department should have guaranteed to give the Calvinists isolation from non-Calvinists in their sleeping quarters. If the clause was not in the contract, the residents might not have been required to move.

But Hawk agrees with the stipulation, saying: "If you want to enter into a contract, then you have to concur with the conditions wanted." Barnhart adds that the isolation clause is commonly inserted into contracts the University makes with visiting groups.

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