

Jock snaps over Valentine gift.

Dear Ann:

Athletically I'm an All-American. Romantically I'm a nerd. I'm in love with a fox. But the competition is rough. What'll I give her for Valentine's Day?

Nervously Yours,
Chicken Hunk

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Looking for a president Search process grinds on

By JENNIFER SUNSERI
Of the Emerald

Unlike the attention paid to the University's fiscal crisis, few seem to have noticed there's a search on for a permanent replacement for former Pres. Bill Boyd.

While the University continues to run on bureaucratic tracks established by years of existence — which include appointment of an acting president — a complex process to choose a replacement for Boyd is quietly unfolding.

"Years ago the state board simply appointed someone to be president," says journalism Prof. Emeritus Charles Duncan,

Presidential Search Committee chair. "Now students, faculty, administration, community, and classified staff representatives all have input into the selection process."

Appointed immediately after Boyd's resignation by Roy Lieuallen, chancellor of the State Board of Higher Education, the committee has publicized the presidential vacancy and reviewed the background of approximately 180 applicants and nominees.

After an initial screening, the original list of applicants and nominees is whittled down to a list of six to ten people, or candidates. The search committee is now at this stage.

"We've invited the candidates to spend two days on campus sometime in the upcoming month," Duncan explains. "This is an important stage in the selection process because it gives representative exposure of the candidates to the University as well as exposing the University to the candidates."

The identity of these candidates is a close-guarded secret. Acting Pres. Paul Olum is the only applicant who has announced his candidacy, and

was confirmed recently by Duncan to still be in the running.

This confidentiality of the candidates is necessary to protect the positions they hold currently, Duncan says.

"Until they say it's okay, we protect their identity. If a candidate is currently president of a university then it's not feasible to release that person's name. It's a standard practice."

Although not available to the public, during the two days the candidates spend on campus they will run a gamut of interviews with a number of individuals and panels representing the various University groups.

"By the time the two days are over with, the University community will have a pretty good idea of the candidates, and vice versa," Duncan says.

Besides meeting with such permanent University organizations as the Faculty Advisory Council, the Council of Deans

and University vice-presidents, the candidates will be interviewed by four panels created to involve faculty, students, classified staff and administration in the process.

Each panel will meet with the candidates in separate closed meetings and later submit written evaluations to the search committee.

In the final stage of selection, the committee will recommend two to four of the candidates to the state board. These finalists will be invited back to Oregon to meet with the state board, which will appoint the new president.

An involved process? Maybe, but after this painstaking search the University should know the selection is the best possible choice for the presidency of a budget-slashing university.

Of course, the chosen one may turn down the post. "We shouldn't forget that this is a two-way proposition," Duncan says.

Students have voice in president search

In the past, students were often allowed no say in important administrative decisions.

But now students are helping to pick the University's next president.

The 15-member Presidential Search Committee includes three students, and a ten-member student panel has been established to represent the interests of the students in selecting the next president.

The student panel is one of four panels created to interview the six to ten final candidates over the course of the next month. The other panels represent the faculty, administration, and classified staff.

"Each panel is very important," says Prof. Emeritus Charles Duncan, committee chair. "We won't make distinctions between them."

Besides stressing the need for consistent attendance at panel meetings, Duncan has imposed few guidelines on the panel.

"He recommended (ASUO Pres.) Dave Eaton and myself to organize the panel and asked that we find people most representative of the student body to be on it," says ASUO administrative assistant Rocky Schatz, who chairs the panel. "I would like to think we've done that. The people of this panel represent women, men, minority groups, and the non-traditional student constituency."

Besides Schatz, who is the ASUO's representative, the panel consists of representatives from the Black Student Union, the Asian American Student Union, MEChA, the Native American Student Union, the Panhellenic Association, the Residence Governing Council, the Incidental Fee Committee and the Student University Affairs Board.

Schatz encourages students to leave questions for the candidates at the ASUO office, Suite 4, EMU.

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